

FOCUS



Florida Occupational Therapy Association's Quarterly Newsletter



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IN THIS ISSUE

From the Editor's Desk, Student Resources	2
Presidential Ponderings	3-4
FOTA16 Sponsors	5
Vice President, #FOTA16 Institutes	6
FTOA Sponsor	7
Mental Health Reform Act 2015 (S. 1945) and The Physical Disabled	8-9
FOTA16 Sponsors	10
Capital Hill Day	11-12
Who is a Health and Wellness Coach?	13
NOVA OT CEU Day	14
FLOTEC: Introducing OCCUPATION: A Medium of Inquiry for Students, Faculty and Other Practitioners Advocating for Health through Occupational Studies.	15
2016 Myra McDaniel Scholarship Winner	16
#FOTA16 Sponsor	17
#FOTA16 Info/Schedule	18-22



From the Editor's Desk

Kurt K. Hubbard, PhD, OTD, OTR/L Editor, FOTA FOCUS Newsletter fota.focus@gmail.com kkhubbard55@gmail.com

Colleagues,

I'd like to personally welcome each of you to the Fall Edition of FOCUS. It's an exciting time for the Florida Occupational Therapy Association as we continue to grow and adapt to

the ever changing healthcare needs. One of the ways that we as an organization remain adaptable is to stay informed, motivated, and to be responsive. Our state conference is the best vehicle to disseminating information and to exchange ideas. The world of occupational therapy is an exciting area in which to work and study. It is our goal at FOTA to continue to meet and bring inspired people together in a variety of forums, sessions, workshops, and posters, to ensure that we remain a relevant player in healthcare.

In closing, I applaud those of you attending this year's FOTA State Conference, bringing your expertise to this gathering. I'd like to see you all there to "propel occupation" by helping each other meet the challenges of our field and to excel despite some perceived setbacks. We should all be very proud of where we are today and excited about where we are headed. It is our members that are our greatest asset today and tomorrow, and we could not accomplish what we do without your support and leadership. FOCUS is a periodical to help us all stay engaged, keep us proactive and help us shape the future of FOTA. My personal respect and thanks goes out to all of you.

Best.

Kurt K. Hubbard, PhD, OTD, OTR/L

STUDENT RESOURCES AT WWW.FLOTA.ORG

Have you read our new student resources? This is a quarterly update by and for student members! Please check out the new articles that were recently updated.

The student resources page was created to keep occupational therapy (OT) students informed, inspired, and connected. Check out new articles every semester and be sure to contact your Student Resource Writers if you have topics, kudos, or information you would like to share!!

https://fota.memberclicks.net/student-resources



PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

MEMBERSHIP

Congratulate yourself on being a member of a thriving state association! You are an important part of what FOTA does and

represent. Keep up your membership and find out how you can become more involved. Without you, and members like you, FOTA does not and cannot exist. Please see below for a few newsworthy and upcoming events and changes to the organization. Celebrate FOTA and your membership in it! Thank You for being a member. Don't forget to review your membership profile on www.flota.org and make sure all information is current and correct. We want to keep you connected to all things FOTA!

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

One of the benefits for student FOTA membership, is the opportunity to apply for an FOTA supported scholarship, the Myra McDaniel, which is processed by AOTF. This scholarship is awarded annually to an FOTA student member. Congratulations to Jessica Leer, OT graduate student at FAMU in Tallahassee, on being the latest student to earn this scholarship Read more about Jessiza elsewhere in this FOCUS.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

As an FOTA member, you are invited to attend the next FOTA membership meeting on November 5, 2016 in conjunction with our annual conference. This annual meeting will be held Saturday mid-day in the conference venue, The Renaissance at Sea World, and will be followed by the Awards and Recognition ceremony. Please see minutes from last membership meeting, November 7, 2015 on your website member homepage.

CONFERENCE

"Propelling Occupation" is an appropriate conference theme as we shine the spotlight on a variety of practices now driving us as a profession. The conference planners have redesigned the conference to include one-day registration, a student track on Friday, the mandated licensure courses, and plenty of networking opportunities. For all conference information including schedules, registrations, accommodation link, etc. go to www.flota.org. Don't delay!! Early bird registration closes

October 25. Please stop by the FOTA booth on either Friday or Saturday to meet your FOTA leaders up close and personal and sign up for volunteer opportunities.

