

IFOMPT 2016 MACP Bursary Awards – Report for the Committee.

Awardee: Dr Jo Perry (Principal Lecturer, School of Health, Coventry University)

The MACP Bursary Award facilitated direct dissemination, to attendees at the conference, of my two accepted abstracts; a poster presentation (*an investigation into the effects of trigger point release therapy to trapezius muscle on peripheral sympathetic nervous system activity and pressure pain thresholds in the upper limb*) and an oral presentation (*an investigation into the effects of applying a lumbar Maitland mobilisation at different frequencies on sympathetic nervous system activity levels in the lower limb*) complementing the peer-reviewed co-authored publication formally disseminated in *Manual Therapy Journal* by the same title (Piekarcz and Perry 2016).

Further dissemination has been achieved in my capacity as principal lecturer, at Coventry University, where I have incorporated both my own research findings, and the research information gained from attended conference sessions, into my physiotherapy teaching sessions at both undergraduate and at Masters levels on the MSc musculoskeletal therapy programme and the MSc Advancing Physiotherapy Practice Course. As module leader for the research methodology and the research dissertation modules I have been able to enhance the content of my delivered materials by incorporating current thinking and new developments that were gathered from the IFOMPT conference and from discussions with colleagues at Glasgow. Currently I have 4 masters students who are investigating key areas of development in musculoskeletal therapy practice that have come out of discussion points from this conference.

Other future research developments were also furthered during the conference with the details of an online survey (on the influence of post-graduate Musculoskeletal/MACP physiotherapy education on the career paths of graduates) being discussed with other higher education providers and details of the survey disseminated to attendees of the conference. It is hoped that the results of this survey can be disseminated at future conferences.