



1965-2015

Celebrating fifty years of advancing the science of occupational therapy

Dec 2014 - Jan 2015

AOTF Research Resources



New Year Greetings to Research Resources colleagues!

In this Issue

2015 marks the 50th anniversary of the American Occupational Therapy Foundation (AOTF)! That is 50 years of advancing the science of occupational therapy that supports people's full participation in meaningful life activities. The *Research Resources* e-newsletter will celebrate the anniversary year by including some special features each month that highlight history, people, and events along with our regular news items. We hope you enjoy the following articles in our January issue:

- [Interdisciplinary Science Opportunities for Occupational Therapy: Public Health](#)
- [The birth of AOTF](#)
- [1965-1969: A few significant events in health science and policy](#)
- Academy of Research Member Profiles: A to Z; Part 1
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 - [Grace Baranek](#)
 - [Carolyn M. Baum](#)
 - [Daniel Bourbonnais](#)
 - [Anita Bundy](#)

We invite our readers to submit research opportunities to our Communications Associate [Helene Ross](#) for publication in the next edition 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

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AOTF will celebrate its 50th Anniversary at the AOTA 2015 Annual Conference.

Associate Director, Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health
Director of Research
Interdisciplinary Science Opportunities for Occupational Therapy
Public Health

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Public Health: An Interdisciplinary Science Opportunity for Occupational Therapy

Opportunities for interdisciplinary science do not always align with the named occupational therapy practice areas. Occupational therapy researchers may define their work around the central questions shared by others who strive to improve the human condition.

Public and population health is one interdisciplinary research area that would benefit by more involvement from occupational therapy researchers. An awareness of the professional associations, research journals, and funding mechanisms for research provides a starting point for occupational therapy professionals who are interested in interdisciplinary research in public health. Much of the research in public health supports the science-based national objectives outlined in [Healthy People](#).

Professional Association and Conference.

[The American Public Health Association](#) is over 140 years old and has over 25,000 members from a variety of disciplines representing all areas of public health. There are 31 sections of membership, including the Disability Section and Medical Care Section that provide good networks and opportunities for occupational therapy researchers. The annual APHA conference has over 12,000 attendees and 1000 scientific sessions.

Public Health Journals.

A sample of higher impact factor public health journals that regularly have articles of relevance to occupational therapy are summarized here.

- [International Journal of Epidemiology](#)
- [Journal of Clinical Epidemiology](#)
- [American Journal of Preventive Medicine](#)
- [American Journal of Public Health](#)
- [Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health](#)

Evidence-Based Resources for Public Health.

- [The Community Guide](#) provides evidence-based findings and recommendations on community prevention programs as summarized by the Community Preventive Services Task Force.
- [The Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report \(MMWR\)](#) summarizes policy statements for prevention and treatment of all areas under the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) scope of responsibility.
- [The National Guidelines Clearinghouse](#) summarizes evidence-based practice guidelines.

Funding Mechanisms for Public Health Research.

Two resources for learning about grant opportunities in public health are:

- [The Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health](#) provides information about federal and other grant opportunities for public health researchers.
- [The Fogarty International Center at NIH](#) summarizes funding

Discover Nashville on our bus and walking tour, Wednesday, April 15 and help us celebrate our anniversary at our gala, *Champagne and Chocolate*, in the Conservatory of the Country Music Hall of Fame, Friday evening, April 17.

The Breakfast with a Scholar (Friday morning, April 17) will be a moderated discussion on the future of occupational therapy with Glen Gillen, EdD, OTR, FAOTA (moderator), Carolyn Baum, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA and Florence Clark, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA.

The inaugural AOTF State of the Science Symposium will feature internationally renowned scientists LeeAnne Carey, PhD, BAppSc(OT), MPH, OTR/L, FAOTA and Winnie Dunn, PhD, OTR, FAOTA to summarize the current evidence regarding the influence of sensory function on daily life, Friday 2:00-4:30 p.m. April 17.

AOTF Intervention Research Grants: An Overview of Priorities and Process will be held Thursday, April 16, 2:30-3:30 p.m. and is included in the conference registration.

Ticket and registration information are available on the [AOTA website](#).

