

*“The best way to predict
the future is to create it.”*

—ABRAHAM LINCOLN

ASHT

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HAND THERAPISTS™

2016 **ANNUAL
REPORT**

LEADING THE WAY



“Big thinking precedes great achievement.”

—WILFRED PETERSON

“There are two kinds of stones, as everyone knows, one of which rolls.”

—AMELIA EARHART

“Neither a wise man nor a brave man lies down on the tracks of history to wait for the train of the future to run over him.”

—DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

“The only thing we know about the future is that it will be different.”

—PETER DRUCKER

“If we open a quarrel between past and present, we shall find that we have lost the future.”

—WINSTON CHURCHILL

“You cannot depend on your eyes when your imagination is out of focus.”

—MARK TWAIN

“I learned to always take on things I'd never done before. Growth and comfort do not coexist.”

—GINNI ROMETTY

“A person often meets his destiny on the road he took to avoid it.”

—JEAN de LA FONTAINE

“The wise man must remember that while he is a descendant of the past, he is a parent of the future.”

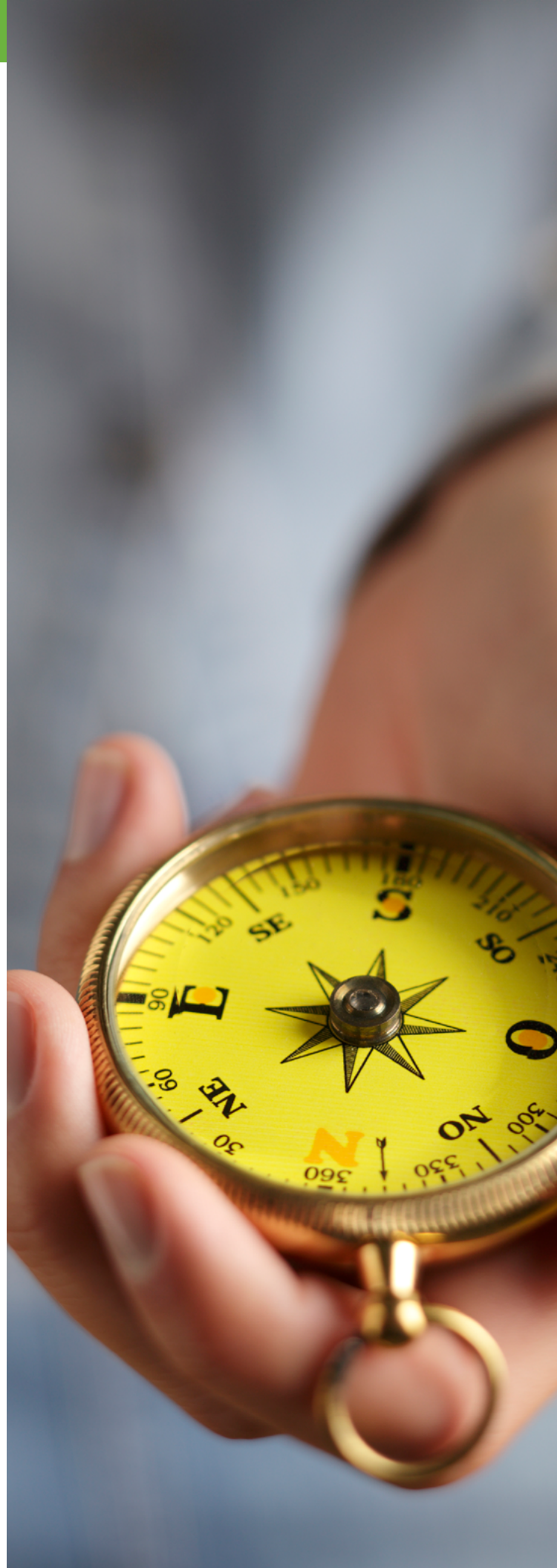
—HERBERT SPENCER

“The past, the present and the future are really one: they are today.”

—HARRIET BEECHER STOWE

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About ASHT

Founded in 1977, ASHT is an organization of hand therapy professionals dedicated to advancing the field of hand and upper extremity therapy by promoting education, advocacy, research and clinical standards. ASHT members include occupational and physical therapists, physician extenders, researchers, surgeons and administrators.

Membership

ASHT is a growing society that welcomed 395 new members in 2015 and reported an 86% member retention rate overall. The Affiliate membership category expanded this year to include hand surgeons, nurse practitioners and other allied health professionals whose interests and contributions are related to the advancement of hand health. In addition, the ASHT Board of Directors continues to promote a culture of inclusivity, and is pursuing how best to serve the continuing education, resource and networking needs of the organization's millennial members.

“The past, the present and the future are really one: they are today.”

—HARRIET BEECHER STOWE

2015-2018 STRATEGIC PLAN

1

Support and strengthen the hand therapy community through increased ASHT membership.

2

Support a dynamic association of engaged hand therapy professionals.

3

Facilitate and promote awareness of the value of hand therapy to individuals, organizations and communities.

4

Expand technology resources to communicate information to members, organizations and communities.

5

Provide timely resources to inform members about pending legislation, regulation and industry trends.

6

Integrate education and research to promote evidence-informed practice.

7

Contribute to the global hand therapy community for the purpose of advancing hand health.

President's Message



*Barbara Winthrop,
OTR, MA, CVE, CHT, FAOTA*

DEAR ASHT COLLEAGUES,

Thank you for the opportunity to work side by side with the ASHT Board of Directors, committees, task forces, countless volunteers and staff as your 2016 ASHT President. I am proud of what has been accomplished by our team and it has been an honor and a privilege to serve you, strengthening our society and the hand therapy profession.

As you read the 2016 ASHT Annual Report, you will see your ASHT leadership, volunteers and staff have been hard at work this year, building and supporting our hand therapy community. Our goal has been and continues to be growing value in your ASHT membership.

The new year launched with a renewed five-year contract with Association Headquarters (AH). In an effort to improve efficiency and decrease governance expenditures, the ASHT BOD decreased in size from 13 members to 11 members. As well, the passage of membership expansion has resulted in welcomed growth in all disciplines of ASHT membership. Finally, the merger of the Legislative & Reimbursement Division with the Practice Division has been very effective.

In response to member feedback to increase hand therapy's visibility among legislators and regulators, ASHT is introducing an inaugural advocacy effort by holding its first Capitol Hill Day in conjunction with the American Occupational Therapy Association to bring the voice of hand therapy to members of Congress. It is our hope in the coming years, this endeavor will grow into a combined Capitol Hill Day that will include ASHT, the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), and the American Physical Therapy Association

(APTA). There have been many collaborations that have ensued over the course of the year. Culminating at the 2016 Annual Meeting will be an important dialogue with the presidents of AOTA and the American Physical Therapy Association addressing the future challenges facing the occupational and physical therapy professions in order to identify areas of common interest and key opportunities that may be nurtured and/or launched to build our collaborations, strengthening the partnership between ASHT, AOTA and APTA – a win-win for members of each respective society! Consider: This is the first year that the AOTA and APTA presidents will be guests and speakers together at our Annual Meeting.

This Annual Report marks the new transition in the ASHT volunteer terms. The 2016 Annual Meeting will mark the culmination of one term and begin the next term immediately following the 2016 Business Meeting. Going forward, ASHT volunteer terms will transition seamlessly during the Annual Meeting.

The success of any one of these projects requires the help and cooperation of the ASHT volunteers and staff to operationalize our goals. That can't be done without you, our ASHT members who engage and provide feedback. Collaboration is key and together we can accomplish something much bigger and greater than individual hand therapists working on their own. Let's keep our hand therapy profession strong, working together in synchrony shaping our future, the future of those hand therapists yet to come and the patients we serve! I look forward to continuing to develop, nurture and support our shared vision of excellence in hand therapy! ONWARD!

Year in Review

Fiscal year 2016 WAS CHARACTERIZED BY SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY WITHIN EACH OF THE THREE PILLARS OF ASHT'S MISSION: **education, research and practice.**



EDUCATION

ASHT's commitment to educating hand therapy professionals has never been stronger. The society's educational portfolio has significantly expanded through live meetings, online education and publications. ASHT's 2016 educational activities included the following:

- Organized and hosted two Hand Therapy Review Courses through August, with one more course planned for October, and one Hands on Orthotics course **(201 attendees)**
- Facilitated seven live webinars through August **(515 participants)**, with four additional webinars scheduled through December
- Generated and facilitated discussion on the e-Community specific to the CHT Exam
- Provided content for the Test Your Knowledge insert in the *ASHT Times*
- Developed a regional live course to provide dynamic, evidence-informed education on upper extremity rehabilitation. This new course, titled ASHT Education on Tour, will launch in 2017
- Secured approval by the **Federation of State Board of Physical Therapy** for continuing education credit for physical therapists and physical therapy assistants for the ASHT Annual Meeting
- Completed six new Patient Education Resources through September, topics include:
 - » Ulnar Collateral Ligament Injuries
 - » Hand Arthritis
 - » Distal Biceps Rupture
 - » Fingertip Injuries
 - » Hand Burns
 - » Radial Head Fractures



RESEARCH

Research is critical to ensure the viability and advancement of hand therapy. ASHT is committed to supporting a generation of evidence-informed research to promote hand therapy clinical practice. The society is disseminating and promoting hand therapy research to members by:

- Providing monthly Journal Clubs, the official online forum for the *Journal of Hand Therapy*, with discussion topics posted by a moderator to facilitate communication in the forum
- Awarding four research awards (Best Scientific Paper, Best Scientific Poster Award, First Time Researcher Award, *Journal of Hand Therapy* First Time Writers' Award)
- Awarding the ASHT Founders Grant for Research in Hand Therapy
- Ensuring a quality scientific session at the Annual Meeting. ASHT is working toward establishing five research priorities to facilitate the continued progress hand therapy practice. The research priorities will be announced at the 2016 Annual Meeting.



