



APPDE e-bulletin: April 2018
A farewell, but not goodbye

Hello everyone,

Here is our bitter-sweet e-bulletin to you, as at the General Meeting on Monday 19th March, with the help of numerous proxy votes, and a special thank you to Eva Bollard from Ireland who joined us in person, the vote took place to dissolve the APPDE and join INPA, the International Neurological Physical Therapy Association, and subgroup of the World Confederation of Physical Therapy (the WCPT). The notes from this General Meeting are available through Mariella.



On Tuesday 20th of March, the Board members (sat on a green sofa in the Conference, from left to right: (Bhanu, Fiona, Mariella and Anna,) met with the chair of INPA, Dr Ralph Hammond (top most photograph) to plan the new Movement Disorder Special interest group of INPA, which is where our APPDE will emerge to meet in the future.

Later on this week, on the 11th of April, and World Parkinson's Day, APPDE members who have expressed an interest to Ralph to know more, and possibly be part of the steering group, will meet virtually and take forward plans for this new group.

It is a bit of a sad time, to see the hard work of the APPDE, and most especially Mariella's commitment end, BUT we hope this to herald a happy occasion as we give rise to a more internationally inclusive group, and hope to have you ALL on board in the future. Thank you so much to those who have added to the group, and for your good wishes.

As long-time member Susanne Brühlmann says (yes, the very Susanne from Switzerland Bhanu is jealous of as she is always sending photos of her Parkinson's group in hot, sunny places):

*'What an era – lasting for almost 18 years - comes to a physical end, but will continue for the persons associated with the APPDE in mind, brain, friendship and of course in everlasting progress for the best practice and best quality of life for our persons with Parkinson's.
 So I really hope that with INPA and digital contacts, the heartbeat and spirit of the APPDE will go on.
 Thank you very much again for all the inspiration, knowledge and progress you insert within the association and each member. THANK YOU!!'*

We join Susanne in also thanking all our members, past and present, who have contributed to the global knowledge and skills we use with people with Parkinson's, that continue to inform our standards of practice, research and clinical know-how, and who have come to us from far and wide from countries including:

- | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|
| Australia | Austria | Belgium | Brazil | Cameroon | Canada |
| Cyprus | Denmark | | | England | Ethiopia |
| Finland | Germany | | | Greece | Hungary |
| Ireland | Isle of Man | | | Israel | Italy |
| Luxembourg | Jordan | | | Malaysia | Mexico |
| Netherlands | New Zealand | | | Nigeria | Pakistan |
| Palestine | Portugal | Romania | Scotland | Spain | Sweden |
| Switzerland | USA | Uruguay | Wales | and | Turkey |



There are FAR TOO MANY articles, presentations and local, national and international events, such as meetings at World Confederation for Physical Therapists (WCPT) Congresses and the World Parkinson's Congress to mention, all supported by our members. The next few photos therefore from the MDS Summer Schools for the Allied Health Professions act to identify how the achievements we have been part of together have ensured the recognition of our profession by the international groups, Can you spot yourself.....

The first Summer School was in 2013 in Nijmegen, The Netherlands, hosted by the ParkinsonNet team



 <p>The Movement Disorder Society European Section</p>	<p>MDS Allied Health Professional Summer School Nijmegen, the Netherlands – 2013</p>	 <p>ParkinsonNet</p>
---	--	--



The second was in Torres Vedras, Portugal (2014) organised by Josefa Domigos and her team, then Brussels, Belgium (2016), and the last one in Newcastle, UK (2017) – the last two organised by Professors Lynn Rochester and Alice Nieuwboer.



There have been publications in different formats (CDs, DVD, through internet projects, guideline development and poster presentations [as demonstrated below by Samyra Keus]) in which members have contributed (in MANY languages) to support the sharing of information across the world.....



.....prizes for sharing inspirational practice (Anna Jones [left] receiving a poster prize using art and poetry in pre-registration physiotherapy education about Parkinson's at WCPT 2011, and Inge Risum and Finn Nielsen [right] who were part of a team receiving the annual Pakkenberg Award 2012 - for their outstanding work facilitating a course for physiotherapists to better manage Parkinson's.....



..... and support through fun and fundraising e.g. Mariella (Luxembourg) and Susanne (Switzerland) at one of the annual Unity Walks for Parkinson's with their respective country's groups.



So, what can you expect for 2018 into 2019?

We will not disappear suddenly, but are working with INPA to gradually increase our input with them and be an accepted special interest group with link members from across the globe ready to launch in Geneva at WCPT Congress 2019.

Until then the website, Twitter and Facebook as social media will still be up and running, so visit to contribute and participate as before, like and befriend at:



Twitter: [@euPhysioPD](https://twitter.com/euPhysioPD)

and Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/euPhysioPD>



Campaign with us on World Parkinson's Day (April 11th),



and then get ready for a reunion in Geneva next year



And finally, to wish you all a great start to our new journey.....



(No prizes to guess who is on the far right of the photo, in the sun with her Swiss fellows?)