Dear Colleagues,

Greetings from the AOTF Institute. As 2008 unfolds, we look forward to an exciting future for our programs and for the Foundation overall as Charles Christiansen, EdD, OTR/L takes the helm as AOTF’s new executive director. And as we look forward, we certainly thank you for your continued interest in receiving this communication and for your support of AOTF's mission to advance research, education, and leadership that promotes greater understanding of the impact of occupation on the health of individuals, families, and communities.

This issue of Research Resources spotlights the AOTF Qualitative Research Exchange (QRE), one of the many AOTF Institute research programs to be held during the upcoming Annual Conference of the American Occupation Therapy Association (AOTA).

If you plan to attend the AOTA annual conference, we hope you will be able to participate in this exciting program and learn about the fine research of its speakers. If you cannot attend and wish to receive a copy of the program brochure which contains further information, please do not hesitate to contact the AOTF offices via a reply to this newsletter.

Thank you again -- now and always -- for your interest and your support.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey S. Reznick, PhD
Director, Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health

The Qualitative Research Exchange presents "New Frontiers in Qualitative Research"

The AOTF Qualitative Research Exchange (QRE), an annual session held at the AOTA Annual Conference, provides a forum for sharing new ideas related to current and emerging theoretical and practical issues in qualitative research. Active discussion and debate by all participants in attendance is a hallmark feature of the QRE. Organized and moderated by Cathy Lysack, PhD, OT(C) of Wayne State University, the QRE this year will
**Conference Announcements**

**Watch for AOTF Events at the AOTA 2008 Conference in Long Beach, California**

Events noted in red are sponsored by the AOTF Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health

**Wednesday, April 9**

11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Japanese Garden Tour and Lunch

12:00 - 6:30 p.m. Institute 001 AOTA/AOTF Academic Writing in Occupational Therapy

Institute 005 Scholarship of Teaching & Learning

6:30 - 10:00 p.m. DocNet

**Friday, April 11**

8 - 11 a.m. Pi Theta Epsilon (PTE) Plenary Session - open to all

1:30 - 4:30 p.m. Qualitative Research Exchange (QRE)

9 - 11 p.m. AOTF Gala & Silent Auction

**Saturday, April 12**

7:30 - 9 a.m. Breakfast With a Scholar

2 - 5 p.m. Research Colloquium & Tea

**Grant Announcements & Resources**

Fellowships available at Boston University

Boston University's focus on "new frontiers" in theory and methodology with the power to impact our research and practice.

The invited speakers, Donald Fogelberg, PhD Candidate, OT/L, University of Southern California, Jessica M. Kramer, PhD Candidate, OTR/L, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Debbie Laliberte Rudman, PhD, OT Reg. (Ont.), University of Western Ontario, will explore critical issues of theory, methods and practice ethics, all with the potential to advance our collective wisdom and expertise in qualitative research.

Topics this year include:

· the value of complex systems theory in providing a language to understand habits in persons with spinal cord injury (Fogelberg)

· the use of visual methods to empower research production in the context of intellectual/developmental disabilities (Kramer), and

· the potential of critical discourse analysis to further critical understanding of the shaping of occupational possibilities and their inter-connections with social, political and cultural factors (Laliberte Rudman).

Please join us for what promises to be an exceptional QRE 2008!

Friday, April 11, 2008 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.

**Publication Announcements**

2007 "Summit On-Demand" Archive Now Available

Plenary sessions from the 2007 "Creating a Culture of Wellness" National Prevention and Health Promotion Summit are now available online. Individuals sessions will be available soon.

Office of Disability, Aging and Long-Term Care Policy Reports Available

These reports are posted on the Office of Disability, Aging and Long-Term Care web site as they become available.

Online publication looks at social engagement, empowerment and change

The interdisciplinary, peer-reviewed journal eSharp will consider themes of social engagement, empowerment, and change. They are looking for articles which examine the social implications and practical applications of various theories, as well as how these may empower marginalized social groups or promote social change.
Health and Social Justice Explored


NIGMS Strategic Plan

The National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), has issued Investing in Discovery, a strategic plan that will guide the Institute's decision-making over the next five years. NIGMS strategic plan reinforces their commitment to investigator-initiated research which was developed during a year-long process that featured comprehensive consultation with the scientific community and other stakeholders.

Conference Announcements

Conference Takes an Interdisciplinary Look at Tourism

The International Association for the Study of Environment, Space, and Place seeks to foster an interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary conversation on tourism. No other life-form but the human tours. Touring, then, should reveal something about that being of which one of its possibilities is to tour. Is touring a fundamental structure of human existence, or, is it a socio-historical construct, or both? The fourth annual conference on tourism will take place April 25-27, 2008 at Towson University, Maryland. Abstracts are due February 10, 2008.

International Stroke Conference 2008

The American Heart Association's International Stroke Conference will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana on February 20-22, 2008. It will provide an opportunity to meet with colleagues with wide-ranging research interests and expertise in stroke prevention, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation.

Call for Abstracts on Treatment and Research in Multiple Sclerosis

World Congress on Treatment and Research in Multiple Sclerosis will take place September 17-20, 2008, in Montreal. Abstracts are due April 18, 2008.

2nd European Conference on Games Based Learning

This conference, to be held in Barcelona on October 16-17, 2008, offers an opportunity for scholars and practitioners interested in the issues related to games-based learning to share their thinking and research findings. Abstracts are due March 27, 2008.

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