PRACTICE

The transition from the Legislation and Reimbursement Division to the Practice Division took place in January 2016 with the creation of three committees: Advocacy, Federal and State Regulations and Practice Management. The dedicated and tireless Practice Division members reviewed, updated or expanded and organized all the information pertaining to their focus in preparation for the new ASHT website. Practice Division members collaborated with AOTA and ASHT through meeting attendance, email and telephone conferences.

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

The Advocacy Committee of the Practice Division reviewed daily legislative reports, identifying proposed actions with the potential to affect access to or delivery of hand therapy. They analyzed the impact of the legislation and posted monthly updates on ASHT.org. This committee is currently reviewing the healthcare policies of the presumptive presidential nominees and will post a summary of their respective healthcare platforms prior to the election. Members of this committee will participate in our upcoming ASHT/AOTA Capitol Hill Day to inform legislators and their staffs of the advantages or disadvantages of proposed legislative initiatives.

Year in Review

FEDERAL AND STATE REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

The Federal and State Regulations Committee closely followed CMS' and HHS' proposals. CMS released three significant proposals analyzed by this committee: the Quality Payment Procedures, the Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System (HOPPS) and the latest revision to the Medicare Part B Physician Fee Schedule. The CMS Task Force as well as members of the committee reviewed the new Quality Payment proposal and advised the Board of Directors regarding their response to CMS addressing concerns for hand therapists. They reviewed the changes to the HOPPS and their satellite clinics to determine this rule had little effect on therapy services. The newest proposal, the Medicare Part B payment revisions, introduced the new therapy evaluation codes and the rationale behind pricing for the codes. This proposal also addressed therapy codes identified by CMS as being incorrectly valued codes. This committee, along with members of the CMS Task Force is reviewing the details of this proposal and will make recommendations to the Board of Directors for communicating hand therapists concerns to CMS. This committee researched and answered members' questions about Medicare billing and documentation submitted through the e-Community or sent directly to ASHT. They consulted CMS or its contractors directly to ensure our members received accurate information.

PRACTICE MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

The Practice Management Committee reviewed, updated, expanded and organized all practice resources for the new website including the Practice Toolbox. They also updated the L code search engine. This team is developing a position paper on telemarketing and is collecting data on productivity standards. The Practice Management Committee monitored private payer trends, practice management and ethical issues and researched and responded to over 50 questions posed through the e-Community, ASHT headquarters or directly emailed to the Practice Division Director.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

The ASHT International Committee continues its efforts toward ASHT's strategic goal to support the global hand therapy community for the purpose of advancing hand health. Included in the committee's undertakings is oversight of the ASHT International Visitor's Grant. The second therapist who qualified for this grant is from Guatemala and will be attending the 2016 ASHT Annual Meeting and spending additional time visiting hand therapy clinics in the United States. As part of the grant design, the awardee will subsequently share this newly acquired information with her colleagues in Guatemala.



Journal of Hand Therapy

The Journal of Hand Therapy CONTINUES TO SERVE AS THE RECOGNIZED SOURCE OF EDUCATION AND INFORMATION IN HAND AND UPPER EXTREMITY THERAPY. REGULAR FEATURES INCLUDE ORIGINAL REPORTS, CLINICAL REVIEWS, CASE STUDIES, EDITORIALS AND BOOK REVIEWS.

CONTENT OVERVIEW

SUBMITTED ARTICLES

Last year: Jan '15 – Dec '15
166 (16.5% below prior year)

Last 12 months: Jul '15 – June '16
188 (0.5% above prior year)

ACCEPTED ARTICLES

Last year: Jan '15 – Dec '15
41 (18% below prior year)

Last 12 months: Jul '15 – June '16
60 (1.6% below prior year)

PUBLISHED ARTICLES

Last year: Jan '15 – June '16
59 (43.9% above prior year)

Last 12 months: Jul '15 – June '16
53 (3.9% above prior year)

SPEED TO PUBLICATION

- *Time to first decision* in 2015 (calendar year) was 5.0 weeks; in the previous 12 months (June 2015 to June 2016), it was 7.9 weeks; and year to date time is 9.4 weeks. The average for comparable journals is 8-10 weeks.
- *Time from submission to acceptance* in 2015 (calendar year) 18.5 weeks; in the previous 12 months (June 2015 to June 2016), it was 23.9 weeks; and year to date time is 23.8 weeks. The average for comparable journals is 25-27 weeks.
- *Time from acceptance to publication* in 2015 (calendar year) was 26.7 weeks; in the previous 12 months (June 2015 to June 2016), it was 22.5 weeks; and year to date time is 13.1 weeks. The average for comparable journals is 25-27 weeks.

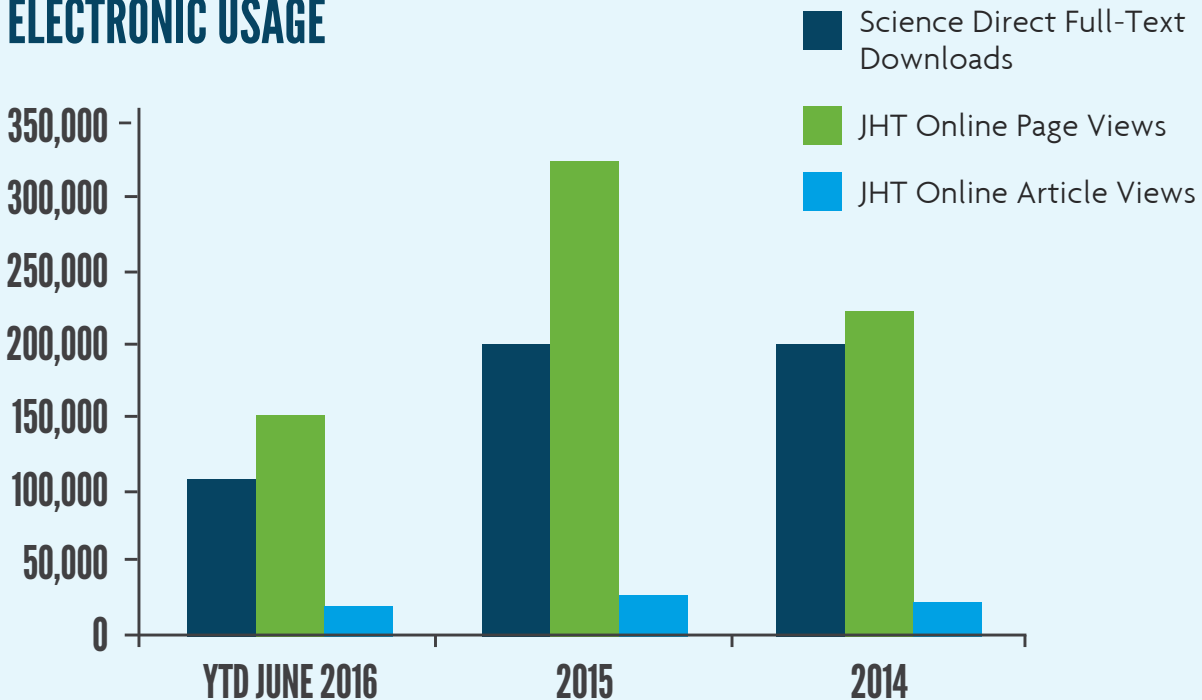
REACH AND USAGE ANALYTICS

TOP 10 MOST CITED ARTICLES PUBLISHED IN 2013-2014 (MOST RECENT AVAILABLE DATA)

1. A meta-analysis of the efficacy of anodal transcranial direct current stimulation for upper limb motor recovery in stroke survivors – Butler, A.J.
2. Assessment of upper extremity impairment, function, and activity after stroke: Foundations for clinical decision making – Lang, C.E.
3. Effects of a dynamic stability approach in conservative intervention of the carpometacarpal joint of the thumb: A retrospective study – O'Brien, V.H.
4. Applying principles of motor learning and control to upper extremity rehabilitation – Muratori, L.M.

