



1965-2015

Celebrating fifty years of advancing the science of occupational therapy

March 2015

AOTF Research Resources



Spring Greetings to *Research Resources* colleagues!

March is here. I truly believe hope springs eternal even after the long winter that many of our readers have experienced! In this issue, we explore resources for research in gerontology and meet the new members of the Academy of Research. We also continue our 50th anniversary tribute to the American Occupational Therapy Foundation by highlighting the people and events during 1975-1979 that contributed to advances in the science of occupational therapy that supports people's full participation in meaningful life activities.

Gerontology and Aging: An Interdisciplinary Science Opportunity for Occupational Therapy

There are a growing number of occupational therapists who conduct research in the interdisciplinary science of gerontology and aging. A quick Google search found occupational therapists who are post-doctoral fellows, faculty, or directors in gerontology programs, authors of studies in gerontology journals, and presenters at professional gerontology conferences. An awareness of professional associations and conferences, journals, research resources, and funding mechanisms is important for occupational therapists who want to become more involved in this interdisciplinary science.

Academy of Research Member Profiles: 2015 Inductees

I know you will enjoy learning about our 2015 inductees to the AOTF

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Celebrate AOTF's
50th Anniversary at the
2015 AOTA Annual

Academy of Research:

- [Jane Case-Smith](#)
- [Naomi Josman](#)
- [Mary Jane Mulcahey](#)

The Academy of Research honors individuals who have made exemplary and distinguished contributions toward the science of occupational therapy.

1975-1979: The second decade of AOTF

This month, we look back at the beginning of AOTF's second decade. This was a time of enormous importance for human rights legislation, particularly for children with special needs and people with disabilities. During this same period, AOTF continued to strengthen its emphasis on research as evident in a series of *American Journal of Occupational Therapy* articles. [A few highlights](#) are included in this issue of *Research Resources*. We have also included [significant events](#) in health science and policy from those years.

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
Associate Director, Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health
Director of Research

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Gerontology and Aging: An Interdisciplinary Science Opportunity for Occupational Therapy

Gerontology and aging is a natural interdisciplinary science for occupational therapy research. As occupational therapists, we are committed to "understanding the nature of aging, supporting the health and well being of older adults, and extending healthy, active years of life for more people" (<http://www.nia.nih.gov/about>).

Occupational therapy may contribute to several priority research areas identified by the [National Institute on Aging](#), including: social and behavioral aspects of aging, geriatrics and clinical gerontology, and neuroscience.

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 gerontology and aging.

Professional Associations and Conferences

Conference.

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

OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health

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 fostering interdisciplinary research.

[The Gerontological Society of America \(GSA\)](#) was founded in 1945 and has over 5,500 members. GSA is the oldest and largest interdisciplinary professional organization on aging with a mission to "advance the study of aging and disseminate information among scientists, decision makers, and the general public." The Society achieves its mission through: an annual conference, journals, professional development programs, and advocacy. The Society currently has specific initiatives related to knowledge translation and aging, CNS, and mobility.

[American Society on Aging \(ASA\)](#) was founded in 1954 and has over 5,000 members. Its mission is to "to support the commitment and enhance the knowledge and skills of those who seek to improve the quality of life of older adults and their families." The Society has an annual conference, Aging in America, and offers a variety of other professional development programs and publications.

Gerontology and Aging Journals

A sample of higher impact factor interdisciplinary gerontology and aging journals that regularly have articles of relevance to occupational therapy are summarized here.

[Journals of Gerontology](#) Series A - IF 4.3
[Journals of Gerontology](#) Series B - IF 2.9
[The Gerontologist](#) - IF 2.8
[Journal of the American Geriatrics Society](#) - IF 4.2
[Psychology and Aging](#) - IF 2.9
[Age and Ageing](#) - IF 3.1

Evidence-Based and Research Resources for Gerontology and Aging

[National Institute on Aging Population Studies Database](#)
[National Archive of Computerized Data on Aging](#)
[Publicly Available Databases for Aging-Related Secondary Analyses in the Behavioral and Social Sciences](#)
[Instruments to Detect Cognitive Impairment in Older Adults](#)
[International Alzheimer's Disease Research Portfolio \(IADRP\)](#) database

University Library Guides.

