Dear Colleagues,

Greetings from the AOTF Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health.

As this challenging New Year unfolds, we thank you for your continued interest in receiving this communication, as well as your support of AOTF's development of occupational therapy through programs of philanthropy, research, education and leadership. These initiatives combine with our strategic partnerships both inside and beyond occupational therapy to help promote a society in which individuals, regardless of age or ability, may participate in occupations of their choice that give meaning to their lives and foster health and well-being.

This month's AOTF Program Spotlight features the AOTF Program for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) in Occupational Therapy, one of our many programs to be held during the 2009 Annual Conference and Exposition of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA). Our external Cooperation Spotlight features the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL), whose current president Jennifer Robinson, PhD, of Indiana University, will be lead faculty in our SoTL program at AOTA Conference. We thank Dr. Robinson for her expertise and her support, and we are grateful also to her colleague Nancy Chick, ISSOTL Communications Coordinator and Associate Professor of English, University of Wisconsin-Barron County, for featuring our SoTL program in the new (January 2009) issue of ISSOTL's Newsletter: The International Commons.

Thank you again for your support as we grow our programs and partnerships in this New Year.

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

www.aotfblog.org

AOTF Institute Cooperation Spotlight:
The International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching & Learning (ISSOTL)

About ISSOTL

ISSOTL serves faculty members, staff, and students from a range of disciplines who care about teaching and learning as serious intellectual work. The goal of the Society is to foster inquiry and disseminate findings about what improves and articulates post-secondary learning and teaching. ISSOTL is organized to

* Recognize and encourage scholarly work on teaching and learning in each discipline, within other scholarly societies, and across educational levels
* Promote cross-disciplinary conversation to create synergy and prompt new lines of inquiry
* Facilitate the collaboration of scholars in different countries and the flow of new findings and applications across national boundaries
* Encourage the integration of discovery, learning and public engagement
* Advocate for support, review, recognition, and appropriate uses of the scholarship of teaching and
**History of ISSOTL**

ISSOTL was founded in 2004 by a committee of 67 scholars from several countries. The Society's first conference was held October 21 - 24, 2004, at Indiana University Bloomington in the United States. Over 440 scholars from 8 countries attended 280 presentations. Learn about the organization's subsequent conferences and its founding committee as well as ISSOTL's 2009 conference to be held this October at the University of Indiana, Bloomington.

**ISSOTL Resources on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning**

Supported by the Campus Program of the Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, this tutorial was developed by Indiana University, Bloomington and Samuel Thompson. Additionally, a detailed list of SoTL publications is available.

**AOTF Institute Program Spotlight:**

**Pre-AOTA Conference Institute on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning**

**Overview of the AOTF Institute Program for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning**

AOTF's pre-AOTA conference institute on the scholarship of teaching and learning - the final of three planned sessions by AOTF since 2007 - will further enhance faculty professional development using the scholarship of teaching and learning, which is generally defined as "scholarly inquiry into student learning which advances the practice of teaching by sharing this research publicly." Participants in this pre-conference institute will learn about the scholarship of teaching and learning and, through mentorship, develop their own SoTL inquiry project. During the year following these projects will be implemented with ongoing support through a mentored learning community and dedicated online resources. Participation requires a one-year commitment culminating in an AOTF-sponsored poster session one day prior to the pre-conference institutes of the 2010 AOTA Conference and Exhibition. This pre-AOTA conference institute will take place on Wednesday, April 22, from noon until 6:30 p.m.

**About the AOTF Program for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning**

Established in 2007 as an initiative of the AOTF Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health, the AOTF Program for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning enhances the field of occupational therapy by helping to develop a body of knowledge and evidence that informs the practice domain of occupational therapy education in both academic and fieldwork settings. In addition, the program aims to develop occupational therapy academic and fieldwork educators who, through their sustained efforts and leadership, will foster the ongoing and continued development of future scholar-educators. Finally, the program seeks to promote and facilitate greater interdisciplinary dialogue by contributing to the general body of knowledge within SoTL.

The AOTF Program for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning involves a year-long commitment and engagement in research and mentorship. Participants gather initially at the annual conference and exhibition of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA). During this meeting, they learn about SoTL from experts in the field and, through facilitation by these experts, connect with their assigned mentor and with a learning community of scholars. Prior to this face-to-face meeting, participants receive materials from the program leadership to assist in orienting them to SoTL and clarifying their research topic and question(s).

Following their collaborative work at the AOTA conference, participants return to their home institutions or workplaces where they continue to develop and implement their focused study. Mentors and participants communicate routinely during the year via email, telephone, and conference calls. This ongoing dialogue provides sustained support, collegiality, and networking which encourages communication about SoTL within and beyond the field of occupational therapy.

The year-long commitment of participants culminates at the subsequent AOTA conference, where the individuals present their completed research to their cohort and to a new group of scholars who represent the next cycle of the program. Additionally, participants engage in sessions about academic writing, identify their next SoTL project, and develop strategies for on-going mentoring among members of past
and current cohorts.

