Greetings to Research Resource Colleagues!

I recently had the opportunity to attend the 126th Annual American Psychological Association Convention. Many of the topics presented align well with the interests of the OT research and practice communities, e.g. psychosocial behavioral change, serious mental illness, depression, resilience, TBI, cognition, dementia, social justice to name a few. I was particularly struck by the number of presentations involving the use of technology to monitor, track, diagnose, intervene in, etc. behavioral and mental health changes.

One talk I attended was particularly interesting and perhaps a near-future glimpse into use of smartphone technology for tracking and treating mental health. Dr. Thomas Insel, until relatively recently the Director of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) at the NIH and now President and Co-Founder of Mindstrong Health, presented a talk entitled "Smartphones are a Problem: Can They Be a Solution?". Mindstrong’s health platform "connects patients and providers with continuous, objective measures of cognition and mood, giving patients agency in their care and providers confidence that they will be alerted to early signs of mental health deterioration". The number of mobile phone users worldwide is expected to reach 5 billion in 2019. As of 2017 in the US there were approximately 224 million smartphone users, with that number exceeding 2 billion worldwide.

One of the Foundation's research priority areas is Technology and Environmental Supports in Home and Community. We think the use of technology is an area of research opportunity for the OT research community and we look to actively support it. This month's feature topic presents some examples of recent research using technological advances.

Cheers.

Scott E. Campbell, PhD
CEO

Technology to Increase Motivation, Skills and Safety while Engaging in Activities of Daily Living

AOTF Seeks a Scientific Programs Officer -- Updated job description

Join the AOTF team and develop, implement, manage, and evaluate the Foundation's scientific programs.

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Resources on the AOTF website

Pathfinders (guides to information sources on specific topics often researched by occupational therapists) can be found on the AOTF website.

Find resources on: diabetes, low vision, MS, productive aging, and obesity, and more.

OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health

OTJR, published quarterly by AOTF,


Grants and Funding Opportunities

**Technology, Infrastructure and Health, Funding opportunity from RWJF**

From smartphones to smart cities, our communities are being transformed by technology. But are these shifts helping some people more than others? And how can we ensure new and emerging technologies increase the opportunity for everyone in America to live a healthier life? Do you have a cutting-edge idea to help us answer these questions? The Robert Woods Johnson Foundation is looking for projects that will examine how emerging technologies could transform infrastructure in ways that improve health equity in the United States.

RWJF will award up to $2.4 million to fund projects within the $200,000-$400,000 budget range and with a project term of between 12-36 months.

Deadline for brief proposals: October 17, 2018.

**US Department of Health and Human Services Grants**

Search the grants.gov website for up to date information on grants that are available. Learn about how to apply for NIH grants.

Selected NIH Grants:

- [Grants on obesity prevention and diabetes](#)
- [NIH Directors Transformative Research Award (R01 - Clinical Trial Optional) (RFA-RM-18-009)](#)
  Application Receipt Date(s): September 21, 2018.
- [Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP)](#) include:
  - Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Research Program (DMDR)
  - Investigator-Initiated Research Award
  - Autism Research Program
  - Clinical Trial Award
  - Clinical Translational Research Award
  - Idea Development Award

**Doctoral, Postdoctoral, and Research Training Opportunities**

**Rehabilitation Research Career Development Program (RRCD) -- NIH K12 Positions**

The goal of the program (presented by UTMB with UF and USC) is to provide OTs and PTs (with postdoctoral or related research experience) with the skills and research experience necessary to become independent investigators and future academic and scientific leaders in their professions. Scholars will receive mentored training in:

- Aging & geriatric rehabilitation (UF, USC, UTMB)
- Neuroscience & neurorehabilitation (UF, USC, UTMB)
- Muscle biology, exercise, physical activity, musculoskeletal rehabilitation (UF, USC, UTMB)
- Biomedical imaging & engineering, virtual reality, assistive technology (UF, USC)
- Developmental disorders, pediatric rehabilitation (UF, USC)
- Health services, prevention, wellness, health disparities, community integration, quality of life research (UF, USC, UTMB)
- Chronic pain, cognitive rehabilitation, behavioral and psychosocial support (UF, USC, UTMB)

Send any questions or requests to: rehab.info@utmb.edu

**Postdoctoral Fellowship in Multiple Sclerosis Research - Johns Hopkins University**

The overall goals of this two-year postdoctoral research Fellowship funded by the National MS Society and Johns Hopkins Dept. of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation are to:

1. Train clinician-scientists who will go on to be leaders in the advancement of rehabilitative strategies for people with MS.
2. Equip trainees with the skills needed to become independent, grant-funded investigators.