[The University of Michigan Library Guide](#) is an example of a gerontology and aging resource that is available from many universities. It provides information on a variety of digital resources.

[AARP Datasets](#)

Funding Mechanisms for Gerontology and Aging Research

Several resources for learning about grant opportunities in gerontology and aging are provided here.

[National Institute on Aging](#)
[2015 Butler-Williams Scholars Program](#)
[American Federation for Aging Research](#)
[Administration for Community Living \(ACL\)](#) supports projects to develop home- and community-based services.
[Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality \(AHRQ\)](#) addresses the quality, safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of health care.
[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's \(CDC\) Healthy Aging Initiative](#)

January 2015

EDITORIAL

The Art and Science of Resilience

ARTICLES

Haptic Exploration in Elementary School Age Children
Carol A. Coté

Mothers with Chronic Disease: A Comparison of Parenting in Mothers with Systemic Sclerosis and Systemic Lupus Erythematosus
Anet L. Poole, K. Sena Hare, Sabrina Turner-Montez, Cindy Mendelson, and Betty Skipper

Hollywood Takes on Intellectual/Developmental Disability: Cinematic Representations of Occupational Participation
Rebecca Renwick, Ann Fudge Schormans, and Deborah Shore

Occupational Competence Strategies in Old Age: A Mixed-Methods Comparison between Hispanic Women with Different Levels of Daily Participation
Elsa M. Orellano, Gail Mountain, Nelson Varas, and Nirzka Labault

Participation of Young Adults with High-Functioning Autism in Taiwan: A Pilot Study
Hsin-Yen Wang and Christine Berg

[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.

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

hosts the Prevention Research Centers Healthy Aging Research Network to address the public health aspects of healthy aging and support a [Health and Aging Policy Fellow](#).

[Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services \(CMS\)](#) offers researchers and other healthcare professionals a broad range of quantitative information on their programs and conducts demonstration projects on healthcare coverage and delivery.

[Environmental Protection Agency's \(EPA\) Aging Initiative](#) funds a variety of projects related to the environmental health of older people.

The Academy of Research in Occupational Therapy

The following individuals will be inducted into the Academy of Research in April at the AOTA Conference in Nashville.

Jane Case Smith, EdD, OTR/L, FAOTA (September 5, 1953 - July 30, 2014)

At the time of her passing, Dr. Case-Smith was professor and director of the Program in Occupational Therapy in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, College of Medicine at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. A highly regarded educator, Dr. Case-Smith was co-editor and author of a widely adopted textbook: *Occupational Therapy with Children*, now in its seventh edition.



Jane Case-Smith was considered one of the nation's foremost experts in pediatric occupational therapy and rehabilitation. She studied, wrote, and lectured on a broad range of topics such as early intervention, autism spectrum disorders, cerebral palsy, movement therapy, and home-based services. She was also a respected clinical scientist, and had extensive experience as a grant reviewer for federal agencies and charitable foundations. At the time of her passing, she was principal investigator on two NIH-funded studies.

In 2001, Dr. Case-Smith was the recipient of the AOTF A. Jean Ayres award. From 2008 - 2011, she was the chief editor of *OTJR: Occupation, Participation, and Health*, AOTF's research journal. (Retrieved on February 25, 2015 from

<http://www.aotf.org/Portals/0/documents/News/PressReleases/07%2031%2014%20AOTF%20Mourns%20Passing%20of%20Dr%20Jane%20Case-Smith.pdf>.)

An *OTJR* article ([Roll, Darragh, O'Brien, and Fisher, 2014](#)) celebrated Dr. Case-Smith's life and expounded on her outstanding contributions to occupational therapy as researcher, clinical practitioner, and educator.