As suggested, a key component of the AOTF Program for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning is the participation of experts in the field of SoTL who offer vital understanding of the scholarship of teaching and learning, its history, its various forms of implementation, and guidance in developing SoTL projects. The program welcomed Amy Haddad in 2007 and Laurie Richlin in 2008. This year, the program welcomes ISSOTL President Jennifer Robinson. Through her expertise, the leadership of the program looks forward to strengthening the processes and objectives it has established, better measuring outcomes, and enhancing the connections between occupational therapy and the broader SoTL community and to ISSOTL in particular.

For more information about the AOTF Program for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, please contact either the program's director, Andrea R. Bilics, 508-929-8796, or the director of the AOTF Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health, Jeffrey Reznick, 301-652-6611 x2555.

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**Watch for AOTF Events at the AOTA 2009 Conference in Houston, Texas**

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

**Wednesday, April 22**
8 - 11:30 a.m.
AOTA/AOTF Postdoctoral Research and Networking Forum

12 - 6:30 p.m. Institute 002 Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

12 - 6:30 p.m. Institute 003 AOTA/AOTF Meet the Grant Makers

7:30 - 9:30 p.m. DocNet

**Thursday, April 23**

**Conference Announcements**

**2009 Spinal Cord Congress** September 23-26, 2009, Dallas Texas
The 2009 Congress on Spinal Cord Medicine and Rehabilitation will include topics such as: Pain Management, Secondary Complications Associated with Aging, and Evidence-Based Practice.

**Design a Life: A Community of Ideas** April 17, 2009, Cleveland, Ohio
The second Design a Life Conference will consider how to incorporate creative activities into your daily life, and into the promotion of health and wellness. The keynote speaker (Gene Cohen, MD, PhD Director, Center on Aging, Health, and Humanities, George Washington University) will address: Mirror, Mirror on the Wall: What is Aging After All? Positive Brain and Behavior Changes that Occur BECAUSE of Aging, Not Despite it.

**Human Rights in the USA** October 23, 2009, Storrs, Connecticut
The Human Rights Institute is seeking abstracts on the application of human rights laws and norms in the USA. Panels will address issues such as children's rights, civil rights, health care, environmental justice, human rights and security since 9/11, domestic violence, gender and sexuality, American literature and human rights, the history of equal rights, immigration, social welfare provision and economic rights. Abstracts are due **February 28, 2009**.

**Healthy Buildings 2009** September 13-17, 2009, Syracuse, New York
This international meeting will provide a forum for exchange of research and technology developments, an opportunity to share information on your company's products and services, and a venue to network with leaders. Deadline for abstracts/proposals: **February 6, 2009**.

**Greater Toronto Area Rehab Network's Best Practices Day 2009: Rehabilitation Transforming Healthcare** March 9, 2009, Toronto, Ontario
The emphasis of Best Practices Day 2009 will be to explore the role that rehabilitation plays in transforming the healthcare system, from practice innovation, policy and planning perspectives.

This conference will bring together brain injury rehabilitation experts from different countries and cultures to discuss and share ideas regarding
effective assessment, intervention and research practices. Sessions will also focus on health care disparities, successfully conducting research with multi-ethnic populations, and meeting the clinical care needs of diverse patient populations.

### Web-Based & Related Resources

#### OTJR Articles Now Available Online
Beginning January 1, 2009, *OTJR: Occupation, Participant and Health* articles will be published online immediately following acceptance and copyediting, while they await print publication. Subscribers to *OTJR* will have free access; others may purchase articles for a fee. Please also remember, that *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health* is available in full-text online to [subscribers](#) and includes all issues dating back to 2002 plus the three AOTF Habits Conference supplements.

#### OBSSR Launches New Web Site
The redesigned and enhanced web site of the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research contains more readily accessible and searchable information on funding opportunity announcements, key scientific areas, a calendar of news and events, and video casts of the BSSR Lecture Series.

#### NIH Center for Scientific Review Publishes Peer Review Notes
Reviewers, NIH staff and others interested in news related to the NIH grant application review policies, procedures and plans should subscribe their free Peer Review Notes.

### Publication Announcements

#### Disaster Response Accounts Sought
Kaplan Publishing is soliciting the firsthand accounts of nurses, doctors, paramedics and other healthcare workers for the anthology *To The Rescue: Stories from Healthcare Workers at the Scene of Disaster*. First-person stories detailing personal experiences in disaster zones and how relief work has shaped your life will be considered for final publication. For full guidelines contact [Kerry-Ann Morris](#), deadline is February 21, 2009.

#### Measuring the Health of Our Nation

#### Recommendations for Global Health
The Institute of Medicine—with the support of four U.S. government agencies and five private foundations—formed an independent committee to examine the United States’ commitment to global health and to articulate a vision for future U.S. investments and activities in this area. This report can be read free online. Committee on the US Commitment to Global Health (2009) *The U.S. Commitment to Global Health: Recommendations for the New Administration*. Washington DC: National Academies Press.
students are eligible for this $3,000 stipend. The application deadline is March 2, 2009.

