Welcome to the inaugural issue of Research Resources, the monthly newsletter of the AOTF Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health of the American Occupational Therapy Foundation.

Established in 2000, the AOTF Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health advances research, education, and leadership to promote greater understanding of the impact of occupation on the health of individuals, families, and communities. As the programmatic umbrella of AOTF, the Institute is the chief mechanism through which AOTF realizes its mission to promote a just and equitable 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.

The component programs of AOTF’s Institute reflect its dedication to the interconnected areas of research, education, and leadership within and beyond the field of occupational therapy. Research Resources aims not only to highlight Institute programs but also to communicate information that will be of interest to researchers who work within the field of occupational therapy and across allied disciplines of the sciences, social sciences, and humanities.

As the capacity, research networks, and programs of AOTF’s Institute grow and as we envision a new web site, so will Research Resources become more comprehensive and far reaching. We welcome your feedback and your contributions. Thank you for your interest, for your support, and for sharing this e-publication with interested friends and colleagues.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey S. Reznick, PhD
Director, Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health
Watch for AOTF Events at the AOTA 2008 Conference in Long Beach, California

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

Friday, April 11
8 - 11 a.m. PTE Plenary Session
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

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Society. This issue of Research Resources spotlights five of our programs. Future issues will highlight other programs of the Institute as well as new partnerships with associated organizations that share AOTF’s vision for a just and equitable society in which individuals, regardless of age or ability, may participate in occupations of their choice that give meaning to their daily lives and foster health and well-being.

Wilma L. West Library
The mission of the Wilma L. West Library is to acquire, organize, and retain the literature specific to occupational therapy. Supported by AOTF and AOTA, the library’s collection includes books, journals, dissertations, and unpublished reports. All library resources are catalogued and indexed in OT SEARCH, a bibliographic database of over 36,000 items accessible by subscription through the AOTF and AOTA web sites. Individuals may request assistance from the library’s staff or request photocopies of articles by completing a request form found on the library’s web page. Non-periodical material may be borrowed from the Wilma L. West Library through interlibrary loan. Please check our web site for possible fees for the above services or call 800-729-2682 (AOTA members) or 301-652-6611 (non-members), ext. 2557, or wwlwlib@aotf.org. The library and archives are open 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday by appointment.

Dissertation Research Grant Program
The Dissertation Research Grant Program of the AOTF Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health represents one of AOTF’s many investments in building the careers of scientists in the field of occupational therapy. Based in part upon the structure of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) research grant application, this program is unique to the field of occupational therapy as it specifically seeks to promote the development of qualified occupational therapy researchers who are enrolled in programs that value strong mentorship and whose careers are dedicated to advancing science in occupational therapy. These grants are available to occupational therapists whose dissertation research directly contributes to one of the profession’s Research Priorities and Parameters of Practice for Occupational Therapy.

Scholarship Program
AOTF offers scholarships to students currently enrolled in accredited occupational therapy programs. We have over 60 scholarships available this year ranging in value from $150 to $5,000. All application information can be found at www.aotf.org and must be completed online by February 8, 2008. Transcripts and personal references must be postmarked by February 29, 2008. Please note that only one application is necessary for all of the scholarships for which an applicant is eligible. AOTF encourages applications; our goal is to give away every scholarship dollar every year. Please address questions to Jane Huntington, Scholarship Coordinator, at jhuntington@aotf.org.

DocNet
Coordinated by Penny Kyler, MA, OTR, FAOTA, the Doctoral Network (DocNet) facilitates development of doctoral education among occupational therapy practitioners chiefly by providing networking opportunities and collaborative engagement among emerging and established scholars. Occupational therapy practitioners currently enrolled in doctoral programs or who have already earned their doctoral degrees are eligible to join the DocNet. For more information about the DocNet, and about its own weekly communication, please contact Penny Kyler at PKyler@comcast.net.
Program for Leadership Mentoring
In 2007, AOTF and AOTA initiated the Leadership Mentoring Program to continue the joint investment in academic leadership. Eighteen Academic Leadership Fellows completed the nine-month Leadership Mentoring Program with action plans for their future already written and begun to be put in action. In 2008, AOTF will again collaborate with AOTA to launch the next phase of our commitment to leadership mentoring directed this time toward Program Directors. This action is imperative in light of a growing faculty shortage as many of the profession's academic leaders prepare to retire. Over the next ten years, AOTF pledges to make this leadership mentoring program available to all faculty members who aspire to advance their academic careers.