Contribute photos of past AOTF events for inclusion in a special anniversary commemoration.

Send to:

aotfis50@aotf.org

Sage Publications, in celebration of the addition of [OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health](#) to its line of journals, is offering free online access through March 9, 2015. Don't miss out on this generous offer!

OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health: October 2014

[OTJR](#) is published quarterly by the AOTF and offers original peer-reviewed research articles of professional interest to the practicing OT with a focus on occupation and

opportunities for advancing the science of global health.

fostering interdisciplinary research.

Resource Notes:

The Birth of the American Occupational Therapy Foundation

In 1964, the Board of Management of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) was studying a major reorganization. Wilma L. West was the AOTA president during this time (1961-1964), and it was Miss West who proposed the idea of creating a second occupational therapy organization that would

"... enable our own profession to provide financial support to encourage scientific endeavor. It would also encourage contributions not only from occupational therapists but also from individuals, corporations, or foundations who were friends to occupational therapy," (Yerxa, 1967, p. 299).

On April 14, 1965, under the presidency of Ruth Brunyate Weimer (1964-1967). "... the American Occupational Therapy Association established the American Occupational Therapy Foundation, Inc. (AOTF) as a separate corporation. Its purposes were to advance the science of occupational therapy and to increase the public knowledge and understanding of occupational therapy" (Yerxa, 1967, p. 299).

In January, 1967, AOTF was incorporated in Delaware as a charitable and educational foundation and given a 501 (c)(3) internal revenue code. This tax designation was of significant importance to the occupational therapy profession. It meant contributions made to AOTF would be tax-deductible and bequests would not be taxable. At the same time it allowed AOTA to behave more as a "business league" without jeopardizing its tax classification. To be clearer, AOTA could now engage in legislative lobbying and in other activities of direct benefit to its members, (Yerxa, 1967, p. 299).

Elizabeth (Betty) Yerxa, the first AOTF president, explains more of the rationale behind AOTF's birth and early plans in her 1967 article. Though it was slow going, there were successes during the first ten years as you may read in the 1975 *AJOT* article cited below.

[Yerxa, E. J. \(1967\). The American Occupational Therapy Foundation is born. *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 21, 299-300.](#)

[. \(1975\). The Foundation: The first decade: 1965-1975. *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 29, 636-641.](#)

Mary Binderman, MSLS
The Wilma L West Library
American Occupational Therapy Foundation

GUEST EDITORIAL

In Memoriam: Jane Douglas Case-Smith (September 5, 1953 - July 30, 2014)

Shawn C. Roll, PhD, OTR/L, CWCE, RMSK; Amy R. Darragh, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA; Jane Clifford O'Brien, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA; Thomas F. Fisher, PhD, OTR, CCM, FAOTA

FEATURE ARTICLES

[Efficacy of an Occupational Therapy Driving Intervention for Returning Combat Veterans](#)

Sherrilene Classen, PhD, MPH, OT Reg. (Ont.), FAOTA; Nicole Leigh Cormack, BHS; Sandra M. Winter, PhD, OTR/L; Miriam Monahan, MS, OTR/L, CDRS; Abraham Yarney, MS; Amanda Link Lutz, MOT, OTR/L, DRS; Kyle Platek, OTR/L, DRS

[Systematic Review of Apraxia Treatments to Improve Occupational Performance Outcomes](#)

Kathryn Lindsten-McQueen, OTD, OTR/L; Nikki Williamson Weiner, OTD, OTR/L; Hsin-Yen Wang, OTD, OTR/L; Naomi Josman, PhD; Lisa Tabor Connor, PhD, MSOT

[The Social Context of Occupations: Analysis of a Father Feeding his Daughter Diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy](#)

Aaron Bonsall, PhD

[Guided and Directed Cues: Developing a Standardized Coding Scheme for Clinical Practice](#)

Joelle R. Urquhart, BS; Elizabeth R. Skidmore, PhD, OTR/L

[Building a Framework for Implementing New Interventions](#)

Alison M. Cogan, MA, OTR/L; Erna I. Blanche, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA; Jesús Díaz, OTD, OTR/L; Florence A. Clark, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA; Sophia Chun, MD

[*OTJR seeks original research*](#)

reports of assessment/measurement development, efficacy of interventions (preventive, restorative, and compensatory), intervention outcomes, translational research, and basic research (including occupational science). *OTJR* is now indexed in MEDLINE/PubMed.

