

From the Editor

I write this *From the Editor* while on a flight from Hong Kong to New York. The flight is over 15 hours and it is providing me with a focused opportunity to work, finish a book, and catch up on the latest movies since there are no telephone calls to receive or text/e-mail messages to respond to. Although I am seated in the cramped economy class area, I have tried to apply as many ergonomic controls as possible so I can sit in comfort. Even better, this airline has an electric outlet so the battery on my notebook computer will not run out! However, I am taking a stretch break every 30 minutes!

I am returning from participating in multiple activities: a workshop, a symposium, and a conference which were held in China and Hong Kong. The venue in China was an international symposium on work injury prevention and rehabilitation. This was the second of its kind; the first one was held in 2005 and great progress has been made in China regarding work prevention and rehabilitation. Over two days we investigated topics such as participatory ergonomics; factors affecting return-to-work as well as approaches to injury prevention from countries such as the US, Japan, and Germany. We plan to publish some of these papers in a future issue of *WORK*.

Both the workshop and conference were in Hong Kong. The workshop was on ergonomics and the target audience was occupational therapists. Ergonomics is a growing area of interest especially with health and

rehabilitation practitioners such as occupational and physical therapists.

The conference was the 30th Occupational Orthopedic Association conference. This was my first time presenting at such a forum of occupational orthopedics professionals and I enjoyed the experience of learning from clinicians and researchers from Hong Kong as well as the US, Australia among other countries. One theme that resonated at all of the venues was teamwork, in particular interprofessional collaboration. That is, when two or more professions work together. It was apparent that this “collaborative practice-ready” health workforce was better prepared to respond to local health needs which improved health outcomes.

Many of the articles contained in this issue have been written by professional in interprofessional team from over eight countries: The United States, Canada, Australia, Sweden, Japan, Spain, Denmark, Saudi Arabia. Topics are just as varied from shift work to burnout to functional capacity evaluation and weight loss. I know that there will be articles of interest for each of you.

I hope you will consider submitting a manuscript to *WORK* or consider being an external reviewer. If you are interested, please contact me at [kjacob@bu.edu](mailto:kjacobs@bu.edu).

Cheers

Karen

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