Publication/Conference Announcements
Office on Disability Now has Newsletter
The Office on Disability, US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), now publishes an e-newsletter which contains information on OD projects, conferences, and contact information. The Spring/Summer Bulletin includes information on the Surgeon General's Call to Action to Improve the Health and Wellness of Persons with Disabilities. The OD is taking the initiative to change the national disability agenda by changing the culture of disability in everyday life.

Public Health Preparedness Summit
The 2008 Public Health Preparedness Summit will take place February 19-22, 2008 in Atlanta, Georgia. The Summit's goal is to improve the ability of participants to plan, prepare, respond to, and recover from public health emergencies. Summit objectives include: to describe new methods to address challenges in responding to public health emergencies, to identify sources of research, materials and resources to assist in preparedness activities, and to define means to improve existing preparedness programs at all levels of government.

Disastrous Consequences - Two New Resources from Duke
A special issue of South Atlantic Quarterly (106:4) examines the political and social problems that underlie and exacerbate the effects of disasters, whether they follow from things going horribly wrong or are the predictable results of things going according to plan.

Ordinary Affects by Kathleen Stewart is described as "anything but ordinary, this book rewrites the social sciences from top to bottom through its bleak and beautiful honesty as to the human condition and the conditional nature of our language and concepts" by Michael Taussig, Columbia University.

New Journal on Emotional Intersections
A new journal published by Elsevier, Emotion, Space and Society, provides a forum for interdisciplinary debate on theoretically informed research on the emotional intersections between people and places. The journal encourages investigations of feelings and affect in various spatial and social contexts, environments, and landscapes. Submissions investigate the multiplicity of spaces and places that produce and are produced by emotional and affective life, representing an inclusive range of theoretical and methodological engagements with emotion as a social, cultural, and spatial phenomenon. Contributions call upon and develop issues emerging from work on emotion from feminist, geographical, historical, philosophical, psychotherapeutic, sociological, anthropological, political and other disciplinary perspectives and from the spatial turn in cultural theory.
Web-Based & Related Resources

Cognitive Technology Survey Participants Needed
The Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center of the Advancement of Cognitive Technologies (RERC-ACT) is looking for survey participants to describe the needs and uses of cognitive technologies by people with disabilities and their families. Please forward this information to people with cognitive disabilities (such as intellectual disabilities, brain injury, or Alzheimers disease) and their families. For information on the study please contact Dr. Tamar Heller, head of the Institute of Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Carer Study Results Available
Carers Australia has released the findings of the largest ever survey into the health and well-being of Australian carers. The Wellbeing of Australians: Carer Health and Wellbeing builds on the work of the Australian Unity Wellbeing Index which measures satisfaction with life. Carers have been found to have the lowest well-being of any large group ever recorded by the Index.

NIH Resources
NIH has hundreds of listservs in many diverse topics and categories. For the complete list and links to all NIH listserves, go to https://list.nih.gov/cgi-bin/show_list_archives

New Video Resources for Amputees and Caregivers
The Amputee Coalition of America (ACA) is excited to announce a series of nine new streaming videos entitled Introductory Amputee Care. The videos contain information on skills important to the recovery process for amputees, especially new lower limb amputees. In addition, the ACA library contains other video resources available for interlibrary loan. For a list, contact library@amputee-coalition.org.

Grant Announcements & Resources

Fellowship Available in Emergence of Trauma Studies
The Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities of Vanderbilt University is offering a fellowship to participate in a year-long faculty seminar that will examine the emergence of Trauma Studies as an interdisciplinary field of study. Applications are due January 18, 2008.

Newsletter Available on Children with Special Needs
The National Center of Medical Home Initiatives for Children with Special Needs publishes a newsletter with funding and conference opportunities.

Research Resources provides information about the American Occupational Therapy Foundation initiatives and other programs that could be of use to recipients. 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 this newsletter from AOTF, or if you feel that you received this message 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