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1965-1969: A few significant events in health science and policy

Human Subjects in Research

In the *New England Journal of Medicine*, Henry K. Beecher exposed unethical practices in 22 studies including the Tuskegee syphilis and Willowbrook hepatitis studies and summarized issues and recommendations regarding use of human subjects in research (1966).

He concluded that:

- * The foundations of ethics in research must include informed consent and "intelligent, informed, conscientious, compassionate, responsible investigators"
- * Benefits from research must match or exceed the risks
- * Ethical considerations and informed consent must be addressed before research is conducted and be summarized in publications.

U.S. Surgeon General, William Stewart, issued directives regarding independent prior review and assurances for all human subject research. Specific requirements for informed consent were summarized. These policy statements were the origins of Institutional Review Boards (IRBs).

Beecher, H.K. (1966). Special article: Ethics and clinical research. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 274, 24, 1354-1360. Retrieved from

<http://www.scielosp.org/pdf/bwho/v79n4/v79n4a13.pdf>.

Surgeon, T.H.K (1966). Surgeon general's directives on human experimentation. Retrieved from

<http://history.nih.gov/research/downloads/Surgeongeneraldirective1966.pdf>.

Marshall W. Nirenberg: Transition to Neurobiology

In 1968, Marshall W. Nirenberg was awarded the Nobel Prize in Medicine or Physiology (along with Robert W. Holley and Har Gobind Khorana) for work on deciphering the genetic code and identifying the amino codes that make up DNA. The Marshall W. Nirenberg Papers in the National Library of Medicine describe 1965-1969 as the years of his transition to neurobiology.

"Neurobiology offered Nirenberg the freedom to investigate a whole new field of science. He ... called this period of his scientific career one of the happiest times of his life.... While Nirenberg's interest in the similarities between the genetic and the neural code never evolved past the conceptual stage, these ideas helped to spark his curiosity in how the brain and the nervous system develop. This curiosity would drive much of his research in neurobiology for the next thirty years."

Throughout his life, Nirenberg emphasized that scientists have an important platform and enormous responsibilities for advocacy on social and professional issues (National Library of Medicine, 2013, n.p.)

National Library of Medicine (2013). Profiles in science: The Marshall W. Nirenberg Papers. Last updated November 5, 2013. Retrieved from <http://profiles.nlm.nih.gov/JJ/>.

The Academy of Research in Occupational Therapy

"Advancing the science of occupational therapy" requires time, talent, and treasure, a much-used phrase, I realize, but none the less applicable. Fortunately, talent is something occupational therapy practitioners and researchers have and were willing to share with the Foundation.

"In 1983, the AOTF established the Academy of Research in Occupational Therapy to recognize individuals who have made exemplary and distinguished contributions toward the science of occupational therapy. Every year, the Academy of Research invites nominations for membership. After consideration of the nominations and supporting materials, the Academy selects individuals to be inducted into this distinguished body of researchers. Normally, inductions occur during the Award Ceremony at the AOTA Annual Conference and Exposition." (Retrieved on January 3, 2015 from

<http://www.aotf.org/awardshonors/forresearch/academyofresearchinoccupationaltherapy>.

)

Currently, there are fifty-eight members of the Academy of Research. Over the next few months, we will highlight a group of the Academy members in *Research Resources*.

A. Jean Ayres, PhD, OTR, FAOTA (1920-1989)

"The sensory integration (SI) specialty was originally developed by A. Jean Ayres PhD, OTR, who was both an occupational therapist and an educational psychologist. A former



member of the USC occupational therapy faculty, she developed a theoretical framework, a set of standardized tests (today known as the Sensory Integration and Praxis Tests"), and a clinical approach for identification and remediation of SI problems in children. Her publications on sensory integration span a 30-year period from the 1960's through the 1980's, and include psychometric studies as well as clinical trials and single case studies." (Retrieved on December 18, 2014 from <http://chan.usc.edu/academics/sensory-integration>.)

