IFSHT Hand Therapy Connections Newsletter December 2018

International Federation of Societies for Hand Therapy <president@ifsht.org>
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The IFSHT Mission: To provide global networking and educational opportunities to develop and enhance the practice of hand therapy.
www.ifsht.org

Connect with colleagues, expand your horizons
Plan to join us in Berlin, Germany June 17-21, 2019

Registration for the congress has opened, click here to learn more about the congress and for early registration.

Early bird registration fee available until February 28, 2019

Record Number of Abstracts Submitted for 2019 Congress

The local congress organizing committee recently announced that 1800 abstracts were submitted for the congress! This is an all time high and is keeping the abstract reviewers quite busy. Notices of acceptance or refusal of submitted abstracts will be sent out by mid-January 2019.
Travel Grants for Speakers
The application deadline for travel grants has been extended until January 30, 2019 to accommodate the extended abstract review process. Click here for a link to the IFSHT congress travel grant application.

Nominations for Lifetime Achievement Award and Innovation in Hand Therapy being accepted until December 31, 2018

Nominations being accepted for the IFSHT Lifetime Achievement Award

The IFSHT Lifetime Achievement Award has been developed to recognise therapists who have made an outstanding contribution to hand therapy internationally. The awards will be presented for the first time at the 2019 IFSHT triennial congress. The nominations process has opened and more information can be found at Lifetime achievement award. The deadline for nominations is December 31, 2018. Following the congress, award winners will be listed on the IFSHT website.

Call for Nominations for the IFSHT Innovation in Hand Therapy Award

Do you know someone that has made an innovative contribution to Hand Therapy? If so, why not nominate them for this award. More information can be found here: CA Innovation Award. The award will be given at the 2019 IFSHT congress in Berlin. The deadline for nominations is December 31, 2018. Following the congress, the award winner will be listed on the IFSHT website.

The IFSHT Cristina Alegri Innovation in Hand Therapy Award was awarded for the first time in October 2016 at the 10th IFSHT Triennial Congress in Buenos Aires, Argentina to Birgitta Rosén from Sweden for her contribution...
to the understanding of the hand and sensibility.

The Hidden Language of Hands

As therapists we realize that hands are essential to communication. When our patients begin to gesture with their injured hands, that is often a good indication that the hand is once again integrated into body scheme. For a non-therapist perspective on the language of hands, click on the link to this interesting video from the New York Times.

Hidden language of Hands

New Tool for Therapists Teaching in Another Country

Courtney Varga a therapist in the USA, recently created an assessment tool to help instructors gauge hand therapy learning needs of therapists and technicians. The tool and scoring grid are available in an open access publication: Hand Therapy Assessments for Use with International Technicians (HTAIT).

If you are thinking about a teaching project in another country, don't forget, IFSHT offers grants to support voluntary teaching projects. Information can be found on the IFSHT website under International Teaching Grants. The tool mentioned above could be a useful part of such a project.

Upcoming IFSHT Silent Auction in 2019

At the IFSHT Congress in 2019, IFSHT will once again host a Silent Auction. This fun event raises funds to support therapists from countries with financial challenges to attend and present at the next IFSHT congress. IFSHT welcomes donations of easily transportable items for the auction. In the next Hand Therapy Connections E-mail, there will be more information about how to donate items for the Silent Auction.

Open Access Hand Therapy Articles in the IFSSH E-zine
The November 2018 issue of the IFSSH E-zine, a free open access publication, contains articles about **Hand Therapy in Argentina and scaphoid fractures**. Click here to access the [IFSSH Ezine](https://outlook.office.com/mail/AAMkADU1MTNmZWJlLTY1NDEtNDUxOS04OWFjLWU4NDk4ZTY1ZWMzMgAuAAAAAAAC%2Fi9vbfQ6ZsqeUDV4/4).

**International contributions of clinical hand therapy articles are welcomed for the IFSHT portion of the IFSSH E-zine.** Contributions focus on useful clinical tips for the management of conditions of the hand and wrist. If you are interested in contributing an article, please email [informationofficer@IFSHT.org](mailto:informationofficer@IFSHT.org) to discuss content requirements.

**IFSHT Compliance with General Data Protection Regulation Guidelines**

In May 2018 the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) went into effect. IFSHT sent everyone on the IFSHT mailing list an explanation regarding GDPR and the option to opt-out of our mailing list. IFSHT is making every effort to comply with GDPR, if you did not actively respond and let us know that you do not wish to receive mails, we will continue to include you on our mailing list. If you do not wish to receive mails from IFSHT please click on the Safe Unsubscribe link at the bottom of this mail to unsubscribe.

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