This program will provide clinical and research training in MS-related rehabilitation science, For more information, contact Meghan Beier.
Publications

Understanding and Overcoming the Challenge of Obesity and Overweight in the Armed Forces: Proceedings of a Workshop-in Brief
From recruitment, to readiness, retention, resilience, and retirement, obesity affects the military every day. Between 2002 and 2011, the rate of obesity among active duty service members increased by more than half. Maintaining the health and wellness of service members is critical for national security. But like many Americans, service members, veterans, retirees and their families need community support to maintain a healthy weight. On May 7th, the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions hosted a workshop that explored the challenges posed by obesity and overweight in the armed forces and opportunities to overcome them. The workshop examined the magnitude of obesity and overweight in the military, highlighted existing approaches that support a healthy weight, and explored innovative cross-sector opportunities to overcome this challenge.

Immigration as a Social Determinant of Health: Proceedings of a Workshop
Immigrants are a significant and growing population that currently makes up about one-quarter of the United States population. On November 28, 2017, a workshop held by the Roundtable on the Promotion of Health Equity, explored the complex interactions between immigration and health disparities. Topics of the workshop included discussing the history of immigration and the relationship of immigration status to economic and health policies, the ongoing importance of immigrant health outcomes in the United States, and the role of immigration as a social determinant of health.

Examining trends in the diversity of the U.S. National Institutes of Health participating and funded workforce
Published Online: 19 Jun 2018 The authors used recent U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) data to document trends in the NIH-funded workforce over time. Their findings, published by the National Academy of Sciences, suggest a need to prioritize investments and support of ESIs and NIs, groups in which women and racial and ethnic minorities represent a larger proportion of the applicant pool, to enhance diversity in the NIH-funded workforce.

NIH funding longevity by gender
Diversity of the biomedical workforce is essential to the scientific enterprise, yet women remain underrepresented in academic positions in biomedical sciences and compose less than one-third of National Institutes of Health (NIH) research grantees. The study, published by the National Academy of Sciences, explored NIH grant support as a proxy for participation in academic research. They found that women had similar funding longevity as men after they received their first major NIH grants, contradicting the common assumption that across all career stages, women experience accelerated attrition compared with men. Despite longevity similarities, women composed only 31% of grantees in our analysis. This discrepancy in grantee demographics suggests that efforts may be best directed toward encouraging women to enter academia and supporting their continued grant submissions.

Conferences and Calls for Papers

Third International Conference on Paediatric Acquired Brain Injury (September 26-28, 2018, Belfast, Northern Ireland)
The conference will focus on the development of innovative treatments, rehabilitation programs, support mechanisms and ways to improve the lives and potential of young people affected by brain injury. The educational program will be inclusive of all issues relating to pediatric brain injury, both traumatic (e.g., external physical force injuries, penetrating injuries) and atraumatic (e.g., infectious diseases, tumors, stroke, neurotoxic poisonings).

AOTA Specialty Conference: Children & Youth (September 28-29, 2018, Milwaukee, Wisconsin)
(pre-conference sessions: September 27)
ACRM Annual Conference (September 30-October 3, 2018, Dallas, Texas)
Conference theme is Progress in Rehabilitation Research. Preconference will be September 28-30, 2018
Learn about cutting-edge research and its translation into clinical practice to improve the quality of life
experienced by people with disabilities and to improve their own lives -- improve their own well-being and
connect with like-minded professionals. Special symposium September 30: 2nd Annual Women in
Rehabilitation Science.

AOTA Education Summit (October 13-14, 2018, Louisville, Kentucky)

12th Annual Southern Obesity Summit (October 22-14, 2018, Charleston, West Virginia)
The SOS is the largest regional obesity prevention event in the United States. The southern states join
forces to fight obesity.

AOTA/NBCOT National Student Conclave (November 9-10, 2018, Atlantic City, New
Jersey)
FYI -- PTE events have been moved to AOTA National Conference in April.

Autistic Adults and other Stakeholders Engage Together (AASET) Annual Conference
(November 10, 2018, Washington, DC)
Autistic adults have multiple, chronic, and potentially preventable healthcare needs as compared to same-
aged adults without ASD, but we know very little about why these differences are occurring and how to
improve outcomes.
The AASET team will prioritize the specific positive health and healthcare outcomes desired by autistic
adults, identify potential evidence-based interventions from the perspective of autistic adults, and will involve
other stakeholders in identifying interventions to address priority topics. This meeting is funded through a
PCORI Engagement Award Initiative (EAIN-4208).

American Public Health Association Annual Meeting & Expo (November 10-14, 2018, San
Diego, California)
2018 Theme - Creating the Healthiest Nation: Health Equity Now. Health equity is a health, economic,
human rights and social justice issue that calls for fairness and addresses inclusion along multiple
dimensions, including race, ethnicity, class, sexual orientation and disability. Registration and housing open
June 4.