The American Occupational Therapy Foundation (AOTF) created the A. Jean Ayres Award ". . . to recognize or support individuals who are committed to the research-related development or testing of theory in occupational therapy with priority given to work in the area of sensory processing." (Retrieved on December 18, 2014 from <http://www.aotf.org/awardshonors/forresearch/ajeanyayresaward.aspx>.)

[For more information on Dr. Ayres.](#)

Nancy A. Baker, ScD, MPH, OTR

Dr. Baker is an associate professor, Department of Occupational Therapy, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, University of Pittsburgh. Her research interests are in the areas of "work-related musculoskeletal disorders related to computer use, conservative treatments for carpal tunnel syndrome and work disability for people with arthritis." (Retrieved on December 18, 2014 from <http://www.med.unc.edu/ahs/ocsci/faculty-and-staff/faculty-bios/grace-baranek-bio>.)

[For more information on Dr. Baker.](#)



Grace T. Baranek, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

Dr. Baranek is professor and associate chair for research, Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. Her research/clinical interests are in the areas of "early Identification and intervention for children with autism and related developmental disorders; sensory features in individuals with autism - their underlying mechanisms, development, and effects on daily activities and social participation outcomes." (Retrieved on December 18 from <http://www.med.unc.edu/ahs/ocsci/faculty-and-staff/faculty-bios/grace-baranek-bio>.)

[For more information on Dr. Baranek.](#)



Carolyn M. Baum, PhD, OTR, FAOTA

Dr. Baum is Elias Michael Director and professor of Occupational Therapy, Neurology, and Social Work, School of Medicine and Brown School, Washington University, St. Louis, MO. Her clinical interests are in the areas of aging, occupational performance assessment, and program development using a Person-Environment-Occupational Performance Model. Dr. Baum's research focuses on the role of cognition in everyday life and the enabling of everyday performance in people with chronic health conditions and disability. (Retrieved on Dec 19, 2014 from <http://www.ot.wustl.edu/about/our-people/faculty/carolyn-m-baum-254>.)

From 2001 to 2003, Dr. Baum was editor of the AOTF research journal, *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*. Currently, she is a member of the AOTF Board of Directors and chair of the AOTF Research Commission.

[For more information on Dr. Baum.](#)



Daniel Bourbonnais, PhD, OT(C)

Dr. Bourbonnais is vice-dean for Research and Innovation in Science and Professor, University of Montreal and Researcher, Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Rehabilitation of Metropolitan Montreal. His areas of research interest include the assessment and treatment of the upper limb; motor control of the hand; bilateral coordination; and posture and movement coordination in persons with stroke. (Retrieved on December 21, 2014 from <http://www.crir.ca/?A1E61E1F-3E97-456C-B6D9-6041A59AADD&extendedview=1&extendedres=EC844717-CD62-448E-8B5B-C04A71426E31¶meters=ID:12>.)

[For more information on Dr. Bourbonnais.](#)



Anita C Bundy, ScD, OTR, FAOTA

Dr. Bundy is chair of occupational therapy in the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Sydney. For 3 decades, she has conducted research into children's play and is recognised as an expert internationally. She is best known for developing theory and research in play with children who have disabilities and in sensory integration. She has a strong interest in the everyday lives of children with disabilities (Retrieved on Dec 19, 2014 from <http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/anita.bundy.php>.)



[For more information on Dr. Bundy.](#)

Scientist Development Awards

International Research Scientist Development Award (IRSDA) Announcement(s) (KO1)(PAR-13-072)

[Upcoming application deadline: March 4, 2015](#)

The IRSDA provides support and protected time (three to five years) to advanced postdoctoral (at least two years beyond conferral of doctoral degree) U.S. research scientists for an intensive, mentored research career development experience leading to an independent research career focused on global health.

The experience will be in a low- or middle-income country (LMIC) as defined by the World Bank. Low-income, lower-middle-income and upper-middle-income countries are included.

Applications are invited from biomedical, epidemiological, clinical, biostatistical, social and behavioral scientists in the formative stages of their research careers.

