

World Federation of Music Therapy

Letter From the President

To my dear family of music therapists:

As I greet you, the world is in a tender and vulnerable state. Surely, it benefits from our compassionate care, our positive, rhythmic energy and our beautiful melodies. We hope that our collective good works and the harmony we bring to others is somehow able to transcend the deep conflicts we are witnessing today.

As we work as music therapists of the world, we are aware of the power of our voices and our instruments to influence humanity. We are deliverers of peace in each child, adolescent and adult whom we touch. Together, we have impact on the people of our clinics, communities, cities, countries and continents.

Let us collaborate and share wisdom through research, clinical models and training opportunities. Let us use this newsletter to communicate our shared mission and the passion of our vision. We are blessed to do the work we do and we are blessed to have each other. I look forward to getting to know you through our united efforts as music therapists. In the gift of music that you give each day may you receive a sense of personal fulfillment and peace.

-Suzanne B. Hanser, President
World Federation of Music Therapy

Dr. Suzanne B. Hanser is Chair, Music Therapy Department at Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts, USA. Dr. Hanser is Past President of the National Association for Music Therapy and serves on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Music Therapy. She has published "The New Music Therapist's Handbook" with Berklee Press, and several research articles in professional journals. She is currently engaged in clinical music therapy research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston.

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Upcoming Congresses

❖ 2005 WORLD CONGRESS

The preparations for the 2005 World Congress are well under way. The Organizing Committee is pleased to announce the theme of the Congress; “Music Therapy: From Lullaby to Lament.” This powerful, all-encompassing theme is designed to embrace and acknowledge the many and varied fields in which music therapists work, research and report. The Congress will be held at the Brisbane Convention Centre from the 19th to the 23rd of July 2005. The Convention Centre is located right on the Brisbane River in the heart of the city. It is accessible from the city by bus, short walk or City Cat (catamaran ferries). The Convention Centre is located next to the lively Southbank Parklands which feature a variety of recreational, dining and relaxation areas. To celebrate the first World Congress to be held in the pan-Pacific region, the surrounding Asian countries will be invited to join Australia in the preparations for this important international event.

- **The 29th Australian Music Therapy Conference**
Brisbane, Australia. 26th-27th July 2003.
- **5th Annual AMTA Conference**
Minneapolis, MN, USA 19th-23rd November 2003. www.musictherapy.org
- **Fourth Nordic Music Therapy Conference**
Bergen, Norway 22nd-25th May 2003. www.musikkterapi.no
- **6th European Music Therapy Congress**
Jyväskylä, Finland 16th-20th June 2004. www.jyu.fi/musica
- **2nd Music Therapy Latin American Congress**
Montevideo Uruguay July 15-17 2004 asum@montevideo.com.uy

Feature Article:

WFMT Research Commission – Dr. David Aldridge

The principal aim of the Commission is to provide a FREE service delivery platform for music therapy practitioners, teachers and researchers worldwide. The basis for this is the website <http://www.musictherapyworld.de> (see also webmaster below).

We have completed a project that is intended to network researchers internationally. The details of research projects can be entered online and other researchers can see who is doing what in which country. This “Research Register” will be found and accessible under “downloads and services”. It is a free service for researchers, organizations, training centers and institutions that want to share their knowledge, projects, proposed ideas and research capabilities. To gain access one must obtain a password by sending an e-mail to Joerg Fachner at Joergf@uni-wh.de. Data entry access is limited to representatives and delegates of the WFMT, EMTC, training centers and university departments.

Another service we provide for the music therapy world is a dissertations database. Initiated by Annemiek Vink and students from Saxion Hogeschool Enschede Conservatory in the Netherlands, this database is designed to eventually include full-text theses on music therapy. There has been a lot of important work done in the field of music therapy which is not easily accessible. This database gives the opportunity to those interested to download a complete thesis. Once again access to this service is FREE!

On the website we have an archive of papers and colleagues and I am encouraging colleagues worldwide to submit to a database of full-text material for teaching purposes. We are also working on an online database that will be the basis for systematic reviews of music therapy material. To do this we are developing software tools for making online commentaries that will include qualitative research studies, quantitative studies, mixed study designs and case reports. These reviews will include an invited expert opinion and will be available in a read-only version to researchers worldwide. This should make it easier for researchers to compile reports for funding applications or to support service delivery applications. This is being carried out at the University of Aalborg in Denmark and the University of Melbourne in Australia. Further, universities are being contacted regarding expert opinions in various clinical areas and varying practice and methodological backgrounds.

A WORD FROM THE WEBMASTER – DR. JOERG FACHNER

The content of the WFMT site has been updated after the World Conference of Music Therapy in Oxford, UK. The webmaster can only become active when information is received. We are in the process of collecting links of available web resources to music therapy. The link section can be found under the “download and services” button.

REQUEST OF MEMBERS

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT www.musictherapyworld.de

Also please send web addresses of associations and national organizations whose mission includes music therapy. We want to hear from YOU! Please send a brief report of your organization’s activities over the past year (150 word max) to Secretary, Dr. Jayne Standley at Jayne.Standley@cmr.fsu.edu and we will consider your article.