



**BUILDING EVIDENCE
TO IMPROVE
PRACTICE &
HEALTH**

AOTF Research Resources

April 2016



April Greetings to Research Resource Colleagues!

At AOTF, we are all catching our breath after returning from the annual AOTA conference. By all accounts, we hit a number of home runs with our events this year. The Large Data and Data Sharing Research pre-conference institute presented by Dr. Ken Ottenbacher and colleagues introduced some phenomenal resources for investigators who conduct research using secondary data. Some of these resources will be included in our *Research Resources* newsletter in the coming months.

In the State of the Science Symposium, Drs. Joy Hammel and Diane Smith shared the evidence on interventions to promote participation of individuals with disabilities. This event was particularly memorable because of the remarks by Robin Jones and Dr. Elliot Roth and the videos featuring President George H.W. Bush and Lex Frieden as they reflected on the passage of the ADA legislation 25+ years ago. The systematic reviews from this symposium will be published in a future issue of *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*.

At the conference, we also recognized the newest members of the Academy of Research -- Drs. [Gary Bedell](#), [Roseann Schaaf](#), and [Jenny Ziviani](#). These individuals have made extraordinary contributions to the science of occupational therapy. I know you will enjoy learning about their work in this issue of *Research Resources*.

We invite our readers to submit research opportunities to our communications associate, [Helene Ross](#) for publication in the next issue of *Research Resources*. As always, we thank you for the news alerts you share with us, your ideas on ways we can improve this monthly newsletter, and your financial support of AOTF.

Warm regards,

Julie D. Bass, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA
Associate Director, Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health
Director of Research

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OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health

OTJR, published quarterly by AOTF, offers original peer-reviewed research articles of professional interest to the practicing OT with a focus on occupation and fostering interdisciplinary research. *OTJR* is now indexed in MEDLINE/PubMed. To download current, past and future *OTJR* articles -- see the [OTJR website](#).

OnlineFirst

Item-Level Psychometrics of the
Glasgow Outcome Scale: Extended
Structured Interviews
Ickpyo Hong, Chih-Ying Li, and Craig
A. Velozo

Life Balance and Stress in Adults
With Medical Conditions or Obesity

This grant is in collaboration with her colleagues at Einstein Medical College and Queens University and includes a multisensory integration biomarker as an objective outcome measure of neuroplasticity. Roseann has over 70 peer-reviewed journal articles and abstracts, is the author of five books and 13 book chapters and has presented over 150 papers and presentations spanning national and international venues. She is a 2008 recipient of the A. Jean Ayres Research Award and a 1996 recipient of the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching.

[For more on Dr. Schaaf.](#)

Jenny Ziviani, PhD, BAppSC(OT), MEd

Jenny Ziviani is the inaugural professor of children's allied health research with Queensland Children's Health Service and The University of Queensland, Australia. Her 30-year background as a clinician, academic and researcher has focused on the well-being of children at risk of a range of physical, developmental and psychosocial conditions, their families and the communities in which they live. As an active researcher, she has successfully managed large national and international competitive grants to a cumulative value in excess of AUS\$7million, published over 200 internationally peer viewed articles, 32 book chapters, four books and presented over 210 conference papers.



In supporting the next generation of occupational therapy researchers she has successfully brought to completion 39 doctoral students. She has been awarded the Open Award for Research Excellence, and the Sylvia Docker Award for contribution to the profession by Occupational Therapy Australia.

[For more on Dr. Ziviani](#)

Grants and Funding Opportunities

2016 HealthSouth Call for Therapy Grant Applications

[This grant's objective is to support research efforts](#) that investigate the impact and/or effectiveness of therapy services within the inpatient rehabilitation facility post-acute care setting.

Grant applications must be postmarked June 30, 2016.

List of potential topics:

- Efficacy of physical, occupational, or speech therapy assessments or intervention
- Impact of modes or intensity of therapies on patient outcomes and experience
- Impact of therapy assessments or interventions on outcomes or experience
- Prevention or control of rehabilitation-related conditions
- Patient and caregiver education programming impact or outcomes
- Impact of IRF therapy services on the continuum of care throughout a patient's medical event, including rehospitalization and post-acute care
- Implementation research aimed at the study of methods to implement research findings.