American Heart Association Announcement

Deadlines:

- * Founders Affiliate - Jan. 13, 2015
- * Great Rivers Affiliate - Jan. 13, 2015
- * Greater Southeast Affiliate - Jan. 16, 2015
- * Mid-Atlantic Affiliate - Jan. 16, 2015
- * Midwest Affiliate - Jan. 14, 2015
- * National - Jan. 22, 2015

[The program objective](#) is to support highly promising beginning scientists in their progress toward independence by encouraging and adequately funding research projects that can bridge the gap between completion of research training and readiness for successful competition as an independent investigator. The science focus is research broadly related to cardiovascular function and disease and stroke, or to related clinical, basic science, bioengineering or biotechnology, and public health problems, including multidisciplinary efforts.

Rheumatology Research Foundation Announcement

Deadline: August 1, 2015

The purpose of the [Scientist Development Award](#) is to encourage physicians and health professionals without significant research experience to consider careers in biomedical or clinical research by supporting a structured research training program in arthritis and rheumatic disease.

National MS Society Announcement

Deadline: August 5, 2015

The [Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowship in Rehabilitation Research](#) provides support for a mentor-institution combination which is responsible for the recruitment, selection, and training of postdoctoral fellows to pursue a career in rehabilitation research applied to MS and similar disorders. The mentor should be an established and active researcher in MS or a related field. The mentor and fellow may come from a variety of different fields including medicine, physical, occupational, or speech therapy, psychology, rehabilitation engineering, nursing, or other fields.

Young Investigator Initiative Career Development and Grant Mentoring Program

Call for Submissions for program beginning with workshop April 24-26, 2015

Deadline for submissions: January 15, 2015

This [career development and grant mentoring program](#) is open to promising junior faculty, senior fellows or post-doctoral researchers nominated by their department or division chairs. It is also open to senior fellows or residents that are doing research and have a faculty appointment in place or confirmed. Basic and clinical investigators, without or with training awards, are invited to apply. Investigators selected to take part in the program attend two workshops, 12-18 months apart, and work with faculty between workshops to develop their grant applications. The next workshop is scheduled to take place April 24-26, 2015 in Rosemont, Illinois (Chicago). The unique aspect of this program is the opportunity for attendees to maintain a relationship with a mentor until their application is funded.

News to Use and Share

NICHHD announces new Director of NCMRR

NICHHD announced that Alison Cernich, PhD, has been selected as director of the [National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research \(NCMRR\)](#). Dr. Cernich is a neuropsychologist who has conducted extensive research on the relationship between mild traumatic brain injury and mental health.

New CDC funding will expand knowledge about children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD)

CDC has launched a new phase of funding for the [Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring \(ADDM\) Network](#), the only collaborative network to monitor the number and characteristics of children with ASD and other developmental disabilities in multiple communities throughout the United States. Over the next four years, CDC will invest over \$20 million to enhance tracking at eight existing sites and to launch two new sites. All 10 sites will track ASD among school-aged children, and six sites will also track ASD among pre-school aged children.

Awardees

- * Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- * Johns Hopkins University
- * Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
- * The University of Wisconsin-Madison
- * University of Arizona
- * University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
- * *University of Minnesota
- * University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- * *Vanderbilt University
- * Washington University in St. Louis

*New Sites

Together, these sites will contribute to improved understanding of ASD and other developmental disabilities; improve understanding of the implications of the change in ASD diagnostic criteria; build stronger relationships with community partners; increase dissemination of [ADDM Network data](#); and improve reliability and efficiency of CDC's ASD tracking system. Ultimately, these intended outcomes translate into improvements for children and their families.

Doctoral, Post-Doctoral and Research Training Opportunities

Post-Doctoral Training Program in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research

The Waisman Center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is recruiting post-doctoral trainees for its NIH-funded [Post-Doctoral Training Program in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research](#). Appointments will be for 2 years beginning in the summer or fall of 2015. The program provides multidisciplinary training in social, epidemiological, behavioral, and biobehavioral research on intellectual and developmental disabilities. Its emphasis is on understanding social, affective, communicative, and family processes as they relate to intellectual and developmental disabilities. They are seeking candidates who are committed to a research career in intellectual and developmental disabilities, have completed prior research and training in the field, and have an outstanding academic record. Apply by January 15, 2015.

