



FIMM

Fédération Internationale de Médecine Manuelle - Internationale Gesellschaft für Manuelle Medizin - International Federation for Manual/Musculoskeletal Medicine

## **FIMM NEWS BULLETIN** TO THE NATIONAL SOCIETIES

**Secretary-General**  
**APRIL 2007**

### **FIMM Academy to Meet in Prague May 30 - June 2, 2007**

The FIMM Academy will hold its annual meeting May 30 - June 2, 2007. Joining together in **Prague**, the Academy will convene its many working committees, meet its Executive Board, conduct its General Assembly, and provide an instructional course on reproducibility. FIMM Academy committees include: Efficacy, Reproducibility, Special Topics, General Topics, International Journal, and Conference Committees.

Providing a significant brain trust for the field of manual and musculoskeletal medicine generally (and FIMM specifically), the FIMM Academy welcomes **nominations** for admission. To obtain more information or to submit an application or nomination, click on the FIMM International Academy section of [www.fimm-online.com](http://www.fimm-online.com).

### **FIMM Triennial Educational & Scientific Congress: September 13-15, 2007**

The 15th Triennial FIMM Educational and Scientific Congress will be held in **Zurich, Switzerland** from September 13-15, 2007. Hosted by the Swiss Medical Association for Manual Medicine (SMM), the program is entitled "**Neuromusculoskeletal Evidence and New Approaches in Manual Medicine**," half-day sessions will include new evidence in the areas of neurophysiology, kinetics/training, and biomechanics related to manual / musculoskeletal medicine. The addition of the topic of "**New Approaches in Manual Medicine**" reflects the intention to promote implementation of these evidences into the various schools of Manual/ Musculoskeletal Medicine. Major keynote sessions will be followed by focused workshops by international Manual Medicine clinicians and researchers.

While the official congress language is English, translations in and from French and German are anticipated. For more information or to submit an abstract please see [www.fimm-online.com](http://www.fimm-online.com) and click on the Triennial Congress icon.

### **Manual Medicine & Aging Research Conference: September 30 – October 2, 2007**

For the first time, members belonging to organizations represented in FIMM may **submit abstracts for publication** in the peer-reviewed, *Journal of the American Osteopathic Association (JAOA)*. Research Abstracts are presented as posters and are an integral part of the AOA Research Conference at the AOA Annual Convention and Scientific Seminar (September 30-October 2 in San Diego, California).

Accepted abstracts are to be published in the August issue of the JAOA. **On-line abstract submissions** are open and the final submission deadline for those in the United States is April 30 – however for international submissions, this has been extended to June 1, 2007. After April 30, international submissions may be made by emailing a request to [research@osteopathic.org](mailto:research@osteopathic.org) to obtain the submission links.

The AOA Research Conference is entitled, **“Chronic Disorders of Aging in the 21st Century: New Insight and Approaches.”** It is co-chaired by **Brian J. Balin, PhD** and **Michael L. Kuchera, DO** (Secretary-General of FIMM). For more information or for information about abstract submission see [www.do-online.org](http://www.do-online.org) and click on the AOA Research Conference.

### **Fascial Research Congress: October 4-5, 2007**

To be held October 4-5, 2007, the first **Fascia Research Congress** promises to present the latest and best scientific fascial research from basic and clinical scientists around the globe. FIMM is a “supporting organization” which means that we have backed the conference goals with a formal letter of support. In addition, FIMM makes information about the conference available to our members and associates. This Congress will take place at The Conference Center, **Harvard Medical School in Boston**. Conceived and organized by a multidisciplinary committee of science researchers and practicing health care professionals whose respective fields share a common focus and interest in the human body’s soft connective tissue matrix, the Congress will be the first international conference **dedicated to fascia in all its forms and functions**. (See [www.fascia2007.com](http://www.fascia2007.com) for the complete agenda and other details.)

### **General Updates on FIMM National Societies**

**France:** The **April letter** to members of the Société Française de Médecine Manuelle Orthopédique et Ostéopathique (SOFMMOO) has been published under the leadership of president Jehan Lecocq. See their webpage at [www.sofmmoo.com](http://www.sofmmoo.com) or visit their Virtual Back Museum (**Musée Virtuel du Mal de Dos de la SOFMMOO**) just for fun!

**Germany:** The leadership of both the **Deutsche Gesellschaft für Manuelle Medizin** (DGMM) and the **FIMM Academy** met together on March 28 in Berlin.

**New Zealand:** **John Robinson** has stepped back as a president of the New Zealand Association of Musculoskeletal Medicine (NZAMSM) and is now a vice president. The new NZAMSM president is **Peter McKenzie**. Congratulations to each for their past and future service in their society and to the field of manual / musculoskeletal medicine!

This year the NZAMSM will join with the Australian Association of Musculoskeletal Medicine (AAMM) for a Combined Conference entitled, **“Muscling in on the Tendon: Practical Management of Tendon Disorders.”** To learn more about this conference to be held, August 2-5, 2007 in Palmerston North, New Zealand see their conference flyer: <http://www.musmed.com/NZAMM%202007%20Conference.pdf>.

**United States of America:** Congratulations to **Kenneth Johnson** for his excellent year of service as president of the American Academy of Osteopathy (AAO) and for his continued leadership as Immediate Past-President. The annual AAO Convocation in Colorado Springs in March 21-25, 2007 attracted a record of 1103 attendees. Elections held at the meeting brought the following physicians into office, **Claudia McCarty** – President, **Guy DeFeo** – President-Elect, and **Mark Cantieri** – Secretary-Treasurer. Visit the AAO website at [www.academyofosteopathy.org](http://www.academyofosteopathy.org) to view their ongoing educational programs and teaching materials.

Immediately preceding the AAO Academy meeting was a **research mentorship program** entitled, **“ROOM-TO-RUN”** (*Research Opportunities in Osteopathic Manipulation: Training Our Residents and Undergraduates Now!*). The success of this program for developing future researchers in manual/neuromusculoskeletal medicine has led to the decision to conduct this program every other year. (On alternate years, an international symposium will be held in the USA for those interested in the expanding evidence base in this field.

### **A Special Note on Activities in the Lives of Friends in the FIMM Family**

At the March 2007 Convocation of the American Academy of Osteopathy (AAO), member and **FIMM Secretary-General, Michael L. Kuchera** was honored with their highest award, the **A.T. Still Medallion of Honor**.

In addition, the Center for Chronic Disorders of Aging (CCDA), which Dr. Kuchera co-directs just, received an **endowment of \$2.5 million**. The interest from these funds will be used in perpetuity to improve the quality of life for individuals suffering from age-related chronic diseases and disorders by facilitating collaborative research and educational programs. The CCDA supports basic and applied investigations into areas such as Alzheimer's disease, osteoporosis, obesity, inflammation, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, reperfusion injury, and rheumatoid arthritis, among others.

Dr. Kuchera stresses that while the CCDA addresses chronic disorders, it does so within the framework of health promotion and prevention. **“Manual medicine plays a significant role in promoting optimal structure and function at all ages,”** he noted. “We have an obligation to explore all measures to prevent or slow disorders that reduce vitality or quality of life. We intend to reach beyond the institution's walls to collaborate with city, state, national and international researchers and to be a resource for information on the latest advances in the clinical application of research findings.”

**Respectfully submitted,  
Michael L. Kuchera  
Secretary-General**