SSO:USA Student Research Grant Request for Proposals 2016

[SSO:USA invites occupational science students](#) to submit research grant proposals with direct relevance to at least one of the society's priorities. Up to \$1,500 will be awarded. All applicants must be members in good standing of SSO: USA. Funded research must be completed within two years of the award.

Proposals are due April 30, 2016. Award notification will be in June 2016.

Grant Opportunities from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJ)

New Connections: Increasing Diversity of RWJF Programming

The program aims to expand the diversity of perspectives that inform RWJF programming and introduce new researchers to the Foundation to help address research and evaluation needs. This is a career development program for early career researchers. Through grantmaking, mentorship, career development and networking, New Connections enhances the research capacity of its grantees and network members. The researchers in this program transcend disciplines (health; health care; social sciences; business; urban planning; architecture and engineering); work to build the case for a Culture of Health with strong qualitative and quantitative research skills; and produce and translate timely research results.

Grants of up to \$50,000 each will be awarded through this program.

A total of up to 17 grants of up to \$50,000 will be awarded.

[Applicant web conference recording is available.](#)

May 4, 2016 (3 p.m. ET): Deadline for receipt of full proposals.

Global Ideas for U.S. Solutions

RWJ is looking for ideas to help build a Culture of Health in the United States, where everyone has the opportunity to live healthier lives, no matter who they are, where they live, or how much money they make.

They will support grants from \$50,000 up to \$250,000 (USD), for up to 18 months. The total number of grants is undetermined.

May 31, 2016 (3 p.m. ET) Deadline for receipt of brief proposals.

Healthy Eating Research: Building Evidence to Prevent Childhood Obesity--Round 10

[This national program](#) supports research on environmental and policy strategies with strong potential to promote healthy eating among children to prevent childhood obesity, especially among groups at highest risk for obesity: black, Latino, American Indian, Asian/Pacific Islander, and children who live in lower-income communities (urban, suburban, and/or rural). Findings are expected to advance RWJF's efforts to help all children achieve a healthy weight, promote health equity, and build a Culture of Health.

Approximately \$2.6 million will be awarded.

May 11, 2016 (3:00 p.m. ET) Concept papers due in RWJF Online System.

US Department of Health and Human Services Grants

Search the [grants.gov website](#) for up to date information on grants that are available.

Doctoral, Post-Doctoral and Research Training Opportunities

Comprehensive Evaluation, Intervention, and Biomechanics of the Hemiplegic Upper Limb

The Ohio State University Medical Center, Columbus, Ohio, September 17, 2016.

Highlights Include:

- Evidence-based treatments for the hemiplegic shoulder
- Anatomical and biomechanical considerations for treatment
- Patient education tools
- Assessment techniques

Postdoctoral Training Opportunity: Children's Participation in Environment Research Lab (CPERL)

[The Children's Participation in Environment Research Lab](#) (CPERL) at the University of Illinois at Chicago is recruiting a [full-time postdoctoral trainee](#). The focus of the training experience will be technology-based research in early childhood disability. All inquiries about this opportunity can be directed to [Dr. Mary Khetani](#).

USC's PhD Program in Occupational Science

The Musculoskeletal Sonography and Occupational Performance (MSOP) Laboratory in the [Mrs. T.H. Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy](#) at the University of Southern California (USC) is seeking a qualified individual interested in completing a PhD in Occupational Science. The USC MSOP is currently conducting a CDC-funded study (R01-OH010665) and other research that aims to enhance the assessment, workplace prevention and clinical rehabilitation of upper extremity musculoskeletal disorders using sonographic imaging, ergonomics, mind-body interventions and other techniques.