Veterans Program at Colorado State University

[The New Start for Student Veterans program](#) at the Colorado State University provides educational and community-based supports for post-9/11 veterans with significant disabilities seeking college degrees. A comprehensive research and development program has been initiated which integrates evidence-based intervention programs fostering resilience and enhanced academic and participation outcomes for student veterans. In offering a [PhD in Occupation and Rehabilitation Science](#), the Department of Occupational Therapy faculty intend to integrate occupational science and rehabilitation science: two highly synergistic academic areas. For more information see the [program flyer](#) and direct inquiries to [Dr. Aaron M. Eakman](#). Application deadline: February 2, 2015 but applicants are encouraged to apply early.

Postdoctoral Research Training Program in Disability Policy Research

[The Lurie Institute for Disability Policy](#) invites applications from qualified candidates for one- or two-year fellowships under the mentorship of the nationally-recognized faculty of the Heller School for Social Policy and Management. Qualified candidates are invited to join a community that thrives on rigorous research, interdisciplinary collaboration, and supports the mission of knowledge advancing social justice. A range of exciting research opportunities is available to fellows, including investigations of the health and well-being of children and adults with disabilities and their caregiving families. Training of post-doctoral fellows will include immediate engagement in an existing research program coupled with opportunities to develop skills in preparing grant proposals, managing research projects, developing scholarly articles and scientific presentations and disseminating findings to advocates and policy makers. Fellows will also have the opportunity to develop their own independent research programs.

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Funding Opportunities

New Connections: Increasing Diversity of RWJF Programming

Deadline: January 21, 2015, 3 p.m. ET

This is a career development program for early- and mid-career researchers and consultants from underrepresented groups. The program aims to expand the diversity of perspectives that inform RWJF programming and introduce new researchers and scholars to RWJF in order to help address research and evaluation needs.

* [Junior Investigators](#) -- Junior Investigators will address program research topics in their proposals by using the most relevant methodology as determined through the application process. Approaches might include qualitative methods (i.e., focus groups or interviews), environmental scans, mixed methods, or other innovative approaches to research and/or evaluation. Projects proposing secondary data analysis are preferred. Any projects proposing primary data collection must provide evidence both for how this approach is feasible and how it enhances the project. The proposed work should reflect RWJF's vision to build a [Culture of Health](#).

* [Midcareer Professionals](#) -- Midcareer Consultants will address program research topics in their proposals by using the most relevant methodology as determined through the application process. Approaches might include qualitative methods (i.e., focus groups or interviews), environmental scans, mixed methods, or other innovative approaches to research and/or evaluation. The topic chosen should reflect RWJF's [Culture of Health](#).

Other Resources

National Disability Navigator Resource Collaborative (NDNRC) Releases Fact Sheets

The American Association on Health and Disability (AAHD) is pleased to announce the publication of fact sheets for the NDNRC. [What to Know When Assisting a Consumer with Mental Illness](#) is intended to help Navigators identify issues that are unique to consumers with mental health conditions to assist them in making decisions related to their healthcare coverage. Also released are: [What to Know When Assisting a Consumer with Multiple Sclerosis](#) and [What to Know When Assisting a Consumer with Intellectual Disability](#). A complete list of fact sheets can be found on the [NDNRC website](#).

The American Association on Health and Disability (AAHD) Webinar on Healthcare Coverage Outreach

The AAHD is hosting a [webinar on healthcare coverage outreach](#) and enrollment for people with disabilities on Jan 15, 2015 at 2:00 pm (EST). The webinar will reintroduce participants to the National Disability Navigator Resource Collaborative (NDNRC) and will contain questions a person with a disability needs to think about when they are considering their health care options in the ACA Marketplace. Additionally, it will explain how the NDNRC is helping lead efforts to conduct community, state and national outreach to the disability community to encourage enrollment and how you can be involved in helping people with disabilities get the healthcare coverage they need. Disability advocates, people with disabilities and anyone doing healthcare enrollment, including navigators are encouraged to participate.