PARTNERSHIPS

On September 28 & 29, I was able to represent FOTA at a meeting in Orlando of the Florida Healthcare Workforce Leadership Council. The Leadership Council, comprised of highlevel health industry leaders, serves as the steering committee that directs the Florida Healthcare Workforce initiative which came about through a grant that was awarded to the Florida Center for Nursing by CareerSource Florida. This Council develops recommendations for statewide policy that will facilitate a sufficient supply of highly-skilled talent to meet the demand of Florida's current and future healthcare workforce needs. FOTA has been able to access data generated by Advisory group and will continue to stay involved.

The September meeting was held in partnership and conjunction with the Florida Chamber of Commerce Foundation at their "Future of Florida Forum.. Besides many robust discussions to finalize and prioritize the Council's healthcare policy recommendations, there were many dynamic presentations by individuals representing leaders from within and outside of Florida. I will continue to share information from this group as it may be helpful for both OT educators and OT practitioners. Please contact me if you have specific questions.

LEADERSHIP NEWS

The job of Volunteer Coordinator is a critical leadership position in FOTA. The Volunteer Coordinator matches volunteers to available positions in leadership and other roles within FOTA. Debbie Misrahi has recently been appointed as Volunteer Coordinator. Please contact Debbie if you are in need of one or more volunteers to assist you. Likewise, if you are an FOTA member and would like to learn what volunteer opportunities are available, or have a specific area of interest in which to serve, let Debbie know. Debbie can be reached at dpmotr@aol.com.

Thank you to Sue Guerrette, OT, who served as Volunteer Coordinator for this past year. Sue pioneered volunteer coordinator activities as she undertook responsibilities upon creation of this leadership position. Thank you Sue!

We welcome recently appointed Representative for Region 8 (Southwest), Karen Tinaglia, OT. Karen is new to the west coast of Florida, but has been in Florida for several years including as a student at University of St. Augustine. She is

PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

now anxious and willing to start representing members in this region that covers Manatee, Hardee, Highlands, Desoto, Sarasota, Charlotte, Glades, Lee, Hendry and Collier. Karen can be reached at k.tinaglia@usa.edu

FOTA LOBBYIST

As the contract with our previous lobbyist ended, FOTA board decided it was prudent to seek Requests For Proposals (RFPs) from many potential lobby firms in Tallahassee before moving forward. The FOTA officers and Government Affairs co-chairs took the steps listed below. Thank you to all who were involved in this process.

- Wrote an RFP outlining requested services
- Developed and distributed the RFP to nine potential reputable firms including our previous lobbyist
- Reviewed all nine RFPs received, compared qualifications and proposed services of each firm
- Selected the top three firms and interviewed all three via teleconference call
- Evaluated all top three firms, identified pros and cons of each
- Selected the top two and contacted their references
- Developed a matrix of agreement including goals and outcomes
- Carefully analyzed the top two using this matrix
- Selected Corcoran & Johnston as the firm best meeting FOTA needs
- Offered Corcoran & Johnston the option to serve as FOTA lobbyist
- Voting board members voted to accept Corcoran & Johnston proposal

 Contract signed by FOTA President with one year contract beginning September 1, 2016.

FOTA welcomes Corcoran & Johnston as our lobbying firm. They have been recognized as one of Florida's top lobbyists by Florida Trend Magazine (March 2013) and ranked in the top Florida Lobbyists by Sunshine State News in October 2013 and June 2014. With offices in Miami and Tampa, and several lobbyists in the firm, we look forward to lots of attention to FOTA advocacy and a very productive relationship.

If you have any questions about the process or FOTA expectations, please contact me, or FOTA Government Affairs Co-Coordinators, Kelly Uanino or Sharon Rosenberg. Feel free to checkout Corcoran & Johnston's website http://www.corcoranfirm.com.

LEADERSHIP MEETING

The next FOTA Leadership meeting will be an evening teleconference October 20, 7-9pm. Board members and leaders are expected to submit reports and action items to Elise Bloch by October 6. If you, as an FOTA member, would like to participate as an observer in this electronic meeting, please RSVP to Secretary Elise Bloch ebloch@nova.edu by October 18. Elise will provide you with phone call in information.