[For more information on Dr. Case-Smith.](#)

Naomi Josman, PhD, OT(I)

Dr. Josman is professor, academic head of the occupational therapy program in Mivchar and head of the PhD doctoral program in occupational therapy, the Faculty of Social Welfare & Health Sciences, at the University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel.

Professor Josman's research focuses on areas of executive function, cognitive rehabilitation, specifically cognition, metacognition and its influence on occupation, and use of virtual

reality in rehabilitation. Research projects have been conducted with various populations

including children with developmental and/or learning disabilities, adults with neurological dysfunction, individuals with schizophrenia and the elderly. The scope of her cognitive studies extends into evaluation and assessment tools and strategies. (Retrieved on February 27, 2015 from

<http://hw2.haifa.ac.il/index.php/he/occupa-practical-training/occupa-training-bb-2/116-occupational-therapy/occupa-staff/academicstaffripui/250-naomijosmancv>.)



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

Mary Jane Mulcahey, PhD, OTR/L

Dr. Mulcahey is professor, Department of Occupational Therapy, School of Health Professions, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Dr. Mulcahey's research focuses on the long-term outcomes of children with spinal injuries; developing computer adaptive testing platforms of activity performance and participation and; developing trajectories of typical participation patterns of children and adolescence living in the United States as way to better understand the similarities and disparities of participation in children with health conditions compared to peers without health conditions. She believes building knowledge on similarities and disparities will catalyze work involving the development of occupationally based methods to enhance participation.

(Retrieved on February 25, 2015 from

http://www.jefferson.edu/university/health_professions/departments/occupational_therapy/faculty/faculty/mulcahey.html.)



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

1975-1979: The Beginnings of AOTF's Second Decade

AOTF Research Seminar (Yerxa and Gilfoyle, 1976)

In April 1976, AOTF and AOTA held a collaborative seminar on research in St. Louis for the purpose of identifying barriers to research, areas of critical need, specific problems needing study, and recommendations for different stakeholder groups. There were 17 occupational therapy researchers and a consultant who deliberated for three days on the actions that needed to be taken to foster occupational therapy research. The recommendations included: creation of the A. Jean Ayres Award, publication of a research quarterly by AOTF, encouragement to publish occupational therapy research in non-occupational therapy journals, and development of a research coordinator position.

Barriers: attitudinal, organizational, material

Themes for areas of critical need: all specialty areas, areas with greatest potential for documentation, need for studies that document the effect of activity on health and development, conceptualization of treatment as a research process, standard evaluation tools.

Specific problems needing study: evaluation, uniform data collection system, systems theory for practice, demographic information on populations with performance limitations, and other specific studies.

Recommendations: AOTF Board of Directors, *AJOT* Editor, AOTA Publications Committee, AOTA Executive Director, Delegate Assembly, Accreditation Committee, Council on Education, Affiliate Presidents, Special Interest Groups.

Research: Everybody's Responsibility

A 1979 *AJOT* article invited readers to do a self-examination of their commitment to research given the critical need for research and the limited 'facts' that supported occupational therapy in health care. The article challenged readers to answer questions:

"What are you willing to do to:

- actively to solicit funds for research...?
- conduct a major literature review beyond the occupational therapy literature..?
- contribute to a data collection process....?
- undertake a demographic study or participate in a large collaborative study?"

Research Initiatives.

In 1978, AOTF announced that \$20,000 would be targeted for direct research grants. Twelve projects were recommended for funding. AOTF added a Director of Research position in 1979. Nedra Gillette was recruited by Wilma West and confirmed by the board to be the first person to hold this position. She served in this role until 2007.