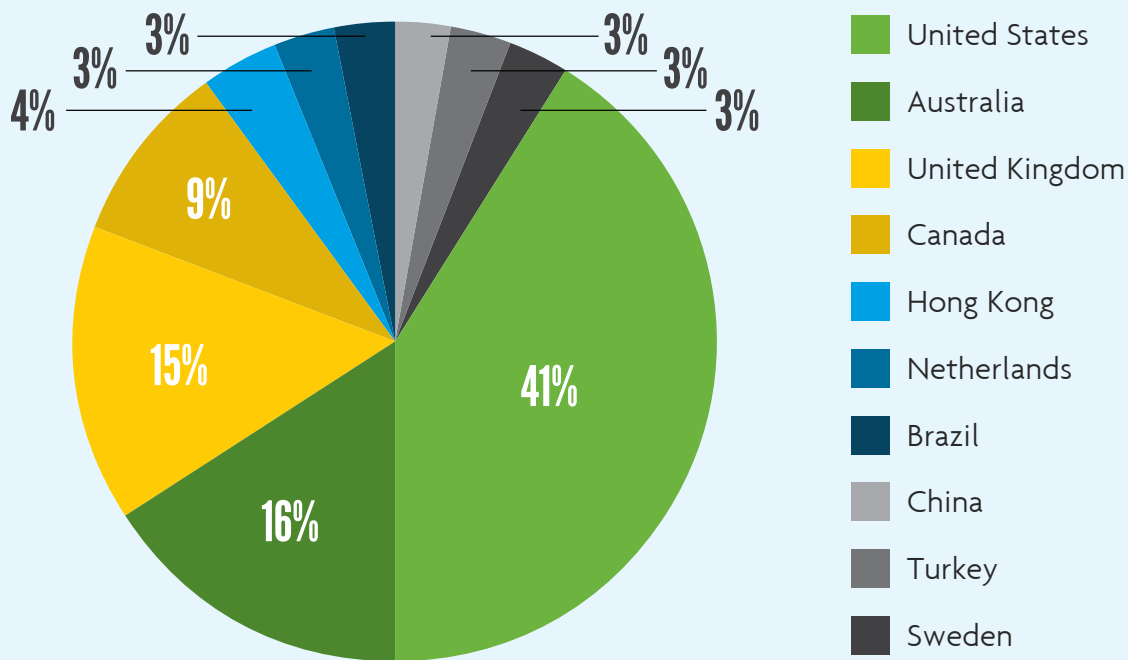
5. The value of provocative tests for the wrist and elbow: A literature review – Valdes, K.
6. A descriptive study on wrist and hand sensori-motor impairment and function following distal radius fracture intervention – Karagiannopoulos, C.
7. Stroke survivors talk while doing: Development of a therapeutic framework for continued rehabilitation of hand function post stroke – Sabini, R.C.
8. Effect of intense functional task training upon temporal structure of variability of upper extremity post stroke – Sethi, A.
9. Effectiveness of cast immobilization in comparison to the gold-standard self-removal orthotic intervention for closed mallet fingers: A randomized clinical trial – Tocco, S.
10. Measurement properties of the Patient-Rated Wrist and Hand Evaluation: Rasch analysis of responses from a traumatic hand injury population – Packham, T.

ELECTRONIC USAGE



Platform		YTD June 2016	2015	2014
ScienceDirect	Full-Text Download	104,466	197,740	197,217
HANTHE Online www.jhandtherapy.org	Page Views	150,271	323,152	222,406
	Article Views	19,473	27,049	23,919

TOP 10 COUNTRIES DOWNLOADING JHT ARTICLES, 2015 (SCIENCE DIRECT)



Country	Request for Articles	Country	Request for Articles
United States	58,219	Netherlands	4,798
Australia	22,174	Brazil	4,418
United Kingdom	20,374	China	4,342
Canada	12,667	Turkey	3,850
Hong Kong	5,374	Sweden	3,746

ENHANCED JOURNAL FEATURES

ELSEVIER PUBLISHING CAMPUS

Designed to give researchers free access to online lectures, interactive training and professional advice on a range of topics, Publishing Campus represents a new way for Elsevier to connect meaningfully with (early career) researchers.

EVISE®

Evise® is the successor of the Elsevier Editorial System (EES) and will ultimately replace it.

Key features:

- Single sign on
- Integrated plagiarism check (CrossCheck) – an automated plagiarism check through iThenticate
- Increased reviewer finding options
- Integration with Scopus
- Automatic manuscript assignment
- Manuscript viewable as HTML or PDF
- Full ORCID support

"A person often meets his destiny on the road he took to avoid it."

—JEAN DE LA FONTAINE



Governance

BOARD STRUCTURE

ASHT's Board of Directors voted to revise the society's governance structure in January 2014. Approved by the membership via a bylaws vote, the revisions included eliminating one Board Member-at-Large position, and merging the Practice and Legislation and Reimbursement Divisions by January 2016. The merged division kept the name Practice Division.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The "We Want You" volunteer campaign that launched in 2014 was the first part of a program developed by the ASHT Board of Directors to increase member engagement in ASHT committees and programs. Our newest expansion of the program will offer leadership development education and opportunities to provide members with resources to gain additional confidence

and strategies for success. This year, we started a virtual book club regarding leadership development. The purpose of the book club discusses specific strategies to become better leaders in our professional and personal lives. The book discusses "Authentic Leadership" and addresses leadership pitfalls and strategies for success.

The board has also implemented a board intern position in 2016. The intern appointment to the ASHT Board of Directors is intended to introduce the intern to the process of board governance, non-profit finance and activities of ASHT. The appointment will provide the intern with an experience that will enhance his/her career in hand therapy and help him/her develop leadership skills that could lead to later participation as a committee chair or a board member of a non-profit organization. It provides a unique networking opportunity with ASHT leaders from around the country.

Membership Engagement

REGIONAL HAND THERAPY INTEREST GROUPS

ASHT works diligently to support practice, research and education in the field of hand therapy. In order to support these goals, ASHT launched a new outreach program this year. Historically, there were only a few state chapters that were active and engaged with ASHT, yet there were many smaller groups that were unaffiliated with ASHT and equally not involved in their state chapters. Two years ago, formal partnerships were dissolved, but now ASHT is reaching out to build new mutual relationships with all local and regional hand therapy groups. ASHT's vision is to provide quarterly updates that are pertinent to the existence and growth of hand therapy. ASHT also welcomes the opportunity of purchasing a vendor table if any group holds vendor meetings, as was done at a recent meeting of the

Georgia Hand and UE SIG. Ultimately, ASHT would like to develop channels for sharing resources and information throughout the entire country.

Reciprocally, ASHT plans to post announcements of upcoming meetings and educational offerings from all interested groups in the *ASHT Times*. A new section in the *ASHT Times*, called "What's Happening?" will debut in the third-quarter issue. This edition will have updates from six groups: Chicago, Michigan, Greater Los Angeles, Wisconsin, Northern California and Phoenix. All interested groups are welcome to participate.

A new section in the ASHT Times, called "What's Happening?" will debut in the third-quarter issue.

Regional Updates

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

- CHICAGO**
The Chicago Metropolitan Hand Study Group (CMHSG) started as a discussion group for hand therapists meeting in members' homes in the 1980s. Since that time, CMHSG has grown to include 100 regular members and many more nonmembers who attend meetings every month. We are licensed by the state of Illinois as a continuing education provider for occupational therapists. Past topics have included tendon repairs, fractures, nerve repairs, ligament repairs, shoulder diagnoses and prostheses. Our upcoming presentations include topics on shoulder diagnoses and wound care. Also, we are very excited for our December lecture, which will feature Jane Fedorczyk. For more information visit chicagoemrhand.com.
- MICHIGAN**
The Michigan Society of Hand Therapists (MSHT) is very active in continuing education. The MSHT held a cadaver/anatomy course in April of this year. The groups fall course is being held Sept. 30-Oct. 1, 2016. It is entitled "Evidence-Based Intervention of the Hand" and will be taught by Virginia O'Brien and Debby Schwartz. The fall course is full, with a waiting list. For more information about the Michigan Society of Hand Therapists activities, contact Risa at rasa@poomas.net.
- GREATER LOS ANGELES**
The Hand Therapy Society of Greater Los Angeles (HTSGLA) is excited about its 2016 continuing education courses. On May 14, 2016, Tovah Baricak demonstrated its basic upper limb prosthetics and Lantz Medical shared its dynamic upper extremity splints. On Aug. 27-28, 2016, Saba Kamal and Ashim Bakhli will present "Upper Quadrant Neural Mobilization and Myofascial Mobilization." The society is looking for its fall topic. Please visit htscla.org if you are interested in attending or presenting at HTSGLA's seminars.
- WISCONSIN**
Wisconsin Hand Therapy Association (WISHTA) serves the community by offering seminars, professional development and networking experiences. The energy in the association is palpable. WISHTA recently improved its electronic resources, now sending quarterly newsletters and hosting e-journal meetings free for members to obtain one continuing education hour from the comfort of their own homes. Membership benefits are now active for 12 consecutive months from the time you register, with convenient online registration and secure payment. The association is happy to continue to serve the hand therapy community in Wisconsin as well as in neighboring states! Upcoming courses include a hands-on thermoplastics lab/factory tour, therapist management of tendon transfers and a tentative EMG lecture and lab. Please visit www.wishta.org to learn more and get involved!
- NORTHERN CALIFORNIA**
The Hand Therapy Association of California organizes eight monthly meetings per year with MDs and therapists presenting a June Hand Therapy Week dinner and presentation (this year with Dr. Benhaim and Dr. Kaufman), a December holiday social and presentation and an annual two-day conference in April. The next annual conference will be held April 7-8, 2017, in San Jose. The theme will be "Looking to the Future of Hand Surgery and Hand Therapy," with several renowned MDs presenting.
- PHOENIX**
The Phoenix, Arizona, Hand Special Interest Group held its first meeting Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2016, at 6 p.m. The meeting reviewed the April-June 2016 JHT special issue on the wrist. The group will meet quarterly to discuss the latest issue of the *Journal of Hand Therapy*. Quarterly meetings will take place at the following location:
Dignity Health
St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center
St. Joseph's Outpatient Rehabilitation
114 West Thomas Road
Phoenix, AZ 85013
Hand Special Interest Group members may post information and follow group happenings on the group's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/HandSpecialInterestGroup.