Individuals interested in a position in the USC MSOP Lab should submit a CV and letter of interest to Assistant Professor [Dr. Shawn Roll](#). Individuals interested in learning more about the PhD program or other PhD student openings should contact Director of Admissions [Dr. Liz Carley](#).

PhD Program in Health and Rehabilitation Sciences at The Ohio State University

The Child & Adolescent Health, Rehabilitation, & Evaluation (CAHRE) Lab at The Ohio State University is seeking exceptional, experienced pediatric occupational therapists that are interested in completing a PhD in Health and Rehabilitation Sciences. They are currently conducting two NIH-funded RCTs of Pediatric Constraint-Induced Movement Therapy (PCIMT; R01-HD0683 & R01-HD074574) and are looking for pediatric practitioners. Students are fully funded and receive: 1) tuition, 2) stipend, and 3) health insurance. Interested therapists should submit a CV and letter of interest to Drs. [Andrew Persch](#) or [Amy Darragh](#).

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News and Other Resources

New Reports and Workshop Summaries from the Institute of Medicine

[A Framework for Educating Health Professionals to Address the Social Determinants of Health\(SDH\)](#)

An expert committee of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine developed a high-level framework for educating health professionals to address the SDH. The committee's framework aligns education, health, and other sectors to better meet local needs in partnership with communities.

[Policy and Research Needs to Maximize Independence and Support Community Living: Workshop Summary](#)

This workshop explored the policies and research needed to support community living and maximizing independence of people with disabilities and older adults.

[Meeting the Dietary Needs of Older Adults: Workshop in Brief](#)

This workshop examined factors in the physical, social, and cultural environment that affect the ability of older adults to meet their daily dietary needs. Organized by session, this workshop in brief highlights key

points made by individual speakers during the workshop presentations and discussion.

[Obesity in the Early Childhood Years: State of the Science and Implementation of Promising Solutions: Workshop in Brief](#)

The workshop examined what is currently known about the prevalence of obesity in young children, its trends over time, and its persistence into later childhood, adolescence, and adulthood; epigenetic factors related to risk of early childhood obesity; and the development of taste and flavor preferences in the first few years of life. The workshop explored recent developments in the science of modifiable protective and risk factors associated with obesity through age 5, including a mother's pre-pregnancy weight and weight gain during pregnancy; smoking during pregnancy; breastfeeding; complementary feeding, responsive parenting; and sleep, activity, and sedentary behavior in young children.

Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) Funding Announcements

On February 1st, [PCORI posted five funding announcements](#) for Cycle 1 of 2016.

- Improving Methods for Conducting Patient-Centered Outcomes Research - Cycle 1 2016
- Communication and Dissemination Research - Cycle 1 2016
- Improving Healthcare Systems - Cycle 1 2016
- Addressing Disparities - Cycle 1 2016
- Assessment of Prevention, Diagnosis, and Treatment Options - Cycle 1 2016
- Limited PCORI Funding Announcement: Dissemination and Implementation of PCORI Funded Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Results and Products in Real World Settings - Cycle 1 2016

Assessing the Impact of Applications of Digital Health Records (DHRs) on Alzheimer's Disease (AD) Research: Workshop Summary

On July 20, 2015, the IOM's Forum on Neuroscience and Nervous System Disorders held a public session at the 2015 Alzheimer's Association International Conference in Washington, DC, to explore how DHRs may be used to help improve clinical trial design and methodology for AD research. While there are a number of potential uses of DHRs, speakers discussed some of the currently available DHR databases that are being mined to better understand the progression of AD and design more effective clinical trials. [Click here to read workshop summary.](#)

Free Webinars on TBI and Psychological Health

The Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) hosts free monthly webinars on topics related to psychological health and TBI. See their [website](#) for more information and an archive of past webinar. Next webinar:

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Conferences and Calls for Papers

Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists Annual Conference (April 19-22, 2016, Banff, Alberta)

[The CAOT conference](#) will celebrate the leadership role that occupational therapy and occupational science contributes to realizing peak performance and mastering the occupations of everyday living.

The Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability and Diversity (April 25-26, 2016, Honolulu, Hawaii)

[The Pac Rim conference](#) is in its 32nd year; it is one of the largest in the country for diversity and disability. This year the theme will be "From the Margins to the Center".

International Biophilia Society (IBRA)

IBRA advances research in rehabilitation medicine. The term "biophilia" represents people's regaining body function with activating works of the brain by the latent powers which we have in the brain.

- [BIOPHILIA Workshop Academy](#) 2016 (April 27-28, 2016, Tokyo, Japan) is an international forum for advances in rehabilitation medicine that may lead to functional recovery. [To present your paper or join](#) the RCT study.
- [IBRA Conference](#) (July 18-19, 2016, Geneva, Switzerland)

WCNR 2016: 9th World Congress for NeuroRehabilitation (May 10-13, 2016, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)

[From Science to Society](#), the theme that has been chosen for this Congress, will cover both inspiring innovations in neurorehabilitation and their societal impacts.

Society for Disability Studies (June 8-11, 2016, Phoenix, Arizona)

[Theme: Disability in the Public Sphere.](#)

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) (July 6-9, 2016, Denver, Colorado)

[The national NAMI conference](#) will feature researchers and clinicians providing information and tools to advance and sustain recovery from mental illness as well as people living with a mental illness and their families with their own important perspectives on recovery.

Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North American (RESNA) Annual Conference (July 10-14, 2016, Arlington, Virginia)

[The theme of this year's conference](#) is: Promoting Access to Assistive Technology

Alzheimer's Association International Congress (AAIC) (July 22-28, 2016, Toronto, Ontario)

[This conference](#) will bring together international investigators, clinicians and care providers to share the latest study results, theories and discoveries in dementia science. There will be a track focused on evidence-based approaches to dementia care.

Developing topic submission deadline: April 18, 2016.

International Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions (IACAPAP). (September 18-22, 2016, Calgary, Alberta)

[Conference theme:](#) Fighting Stigma, Promoting Resiliency and Positive Mental Health.

World Bank Group and the World Health Organization (April 2016, Washington, DC)

Theme: [Out of the Shadows - Making Mental Health a Global Development Priority.](#)

5th Annual Summer Research Institute: Basic and Advanced Behavioral Intervention Research (June 6-8, 2016 and June 9-10, 2016, Baltimore, Maryland)

Apply Today at nursing.jhu.edu/aginginstitute. Early Bird Special, Scholarships, and Fellowships are available.

Alzheimer's Association International Conference (AAIC) (July 24-27, 2016, Toronto)
[A Global Forum to Advance Dementia Science](#)

2016 Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury Summit - State of the Science: Advances, Current Diagnostics and Treatments of Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury in Military Health Care (September 13-15, 2016, Falls Church, Virginia)

Health care professionals and academics are invited to submit abstracts. Abstract topics for oral presentation may refer to any topic related to advances in diagnostics and treatments of psychological health and/or traumatic brain injury in military health care.

Society for the Study of Occupation/Canadian Society of Occupational Scientists
(September 28-October 1, 2016, Portland, Maine)
[Navigating the Seas of Change: Diversity of Occupation](#)

Southwest Conference on Disability (October 5-7, 2016, Albuquerque, New Mexico)

The theme for 2016 is *Reducing Disparities For People With Disabilities Through Systems Change*.

The [2016 Southwest Conference on Disability](#) seeks contributions that focus on reducing or eliminating disparities through systems change in:

- Improving Access To Health Care And Human Service
- Data to Drive Policy and Practice
- Workforce
- Inclusion Of People With Disabilities in Mainstream Programs And Services
- Emergency Preparedness for People With Disabilities

[Deadline for submissions](#): Friday, May 6, 2016.

American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual conference (October 29-November 2, 2016, Denver, Colorado)

[The theme of this year's conference](#) is *Creating the Healthiest Nation: Ensuring the Right to Health*.

ACRM Annual Conference (October 30, 2016-November 4, 2016, Chicago, Illinois)

The theme of the [American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine's 93rd Annual Conference](#) is Progress in Rehabilitation Research: Translation to Clinical Practice.