State Public Health Autism Resource Center (SPHARC) Environmental Scan Report Released

The Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs (AMCHP) announced the release of the [SPHARC environmental scan report](#) on "State Strategies and Initiatives to Improve Developmental and Autism Screening, and Early Identification Systems." This report includes initial findings from an environmental scan conducted in summer 2014 of 185 source documents in an effort to capture the wide range of developmental screening activities occurring within all U.S. states and territories. Over the coming year, this data will be further analyzed

to develop resources to assist states in building and improving developmental screening and early identification systems.

Facilitating Patient Understanding of Discharge Instructions: Workshop Summary

To explore the aspects of health literacy that impact the ability of patients to understand and follow discharge instructions and to learn from examples of how discharge instructions can be written to improve patient understanding of-and hence compliance with-discharge instructions, the [Roundtable on Health Literacy held a 1-day public workshop](#). To achieve its mission, the roundtable discusses challenges facing health literacy practice and research and identifies approaches to promote health literacy through mechanisms and partnerships in both the public and private sectors.

National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD) Special Webinar

[Growing Impact: An Overview of NCBDDD's Strategic Health Initiatives](#), a free webinar on Friday, January 16, 2015, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. ET, highlights NCBDDD's three strategic health initiatives, or growth areas:

- Preschool Treatment of ADHD
- Prevention of Healthcare Associated Venous Thromboembolism
- Treating for Two: Safer Medication Use in Pregnancy

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 a list of all 2015 webinars.

Application of Behavioral Health Technology Tools in the Clinical Care of Mild Traumatic Brain Injury
Jan. 15, 2015; 1:00-2:30 p.m. (ET)

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Conferences and Calls for Papers

International Stroke Conference (February 11-13, 2015, Nashville, Tennessee)

[The International Stroke Conference](#) features more than 1,500 presentations that emphasize basic, clinical and translational sciences as they evolve toward a more complete understanding of stroke pathophysiology with the overall goal of developing more effective prevention and treatment.

18th Annual Applied Ergonomics Conference (AEC) (March 16-19, 2015, Nashville, Tennessee)

[GOERGO, The Global Organization of Ergonomics](#), presents a conference where attendees gather from around the world to share best practices with other professionals in ergonomics, healthcare, safety, human resources and risk management.

AOTA Annual Conference (April 16-19, 2015, Nashville, Tennessee)

Join thousands of OT colleagues for [educational sessions and institutes](#).

International Conference on Occupational Stress and Health (May 6-9, 2015, Atlanta, Georgia)

[This conference](#) is presented by The American Psychological Association, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, and the Society for Occupational Health Psychology with the theme: "Work, Stress and Health 2015: Sustainable Work, Sustainable Health, Sustainable Organizations."

Pacific Rim International Conference (May 18-19, 2015, Waikiki, Hawaii)

[The Pacific Rim International Conference](#), encourages and respects voices from "diverse" perspective across numerous areas, including: voices from persons representing all disability areas; experiences of family members and supporters across all disability and diversity areas; responsiveness to diverse cultural and language differences; evidence of researchers and academics studying diversity and disability; stories of persons providing powerful lessons; examples of program providers, and; action plans to meet human and social needs in a globalized world. In 2015, new topic areas will promote thoughtful discussion and suggest new ways to integrate education, technology, advocacy, activism and interdisciplinary research.

ICOST 2015 - 13th International Conference on Smart Homes, Assistive Technology and Health Telematics: Advances in Cognitive Technologies (June 10-12, 2015, Geneva, Switzerland)

[ICOST](#) brings together stakeholders from clinical, academic and industrial perspectives along with end users and family caregivers to explore how to utilize technologies to foster independent living and offer an enhanced quality of life. Call for Papers deadline: January 15, 2015.

RESNA, the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America Annual Conference (June 10-14, 2015, Denver, Colorado)

RESNA is the premier professional organization dedicated to promoting the health and well-being of people with disabilities through increasing access to technology solutions. [Their annual conference](#) theme is New Frontiers in Assistive Technology.