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Financial Summary

FY 2015 AUDIT RESULTS

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of December 31, 2015, ASHT had total assets of \$1,473,758 and total liabilities of \$495,437, for total net assets of \$978,321. Net assets increased from December 31, 2014 by \$118,844. The detail is outlined below.

ASSETS	2015	2014
Cash	\$582,409	\$484,645
Accounts Receivable	\$54,010	\$23,158
Inventory	\$6,818	—
Prepaid Expenses	\$67,235	\$57,710
Investments	\$723,945	\$678,270
Website Development/ Amortization	\$39,341	\$66,475
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,473,758	\$1,310,258

LIABILITIES	2015	2014
Accounts Payable/ Accrued Expenses	\$69,517	\$67,728
Deferred Revenue	\$425,920	\$383,053
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$495,437	\$450,781

NET ASSETS	2015	2014
Unrestricted	\$917,606	\$791,697
Temporarily Restricted	\$60,715	\$67,780
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$978,321	\$859,477

Volunteer Recognition

Volunteers are essential to all nonprofits, and the following individuals have chosen to dedicate their time to ASHT. Volunteer service contributes to the core products and services offered to the membership. Their passion for hand therapy provides them with the energy to create new learning opportunities and/or services to help ASHT members meet the demands of clinical practice.

Thank you to all of our generous ASHT volunteers. These individuals may or may not know how their contributions have made a difference to their fellow members, to a professional colleague in the health professions community or to a patient with a hand injury, but they have served willingly and passionately.

ANNUAL MEETING COMMITTEE

Rebecca Neiduski, PhD, OTR/L, CHT – *Chair*
Nora Barrett, MS, OTR/L, CHT – *Vice Chair*
Jeanine A. Beasley, EdD, OTR, CHT, FAOTA
Jaymie C. Clack, MA, OTR, CHT
Alexandra M. MacKenzie, OTR/L, CHT
Rebecca Saunders, PT, CHT
Emily Skoza, MSOT OTR/L
Barbara Winthrop, MA, OTR, CVE, CHT, FAOTA

ASHT TIMES

Romina Astifidis, MS, PT, CHT – *Editor*
Barbra Koczan, PT, CHT, DPT – *Editor*

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Jennifer M. Haines, MS, OTR/L, CHT
Tara N. Ruppert, OTR/L, CHT
Missy Thurlow, MBA, OTR/L, CHT

EDUCATION DIVISION

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Alessia DiGennaro Kerner, OTR/L, CHT – *Chair, Practice Education Committee*
Amber Anslinger, OTD, OTR/L, CHT
Audra Ponci Bado, MPT, OCS, CHT
Nora Barrett, MS, OTR/L, CHT
Paul Bonzani, MHS, OTR/L, CHT
Susan Brown, OTR/L, CHT
Sangeetha Bulusu, OTR/L, CHT, CLT-LANA
Gwen Dunning Dorn, OTR/L, CHT
Hannah Gift, MSOT, OTR/L
Susanne Higgins, MHS, OTR/L, CHT
Tambra Marik, OTD, OTR/L, CHT
Kim Masker, OTD, OTR/L, CHT
Jodi Moore, OTD, OTR/L, CHT
Emily Skoza, MSOT, OTR/L
Brocha Stern, MOT, OTR/L

Stephanie Strouse, OTD, OTR/L
Jennie Yen, PT, DPT, CHT
Karol E Spraggs-Young, OTD, OTR/L, CHT

INDEPENDENT FINANCE COMMITTEE

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Marvin Reinglass, CPA/PFS
Corey Talone, CPA
William W Walsh, MBA, MHA, OTR/L, CHT

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Michele Auch, OTR/L, CHT
Katie Froehlich, OTR/L
Lydia Hohman, OTR/L, CHT
Dianna Lunsford, OTD M.Ed., OTR/L, CHT
Courtney Wasley-Retzer, MOT, OTR/L

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

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Robin E Miller, OTR/L, CHT
Laurie C. Rogers, MS, OT, CHT

PRACTICE DIVISION

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Marge Krengel, OTR/L CHT – *Chair, Federal & State Regulations Committee*
Mary Lynn A. Jacobs, MS, OTR/L, CHT – *Chair, Practice Management Committee*
Sharon P Andruskiwec, PT, CHT
Allison Strock Caton, OTR/L, CHT
Luke DeVries, MS, OTR/L, COMT, CHT
Heather Hopkins, MA, OTR/L, CHT
Denise LaRocca, OTS, MS, RCEP, CES, FAACVPR
Kim McVeigh, OTR/L, CHT
Ekta Pathare, OTR, MBA, CHT

Krisi Probert, OTD, OTR/L, CHT
Danielle Watts, DPT, PT, CHT
Josephine Wong, MA, OTR, CHT

CMS Task Force

Nancy Cannon, OTR, CHT
Elizabeth de Herder, OTR/L, CHT
Mia Erickson, PT, CHT, EdD, ATC
Marge Krengel, OTR/L, CHT
Ann Lucado, PhD, PT, CHT
Laurie Rogers, MS, OT, CHT
Marsha Lawrence, PT, CHT
Marc Bartholdi, OTR/L, CHT, OTD

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Aviva L Wolff, EdD, OTR, CHT – *Vice Division Director*
Beverly Bass, OTD, OTR/L, CLT – *Chair, Journal Club*
Lori Algar, OTD, OTR/L, CHT – *Moderator, Journal Club*
Brian Patrick Connors, B.S., MOTR/L
Charles Costello, PHD, PT, CHT
Sharon Dickmann, PT, DPT, CHT
Cynthia Ivy, OTD, CHT, M.Ed
Erika Lewis, PT, EdD, MS, CHT
Miranda Materi, OTD, OT/L, CHT
Corey McGee, PhD, OTR/L, CHT
Nancy Naughton, OTD, OTR/L, CHT

AAOS CPG-CTS Voting Panel

Caroline Jansen, PT, PhD, CHT

TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Heidi Hermann Wright, MBA, OTR, CHT – *Chair*
Stacy Lynn Hite, PT, DPT, MS, CHT
Adam M Holbrook, OTR/L, CHT
Janet Waylett-Rendall, OTR, CHT

Have you seen the **new** ASHT website?

NEW FEATURES

- The latest responsive techniques to enable a mobile-friendly experience for users
- Improved navigational approach that incorporates drop-down menus
- Significant changes to the education section, including events and webinars
- Find-A-Therapist and Locate-a-Clinic utility that now incorporates an interactive map and ability to search for international therapists
- Multiple office locations now show for therapist listings
- The all-new ASHT e-Community includes an updated process for notifications, as well as auto-login functionality
- Members now have the ability to upload images with their e-Community posts, comments or replies
- The site also incorporates the latest techniques to minimize spam and increase security



THE NEW ASHT.ORG

In June 2016, ASHT introduced the completely redesigned *ASHT.org* to promote the field of hand therapy and the ASHT brand. The site underwent a complete revamp of content and significant enhancements to improve the user experience.



Visit
www.asht.org
to see what's new!

Communications



Social Media

ASHT's social media following and engagement has continued to climb, with an 18-percent increase in total followers year over year, and a 13-percent overall increase since January. The ASHT Facebook page experienced the largest percentage increase, with a 28-percent increase in followers since July 2015, and a 21-percent increase since January 2016.

While ASHT's LinkedIn private group and Twitter feed have amassed a significant number of members over the last

several years, the society's Facebook has proven to be the most engaging platform for ASHT members and supporters. The most engaging Facebook posts included New York Giants Jason Pierre-Paul's firework accident (and subsequent public service announcement), quadruple amputee and hand transplant recipient Lindsay Ess becoming a CrossFit competitor, Hand Therapy Week 2016 (including the annual ASHT Photo Contest) and many of ASHT's contributions to ASSH's HandCare.org blog.