Research Program

- . (1976). The Foundation: AOTF Research Seminar. *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 30, 191.
- Yerxa, EJ & Gilfoyle, E. (1976). The Foundation: Research Seminar. *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 30, 509-514.
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- . (1979). The Foundation: Office of Professional Research Services. *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 33, 600-601.
- . (1979). The Foundation: Research Progress Report. *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 33, 261.
- . (1979). The Foundation: Research Progress Report, Part II. *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 33, 336-337.
- . (1979). The Foundation: Research in Occupational Therapy... It's Everybody's Responsibility!!! *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 33, 666-667.

1975-1979: A few significant events in health science and policy

Healthy People

In 1979, the Surgeon General released the first Healthy People: The Surgeon General's Report on Health Promotion and Disease Prevention. This report was "presented as a guide to insure even greater health for the American people and an improved quality of life for themselves, their children and their children's children." <http://profiles.nlm.nih.gov/ps/access/NNBBGK.pdf>

Special Education

In 1975, the [Education for All Handicapped Children Act \(EHA\)](#) and the [Individuals with Disabilities Education Act \(IDEA\)](#) were passed. The EHA established a right to public education for children with disabilities. The IDEA required schools to provide individualized special education for children with qualifying disabilities.

Ethics in Research

The National Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects of Biomedical and Behavioral Research released [the Belmont Report](#), a summary of ethical principles and guidelines for the protection of human subjects of research.

Disability Advocacy

[The National Council on Disability \(NCD\)](#) was established in 1978 as "an independent federal agency charged with advising the President, Congress, and other federal agencies regarding policies, programs, practices, and procedures that affect people with disabilities." The NCD provides a variety of resources and publications in 14 key areas.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

[The Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\)](#) was created to merge many of the separate disaster responsibilities into one agency.

Scientist Development Awards

Two MCH Research Funding Opportunities:

[HRSA-15-091: MCH Autism Intervention Research Network on Behavioral Health \(AIR-B Network\)](#) will support an interdisciplinary, multicenter research forum for scientific collaboration and infrastructure building, which will provide national leadership in research designed to improve the behavioral, mental, social, and/or cognitive health and well-being of children and adolescents with ASD and other developmental disabilities. Application due date: April 21, 2015.

[HRSA-15-092: MCH Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health \(AIR-P Network\)](#) will support an interdisciplinary, multicenter research forum for scientific collaboration and infrastructure building, which will provide national leadership in research designed to improve the physical health and well-being of children and adolescents with ASD and other developmental disabilities. Physical health may include, but is not limited to, medical, dental, visual, nutrition and speech/hearing components. Application due date: April 21, 2015.

Society for the Study of Occupation Student Research Grant Competition

SSO has released a Request for Proposals for the [2015 student research grant competition](#). Proposals must demonstrate direct relevance to at least one of the following priorities:

- Expands the knowledge of occupation;
- Fosters an understanding of the fundamental nature of occupation relative to health and well-being;
- Explores innovative methods to study occupation;
- Explores the interrelationship of the discipline of occupational science and the profession of occupational therapy and other related professions.

Proposals are due April 30, 2015.

Craig H. Neilsen Foundation's 2015 Psychosocial Research Grant program.

[The CHN Foundation](#) defines psychosocial research as 1) research focused on the influence of psychological and social factors on an individual's health, functioning or quality of life, or 2) research addressing the interrelation of psychological (e.g., behavioral, emotional, cognitive) and social (e.g., interpersonal, community, environmental) factors with health, disability, participation and other quality of life factors relevant to people living with spinal cord injuries (SCI). The Foundation is particularly interested in outcomes research, or effectiveness research, that seeks to measure, evaluate or improve approaches that are patient-centered (i.e., interactions between medical practitioners and individuals with SCI) and/or consumer-centered (i.e., nonmedical interventions for people living with SCI at any stage).

Deadline for [submitting a Letter of Intent](#) is Wednesday, April 1, 2015.

Rheumatology Research Foundation Announcement

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. Application deadline: August 1, 2015.

National MS Society Announcement

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. Application deadline: August 5, 2015.