Have a wonderful fall! I look forward to seeing you at FOTA16 conference in Orlando. Please introduce yourself to me sometime during the weekend events. If you need to reach me before then, please contact me at ervizvary@verizon.net. I'll do my best to get back with you as soon as possible. Elena

Elena Vizvary, MS, OTR/L President, FOTA



Regional Rep News:
Please welcome Karen Tinaglia as Region 8 Rep!

Karen Tinaglia appointed Regional Representative for Region 8, SW Florida. Karen has an earned master's degree in occupational therapy from the University of Saint Augustine for Health Sciences. She practices acute inpatient care at Bayfront Health in Southwest Florida. She serves on the committee for the Joint and Spine Academy and is pursuing advanced certification in physical rehabilitation."



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329 Pediatric NDT Intensive Handling Techniques Gail Ritchie, OTR, C/NDT

March 17-18, 2017 Tampa, Fl Shriners Hospital for Children

415 Myofascial Release Theresa A. Schmidt, DPT,MS,OCS,LMT,CEAS,CHY,DD

November 11-12, 2017 St. Petersburg, FL John's Hopkin's All Children's Hospital







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A message from the Vice-President

Debora Oliveira, Ph.D., OTR/L

Annual Conference

It's that time of year! This year's conference will be November 4-5 in the nation's favorite destination, Orlando, Florida. We are excited to offer you some exciting changes to the format and what is being offered.

First, you can now register for one day or both days. On Friday and Saturday, we will be offering the mandatories so you will not miss out on those important workshops for the Florida licensure in 2017. We have eliminated the keynote speaker section of the conference so that there is more time for workshops and short courses. We also coordinated a full day of student activities on Friday, including an NBCOT presentation, all student posters, and an employer panel. Of course, our President is also offering a student buzz session. The student day will run concurrently with the institutes and workshops and short courses for therapists. You can earn up to 16 continuing education credits by attending this year's conference!

Also new this year, we will have an extended vendor display time plus a chance to meet our representative to the American Occupational Therapy

Political Action Committee (AOTPAC). Yoga was such a hit last year that we are offering it again. It is always a plus to start your your day relaxed and full of energy! This year, the Student Occupational Therapy Associations from many of the Florida occupational therapy and occupational therapy assistant programs will be hosting fundraiser activities. Support your Alma matter and future occupational therapists by visiting their table. Our new lobbying firm will be available to meet and ask questions on Friday. Every legislative year there are new opportunities and threats to our practice. FOTA continues to provide the valuable service of protecting our interests to all Florida occupational therapy practitioners. Your membership is truly valued for allowing us to be proactive by obtaining the most qualified people to protect our interests and give us a voice for change. Together, we make a difference!

Be sure to visit our <u>website</u>, to view the conference schedule. There is even a place to add your name if you want to volunteer. I look forward to seeing you at conference. Our conference team, including our conference convener (Tia Hughes) has worked very hard to provide the continuing education you want in a fun filled, beautiful venue.

Debora Oliveira, Ph.D., CRC, OTR/L Vice President Florida Occupational Therapy Association

INSTITUTES AT #FOTA16

FOTA Institute We have 2 amazing Pre-Conference Institutes this year. There is an additional fee to attend. They take place on Friday, Nov. 4, 8 am - 12 pm. Each course earns 4 CEUs. Institute attendees must register for at least one conference day. Click on the course for the abstract information. If you have already registered for conference, you can still attend an institute. Please contact us.

- IN-1 Understanding and Managing Visual Processing Disorders in Children
- IN-2 Hands on Learning about Lymphedema

Institute + Friday \$210* earn up to 8 CEUs Institute + Saturday \$260* earn up to 12 CEUs Institute + Fri + Sat \$375* earn up to 16 CEUs

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Mental Health Reform Act 2015 (S. 1945) and The **Physical Disabled**

