IFTA’s 2018 World Family Therapy Congress: Bangkok, Thailand

Two outstanding clinicians familiar with the therapeutic needs around the world will keynote the 2018 World Family Congress provided by the International Family Therapy Association Congress in Bangkok, Thailand. Meeting at the Westin Grande Hotel in Malaga, March 8 – 10, 2018, hundreds of systemic therapist from over 30 countries will be attending the Congress.

Key Dates for 2018 Congress
- NOW - Call for Proposals is Open
- Sept. 30 - Deadline for Proposals
- Oct. 21 - Early Bird registration ends

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS

Opening the Congress will be Prof. Zhao Xudong, M.D. from Tongji University, Shanghai, China

The Saturday address will be given by IFTA’s President-elect and Professor At Hong Kong Chinese University, Joyce Ma, Ph.D.

Thai Convention Bureau Supports Congress

The Royal Thai Government and its partner in the meetings industry, the Thailand Convention and Events Bureau (TCEB), has announced its support of the 2018 World Family Therapy Congress to be held in Bangkok March 8 - 10, 2018.
Joyce Ma Becomes IFTA President-Elect

Joyce Ma, Ph.D., Hong Kong, was elected to the IFTA office of President-Elect as of July 2, 2017. She will serve as President-Elect for 2017-19, as President from 2019-2021, and as Past President from 2021-2023. All officers are elected by the Board of Directors. Ruth Casabianca, Ph.D., 2015-2017, completed her term on June 30. Dr. Casabianca actually began serving as President while she was President-Elect due to the untimely death of President Lee Bowen.

It Happens Every Year: Changes to the IFTA Board of Directors

Changes occur annually on the Board of Directors. As members complete their terms and rotate off the Board, new faces appear or are not reelected after serving one three-year term.

This time there was one open position for Member-at-Large in the Class of 2020 and the following person was elected: Gun Kristina Drott-Englên, MSW (Sweden).

Two individuals were reelected as serving three years on the Board: Dorothy Becvar, Ph.D., (USA) and Jake Johnson, Ph.D., (USA). They are both serving their second three-year term.

IFTA Board of Directors, July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

Officers

President
Warwick Phipps, PhD, South Africa (2017-2019)

President-Elect
Joyce Ma, PhD, Hong Kong (2019-2021)

Past-President
Ruth Casabianca, PhD, Argentina (2015-2017)

Recording Secretary
Anna Low, MSocScc, Singapore (2014-2017)

Treasurer
Desiree Seponski, PhD, USA (2016-2018)

The lineup of Members-At-Large now stands as follows:

2015-2018 Term Ends June 30, 2018
Reggie Berger, PhD, Switzerland
Desiree Seponski, PhD, USA
Tamura Takeshi, MD, Japan

2016-2019 Term Ends June 30, 2019
Ozge Alkanat, PhD, Turkey
Kathlyne Maki-Banmen, MS, Canada
Anibal Torres, PhD, USA

2017-2020 Term Ends June 30, 2020
Dorothy Becvar, PhD, USA
Gun Kristina Drott-Englên, MSW, Sweden
Jake Johnson, Ph.D., USA

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Commission Accredits Sino-American Family Therapy Training Program

The Sino-American Family Therapy Institute (SAFTI) became the first family therapy education and training program in Asia to be accredited by the International Accreditation Commission for Systemic Therapy Education (IACSTE). “We were delighted to receive an application from an Chinese university family therapy training program,” said Dr. Dorothy Becvar, Chair of IACSTE. “This is the first program to apply from the continent of Asia,” she remarked.

The SAFTI was established to further the development of the research and practice of couples and family therapy in the US, China and throughout Asia. The Institute strives to foster collaborative relationships between scholars, clinicians, and students in the US and China through education, research and exchange programs. One of the main activities of the Institute is the delivery of high quality clinical trainings for students and scholars learning the practice of couples and family therapy.

The Commission held a meeting during the 2017 World Family Therapy Congress in Málaga, Spain, in March. SAFTI, like the other accredited degree programs, met the standards set by the Commission. To further encourage universities to apply for accreditation, the Commission held two workshops at the Hawaii World Congress regarding the accreditation process.