News to Use and Share

[NCBDDD Increases Communication Efforts to Target Healthcare Providers](#)

Throughout the month of January, NCBDDD increased its birth defects prevention communication messages to healthcare providers using digital dissemination efforts. Several large web-healthcare organizations published electronic mobile doctor alerts, physician alerts, nurse alerts, a video expert commentary and health care targeted advertisement.

- [Epocrates](#) -- A mobile platform that targets clinicians through alerts
- [Medscape](#) -- Is a part of WebMD Health Professional Network that partners with the CDC to create expert commentaries
- [RNSights](#) -- Online and mobile enabled community for nurses

AHRQ Implements the Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR) and Uniform Progress Report Due Dates

All [Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality \(AHRQ\) grantees](#), exclusive of recipients of multi-year funded awards, will have the ability to use the eRA commons Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR) module beginning October 19, 2014. Effective January 1, 2015, AHRQ will require use of the RPPR module. Also, effective October 19, 2014, AHRQ will standardize all annual progress report due dates.

NIH Disaster Research Response

[The NIH Disaster Research Response](#) is a disaster research system consisting of coordinated environmental health disaster research data collection tools and a network of trained research responders. The website provides tools and resources, training and exercises, protocols, networks, and collaboration and projects for researchers.

Doctoral, Post-Doctoral and Research Training Opportunities

The University of Michigan Advanced Rehabilitation Research Training Program in Community Living and Participation (U-M AR RTP-CP)

[The U-M AR RTP-CP](#) will provide advanced rehabilitation research training to persons with doctoral or similar advanced degrees who have clinical or other relevant experience, with the goal of enhancing their capacity to conduct high quality multidisciplinary rehabilitation and disability research to improve outcomes for those with disabilities in the areas of community living and participation. The position is open and will close when filled; start time is fall 2015.

National Institute on Aging - 2015 Butler-Williams Scholars Program (July 27-31, 2015, Bethesda, Maryland)

The [2015 Butler-Williams Scholars Program](#) (formerly the Summer Institute on Aging Research) includes lectures, seminars, and small group discussions in research design relative to aging, including issues relevant to aging of ethnic and racial minorities. Applications will be accepted from emerging researchers, including those who may have had limited involvement in research on aging. Applications and letters of recommendation are due by March 27, 2015.

Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research (June 8-10, 2015, Wayne State University, Michigan)

[2015 Summer Training Workshop on African American Aging Research](#) seeks to identify and train early stage career scientists of diverse backgrounds who are committed to conducting African American aging research with the purpose of improving the quality and quantity of research conducted with older African Americans. Application deadline: April 10, 2015

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 in the Heller School for Social Policy and Management. A range of 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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Resources

NIDRR FY 2014 Organization Highlights Report

[The report](#) provides a summary of NIDRR's activities and accomplishments in fiscal year 2014.

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.

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Conferences and Calls for Papers

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.

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.

9th World Congress of the International Society for Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (ISPRM) (June 19-23, 2015, Berlin, Germany)

This [Congress](#) will feature experts in the following fields:

- Clinical Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine Sciences
- Biosciences in Rehabilitation
- Biomedical Rehabilitation Sciences and Engineering
- Integrative Rehabilitation Sciences
- Human Functioning Sciences
-

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.

The First International Conference on Paediatric Acquired Brain Injury (September 16-18, 2015, Liverpool, United Kingdom)

Short oral presentation and poster abstract deadline: March 9, 2015.

[This conference](#) (Supporting Young People and Their Families to Maximise Good Outcomes and Quality of Life) seeks to bring together with all those an interest in the development of innovative treatments for acquired brain injuries in children, adolescents and young adults, supported by evidenced-based research.

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.

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.

European Network of Occupational Therapy in Higher Education (October 22-24, 2015, University of Ruse, Bulgaria)

[Abstract submission](#) is open (closing date March 31, 2015 for academics and May 1, 2015 for students. [Conference information](#) on ENOTHE's web site will be available soon.