Kristin Antonio, MOT, OTR/L -Physical Disabilities SIS Chair

For many years, mental health care in America has received minimal resources, allowing for improper treatment of individuals in multiple settings suffering from

mental illness. The alarming statistical data claiming the lives of individuals suffering from mental illness and their possible victims identifies mental illness as a growing disparity (Murphy, 2015). Those who suffer from mental illness deserve the same chance of living a quality of life as those individuals with physical disabilities. In the Occupational Therapy Practice Framework 3rd edition (OTPF), the connection of mental well-being to physical well-being supports individual's abilities to achieve independence in occupational performance (AOTA, 2014). Too often as specialized occupational therapists in physical disability practice, we sometimes lose sight of the important connection mind has on body. Occupational therapists should be taking the time during treatment to address the from trauma both emotional and thought provoking factors that affect an individual's behavior and ability to physically perform in therapy.

There should not be a difference in reimbursement, or quality of therapy between the physical and mental rehabilitation. However, over time, the OT profession has sadly lost its roots in the mental health practice area.

Currently in our federal government there are multiple health-care bills awaiting review and implementation. The Mental Health Reform Act of 2015 (S. 1945) is a proposed bill to protect and defend individuals who suffer from mental illness by increasing their contact with appropriate medical resources (Murphy, 2015). The formation of this bill clarifies multiple goals to increase the quality of care for individuals suffering from mental illness. Goals that can impact the OT practice include (a) early intervention for children suffering from mental illness or at risk for mental illness, (b) tuition reimbursement for mental health practitioners going to school, (c) accountability of where dollars are sent for spending on mental illness, (d) research for mental illness, and (e) integration of physical and mental health services (Murphy, 2015).

The Mental Health Reform Act 2015 clearly identifies the significance of integrating physical health and mental health. Integrating mental health and physical health is a crucial stepping-stone in the treatment of those with mental illness. It is historically proven that

individuals heal from trauma both mind and body (Schwartz, 2015). The nature of human beings should not separate into part physical and part mental. Mental health and physical health are an integrative process that allows individuals to function in their environment from development to death (Schwartz, 2010). The goal of the Mental Health Care Reform Act 2015 focuses on breaking the barrier between mental and physical health care, allowing individuals to receive equal care (Murphy, 2015)

Dating back to the early 1900's, OT focused on treating an individual holistically, emphasizing improving participation in occupation with individuals suffering from mental illness as well as physical illness (Schwartz, 2010). By using the humanitarian approach, OT implemented the use of habit training and the use of crafts to improve an individual's ability to adapt to their physical, cognitive, and emotional problems for increased quality of life. Dating back to the development of occupational therapists treatment philosophy, OT intervention focused on goals to improve both mental and physical health. So why in our current practice areas

do we separate mind and body? Due to the OT profession's rich foundation in mental health,

occupational therapists are well positioned to improve occupational engagement for individuals suffering from mental illness (Schwartz, 2010). There can no longer be a divide in mental illness and physical illness. An individual whether suffering from disability or compromised health rely greatly on the functioning of both physical and psychosocial well-being. Continued education has to happen to

increase the awareness of the connection of physical and mental well-being at the academic level and at the clinical level (Gutman & Raphael-Grenfield, 2014). Occupational therapists who currently work in the physical disability practice area will greatly benefit from increasing their knowledge and current intervention to support clients who suffer from mental illness while receiving therapy for their physical disability. With the growing awareness of mental illness occupational therapists will start to see increasing patients with physical disabilities having a secondary diagnosis of depression, bipolar, schizophrenia as well as other mental illnesses as designated by the DSM-V. When a person undergoes a physical change or health change, he or she has an increased risk for depression and/or anxiety, which often goes undetected or acknowledged during OT intervention (Gutman & Raphael-Greenfield, 2014). While OT originally developed in the mental health profession, there has been a great decline of OT's practicing in mental health. It is crucial for all occupational therapists to support AOTA in advocating for our acknowledgement as mental health-care providers and for the integration of physical and mental health. Whether we work with the geriatric, pediatric, or individuals with mental illness OT's have to come

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Mental Health Reform Act 2015 (S. 1945) and The Physical Disabled

together as one voice fighting for the acknowledgement of our profession. To support OT in the mental health practice area it is encouraged for current practitioners to reach out to their local state representatives via email or face-to-face conversation. By simply going to the AOTA website, practitioners can copy and paste prefabricated letters identifying the need to increase OT in the mental health care practice area.