American College of Rheumatology Annual Conference (November 11-16, 2016, Washington, DC)

[For more information](#).

Society for Neuroscience Annual Conference (November 12-16, 2016, San Diego, California)

[For more information](#). Abstract Submission: April 14-May 5, 2016.

5th Health and Wellbeing in Children, Youth, and Adults with Developmental Disabilities Conference (November 16-18 2016, Vancouver, BC, Canada)

The goal of [the conference](#) is to help clinicians and caregivers learn effective ways to work with individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and to improve their quality of life experience.

Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting (November 16-20, 2016, New Orleans, Louisiana)

[This year's theme](#): New Lens on Aging: Changing Attitudes, Expanding Possibilities

AOTA's 97th Annual Conference & Expo (March 30 -April 2, 2017, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)

[Call for papers](#) May 9-June 9, 2016.

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Gary Bedell, continued

Q and A

Identify three words that others have used to describe you.

Pragmatic, collaborative, and interdisciplinary.

How do you hope to make a difference in the world through research?

My plan is to continue to collaborate with multiple stakeholders locally and globally to ensure best practices to measure and promote participation of individuals with disabilities across the lifespan in home, school and community life. My hope is that my work and the work of many of my esteemed colleagues will ensure that stakeholders are able to select measures that can address their information goals and select intervention approaches that acknowledge and leverage the expertise of clients and their loved ones.

What is one piece of advice you have for individuals considering a career in science and research?

I would first say that there are many pathways to embark or re-embark on a career in science and research depending on your life situation, opportunities and level of commitment. These pathways could be in the form of post-doctoral fellowships, mentored research award, or developing your own self-directed collaborations with more experienced research mentors that are doing work in areas that resonate with you. Also, a committed work ethic, openness to feedback and development of a thick skin particularly in response to grant proposals that may not be funded or manuscripts that might be rejected or require extensive revisions will serve you well (I'm still working on the thicker skin).

Beside your own areas of inquiry, what is one research priority that you believe is important for the future of occupational science and occupational therapy?

An important future priority is research that examines effective, efficient and safe uses of technology and tele-health to deliver occupational therapy or occupational therapy-informed interdisciplinary interventions to help individuals with disabilities or at risk of disability and their loved ones to manage or co-manage daily life activities. I also believe continued study into the health and societal benefits of meaningful occupation are critical for the future of occupational therapy and science.

Describe the most important role that mentors played in your professional journey.

My mentors provided me with numerous opportunities that challenged me to step out of my comfort zone and provided me with constructive feedback along the way. This started in my doctoral program at NYU with Dr. Jim Hinojosa and continued during my post-doctoral fellowship at BU with Drs. Stephen Haley, Wendy Coster and Alan Jette. Key advice that has served me well was to collaborate and share resources with colleagues across disciplines and to seek out multiple funding sources especially when starting out whether this be through private foundations, professional associations, federal funding or internal funding.

Identify a favorite occupation that renews you outside of your work.

Kayaking with my dogs in Provincetown, Massachusetts, where I also dabble a little bit in painting (so hard to choose one occupation :).

What has been the most surprising or rewarding aspects of a career in science and research?

The most rewarding aspect of my work is the acknowledgement that many interdisciplinary colleagues around the world are using my measures and citing my prior studies to inform their research. This would not have been possible without the strong collaborations and sharing of knowledge and expertise I have had along the way.

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Roseanne Schaaf continued

Q and A

Identify three words that others have used to describe you.

Energetic, persistent, optimistic.

How do you hope to make a difference in the world through research?

My work has focused on helping children with autism spectrum disorders and their families participate fully in daily life. The data shows us that one factor limiting full participation in school, community, work and leisure activities for children with autism and their family members is difficulty processing and integrating sensation. Hence, our team studies the neural mechanisms of sensory integration (to gain insight into how better to target our interventions) and the effectiveness of occupational therapy using sensory integration to facilitate functional skills and participation. Through our research we hope to facilitate participation for these children and their families.