TOTAL ASHT SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS



YEAR	FACEBOOK	TWITTER	LINKEDIN	PINTEREST
2013	1,654	1,251	1,328	90
2014	2,043	1,552	1,737	113
2015	2,732	1,921	2,135	133
2016	3,300	2,101	2,257	151

**As of July 21, 2016. All other totals are as of December 31 of the respective year.*

“Big thinking precedes great achievement.”

—WILFRED PETERSON



Hands On

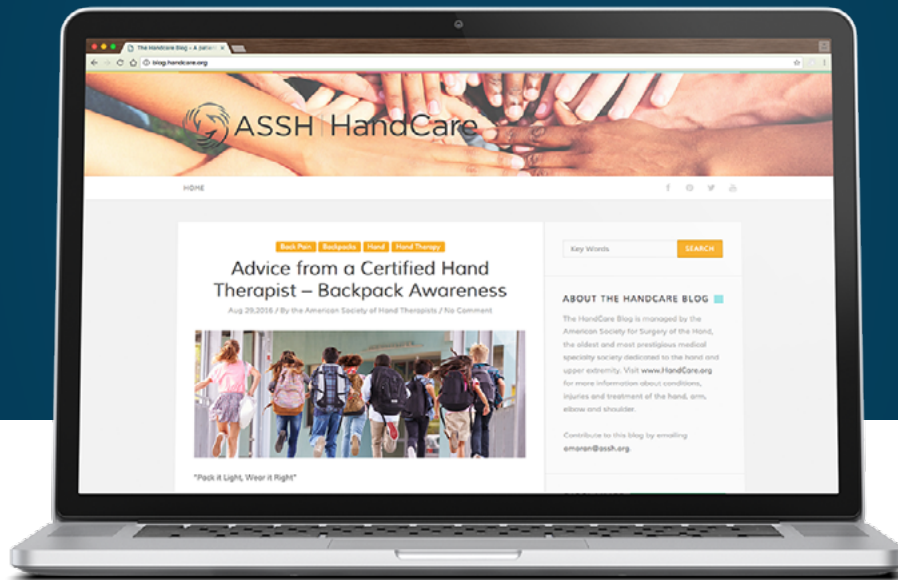
Hands On, ASHT’S BI-WEEKLY MEMBER E-BLAST, CONTINUES TO BE ONE OF THE ORGANIZATION’S MOST POPULAR RESOURCES, WITH OPEN AND CLICK RATES WELL ABOVE THE INDUSTRY AVERAGE.

2016 Jan-June Averages		INDUSTRY STANDARDS*		INDUSTRY STANDARDS*		INDUSTRY STANDARDS*	
Send	2,669	<i>Nonprofit association</i>		<i>Nonprofit health/human services</i>		<i>Nonprofit membership org</i>	
Bounces	45	Bounce Rate	11.89%	Bounce Rate	10.11%	Bounce Rate	3.22%
Bounce Rate	1.7%	Open Rate	29.96%	Open Rate	32.76%	Open Rate	11.66%
Opens	975	Click Rate	8.47%	Click Rate	8.95%	Click Rate	7.05%
Open Rate	37.2%						
Clicks	203						
Click Rate	20.9%						

*Source: Constant Contact, February 2015

Analysis:

From January through June 2016, ASHT’s click and open rates for the Hands On member e-blast were significantly better than industry averages for nonprofit associations, nonprofit membership organizations and nonprofit health and human services mailings. ASHT’s bounce rate was also lower than the averages for each of these categories.



HandCare.Org

In 2015, ASHT partnered with the American Society for Surgery of the Hand (ASSH) to provide important information to patients and the public through ASSH's new [HandCare.org](http://www.handcare.org) blog. Each month, ASHT's Technology and Communication Committee contributes a piece focused on the importance of hand therapy. This information has become some of our most shared posts on social media, helping our therapists share the importance of hand therapy with the public.

Between July 2015 and June 2016, the HandCare.org website received 3,979,901 page views. Drilling down, the blog received 24,047 overall views. Based on ASSH's metrics, **ASHT-generated content accounts for eight of the top 15 most read posts (listed below) on the blog!**

<http://blog.handcare.org/blog/2016/03/28/advice-from-a-certified-hand-therapist-on-desk-posture/>

<http://blog.handcare.org/blog/2015/07/24/advice-from-a-certified-hand-therapist-on-cubital-tunnel-syndrome/>

<http://blog.handcare.org/blog/2015/09/23/advice-from-a-certified-hand-therapist-on-tennis-elbow/>

<http://blog.handcare.org/blog/2015/08/25/advice-from-a-certified-hand-therapist-living-without-thumb-pain/>

<http://blog.handcare.org/blog/2015/10/20/advice-from-a-certified-hand-therapist-pumpkin-carving-tools/>

<http://blog.handcare.org/blog/2016/01/27/advice-from-a-certified-hand-therapist-on-central-sensitization-why-do-i-still-have-pain/>

<http://blog.handcare.org/blog/2016/02/27/advice-from-a-certified-hand-therapist-on-foosh-hoverboards-beyond/>

<http://blog.handcare.org/blog/2015/12/26/advice-from-a-certified-hand-therapist-mallet-finger/>

HAND THERAPY WEEK

JUNE 6-12
2016

sponsored
by



Hand Therapy Week 2016

This year, ASHT saw another successful Hand Therapy Weeks, due in part to dedicated volunteer efforts and a highly engaged audience. In an effort to give therapists and hand therapy supporters simple and creative ways to celebrate Hand Therapy Week, ASHT provided updated hand therapy flyers tailored to surgeons, primary care providers and the public; released four new Patient Education Resources; ran the popular ASHT Photo Contest; and promoted grassroots hand therapy awareness events and efforts through the “Celebrate and Win!” contest launched in 2015.

SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

FACEBOOK

Activity on the [ASHT Facebook page](#) jumped during Hand Therapy Week 2016. The page’s total reach – number of individuals receiving any activity from the page, including posts to the page, posts by other people, page like ads, mentions and check ins – peaked at 7K at the start of Hand Therapy Week.

The ASHT Photo Contest album received the highest level of engagement during the week, recording 2K impressions and engagement of 3.8K. There was also a jump in total Facebook page “likes” surrounding Hand Therapy Week (108), leading to a 3.3 percent follower increase from June 2-15, 2016. This is the second largest recorded spike* in Facebook page followers, bested only

by 2015’s Hand Therapy Week-related increase (122). (*Note: Social media tracking began in October 2013.)

TWITTER

During Hand Therapy Week 2016, the ASHT Twitter page earned 10.3K impressions, which is 15 percent of ASHT’s total Twitter impressions during the first half of 2015. Some of the most popular and retweeted posts included information about the hand therapy specialty (e.g., “Why see a CHT?”). Many users were also engaged via the Hand Therapy Week 2016 hashtag, using #HTW2016 in their messages to connect with ASHT, fellow therapists, supporters and the public.





Allied Organizations Update

AMERICAN HAND THERAPY FOUNDATION

The American Hand Therapy Foundation is the only professional organization with the sole mission for funding hand therapy research and education. The American Hand Therapy Foundation is entirely a volunteer organization.

- The foundation realizes that we must expand and improve our technology to meet the growing needs of the organization.
 - » The Board of Directors made a decision in 2015 to allow all committee chairs to develop committees including people considered subject matter experts to enhance task force production and quality.
- An excellent example of this expansion process is the rejuvenation and reorganization of the grant application process and committee functions.
 - » The restructuring process was conceptualized and organized by our Grant Chair Caroline Jansen, PT, PhD, CHT. Her vision and dedication to the profession of hand therapy has streamlined the grant process and promoted growth and quality of the grant review process.
- The foundation has made a commitment to update its existing website to meet the challenges and expectations of the hand therapy world. The new site will have improved navigation and an automated grant application process.
 - » The new site, expected to be completed in September 2017, will allow direct links to all our collaborating organizations, enhancing teamwork for the promotion of the hand therapy profession.
- The foundation's new Collaboration Committee Chair April Cowan, OTR, OTD, CHT has done a fantastic job developing a detailed list of potential applicants for its grants.
 - » This process will enhance the foundation's capacity to meet its primary mission of promoting quality research for a practical clinical application.
- American Hand Therapy Foundation Silent Auction 2016
 - » The Annual American Hand Therapy Foundation Silent Auction will occur September 15, 2016 from 7:15 p.m. until 9:15 p.m. in the Exhibit Hall of the ASHT Annual Meeting.
 - » The foundation will be offering a combination of traditional bidding sheets with modern checkout procedures.
 - » The foundation will utilize Bidding Owl to allow early viewing of auction items.
- Hand Therapy Week 2016 allowed the foundation the opportunity to create a new and exciting fundraiser: the **5K virtual run**.