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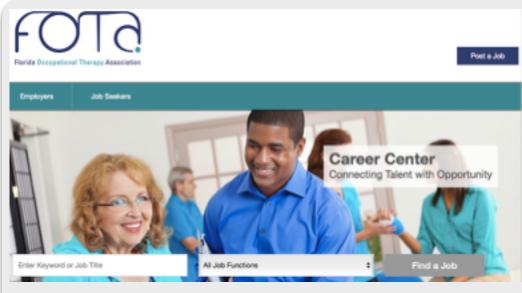
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Capitol Hill Day

Nova Southeastern University professors Elise Bloch, Ed.D., OT/L and Rachelle Dorne, Ed.D., OTR/L, CAPS, accompanied 10 Fort Lauderdale Master of Occupational Therapy (MOT) students to Washington, D. C. for the joint American Occupational Therapy Association/American Society of Hand Therapists (AOTA/ASHT) Capitol Hill Day on September 19, 2016.



Over 630 occupational therapy advocates attended a morning briefing with AOTA and ASHT representatives in Union Station. NSU faculty were met by professors from other Florida OT/OTA programs: Jaclyn Schwartz, Ph.D., OTR/L from Florida International University; Sheri Montgomery, OTR/L, OTD, FAOTA, from University of St. Augustine; Keisha Burrington, MOT, OTR/L from Adventist University, and students and faculty from other programs. Joining the academic contingent were Hand Therapy Certification Commission Director Martin Walsh, OTR/L, CHT, Lauren Lancaster, OT/L, CHT from Select Physical Therapy, David Pallister, JD, OT/L, Susan Herman, and Michael Berthelette, MSM, OT/L, Region II Director for the American Occupational Therapy Political Action Committee (AOTPAC).

Using appointments scheduled by the AOTA Congressional Affairs Office, Florida's group met with legislative aides in the offices of Senators Bill Nelson and Marco Rubio to advocate for support of four bills affecting OT practice that are up for consideration this session: Enhancing the Stature

and Visibility of Medical Rehabilitation Research at NIH Act (S. 800/H.F. 1631);, Medicare Access to Rehabilitation Services Act (H.R. 775/S. 539), Medicare Home Health Flexibility Act (S. 2364), and the Lymphedema Treatment Act (H.R. 1608/S. 2373). The extension of the Medicare Part B outpatient cap bill expires in 2017, after 20 years of exceptions, and the "hard" cap will become effective--unless Congress acts to repeat and replace the cap. Passage of the home health bill

would allow occupational therapists to open the case and make the initial assessment for patients in home health rehabilitation when ordered as part of the plan of care under Medicare. For more information about the important bills, please see "Take Action".

Professors, practitioners, and students took turns explaining the distinct value of occupational therapy to the legislative aides and advocating for support of each bill, often sharing testimonies about clients and family members whose needs were not met under current regulations. For example, Lauren Lancaster and Martin Walsh spoke about the need to support

coverage of lymphedema compression garments that are not covered by Medicare. Dr. Jaclyn Schwartz gave passionate support for improvement within National Institutes of Health to better coordination rehabilitation research among the various agencies that fund occupational therapy research. The group also shared recent results of an independent study that found that OT is the only spending category that reduces hospital readmissions. Following these large group meetings, the Floridians split up to visit congressional staff from their respective districts, with Drs. Bloch and Dorne accompanying their out-of-state students from Georgia, New York, and Pennsylvania.

Several NSU students shared perceptions of their first visits to legislators' offices. Lauren Ross noticed that each occupational therapy speaker effectively used a personal story to engage the legislator's staff member. Camille Hinds and Autumn West indicated that they were able to fulfill their passion of advocating for the OT profession. Opportunities to talk with occupational therapists

Capitol Hill Day

from different practice areas and with students from other programs were benefits cited by Nina Laureano. For these and other student attendees, being part of such a large group of occupational therapy practitioners who were committed to professional engagement was an inspiring experience that they will not soon forget.

Drs. Bloch and Dorne will be meeting with these students and student organizations to follow up with our legislators and to promote a 5-year commitment to membership in AOTA, membership in FOTA and support of the American Occupational Therapy Political Action Committee (AOTPAC). AOTPAC is a nonpartisan committee of members of AOTA whose purpose is to further the legislative aims of the AOTA. For more information about AOTPAC, please click here.