What is one piece of advice you have for individuals considering a career in science and research?

Love what you do, surround yourself with competent, positive people, and find a mentor! I guess that is 3 pieces of advice - all equally important.

Beside your own areas of inquiry, what is one research priority that you believe is important for the future of occupational science and occupational therapy?

I believe we must be systematic about implementing and evaluating occupational therapy interventions, measuring outcomes and publishing our work in inter-professional venues. Intervention research (from mechanism to community impact) is important and a priority for occupational science and occupational therapy!

Describe the most important role that mentors played in your professional journey.

I have had many mentors throughout my professional journey as an occupational therapist, educator and now an occupational therapy researcher who kept me focused and helped me to re-focus when things were challenging. The most important role my mentors played is supporting me in so many ways - intellectually, emotionally, and professionally. This kept me going.

Identify a favorite occupation that renews you outside of your work.

I love the outdoors - nature keeps me centered so I like to hike, bike, walk, cross country ski and explore. Currently I am learning to mountain bike and jump over tree roots as I roll through the woods -- yikes!

What has been the most surprising or rewarding aspects of a career in science and research?

Most surprising for me has been the incredible occupational therapists I have had the opportunity to collaborate with in research. They are so committed and passionate and always go above and beyond for the greater good. They are committed to occupational therapy and excited to collaborate in research.

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Q and A

Identify three words that others have used to describe you.

Questioning; Creative; Collaborative

How do you hope to make a difference in the world through research?

Ensuring that you include those at the core of your research as informers and/or collaborators will mean that you are asking the 'right' questions and will result in findings that are meaningful. Irrespective of how well designed and rigorously executed research is it will never, however, make a difference unless the findings are communicated and applied within the real world. Don't just focus on research without considering a communication and implementation strategy. It is the latter that makes a real difference.

What is one piece of advice you have for individuals considering a career in science and research?

The most meaningful research ideas and questions arise from allowing time for reading, reflecting but more importantly discussing and collaborating with other researchers from diverse fields. Sometime the most meaningful research arises out of the most unexpected collaborations. See research as a creative undertaking that can capture your interest and sustain you for the longer term. Try to enjoy the process and not just focus on the outcome, albeit that the latter should always be celebrated.

Beside your own areas of inquiry, what is one research priority that you believe is important for the future of occupational science and occupational therapy?

My research has always been with children and families but I am very aware that the world in which they live can offer climatic, sociodemographic, political and economic challenges for all of us. I think being aware of the context of our research endeavours means that we need to also offer our occupational perspective to global issues.

Describe the most important role that mentors played in your professional journey.

I have been truly fortunate to be surrounded, by choice as much as accident, scholars who are highly competent, generous and caring. What I have learned and what I hope I pass on to others is the ability to be autonomy supportive. I have been supported to follow my ideas, not all of which have been successful but all of which have helped me grow.

Identify a favorite occupation that renews you outside of your work.

Connecting with nature renews and energizes me. Be it the seaside, mountains or just a river walk in the local neighbourhood, absorbing the richness of environmental sounds and smells always refreshes me. Most of the solutions to my research and professional problems usually appear at these times.

What has been the most surprising or rewarding aspects of a career in science and research?

Without doubt the most rewarding aspect has the calibre of the people with whom I have been privileged to work in my academic life. Anyone who is an academic will know that there are many challenges, personal and organisational, which can be very disheartening. Colleagues who are generous in spirit are really the fuel that sustains a long academic life. Being able to share my academic life with a wonderful supportive husband has been a real bonus as has having a son who can bring me back to earth with a sharp, witty one-liner.

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AOTF is a 501(c)(3) dedicated to advancing the science of occupational therapy to support people's full participation in meaningful life activities. Gifts to AOTF help us make a real difference through:

- Scholarships
- Research support including the Intervention Research Grants program
- Maintenance of the largest collection of occupational therapy resources in the country, the Wilma L. West Library.



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