**Health Policy Grants**
The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Investigator Awards in Health Policy Research will fund ten individuals undertaking broad studies of the most challenging health policy issues facing America with projects that combine creative and conceptual thinking with innovative, policy-relevant approaches. The letter of intent deadline is March 25, 2009.

**Summer Advanced Training Institutes**
The American Psychological Association is sponsoring four Advanced Training Institutes in the summer of 2009. These intensive training programs are hosted at major research institutions across the country. ATIs expose advanced graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, new and established faculty, and other researchers to state-of-the-art research methods and emerging technologies. Deadlines begin in March.

**Changemakers: Designing for Better Health Competition**
Ashoka's Changemakers, in partnership with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, is launching a global search for innovative ideas that help people make better decisions regarding their own health and the health of others. The Designing for Better Health

**Traumatic Injury Research at NIOSH (National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health)**
The Committee to Evaluate the NIOSH Traumatic Injury Research Program found the program's research during 1996-2005 relevant to reducing the burden of traumatic injury in the workplace and to have contributed to improvements in worker health and safety. This report can be read free online. Committee to Review the NIOSH Traumatic Injury Research Program, Institute of Medicine and National Research Council (2008) *Traumatic Injury Research at NIOSH*. Washington, DC: National Academies Press.

**Faculty Health Explored**
This new volume is the first of its kind to conceptualize and study the emerging field of faculty health and well-being in academic health science centers across North America. In addition to surveys, meta-analyses, and interviews, chapter data also calls upon history, literature, religious studies, and film to create a point of departure for understanding academic medicine and for designing new and innovative interventions to enhance faculty health. Cole, T, Goodrich, TJ, Gritz, ER (Eds.) (2009) *Faculty Health in Academic Medicine: Physicians, Scientists, and the Pressures of Success*. New York: Humana Press.

**Social Sciences in the Post-WWII Period**

**Workbook on Community-based Health**

**Making Sense of Human Rights**

**Environmental Threats to Health: With a Closer Look at Alzheimer’s & Parkinson’s Diseases**
This report examines the lifetime influences of environmental factors on Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s diseases and their underlying pathologic mechanisms. This close look at the science of these diseases shows they are related to a number of features of modern society and that Alzheimer's disease especially is linked to other serious health problems of modern times, which we call the “western disease cluster.” The report
The competition is open to all types of organizations (nonprofit organizations, private companies, or public entities) from all countries. Online competition entries will be accepted until April 1, 2008.

**Health Games Research: Advancing Effectiveness of Interactive Games for Health**

This national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation supports research to enhance the quality and impact of interactive games that are used to improve health. The goal of the program is to advance the innovation, design, and effectiveness of health games and game technologies so that they help people improve their health-related behaviors and, as a result, achieve significantly better health outcomes. In this round of funding, approximately $2 million will be available to support outstanding research projects that study one or more games designed to increase physical activity and/or improve self-care. Up to 15 research grants of between $100,000 and $300,000 will be awarded for projects lasting one to two years. Applications must be submitted by April 8, 2009.

**Funding Available for Child Care Research**

The Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE) of the US Department of Health and Human Services has recently published a research discretionary funding announcement titled Child Care Research.

**Partnerships for Emerging Research Institutions**

Research experience is now known to be an extremely effective means for engaging students, especially in science and engineering, yet it is not used extensively to engage the most rapidly growing segment of the student population. This book presents some creative solutions to both the teaching load and "administructural" problems that plague administrators and faculty dedicated to actively engaging their institutions in research. This book is available free online. Committee on Partnerships for Emerging Research Institutions; National Research Council (2009) *Partnerships for Emerging Research Institutions: Report of a Workshop* Washington, DC: National Academies Press.

**AOTF Institute Image of the Month**

From the Archives of the AOTA, housed in the AOTF Wilma L. West Library.

Reconstruction aides work with soldiers at Camp Grant, Illinois (1919).

The AOTF Institute makes this image, as well as the Guide to the Archives of the AOTA, available publicly as part of its mission to honor the past and be the best possible steward of the unique body of knowledge that is occupational therapy. To this end, the AOTF Institute warmly welcomes individuals from within and beyond occupational therapy to explore the guide and consider using the archives for purposes of research, education, and leadership.

AOTF is concerned about privacy and will only send Research Resources to those individuals who wish to receive it. If you no longer wish to receive Research Resources, or if you feel that you received this newsletter in error, please use the SafeUnsubscribe link at bottom of this email. AOTF does not sell email addresses to other parties.

For more information about the American Occupational Therapy Foundation and its Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health see our web site: [www.aotf.org](http://www.aotf.org).
Scholars. Letters of intent are due March 2, 2009. This funding will support dissertation research, conducted in partnership with State Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) lead agencies, regarding child care policy issues. Applicants may apply for project periods up to two years and will be awarded up to $30,000 for the first year and up to $20,000 for the second year of the project. Six individual grants are expected to be awarded.

Remember AOTF

Think of AOTF when you search the internet or shop online. Use these sites by entering the American Occupational Therapy Foundation and AOTF benefits from every search or purchase!

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