Allied Organizations Update

- » This concept was developed and implemented by Gary Solomon, MBA, MS, OTR/L, CHT, member of the Foundation Board.
- » Gary's vision and tremendous organization and leadership skills have allowed the foundation to realize a new and exciting fundraiser. The 5K virtual run allows a wide diversity and level of participation while promoting general health and physical fitness.
- AHTF Grant Awards 2016:
 - » **Judy Bell Krotoski Grab the Evidence Grant for Fundamental Research and Evidence-Based Studies**
 - » Corey McGee, PhD, MS, OTR/L, CHT, and Ann Van Heest, MD, from the University of Minnesota, received the Judy Bell Krotoski Grab the Evidence Grant for Fundamental Research and Evidence-Based Studies for their proposal, "Graded Motor Imagery for Women at Risk for Developing Type I CRPS following Closed Treatment of Distal Radius Fractures: A Pilot Randomized Comparative Effectiveness Trial."
 - » **Burkhalter New Investigator Grant for Clinical Research in Hand and Upper Limb Rehabilitation**
 - » Joseph M. Day, PhD, PT, OCS, of the University of Alabama, and co-investigators Barry Dale, PhD, PT, ATC, OCS; Jeremy Fletcher, DPT, OCS; Coral Gubler, PhD, PT, ATC; and Ann Lucado, PhD, PT, CHT, received the Burkhalter New Investigator Grant for Clinical Research in Hand and Upper Limb Rehabilitation for their project, "The Effect of Scapular Muscle Strengthening on Functional Recovery in Patients with Lateral Epicondylalgia."
 - » **Evelyn Mackin Grant for Education by a Traveling Hand Therapist**
 - » Unfortunately, there were no applications for this grant this year.

The Founders Grant for Research in Hand Therapy

This year, funding was increased from \$5,000 to \$10,000, made possible through collaboration between ASHT and AHTF.

- » **First place:** Neha Dewan, PT, PhD Candidate, and Joy MacDermid, PT, PhD, from the McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, received first place and were the winners of the 2016 Founders Grant for Research in Hand Therapy with their project, "Home safety leading to bone safety: Validation and feasibility testing for using GoPro video-technology to assess home fall risk in women following distal radius fracture."
- » **Second place:** Folarin Babatunde, PT, PhD Candidate, also from the McMaster University, mentored by Joy MacDermid, for the project, "Physiotherapist-delivered internet-based behavior change intervention (i-bci) for managing psychosocial problems after a distal radius fracture: a pilot and feasibility study."

HAND THERAPY CERTIFICATION COMMISSION

HTCC is proud to announce that 2016 marks the 25th Anniversary of the Certified Hand Therapist (CHT) credential. The first CHT examination was administered to 1,220 occupational and physical therapists on May 4, 1991, at a total of 28 test centers across the United States. Today, computerized examinations are delivered twice a year at over 170 assessment centers located throughout the United States and around the world.

Historically the exam was only available to therapists in the U.S., but today, all occupational therapists or physical therapists in any country who meet the eligibility requirements may apply to take the exam. There are currently 6,228 CHTs worldwide with 5,861 in the United States, 198 in Canada and the remaining 168 therapists from countries outside of North America. By profession, 84% are occupational therapists, 14% are physical therapists and 1% have a dual OT/PT credential.

Allied Organizations Update

EXAMINATION HIGHLIGHTS

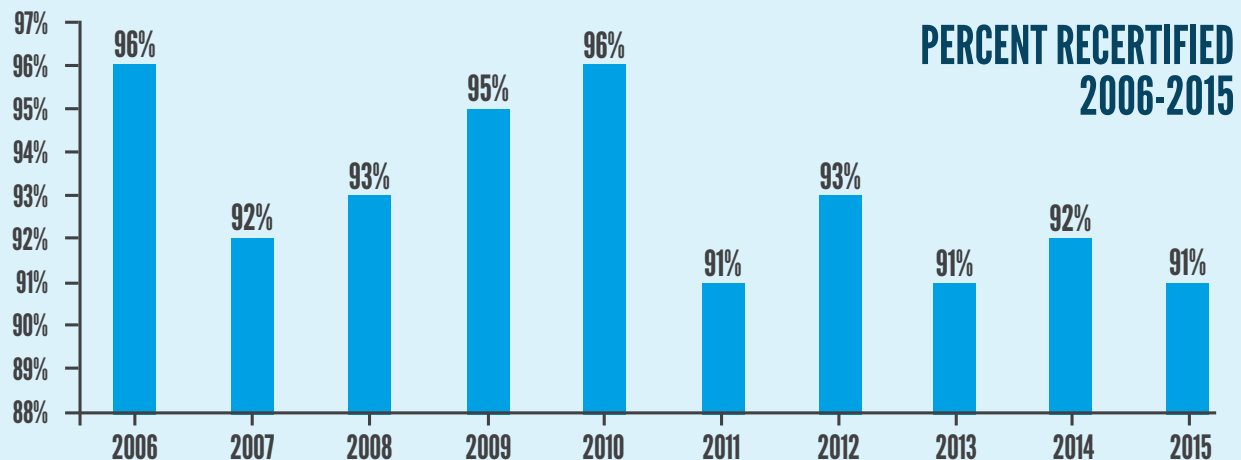
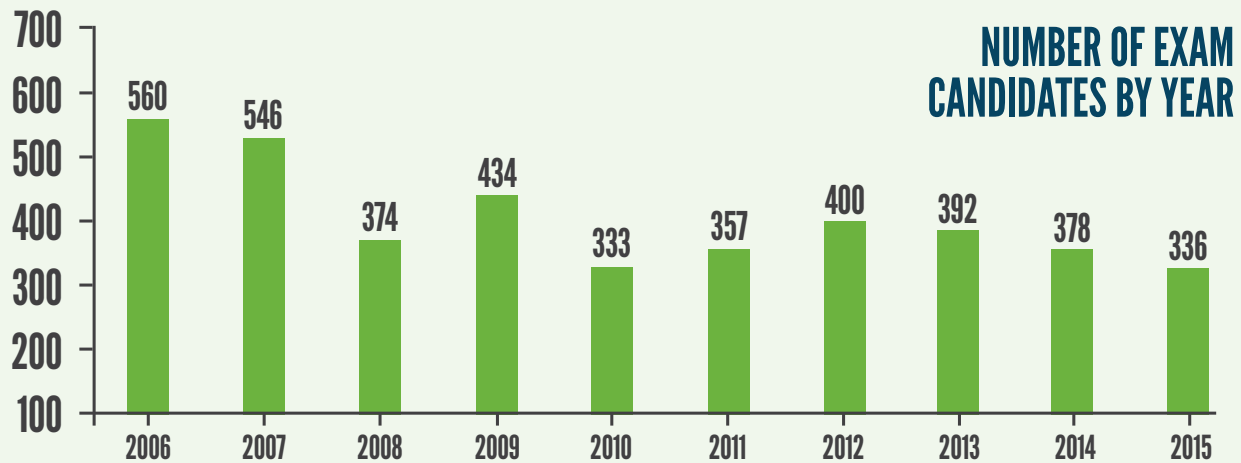
The passing rate (percentage of people who passed the examination in any given administration) for the CHT examination since 2002 has ranged from 52% to 63% with the average pass rate being 56%. The mean passing rate for the past five years has been 59%. The percentage of those who passed the exam has increased slightly over the past 5 years, which may indicate that the candidate ability has increased slightly because the CHT examination performs with a .95% score reliability in which content and difficulty remain consistent within the various domains. This reliability score is well above minimum standards for professional credentialing examinations. The pass rate of the May 2016 exam was 57%, for November 2015 it was 61% and in May 2015 it was 63%.

The number of therapists taking the exam continues to be decreased overall. The chart below shows the number of exam candidates taking the exam over the past 10 years.

RECERTIFICATION HIGHLIGHTS

CHTs continue to have a very high recertification rate, with over 93% recertifying on average since 2006. The table below shows the recertification rate by year since 2006.

There are over 1,700 therapists due to recertify in 2016. This number includes the CHTs who first became certified in 1991 and is our largest group of recertification candidates. Although many from this group may be close to retirement, surveys performed by HTCC indicate that most will maintain their credential in 2016 for five additional years.



Allied Organizations Update

PEER MENTORING

In early 2016, HTCC published the *Hand Therapist Peer Mentoring Manual*, using the HTCC Test Blueprint for Hand and Upper Limb Patients as a framework. The *Hand Therapist Peer Mentoring Manual* utilizes experiential learning and has been developed as a tool that can be used by occupational therapists and physical therapists seeking to gain the advanced knowledge and clinical skills required for the specialty of hand therapy. The Peer Mentoring Manual uses HTCC's Self-Assessment to establish learning goals and objectives and can be downloaded as a free PDF by clicking on the following links: [Self-Assessment](#), [Peer Mentoring Manual](#).

