Dear Colleagues,

Thirty years ago, I was honored to be asked to serve as the first editor of the Foundation's scientific journal, known initially as The Occupational Therapy Journal of Research, or OTJR. It was an exciting prospect, and I marveled then, as I do now, at the foresight of the Foundation's leadership at that time. Wilma West, Lela Llorens, Nedra Gillette, and others understood clearly that research was fundamental to the credibility and sustainability of the profession.

So, in this month's issue, we focus on the journal now called OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health. Mary Binderman and the staff of the Wilma L. West Library have assembled some articles viewed as emblematic of the issues published under seven distinguished editors during its history. And what better time than this to announce the journal's new editor? Effective in January 2012, Dr. Kathleen Matuska of St. Catherine's University will serve as the journal's eighth editor. Dr. Matuska brings significant editing experience to the task, along with credibility as a clinical scientist herself. She has some big shoes to fill as she builds on the great work of our outgoing editor, Dr. Jane Case-Smith.

Cordially,

Charles Christiansen
Executive Director

P.S. Don't forget to register for our upcoming ACTOR conference on intervention research.

Wilma L. West Library Resource Notes

The Occupational Therapy Journal of Research: a look back

Wilma West wrote the first announcement of the coming of a journal dedicated to research in occupational therapy in the December 1980 issue of Occupational Therapy Newspaper, published by the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA). The next month, she explained on the Foundation's page in the American Journal of Occupational Therapy (AJOT) that the Board of the American Occupational Therapy Foundation decided to publish The Occupational Therapy Journal of Research (OTJR) in response to information learned through surveys of the profession conducted by AOTA, AOTF, and the Research Advisory Committee (West, WL, 1981). In the April 1981 charter
issue, Miss West expounded in more detail on the rationales for having a journal dedicated to research in occupational therapy and described the three phases of research: generation, dissemination, and utilization.

In her guest editorial, Dr. Lela Llorens wrote "The need for research in occupational therapy is based upon the need to know how occupation impacts the lives of clients as a result of treatment for restoration of function, habilitation or rehabilitation. The need for research in occupational therapy encompasses the need to discover and test the theories upon which professional practice is based," (Llorens, LA, 1981, p. 3).

OTJR has benefited from the guidance and skills of its superb editors. Charles H Christiansen, EdD, OTR, FAOTA (1981 - 1986) 
Kenneth J Ottenbacher, PhD, OTR, FAOTA (1987 - Mar/Apr 1991) 
Margaret Short-DeGraff, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA (Jul/Aug 1991 - Spring 1997) 
Bette R Bonder, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA (Summer 1997 - Winter 2001) 
M Carolyn Baum, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA (Spring 2001 - Spring 2004) 
Helene J Polatajko, PhD, OT Reg. (Ont.), OT(C), FCAOT - (Summer 2004 - Winter 2008) 
Jane Case-Smith, EdD, OTR/L, FAOTA (Spring 2008 - Winter 2012) 
Kathleen Matuska, PhD, OTR/L (Spring 2012 - )

In late October 2000, the AOTF Board of Directors adopted new Vision and Mission statements that expressed the Foundation's "... commitment to broaden understanding of the relationship between occupation and health [and included] greater societal focus relative to the need of all persons to be able to participate fully," (2001, p.693). In March, 2001, the AOTF Board created an Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health within the organizational structure of the Foundation. To further embrace the Institute's focus and purposes, the AOTF Board voted to change the name of its research journal from The Occupational Therapy Journal of Research to OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health (2001; Baum, C, 2001 and 2002). Look back at the quote from Dr. Llorens. Does it seem familiar?

This was a brief history of the Foundation's research journal. For more information, see the editorials from past editors in the reference list below to learn more about the journal's growth and development, as well as about issues related to research in occupational therapy. A reoccurring theme is movement back and forth of theory to practice and practice to theory.


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Support the Wilma L. West Library Digitization Initiative

The Wilma L. West Library is embarking on an exciting initiative to digitize the original *Archives of Occupational Therapy*. These early journals (1922-1924) are the first writings of occupational therapy scientists and practitioners. Once digitized, the journals will be available for free to the public! Please support this initiative which AOTF hopes to be the first of many such projects by the Wilma L. West Library.

