Happy New Year from the AOTF Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health!

As we enter 2008, we thank you for your continued support of our programs, and we wish you and your colleagues every success in your research and related initiatives.

This new year will see the AOTF Institute expand its scanning of the research environment and build strategically on its existing research networks. To this end, please look for more frequent AOTF Research Resources News Alerts containing timely and valuable research and related information.

Please also look for us to grow our engagements in key research and related circles, including those associated with the National Institutes of Health, the Disability and Health Workgroup of the National Association of County and City Health Officials, and the Federal Interagency Committee on Disability Research.

Finally, during the coming months you can also expect to see the AOTF Institute expand its connections to other health foundations, which are seeding important research initiatives, and to the nation's leading nonprofit authority on philanthropy, The Foundation Center, which offers valuable resources for researchers within the field of occupational therapy and across allied disciplines of the sciences, social sciences, and humanities.

Of course, our strategic collaborations with the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) will continue as well, and especially with regard to our joint support of the AOTA-AOTF Research Advisory Panel of experts in occupational therapy. Established during the spring of 2007, the panel advises the AOTA and AOTF boards of directors in several matters, including the translation of research to education and practice, and the review of the research agenda of the profession and its alignment with national research priorities and emerging social and technology issues. The panel also fosters critical analyses of issues related to the delivery of services, evolution of theories, and the overall body of knowledge relevant to occupational therapy.

Members of the panel include the following individuals appointed by the AOTA and AOTF presidents. My colleagues and I are grateful to work with them to guide the profession in the best ways toward excellence in research:

Joan Rogers, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA (chair)
M. Carolyn Baum, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA
Charles Christiansen, EdD, OTR, FAOTA
Wendy Coster, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA
Joyce Engel, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA
Joy M. Hammel, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA
Mary Law, PhD, OT(C)
Mary C. Lawlor, ScD, OTR/L
Trudy R. Mallinson, PhD, OTR/L, NZROT
William Charles Mann, PhD, OTR, FAOTA
Mary Lynn Schneider, PhD, OTR

Please join me in thanking these experts for their time and their participation in the integral work of the
AOTA-AOTF Research Advisory Panel.

So, a new year is upon us and with it a new frontier of opportunity to advance the AOTF Institute’s research and related programs for the benefit of occupational therapy and for many communities beyond. We thank you again for your participation in our programs, for your engagement in our mission, and for sharing AOTF Research Resources with your colleagues.

Sincerely,

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

In This Issue

AOTF Institute Program Spotlights

Take note of these fast approaching AOTF Institute deadlines!

Dissertation Research Grant Program
Upcoming application deadline: February 1.

Scholarship Program
Upcoming online application deadline: February 8.

Publication/Conference Announcements

State of the Science Workshop: Quality of Life Technology
A free interdisciplinary conference sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University, and Walter Reed Army Medical Center to be held on Friday, January 18, 2008, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, 7:30am-4:30pm. Registration is via the University of Pittsburgh's Human Engineering Research Laboratories. Registration deadline is January 9, 2008, 5 p.m. EST.

Conference to Discuss Challenges in Disaster Planning for Special Needs Populations
Government*Horizons Inc and the National Organization on Disability's (NOD) Emergency Preparedness Initiative Present Disability and Special Needs Technical Assistance Conference (Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery) will be held January 8-9, 2008 in Washington, DC. This conference will provide technical assistance on aspects of emergency management planning and response for people with disabilities and special needs. This conference will bring together federal, state, and local experts to discuss day-to-day challenges in planning for their vulnerable populations. You will learn new concepts currently used or being developed to address disability and special needs planning in their jurisdictions.

International Conference on Assistive Technologies
Baltimore Maryland is the site of the IASTED International Conference on Assistive Technologies AT 2008 Quality of Life Technology on April 16 - 18, 2008. Papers due January 10, 2008.
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

New Titles in Medicine from Cambridge University Press

New Books on Values and Beliefs

Web-Based & Related Resources

That All May Read - Resources of the NLS

The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) selects and produces full-length books and magazines in braille and recorded formats and loans them free of charge through a network of local libraries. Reading materials and playback machines are sent to borrowers and returned to libraries by postage-free mail. Braille books, magazines, and music materials are also made available on the Internet through Web-Braille. Information on the program can be found at: [http://www.loc.gov/nls/reference/factsheets/annual.html](http://www.loc.gov/nls/reference/factsheets/annual.html).

NINDS Announces New Spanish Language Website

Free, accurate information on many neurological disorders is now available on a new Spanish language website from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The website is available at <>. Publications can be downloaded or ordered free of charge. The website also provides information on clinical studies, links to non-profit organizations that offer information and assistance on neurological disorders, and a contact form where people can submit questions on topics related to health and biomedical research.

Conference Questions Democratic Ideal

CAPPE 3rd international interdisciplinary conference, *What's the Big Deal about Democracy?*, will take place at the University of Brighton, United Kingdom, September 8-10, 2008. It is widely assumed that it is simply self-evident that democracy is the best system of government: imperfect, but better than anything else. Why? What does democracy have to recommend it? What are the assumptions that lie behind democracy? These and related issues will be of interest to people working in, among other areas, philosophy, political theory, politics, sociology, international relations, cultural studies, history, government and law. Abstracts are due by February 1, 2008.

Calls for Public Comment

Comments Needed on Health Information Systems Interoperability
The Public Health Data Standards Consortium (PHDSC) and the Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise (IHE) invite public health, clinical
and information technology experts to review the [White Paper on Building a Roadmap for Health Information Systems Interoperability for Public Health](#). The public review period will be open through January 19, 2008. To download the White Paper, please go to [Instructions to Submit Your Comments](#): Please submit your comments to the thread [Public Comments on PHDSC White Paper](#).

**ICDR Seeks Comments for Future Research Directions**
The [Interagency Committee on Disability Research (ICDR)](#) seeks comments on research needs related to disability and rehabilitation. The ICDR analyzes public comments, along with other sources of information, to make recommendations for future research directions and to coordinate the federal research effort in disability. By completing the [public comment form](#), researchers can help bring attention to important research issues.

**Grant Announcements & Resources**

**Understand the NSF Review Process**
Through its merit review process, the National Science Foundation (NSF) ensures that proposals submitted are reviewed in a fair, competitive, transparent, and in-depth manner. The Grant Proposal Guide (GPG) provides guidance for the preparation and submission of proposals to NSF. The goal of this [Merit Review website](#) is to help you better understand the NSF merit review process as well as identify resources for additional information.

**E-Grantmaking Website**

[proposalCENTRAL](#) is an e-grantmaking website shared by many government, non-profit, and private grant-making organizations. Over twenty thousand applicants and reviewers interact electronically with the grant makers that are members of proposalCENTRAL.

**Funding Resource in Sciences**

[GrantsNet](#) is a one-stop resource to find funds for training in the sciences and undergraduate science education. Through the support of HHMI and AAAS, this service is completely free.

**Resource for Locating Behavioral and Social Science Funding**

[FundSource](#) is designed to help behavioral and social scientists find research funding. It has been designed to be specific to behavioral and social science research, freely available with no subscription costs, and responsive to your needs and feedback.

The FundSource database includes short descriptions; contact information; and web links to programs in federal agencies, foundations, and international organizations that fund behavioral and social science research.

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.