

## **Second International Occupational Science Think Tank**

**April 1-3, 2007**

The Second International Occupational Science Think Tank was held on Catalina Island, off the coast of Southern California, from 1 -3 April, 2007. It was convened by ISOS, the International Society of Occupational Scientists. The Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, at the University of Southern California, in Los Angeles, USA, was the Think Tank sponsor. It was scheduled to immediately follow the University of Southern California's 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Occupational Science Symposium, 29-30 March, 2007. All Think Tank participants attended the Symposium, and some presented papers or joined panel discussions, enriching the Symposium with an international flavour.

This 2<sup>nd</sup> Think Tank was an outcome of the Inaugural International Occupational Science Think Tank held in Australia in July, 2006. The participants of the 1<sup>st</sup> Think Tank strongly supported the suggestion of having a second Think Tank to discuss strategies for enabling occupational science to become more globally connected. The primary aim of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Think Tank was to plan the mission, structure and funding of an organization for the promotion and development of occupational science internationally.

Twenty seven participants were invited to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> Think Tank. Fourteen of them had attended the Inaugural Think Tank. The participants came 14 different countries: America, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, England, Ireland, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, South Africa and Taiwan. This list includes 5 countries which were not represented at the Inaugural Think Tank, namely Brazil, Chile, Ireland, the Netherlands and Norway.

The participants represented 10 societies and organizations: the Australasian Society of Occupational Scientists, the Canadian Society of Occupational Scientists, the European Network of Occupational Therapy in Higher Education, the Health Through Occupation Research Group, the Japanese Society for the Study of Occupation, the Journal of Occupational Science, OccupationUK & Ireland, the Society for the Study of Occupation: USA, the Spirit of Survivors: Occupational Therapy without Borders, and

the World Federation of Occupational Therapists' International Advisory Group:  
Occupational Science.

On Sunday 1 April, participants were ferried from Marina del Rey, 4 miles from Los Angeles International Airport to Two Harbors on Catalina Island via a high speed passenger catamaran. The crossing took about 1 ½ hours. Catalina Island is a desert, covered in cactus, scrub and chaparral. Participants were accommodated in Banning House, which was also the venue for the meetings. Banning House is an example of a traditional arts and craft Californian bungalow. Rooms afforded splendid views of the two harbors, the rugged coastline and the steep mountains on the Island.

Participants met for a total of 8 x 1 ½ hour sessions. For the most part, they stayed in the large group, but at times participants broke into smaller groups and then reported back. Various participants facilitated the sessions and two USC students assisted by keeping a record of ideas discussed and any decisions that were made.

By the end of Monday, 2 April, all Think Tank participants agreed to become members of ISOS, the existing international society and to support the re-development of ISOS so that it could facilitate collaboration between occupational scientists around the world. As Ann Wilcock had resigned as ISOS President in July 2006 and as Liz Townsend resigned as ISOS Vice President-Finance in August 2006, the only remaining executive member was Florence Clark who held the position of Vice President. Florence tendered her resignation at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Think Tank. It was agreed by the participants to hold an election for an Interim ISOS Executive.

A secret ballot for the Interim Executive took place on the morning of Tuesday, 3 April. Alison Wicks (Australia) was elected as the Chairperson. The 4 board members elected were Eric Asaba (Japan/Sweden), Erna Blanch (Chile/USA), Hans Jonsson (Sweden) and Debbie Rudman (Canada). By July 2007, the Interim ISOS Executive will present an ISOS operational and strategic plan for review by ISOS members. During the remaining sessions held on Tuesday, the Think Tank participants discussed issues such as the functions and membership of ISOS. The suggestions and ideas presented will be incorporated into the proposal developed by the Interim Executive.

## Participants at 2<sup>nd</sup> International Occupational Science Think Tank

1.	Jin Ling	Taiwan	TT1
2.	Hans Jonsson	Sweden	TT1
3.	Doris Pierce	USA	TT1
4.	Alison Wicks	Australia	TT1
5.	Florence Clark	USA	TT1
6.	Clare Hocking	New Zealand	TT1
7.	Virginia Dickie	USA	TT1
8.	Tamako Miyamae	Japan	TT1
9.	Debbie Laliberte Rudman	Canada	TT1
10.	Matthew Molineux	England	TT1
11.	Frank Kronenberg		TT1
12.	Hiromi Yoshikawa	Japan	TT1
13.	Mandy Stanley	Australia	TT1
14.	Ian Ring	Australia	TT1
15.	Diane Parham	USA	
16.	Lynn Shaw	Canada	
17.	Susan Corr	England	
18.	Mary Lawlor	USA	
19.	Erna Blanche	USA / Chile *	
20.	Jeanne Jackson	USA	
21.	Lana Van Niekerk	South Africa	
22.	Eric Asaba	Sweden / Japan *	
23.	Sissel Alsaker	Norway	
24.	Hannake van Bruggen	Netherlands	
25.	Eithne Hunt	Ireland	
26.	Sandra Galheigo	Brazil	
27.	Claudia Munoz	Chile	

Region	Country	Number	Regional Total
America		6	6
Asia	Taiwan	1	4
	Japan *	3	
Australasia	New Zealand	1	4
	Australia	3	
Canada		2	2
South America	Chile *	2	3
	Brazil	1	
Europe	England	2	6
	Ireland	1	
	Sweden	1	
	Norway	1	
	Netherlands	1	
Africa	South Africa	1	1
without borders		1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>