Eleanor Clarke Slagle - an early pioneer of occupational therapy

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AOTA-AOTF Joint Conference

The AOTA-AOTF Accelerating Clinical Trials and Outcomes Research (ACTOR) Conference (December 1-2, 2011, Arlington, Virginia)

Early to mid-career scientists from rehabilitation disciplines are invited
Online Advanced Release

OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health, published quarterly by the American Occupational Therapy Foundation, Inc., offers original research articles of professional interest to the practicing occupational therapist with a focus on occupation and fostering interdisciplinary research. Visit: OTJR Online.

Articles appearing in this “Online Advanced Release” section have been peer-reviewed and accepted for publication in the OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health and posted online before print publication.

Dealing With Real-Life Challenges: Outcome of a Home-Based Occupational Therapy Intervention for People With Severe Psychiatric Disability Maria Lindström; Gun-Marie Hariz; Birgitta Bernspång

Bathing Area Safety and Lower Extremity Function in Community-Dwelling Older Adults Kathryn E. Korp; Jessica M. Taylor; David L. Nelson

Engaged Moments: Mediated Action and Children With Autism in the Classroom Setting Nancy Bagatell, PhD, OTR/L

Occupational Performance Problems in 85-Year-Old Women and Men

to attend this unique conference focusing on clinical research. The conference is open to all rehabilitation disciplines, occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech therapy. Space is limited.

Conference Announcements

9th CTEC Congress of Occupational Therapy (Stockholm, Sweden, May 24-27, 2012)
The theme for this congress is Occupation Diversity for the Future. More than 1,000 occupational therapists will meet for an international discussion on a wide spectrum of occupational therapy topics. Final closing date for the Call for Papers is October 5, 2011.

Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD) Foundation's 13th International Institute and Symposium (Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, October 20-22, 2011)
Professional Institute: Designing Spaces to Maximize Therapeutic Benefit
Parent Workshop: Introduction to SPD
Symposium: Advanced Research and Innovative Practice: Understanding the Role of Sensation in Daily Life
National and local leaders in SPD research and intervention will share their findings and innovative strategies.

Annual Conference of the Occupational Therapy Association of California (Sacramento, California October 14-16, 2011)
Keynote Address: Kathleen Barker Schwartz, EdD, OTR/L, FAOTA - 2009 Eleanor Clarke Slagle Lecturer.

2011 Working 2 Walk Science and Advocacy Symposium (Rockville, Maryland, October 16-18, 2011)
Attendees to this event, hosted by the United 2 Fight Paralysis organization, will learn about the latest news in spinal cord research, current available modalities that help maintain a healthy lifestyle and maximize function following spinal cord injury, and what can be done to accelerate progress toward cures.

Ninth World Congress on Brain Injury (Edinburgh, Scotland, March 21-25, 2012)
State of the art research will be presented dealing with information spanning from basic science to clinical (coma to community) aspects of brain injury. Abstract submission deadline: October 14, 2011.

Online Resources

Call for Comment on draft ACOTE Standards invited (Deadline -- October 21, 2011)
The Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®) is inviting comment regarding the second draft of the ACOTE Accreditation Standards for a Doctoral-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapist, Accreditation Standards for a Master’s-Degree-Level Educational Program for the
Sweden  Anette Källdalen; Jan Marcusson; Katarina Nägga; Ewa Wressle

Reliability and Validity of the Valued Activity Inventory for Adults With Cancer  Kathleen Doyle Lyons; Mark T. Hegel; Jay G. Hull; Zhongze Li; Stefan Balan; Stephen Bartels

Description and Development of the Life Balance Inventory  Kathleen Matuska

Validity Evidence of a Model and Measure of Life Balance  Kathleen Matuska

Grant Opportunities

Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)
For this program, PCORI is interested in the development of research methods, patient-oriented outcomes instruments, patient-provider communication and other decision-making strategies, building collaborative research teams with stakeholders, translating research findings into clinical practice, stakeholder engagement, and research agenda setting strategies that can be used in future comparative effectiveness research.

A Conversation with Kathleen Martinez, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Disability Employment Policy - October 12, 2011, 12-1 pm Eastern Time
Cornell University's Industrial and Labor Relations (ILR) School will be holding a free webcast to cover disability employment topics, including why employing people with disabilities is important to U.S. business and the economy, the president's initiative to increase employment of people with disabilities in the federal sector, and what organizations can do to support and hire people with disabilities.

AOTF Institute Image of the Month

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

Patients dressed for a Halloween ball, 1937, NY Tuberculosis Hospital.

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 use 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.