You do not need to attend AOTA Capitol Hill Day to advocate for the profession. Our OT Practice Framework recognizes the critical of advocacy in our professional responsibilities and the need to support and participate in our professional organizations (FOTA and AOTA). FOTA membership supports advocacy for occupational therapy

practice in our state. You can even advocate for occupational therapy from your living room couch. Become part of the solution in Florida.

Written by: Rachelle Dorne, Ed.D., OTR/L, CAPS Contributions by: Elise Bloch, Ed.D., OT/L, Lauren Lancaster, OT/L, CHT, and Camille Hinds, NSU MOT student.





www.flota.org



Who is a Health and Wellness Coach?

Elizabeth Strickland, MS, OTR/ L, CMT – Health Promotions & Wellness SIS Chair

Prevention and wellness are so often being called the future of healthcare. With the big push to decrease hospital admissions, health care providers are putting

more emphasis on educating clients. We know that the best medical outcomes depend on consistent healthy lifestyle choices and treating chronic conditions that so often attribute to high hospital readmissions. The CDC has reported that chronic diseases such as obesity, heart disease, stroke, diabetes, pain, arthritis etc, are the leading cause of deaths, however can be preventable (CDC, 2009). It has been cited that occupational therapist are a vital part in keeping clients healthy and participating in all aspects of their life to the fullest of their abilities.

Many people think of a coach as someone helping their team win games. However, a health and wellness coach is someone who helps their client's to reach goals by making lifestyle changes to improve health and wellness. Health and Wellness Coaching is an evolving profession that is a non-medical, holistic approach. It is believed to be helping people manage healthy lifestyle choices for example weight loss, smoking cessation, stress-management, fitness, cardiac health, pain, nutrition, etc. which would really help with the decrease in hospital admissions/

A health &
wellness coach in OT
use various tools and
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A health and wellness coach in OT use various tools and techniques to create, develop, and implement a coaching plan with results that are specific, measurable, and attainable. OT's and Coaches both monitor and manage progress and help clients with accountability.

Occupational Therapists have the unique understanding of client's physical, cognitive, and social needs and their most appropriate environment to attain the maximal potential of function for life skills. OT's are highly capable of educating clients and caregivers and collaborate with clients on personal goals. Occupational Therapists are trained to devise steps or breakdown skills needed to reach those goals (AOTA, 2010). Therefore, OTs are a lot like coaches already. The main difference is that

Occupational therapy is considered a medical treatment and therefore reimbursed through health insurance and get referrals primarily from health care providers. Health and Wellness coaching is a nonmedical treatment, it is not covered under insurance. therefore Health and Wellness coaching services are privately paid. Health and wellness coaches can accept referrals by word of mouth, healthcare providers, employee services, community health centers etc. Another main difference is that although there are plenty of Health and Wellness coaching certifications, they are not standardized or regulated like Occupational Therapy licensing. There is no law that requires you to have a license to practice as a Health and Wellness Coach, so finding a good coach is still a case of buyer beware. A growing number of therapists are providing a coaching style to their interventions and helping their clients better reach their goals. There are also a lot of OT's that are delving into the market of consulting or private pay health and wellness coaching and using their credentials to help promote themselves as more of a reputable health and wellness coach. If you have a sincere interest in helping others achieve a healthy lifestyle, the growing field of health coaching is definitely worth considering for purposes of advancing or supplementing your career.

Below are a few resources to learn more about health and wellness coaching certifications.

- UNF has a Health and Wellness Coach Training called Wellcoaches that is designed for people who hold specific degrees, one of them being Occupational Therapy.
 Wellcoachesschool.com
- NCCHWC; National Consortium for Credentialing Health and Wellness Coaches that is aiming to create a National Certification for Health and Wellness coaches to help professionalize this emerging field.
 www.nshcoa.com
- American occupational Therapy Association. (2010). Occupational Therapy's role in health promotion. Retrieved from http://aota.org
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2009). The power of prevention: Chronic disease, the public health challenge of the 21st century. Atlanta, Ga: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.