Call for Papers:

* Scientific and Student Scientific Papers: January 13, 2015

* Student Design Competition: April 3, 2015 - registration, April 17, 2015 submission

6th Asia Pacific Occupational Therapy Congress (APOTC) (September 14-17, 2015, Rotorua, New Zealand)

[APOTC's vision is "Doing Well Together"](#) and aims to disseminate and celebrate research and examples of clinical practice across the themes of:

- Sharing practice insights and stories
- Sharing the best of practice and theory
- Sharing technology in practice
- Creative partnerships with community and colleagues
- Strengthening communities
- Practicing across cultures

Submissions may take the form of research (quantitative, qualitative, mixed methods), systematic reviews, practice exemplars, case studies, program evaluation, policy development or position statements. Abstracts deadline: January 16, 2015.

AOTA 2015 Education Summit (October 17-18, 2015, Denver, Colorado)

[The AOTA 2015 Education Summit](#) invites all who share the common vision of enhanced understanding of teaching and learning in occupational therapy and occupational therapy assistant degree programs to submit a proposal. Summit themes are: Pedagogy & Instructional Design, Building Capacity/Faculty Development and Resources, Learner Characteristics & Competencies) within the practice of occupational therapy education (entry, post professional and specialty workshops). Priority will be given to proposals that use data/evidence to formulate problem statements and analyze outcomes, and that include recommendations for future work. Call for Papers deadline: January 22, 2015

Society for Neuroscience 2015 Annual Conference (October 17-21, 2015, Chicago, Illinois)

The [Society for Neuroscience](#) is the world's largest organization of scientists and physicians devoted to understanding the brain and nervous system. The nonprofit organization, founded in 1969, now has nearly 40,000 members in more than 90 countries and 130 chapters worldwide.

Call for Abstracts Submission deadline: Wednesday, January 7, 2015.

International BIOPHILIA Rehabilitation Conference (IBRC) (October 23-27, 2015, Tokyo and Kyoto, Japan)

The 12th annual conference, [IBRC 2015](#) is a leading international forum for Rehabilitation Medicine. BIOPHILIA represents the process of functional recovery.

ACRM 92nd Annual Progress in Rehabilitation Research & Expo (October 25-30, 2015, Dallas, Texas)

In 2015, the [ACRM annual conference](#) will focus on brain injury, spinal cord injury, stroke, neurodegenerative diseases, cancer and pain. Instructional Course proposals are due December 15; Symposia proposals are due January 15; and Paper & Poster proposals are due March 2.

American Public Health Association (APHA) (October 31-November 4, 2015, Chicago, Illinois)

[APHA's Annual Meeting & Exposition](#) is where public health professionals convene, learn, network and engage with peers. The theme of the 2015 Annual Meeting is Health in All Policies, they hope to strengthen the profession of public health, share the latest research and information, promote best practices, and advocate for public health issues and policies grounded in research.

Call for Papers Submission Deadline: Abstracts are due between February 9-13.

Gerontological Society of America (GSA) Annual Scientific Meeting (November 18-22, 2015, Orlando, Florida)

GSA is the nation's oldest and largest interdisciplinary organization devoted to research, education, and practice in the field of aging. The principal mission GSA is to advance the study of aging and disseminate information among scientists, decision makers, and the general public. Watch the [web site](#) for conference details and call for papers information.

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A. Jean Ayres, continued

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Carolyn M. Baum, continued

Q and A

Identify three words that others have used to describe you.

Doer, Enabler, Futurist.

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

By building collaborations to address questions that improve the human condition.

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

Choose an environment where you work with successful scientists in your entry level training.

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?

Understanding how social supports (emotional, informational and instrumental) support daily life.

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

Challenging my ideas.

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

Cooking for guests.

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

The relationships that develop from shared ideas to friendships.

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Anita C. Bundy, continued

Q and A

Identify three words that others have used to describe you.

Creative, persistent, playful.

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

A lot of my research has been into children's play--often considered a "second class occupation". I hope that my work helps therapists and others to understand the importance of play and to promote it actively and unabashedly.

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

Do work that you are passionate about and develop a very thick 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?

I think that research testing interventions is among the most important work we have yet to do.

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

Mentors have asked the hard questions--the ones that make me ponder for weeks and sometimes years.

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

There are several: cooking, gardening, playing the flute, hiking, biking.

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

I always thought I would hate doing research and then I discovered that it was like a giant puzzle; you find one piece and it leads to the next.

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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:

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