Work Disability: Past, Present and Future
2-Day Workshop
by
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Workshop Outline:
This two day workshop will first consider the major theories that have contributed to our knowledge of work disability, research approaches, and evolving reforms in the management of work disability. Focus will be mainly on musculoskeletal disorders although other chronic illnesses will be also considered. A review of modern challenges faced by those with work disabilities, their employers, general practice providers, rehabilitation specialists and various health care systems that has emerged from qualitative analyses of these stakeholders and population health research will be discussed. We will then cover some highlights of new research that has provided the field with a better understanding of etiology, evaluation and rehabilitation. Lastly, areas that provide opportunities for affected workers to return to work and improve retention and optimization once back at work by altering the workplace, the worker, work tasks and/or the worker will be presented. Time will be allocated throughout the two days to discuss efforts that attendees are involved in to improve our understanding, management and prevention of work disability related to various illnesses.

Date: April 29, 30, 2008
Time: 9:00am-5:00pm
Venue: ST522, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Fee: $1,200

About the Presenter:
Professor Michael Feuerstein is renowned for his research, practice and consultation (healthcare, industry) in the area of musculoskeletal health and work disability. His work has focused on the interactive role of medical, ergonomic and psychosocial factors in the exacerbation, maintenance and rehabilitation of these disorders and their associated disability. He developed the Center for Occupational Rehabilitation at the University of Rochester Medical Center in the 1990's that provided integrated evaluation and rehabilitation to injured workers along with ergonomic consultation at the workplace. At the same time he founded the Journal of Occupational Rehabilitation and has served as its Editor in Chief for the past 18 years. He has developed and investigated an integrated approach to case management that included both ergonomic and psychosocial elements in the US Federal workers compensation system. This approach is now being used in the province of Ontario, Canada to manage cases with musculoskeletal disorders. Recently, Dr Feuerstein has focused his efforts in the area of cancer survivorship to assist with improving health, well being and function and in 2007 founded and serves as the Editor in Chief of the Journal of Cancer Survivorship: Research and Practice.

Deadline for Registration: April 16, 2008
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