The National Academies Global Forum on Innovation in Health Professional Education
(IHPE): A Joint Workshop (November 13-14, 2018, Washington, DC)
The IHPE Fall workshop webcast: Strengthening the Connection between Health Professions Education
and Practice will explore methods and methodology for bridging health professions education and practice
in ways that improve information flow between learning and application. The workshop will look at various
models of training by bringing together multiple health professions across the education-to-practice
continuum.
This Forum workshop is free and open to the public. The workshop will also be webcast, and all videos of
the webcast recordings will be archived on the workshop website.

AOTA Specialty Conference: Adult Rehabilitation (November 30-December 1, 2018, Los
Angeles, California)
(pre-conference sessions: November 29) Call for papers deadline: June 21, 2018.
More details coming late August

International Brain Injury Association (IBIA) World Congress (March 13-16, 2019, Toronto,
Ontario)
The aim of the 13th World Congress is to provide an opportunity for establishing collegial relationships with
international professionals focused on the care and/or service of persons with acquired brain injury and/or
the science of brain injury research. 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 portal will open summer 2018.

**American Hippotherapy Association Annual Conference (March 23-25, 2019, Lexington Kentucky)**
Theme: On the right track.
Call for posters deadline: January 14, 2019.

**AOTA Annual Conference & Expo (April 4-7, 2019, New Orleans, Louisiana)**
(pre-conference institutes: April 3)

The theme for 2019 is Children, Young People & Families -- Learning Through Doing
Call for papers is now open for submissions from all clinical specialities demonstrating the practical elements of occupation in practice, the presentations formats are:

- workshops
- seminars
- paper presentations
- posters.

Call for papers deadline: December 31, 2018.

**News and Other Resources**

**Assistive Technology Today: ATscale**
USAID and partners launch ATscale, a partnership that aims to help 500 million people get the AT they need by 2030 through service delivery and market-shaping approaches; creating partnerships with the private sector to build and serve markets in the lowest-resource countries; supporting the development of country plans for greater access; and catalyzing innovation to design and introduce suitable AT where needed.

An interim forming committee will guide the partnership through incubation and development. They invite others to join in this challenge. To learn more, please visit the [ATscale website](#) and overview.

**AHRQ Seeks Topic Suggestions for Future Evidence Reviews**
The Evidence-based Practice Center (EPC) Program of the Agency for Healthcare Reserch and Quality (AHRQ) reviews and summarizes the available evidence on current health care issues, such as tests, treatments, and methods of health care delivery, and describes their advantages or disadvantages. These reviews are based on relevant published and unpublished scientific literature and provide comprehensive, evidence-based information to consumers, clinicians, and policymakers. Evidence reports can help:

- Patients make better decisions about their health care options;
- Clinicians and policymakers understand the benefits and harms of different tests and treatments; and
- Health systems and policymakers understand the best options for implementing a new program or intervention.

These reports have served as the foundation for coverage decisions, quality measures, patient educational materials, clinical practice guidelines, and research agendas.

AHRQ want to hear from you which important and relevant topics it should use for future evidence reports. Deadline for submission: September 21, 2018.

**Join NICHD Listservs**
NICHDdevelopments is a monthly listing of NICHD news releases, spotlights, selected funding opportunities, and upcoming scientific meetings, conferences, and events.

**NIH News and Links**
- [Revised NIH Grant Policy Statement](#)
- [New Video Provides Overview of New NIH Policies on Human Subjects Research and Clinical Trials](#) Do you do research with human participants? This 15-minute video provides a succinct explanation of
NIH's Next Generation Researchers Policy Now Posted
NIH posted current plans for the Next Generation Researchers Initiative. NIH leadership has reviewed data and deliberated about how best to proceed on their goal to increase the number of NIH-funded early-stage investigators and assure that funded early-stage investigators have a reasonable chance to secure stable funding during the earliest stages of their independent research careers.

- NIH Grant website.
- Perspectives on Evidence-based Funding, a talk by NIH Deputy Director for Extramural Research, Mike Lauer on concerns about the hyper-competitive nature of applying for NIH support and other topics.
- Advice from NIH on resubmitting grant applications.
  Independent Scientist Award (Parent K02) https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-14-045.html
  Midcareer Investigator Award in Patient-Oriented Research (Parent K24) https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-14-047.html

AOTF is a 501(c)(3) dedicated to advancing the science of occupational therapy to support people's full participation in meaningful life activities.

Read more about AOTF and its activities to Build Evidence to Improve Practice and Health at www.aotf.org.

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