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## EDITORIAL

# Third International Fascia Research Congress 2012

Registration and abstract submission is now open for the Third International Fascia Research Conference – Vancouver, March 28–30 2012 <http://www.fasciacongress.org/2012/>.

As with the first two conferences (Boston 2007, Amsterdam 2009) *The Journal of Bodywork & Movement Therapies*, together with its publisher Elsevier, are supporting and sponsoring the 2012 event, which is being organised by The Massage Therapy Association of British Columbia (MTABC) on behalf of the Ida P Rolf Research Foundation (IPRRF).

We believe that it is vital that clinicians, who form the bulk of JBMT's readership, and who made up the majority of delegates attending previous Fascia Research congresses, should be kept informed regarding the major scientific advances in this field. And this demands that scientists, and those clinicians, who are involved in either pure or clinical research – the source of the information that moves our clinical and wider understanding forward – are supported and encouraged.

We will know a great deal more about what is currently being researched in the field of fascia, when abstracts are received and reviewed – and submission of these is now open. The topics and categories suggested for those wishing to submit abstracts are listed as:

1. Basic science
  - a. Anatomy of Fascia
  - b. Biomechanics of Fascia
  - c. Cytology/Histology of Fascia
  - d. Modelling and Fascia
  - e. Pathology and Fascia
  - f. Biological Fluid dynamics
2. Clinical mechanistic research, or clinical findings suggesting directions for basic research
  - a. Manual and movement Therapy directed at Fascia
  - b. Tool assisted therapy directed at Fascia (including try needling)
  - c. Fascia in Surgery and recovery from Surgery
  - d. Low Back Pain and Lumbar Fascia
  - e. Fascia related research on special populations (e.g. women, persons with disabilities)
  - f. Scars and adhesions
3. Research methodology

4. New Hypotheses
5. Fascial considerations for, women, minorities and persons with disability, such as pelvic pain, keloid formation, spasticity
6. Other

For a comprehensive description of submission details (and downloadable examples of abstracts from previous congresses) go to: <http://www.fasciacongress.org/2012/abstract-submissions/>.

There is a student registration rate for the Fascia Congress that is open to all students enrolled in any professional or academic training program.

An additional \$200 scholarship – awarded by the primary initiators of the Fascia Congresses, The Ida P Rolf Research Foundation (IPRRF) – is available to the first 25 graduate students enrolled in any doctoral degree granting program (MD, PhD, DO, DC, DPT, DPH, DAC, etc.) with accepted abstracts, based on date of abstract submission. Students who are awarded the scholarship will receive them when they attend the Congress. For more detail see: <http://www.rolfresearchfoundation.org/graduatestudent>.

IPRRF will also host a gratis evening program for graduate students, during the Fascia Congress (following the regular conference presentations on Thursday 29th March 2012). This evening event will feature speakers on such topics as obtaining fellowships and grant funding, preparing manuscripts and research proposals, and how to find a good mentor, as well as opportunities for networking. <http://www.fasciacongress.org/2012/traineesymposium/>.

A high attendance of both scientists as well as clinicians of all backgrounds is anticipated – attracted by:

1. A stellar lineup of keynote speakers, abstract presentations and panel topics: <http://www.fasciacongress.org/2012/program-at-a-glance/>
2. The pre-conference dissection workshop: <http://www.fasciacongress.org/2012/pre-conference-dissection-workshop/>
3. The post-event workshops: <http://www.fasciacongress.org/2012/workshop-descriptions/>

And if your interest in fascia research is growing, and you want to look back at the truly amazing amount of information – much of it of major clinical relevance – that has emerged from the 2007 and 2009 congresses. Proceeding books and DVDs of the entire proceedings are available from IPRRF: <http://www.fasciacongress.org/dvd-book-purchase.htm>.

Professor Tom Findley offers an additional perspective:

“The number of papers in peer-reviewed journals, relating to fascia, continues to rise, from 200 per year in the 1970s and 1980s to almost 1000 in calendar year 2010! Each fascia congress adds to the body of knowledge and practitioner networking for fascia research. I am particularly excited by the addition of fluid dynamics to the

third fascia congress, as we learn how fascia affects fluid flow, and remodels in response to fluid flow in tissues. And having purchased a musculoskeletal ultrasound machine recently myself, I can speak highly for the imaging of fascia and fascial motion this allows.

So scientists and clinicians can expect another stimulating congress – don’t worry if you don’t understand everything, we will record it so you can review it later.”

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