In addition to the Peer Mentoring Manual, HTCC has also added a "[Mentoring](#)" section to the HTCC website. It is the commission's hope that this section will promote professional development through a mentoring relationship between therapists, facilitate learning and assist in the preparation of the Hand Therapy Certification examination.

PRACTICE ANALYSIS

In 2014, HTCC performed the fifth in a series of practice analysis studies that have been conducted by HTCC over a 30-year period. The results of the practice analysis have been published in the *Journal of Hand Therapy*. Two of the primary purposes of the study were to update the content outline for the Hand Therapy Certification Examination and to update HTCC policies based on the empirical data.

RECERTIFICATION POLICY CHANGES

The Recertification Committee used the data obtained from the practice analysis to update the requirements for the recertification program for 2017 and beyond. The Recertification Committee used the data to support an increased focus on CORE upper extremity therapy topics in the education and professional activities allowed for recertification. Category definitions were amended to focus on CORE upper extremity knowledge.

Core knowledge reflects the most critical content areas from the current practice analysis and reflects the areas tested on the certification examination. These areas were rated by hand therapists in the practice analysis as being moderately or highly critical to the care of upper limb patients. Only professional development courses containing content pertaining to this core knowledge will be accepted in Cat A. A list of areas classified as being core knowledge can be found on the [HTCC website](#). Due to the focus of Core Upper Extremity Therapy topics, only 20 hours of course content with general Occupational or Physical Therapy content will be accepted in Category C instead of 30 hours. There will no longer be a maximum of Complimentary Medicine course hours in this category and all 20 hours may be devoted to complimentary medicine.

Additionally, courses pertaining to Practice Management will no longer be accepted in Category C and will be moved to Category F. The maximum hours accepted in Category F will remain 6 hours.

OVERVIEW OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CATEGORY CHANGES

Category A:

- Reserved for CORE upper extremity therapy

Category C:

- Decreased accepted hours in Category C from 30 to 20 hours per 5 year cycle
- No maximum Complimentary Medicine hours in this category (all 20 hours can be in Complimentary Medicine Courses)
- Move Practice Management Courses to Category F.

Category F:

- Courses related to Practice Management will be moved from Category C to Category F. The maximum amount will remain 6 hours.

Allied Organizations Update

EXAMINATION POLICY CHANGES

A large portion of the “promote professional practice” domain was reallocated to the “determine prognosis and plan of care” domain. The “promote professional practice” domain was therefore eliminated from the examination blueprint. The remaining knowledge areas in this domain were then moved to the “basic science

and fundamental knowledge” domain. The examination blueprint now contains four practice domains:

- Basic science and fundamental knowledge
- Evaluate upper extremity and relevant patient characteristics
- Determine prognosis and plan of care
- Implement therapeutic interventions

BOARD AND COMMITTEE RECOGNITION

HTCC would like to acknowledge and thank the following individuals for their contributions as board and committee members as well as our excellent staff.

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Marie Eason Klatt

Jan Newsom

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INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SOCIETIES FOR HAND THERAPY

MEMBERSHIP

The IFSHT membership continues to grow. Currently, there are a total of 47 countries that are members of IFSHT. The membership is as follows: 35 full members, which are national hand therapy societies; one associate member—a hand therapy interest group from a country with no society; 10 corresponding members which are individual therapists from countries with no society; and five commercial members, which are companies that sell durable hand rehabilitation products and supplies. Two applications for membership are currently pending. We hope to be able to announce soon that our membership has once again expanded. There are also five liaison organizations that are linked to IFSHT.

COMMUNICATION

IFSHT communicates regularly with therapists around the world. The number of direct e-mail requests, for example from therapists looking for follow-up care for their traveling patients, continues to increase. Communication also takes place through the IFSHT Facebook page, the IFSHT website www.ifsht.org, the IFSHT Hand Therapy Connections E-Newsletter and the IFSHT Update included in the *Journal of Hand Therapy* and the British journal *Hand Therapy*. IFSHT coordinates the contribution of hand therapy articles for the IFSSH E-zine.

IFSHT WEBSITE

The IFSHT website continues to grow and offer more information for hand therapists. It offers links to clinical information of a non-commercial nature. Information regarding the definition of hand therapy, an overview of hand therapy around the world, volunteer opportunities for therapists, a listing of clinics that accept visiting therapists and educational opportunities such as national and international meetings, diploma courses and short courses have been incorporated into the website.

IFSHT TRIENNIAL CONGRESS

The 10th IFSHT Triennial Congress/13th IFSSH Triennial Congress is a joint congress in Buenos Aires, Argentina, October 24-28, 2016. A four-day program is planned for both IFSHT and IFSSH. The IFSHT program includes more than 70 invited speakers and more than 50 free papers. The keynote lecture by Dr. Adriana Pemoff, on the “Musician’s Hand” and the invited expert lecture given by Lorimer Moseley on “Pain and the Brain” are program highlights. The program can be viewed on the congress website: <http://www.ifssh-ifsht2016.com/>.

EDUCATION

In addition to congresses, IFSHT has compiled a listing of diploma-type hand therapy courses that are offered around the world. A listing of national and international congresses is updated regularly on the IFSHT website. As of 2016, the IFSHT website now has a page for paid advertising of courses for hand therapists; this listing is for short courses.

Allied Organizations Update

The 2014 IFSHT membership survey indicated that themed skills courses are the most common method for therapists to acquire hand therapy knowledge. The IFSHT Education Committee has been tasked with creating a listing of web-based resources with relevant content for hand therapists. All of this information is publicly available on the IFSHT website.

AWARDS

The IFSHT **Christine Alegri Award** for innovation in hand therapy will be awarded for the first time in Buenos Aires. An independent review committee comprising therapists from around the globe is reviewing the five nominations that were received. The recipient of this award will also be announced on the IFSHT website. The **Evelyn Mackin Award** offers sponsorship of a therapist(s) from a developing country to attend the Triennial Congress; in 2016, it will be awarded to five therapists.

FUNDRAISING

To date, IFSHT has received four donations greater than \$1,000, from IFSSH, ASHT, the Swiss Hand Rehabilitation Society and the Swedish Hand Rehabilitation Association. Additionally, there were several donations below \$1,000 from companies and individuals. All of these donations were made to the IFSHT Travel Grant Fund and the Evelyn Mackin Award. Additionally, IFSSH donated funds to support the IFSHT Volunteer Teaching Fund. This fund supports teaching projects in countries where hand therapy is not yet well established. IFSHT is a registered non-profit organization in Switzerland. A donation to IFSHT is tax deductible in many countries. Donations to IFSHT can be made using the IFSHT PayPal donation button, available on the IFSHT website under donations & sponsorships. The **IFSHT Silent Auction** is held once every three years at the Triennial Congress and raises money to support speaker participation in the next congress. It will once again take place on October 27,

2016 in Buenos Aires. A call for donations for the IFSHT Silent Auction has been sent to the delegates and through the IFSHT communication methods listed in the communication section of this report. For those wishing to donate an item, please register your donation on the IFSHT website <http://www.ifsht.org/content/silent-auction-donation-form>.

GRANTS AWARDED

In addition to the five therapists who received the Evelyn Mackin Award, a total of 29 therapists were awarded partial support to attend the 2016 Congress in Buenos Aires. A total of 61 applications requesting support to attend the congress were received. With a membership fee of \$1 per year per therapist, IFSHT has very limited funds for these requests. The funds available to support travel and registration were raised through the IFSHT Silent Auction or through direct donations. All requests were reviewed and priority was given to applicants from countries with lower GDP per capita, applicants that had not received previous support and candidates with geographic proximity and thus lower travel costs. Thus far in this term, two IFSHT-IFSSH International Voluntary Teaching Grants have been awarded: one to support a splinting course in the Czech Republic in November 2015 and a second to support a teaching project in Ghana, Africa that is planned for August 2016.

DYNAMOMETER PROJECT

The IFSHT Dynamometer project continues to distribute dynamometers to the clinics around the world where dynamometers are not readily available. In 2015 and 2016, dynamometers went to Nepal, Swaziland, Uganda, Barbados, Bangladesh, Ukraine, Croatia, Zambia, Brazil, Argentina and Indonesia. Shipping expenses for the dynamometers has been generously donated by HandLab and the Soudronic Corporation, as well as private donations. In most cases, the dynamometers are hand carried to their final destination.

“Neither a wise man nor a brave man lies down on the tracks of history to wait for the train of the future to run over him.”

—DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

Message from the Incoming President



Gary Solomon,
MBA, MS, OTR/L, CHT

DEAR COLLEAGUES,

It is an absolute honor to begin my service as the 40th President of our ASHT! I have had the opportunity over the past 10 years to enjoy working “behind the scenes” in a number of different roles for the organization, and have gained a unique perspective and appreciation for the hard work and dedication of ASHT members, volunteers and professional staff. As a professional community, we continue to adapt to a changing healthcare environment and embrace opportunities to strengthen our future through research, education and embracing new technologies to better serve our patients.