Canadian Association on Gerontology (CAG) 44th Annual Scientific and Educational Meeting (October 23-25, 2015, Calgary, Alberta)

The CAG announces their 2015 conference -- [From Possibility to Practice in Aging: Shaping a Future for All](#). This multidisciplinary conference is for those interested in individual and population aging. Abstracts are welcome from all disciplines and interests in gerontology and geriatrics including research, practice, policy and related work. Abstracts are due by April 15, 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.

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.

7th Annual Health Literacy Research Conference (November 2-3, 2015, Bethesda, Maryland)

[This interdisciplinary meeting](#) is an opportunity to advance the field of health literacy, a method to raise the quality of research, and a venue for professional development. Their aim is to attract a full range of investigators engaged in health literacy research including those involved in a broad array of public health, health services, epidemiology, translational, and interventional research activities.

Abstract Submission Deadline: July 2, 2015.

Aging and Society: Fifth Interdisciplinary Conference (November 5-6, 2015, Washington, DC)

Proposals are invited that address aging and society through one of the following themes:

- Economic and Demographic Perspectives on Aging
- Public Policy and Public Perspectives of Aging
- Medical Perspectives on Aging, Health, and Wellness
- Social and Cultural Perspectives on Aging
- Special Focus: Inter-generational Relationships
- 2015 Special Focus: Inter-generational Relationships

[Call for Papers](#) (a title and short abstract) deadline: April 14, 2015.

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. Call for late breaking poster session abstracts: July, 2015.

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Case-Smith (continued)

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Case-Smith, J, Weaver, L & Holland T. (2014). [Effects of a classroom-embedded occupational therapist-teacher handwriting program for first-grade students](#). *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 68, 690-698.

DeLuca, SC, Case-Smith, J, Stevenson, R & Ramey SL. (2012). [Constraint-induced movement therapy \(CIMT\) for young children with cerebral palsy: effects of therapeutic dosage](#). *Journal of Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine*, 5, 133-142.

Roll, SC, Darragh, AR, O'Brien, JC & Fisher, TF. (2014). [In Memoriam: Jane Douglas Case-Smith \(September 5, 1953 - July 30, 2014\)](#). *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*, 34, 171-175.

Josman

Q and A

Identify three words that others have used to describe you.

Optimistic, mindful of others, indefatigable.

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

Engaging collaboration among basic and applied researchers as well as clinicians, towards understanding and facilitating human performance.

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

Believe in what you want to do, set clear goals, and persist with hard work.

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?

Strengthening our link to brain science research and keeping abreast of important findings for practice

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

Modeling their behaviors and values of curiosity, open mindedness, determination, precision, integrity and sharing of knowledge.

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

Gardening,

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

Realizing that your starting point always takes you on a path you never expected to explore; developing and managing a comprehensive academic structure for studying OT; deriving pleasure from educating and nurturing one's students and witnessing their success.

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Mulcahey (continued)

Q and A

Identify three words that others have used to describe you.

Collaborative; Passionate; Optimistic

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

I hope my work will lead to the outcomes that are most meaningful to the people living with chronic conditions; I hope that through my work, people with chronic conditions have more opportunities for participation in the activities they are most relevant for them.

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

Seek out and develop strong relationships with several mentors and remain open to the possibilities they present to you. Focus on your vision.

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?

One of the most significant research priorities in occupational therapy and occupational science is to study, understand and test "interventions" that are most effective in altering the environment so that persons with differences can participate in everyday living unencumbered by physical, social and cultural environments. Our research must focus on system level interventions that promote everyday living as opposed to intervention focused on changing individuals to a "norm."

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

My mentors taught me how to be systematic, reflective, collaborative and humble. They modeled high ethical standards. They affirmed me ; pushed me beyond my comfort zone; celebrated my accomplishments and; showed me how to succeed in failure.

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

Parenting

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

The most rewarding aspect of a career in research are the relationships you establish with other people - people from such diverse perspectives; the diversity and their influence have made me a better scientist, clinician and person.

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