IFTA & Social Networking

The use of social networking sites, LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter are part of the world and IFTA has group pages on them. For IFTA members on Facebook (Facebook) there is an IFTA Group. To join, search “International Family Therapy Association.” Once you are on the IFTA group page, click on the link to join. The list is moderated so once you make a request, the group moderator will approve you.

IFTA also has a LinkedIn (LinkedIn) group. Similarly, search for the “International Family Therapy Association” group and request to become a member. As a member of the IFTA groups you can send messages to other IFTA members and network with people from around the world.

If you have any questions about the site or the program contact the IFTA Secretariat (iftasecretariat@aol.com).

2018 World Family Therapy Congress Congress Scholarships

Congress attendees are urged to consider contributing to the scholarship fund. This fund assist Asian students or young professionals to attend the 2018 IFTA World Family Therapy Congress, 8 - 10 March, in Bangkok, Thailand. The Congress Board of Directors invites Congress participants to pay an additional $50 into the Congress Scholarship Fund. The Congress Board will match the donations. The Board hopes to collect enough money to bring several Asian students or young professionals to the Bangkok Congress.

Students and young professionals residing in Thailand and nearby countries are urged to apply for the scholarships. The scholarships are intended to offer the recipient complementary registration for the Congress. The scholarship application form will be posted on the Congress website, www.ift-congress.org.
Association Information

2018 World Congress Proposals Being Sought

You can find the 2018 Congress website at: http://www.ifta-congress.org/. The website contains all of the information necessary for registration, abstract submission, and other details for Congress planning.

Proposal Deadline for 2018 is Sept. 30, 2017

The deadline for the 2018 Congress Proposals is earlier than ever in order to evaluate and respond to presenters earlier than in the past. If you are in an academic context, please be mindful that the deadline may occur before you return to school. Submit your proposal now!

Journal of Family Psychotherapy Online

Taylor and Francis’ online site houses IFTA’s Journal of Family Psychotherapy. The site can be accessed at www.tandfonline.com. Please contact Taylor and Francis for any difficulties in accessing the JFP: onlineaccesshelp@taylorandfrancis.com.

If you are a new member or renewed member, your IFTA subscription to JFP will be forwarded to Taylor and Francis quarterly. WATCH for an email from Taylor and Francis regarding how to access JFP.

Online Membership Renewal Tips

When renewing online, some members have had their credit card declined because of mistakes in entering the information. Click here for some helpful tips for online credit card applications.

IFTA General Secretary: William Hiebert, wjhiebert@aol.com

Fred Jefferson Honored for Ten Years

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! We now have over a 1000 Members of the IFTA Group!

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Photographs of IFTA’s World Family Therapy Congresses are available for viewing. There is an easy way to access the photographs on the web.

Go to the IFTA Congress website at: [www.ifta-congress.org](http://www.ifta-congress.org) and click here for past congress photographs.

The 2018 World Family Therapy Congress of the International Family Therapy Association in Bangkok, Thailand. We invite you to join colleagues from around the world at the Congress’ Hotel in the heart of Bangkok.

Like all IFTA Congresses, it will feature many approaches to a variety of problems and ways of coping with them. The congress aims to help heal hurting couples and families in various cultures.

Call For Proposals
OPEN NOW UNTIL September 30th
Proposals are sought for the 2018 IFTA World Congress in the following categories:
- Brief Presentations (20 minutes)
- Lectures (45 minutes)
- Workshops (60 minutes)
- Poster Displays

Proposal Information:
Submit a Proposal:
www.ifta-conference.org
Students must send proof of student status (scan of student ID) to info@ifta-congress.org to receive a Promo code in order to register as a student.

More Information: www.ifta-congress.org

The Official Language
of the meeting is English. All abstract submissions must be in English.
Workshops can be presented in English, Mandarin, or Thai.

PRESENTERS

Joyce Ma
Zhao Xudong

FEATURED PRESENTERS

Anna Low
John k. Miller
Wendel Ray

Official Venue of the 2018 IFTA World Congress

Westin Grande Sukhumvit
259 Sukhumvit Road, Bangkok, 10110, Thailand