

## Press release

*For immediate release*

10 May 2019

### **Physical therapy's highest global honour goes to Anne Moseley**

Australian physical therapist Anne Moseley has been awarded the World Confederation for Physical Therapy's (WCPT) highest honour for her outstanding contribution to the physical therapy profession as a clinician, teacher, and researcher.

After accepting the Mildred Elson Award at the WCPT Awards Dinner in Geneva, Switzerland, on 9 May 2019, Anne's contribution was recognised before almost 4,300 physical therapists at the WCPT Congress 2019 opening ceremony in Geneva Arena on 10 May 2019.

Anne is an associate professor in the Institute for Musculoskeletal Health in the Sydney School of Public Health at the University of Sydney. She is a member of the Australian Physiotherapy Association.

Her most significant contribution has been her leadership and commitment to the promotion of evidence-based physical therapy through the Physiotherapy Evidence Database or PEDro, a freely-available database of more than 43,000 randomised trials, systematic reviews and practice guidelines evaluating the effects of physical therapy is practised internationally and positively influenced the health of millions of people worldwide.

Anne co-founded PEDro in 1999. In 2018 it was used to answer over 2.6 million questions posed by people from 213 countries and territories.

#### **Other awards**

The Mildred Elson Award was one of a range of honours presented in Geneva to physical therapists who have made an outstanding contribution to their profession on an international level.

Daniel Wappenstein Deller is the president of the Ecuadorian Society of Physiotherapy and the coordinator of the project humanitarian support in physical therapy earthquake Ecuador 16A. He was presented with a WCPT Humanitarian Service Award 2019.

Christina H Opava was awarded a WCPT Leadership in Rehabilitation Award 2019 for her contribution to the professional advancement of physical therapy. She is a pioneer in the field of



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physical therapy and rheumatology and her career includes clinical work, teaching, research, and voluntary work. Christina will be presented with her award in Sweden later this year.

Lorena Enebral Perez was presented with a posthumous WCPT Humanitarian Service Award 2019. A Spanish physical therapist, Lorena had worked as a humanitarian aid worker in Ethiopia, Malawi, Tanzania, and the Sahara. In 2016 she began working in Afghanistan. She was fatally shot in 2017 while working with a service user of the ICRC physical rehabilitation centre in Mazar-i-Sharif.

WCPT International Service Awards have also been awarded to:

Hana I Alsobayel – Saudi Arabia

Annalie Basson – South Africa

Sarah Bazin – UK

Aicha Benyaich – Belgium

Jennifer M Bottomley – USA

Gill Brook – UK

Charlotte Hager – Sweden

Alice Jones – Hong Kong

Shunsuke Kudo – Japan

Brenda Myers – UK

Guy Simoneau – Canada

### **About the WCPT Awards**

The WCPT awards programme recognises outstanding contributions by physical therapists to the profession and/or global health at an international level. There are several categories of award, all presented every four years at the time of the WCPT General Meeting.

### **About the WCPT General Meeting and Congress**

The WCPT General Meeting took place on 8 and 9 May, and the WCPT Congress was due to take place on 10-13 May. More than 4,300 physical therapists from over 130 countries are expected to attend the WCPT Congress.

**WCPT Secretariat** • Victoria Charity Centre • 11 Belgrave Road • London SW1V 1RB • UK  
T +44 (0)20 7931 6465 • F +44 (0)20 7931 6494 • [info@wcpt.org](mailto:info@wcpt.org) • [www.wcpt.org](http://www.wcpt.org)



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Further details about WCPT Congress 2019: <https://www.wcpt.org/wcpt2019>

### Note to WCPT member organisations

Please use this information in your magazine, journal, newsletter or social media channels. It may also be forwarded to your local or national media.

<b>Contact</b>	Freya Rodger on <a href="mailto:frodger@wcpt.org">frodger@wcpt.org</a>
<b>Twitter</b>	<a href="https://twitter.com/WCPT1951">@WCPT1951</a>
<b>Hashtag</b>	#WCPT2019GM
<b>Facebook</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/WCPT1951">@WCPT1951</a>
<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.wcpt.org/">https://www.wcpt.org/</a>

### EDITOR'S NOTES

#### About physical therapy

Physical therapists (also known as physiotherapists) are experts in developing and maintaining people's ability to move and function throughout their lives. With an advanced understanding of how the body moves and what keeps it from moving well, they promote wellness, mobility and independence. They treat and prevent many problems caused by pain, illness, disability and disease, sport and work related injuries, ageing and inactivity.

Physical therapists are educated over several years, giving them a full knowledge of the body's systems and the skills to treat a wide range of problems. This education is usually university-based, at a level that allows physical therapists to practise independently. Continuing education ensures that they keep up to date with the latest advances in research and practice. Many physical therapists are engaged in research themselves.

#### About WCPT

WCPT is the profession's global body representing over 450,000 physical therapists/physiotherapists from member organisations in 121 countries. More information: [www.wcpt.org](http://www.wcpt.org).



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