As a full-time clinician, I find myself on the front lines of our clinical, reimbursement and knowledge translation challenges; however, I feel extremely fortunate that the availability of professional resources and networking opportunities available to ASHT members has never been greater! As I write this letter, I just finished going through comments on the new e-Community, which has been revitalized by the new website roll out. Live and recorded webinars allow us to attend presentations

from renowned speakers while sitting in our own homes! Practice resources such as L codes and Medicare regulations are only a click away! And, the *Journal of Hand Therapy* just published an incredible special issue on the wrist (which has me examining how many activities I actually perform using a “Dart Thrower’s Motion”). The quality and quantity of resources available to ASHT members continues its upward trajectory, and every year new ideas become reality.

I am extremely proud to serve along with the 2017 Board of Directors and ASHT leadership. ASHT is the only professional organization solely dedicated to the serving the group of professionals lucky enough to call themselves hand therapists. Please continue to look to ASHT first to meet your professional needs.

Thank you for this opportunity!

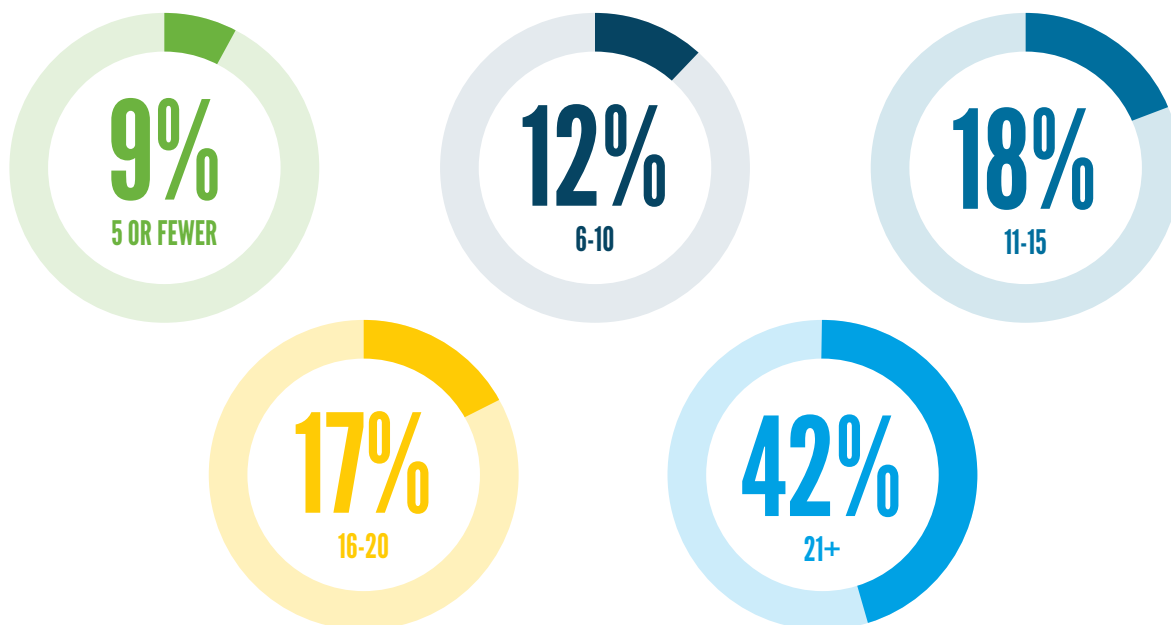
Respectfully,

Gary Solomon, MBA, MS, OTR/L, CHT
2016-17 ASHT President

ASHT Membership by the Numbers

YEARS OF HAND THERAPY EXPERIENCE

A MAJORITY (**60%**) OF ASHT MEMBERS HAVE PRACTICED FOR *16 years or more*. NEARLY ONE THIRD (**29%**) OF MEMBERS HAVE BEEN IN PRACTICE BETWEEN *six and 15 years*, WHILE **11%** HAVE *five years or fewer* OF HAND THERAPY EXPERIENCE.



TOTAL ASHT MEMBERSHIP





Advance The Field Of Hand Therapy

DONATE TO THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HAND THERAPISTS

The American Society of Hand Therapists is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the field of hand and upper extremity by promoting education, advocacy, research and clinical standards.

Please see descriptions below outlining your donation options. All donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Consult your tax advisor regarding specific questions about your deductions.

- **Annual Meeting Sessions Fund:** Donations support continued evidence-informed programming, and learning opportunities to help ASHT members meet the demands of clinical practice.
- **Awards and Scholarship Fund:** Donations support continuing education for the next generation of hand therapy professionals.
- **Vision Fund:** Donations support ASHT's strategic initiatives in advocacy, education and research.

DONATE

To support ASHT with a donation,
please visit asht.org/donate.

Thank you for considering a donation
to support the field of hand therapy.

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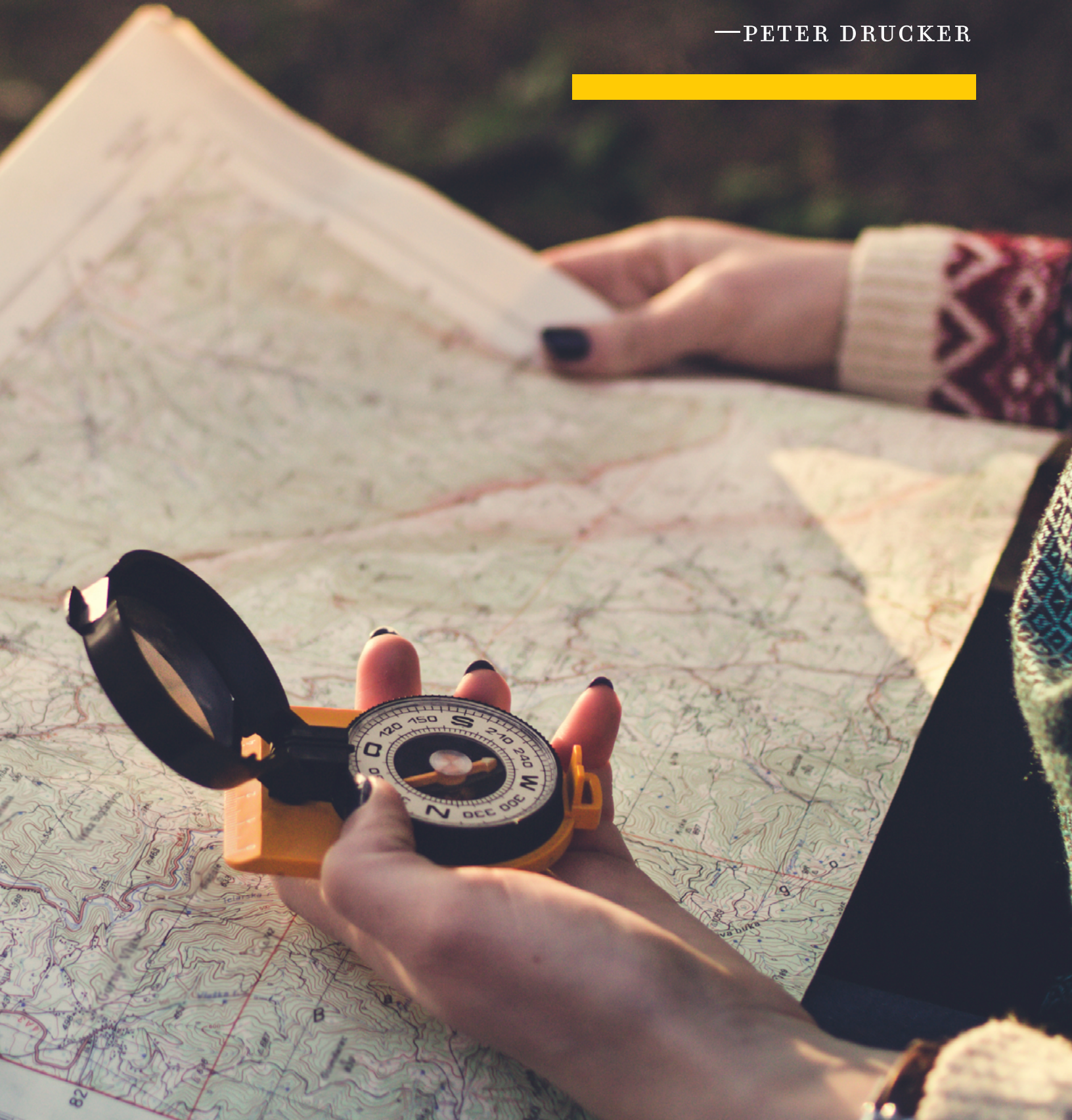
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*“The only thing we
know about the future is
that it will be different.”*

—PETER DRUCKER



**1120 Route 73, Suite 200
Mount Laurel, NJ 08054**

Phone: 856-380-6856

Fax: 856-439-0525

Email: ASHT@asht.org

ASHT is professionally managed
by AH, a chartered accredited
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ASHT

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HAND THERAPISTS™