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Community & Health Advocacy through Occupational Studies

Introducing OCCUPATION: A Medium of Inquiry for Students, Faculty and Other Practitioners Advocating for Health through Occupational Studies.

Kristin McMillen, OTD-S, Jamie Williams, OTD-S, Sheila M. Longpré, MOT, OTR/L, Mirtha Whaley, PhD, OTR/L

Congratulations to the Inaugural Class at the Nova Southeastern University, Tampa Campus (NSU Tampa) for developing OCCUPATION, A Medium of Inquiry for Students, Faculty and Other Practitioners Advocating for Health through Occupational Studies. The publication is a product of the students' Legacy Project which is intended, ultimately for use as a resource by the community of students, faculty and other practitioners for scientific articles, systematic reviews, reflections, personal anecdotes, and other materials about humans as occupational beings.

The publication was the culminating product of the collaboration between students in two specialized courses, namely Occupational Science and Health and Wellness, which are curriculum requirements for the Entry-Level Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) program at Nova Southeastern University, Tampa Regional Campus. The course instructors for the course were Dr. Ricardo Carrasco, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA and Dr. Mirtha Whaley, PhD, OTR/L, respectively. The courses required the students to examine current global issues within the context of each course and develop a product that would enhance awareness about occupational science. To accomplish this, the Occupational Science students conducted a SWOT analysis which provided information as to what they could do as a group, this time with the *Health and* Wellness students, and established CHAOS: Community & Health Advocacy through Occupational Studies. The brand new professional organization aims to inspire, promote, and contribute to the study of human beings as occupation beings within the global community.

As the class of 2015 learned more about the

importance of occupational science and its impact on health and wellness and in particular, occupational therapy practice, they became aware of the small number of professional organizations and resources available especially for students and interested researchers and practitioners that can function as a community to promote collaborative inquiries about occupation. The discipline is still relatively new, having been founded in 1989; there is only a single international scholarly journal in place dedicated to the study of occupational science.

To achieve one of its missions, CHAOS launched a scholarly journal called OCCUPATION: A Medium of Inquiry for Students, Faculty and Other Practitioners Advocating for Health through Occupational Studies. OCCUPATION will be an online refereed publication, for authors to disseminate scholarly material about humans as occupational beings. It will serve as a platform for contributors from around the world--including current students, recent graduates, occupational therapy practitioners, and professionals from a variety of disciplines who wish to disseminate research and promote discourse on topics revolving around occupational studies.

The Class of 2015 will leave a lasting legacy and create a name not only for themselves and future cohorts, but also for OTD program in Tampa, and Nova Southeastern University as a whole. So, returning to the idea "legacy;" in addition to passing on the responsibility and oversight of the new organization and journal to successive classes, each student in NSU Tampa's OTD program will have access to the opportunity to leave an individual legacy by submitting their own scholarly articles for publication in the journal.

The first issue of the Journal is expected soon! So stay tuned for the launch in our website.

GET FEATURED IN FOCUS!

Are you a FOTA member? If so, did you know that you can be published by writing an article for our quarterly newsletter?

We also invite you to share workplace, school or other OT related events and photos with the FOTA Community.



fota.Focus@gmail.com



2016 Myra McDaniel scholarship winner

AOTF Scholarship Selection Committee has selected **Jessica Leer** for the Florida Occupational Therapy Association (FOTA) Endowed Scholarship honoringMyra McDaniel. The scholarship amount awarded for 2016 was \$500.

"I am currently a third year student in the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy Program at Florida A&M, embarking on my Level II Fieldwork in Colorado. I graduated from the University of Minnesota with a Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology and a Child Psychology minor. I began my undergraduate career in sports performance and completed three invaluable internships. While I enjoyed my internship experiences, I learned that I yearned for a career path that focuses on the individual, recognizing and fostering the concept that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. Through my

relationship with my grandmother, my own personal experience, and from numerous clinical volunteer positions, I have come to realize the critical importance of personal validation, which is at the core of the profession of occupational therapy. An occupational therapist provided me the personal validation and support I needed to return to meaningful occupation after a severely debilitating TBI. My mission is to improve my future clients' occupational autonomy and quality of life based on their personal perspective, rather than a clinically defined quality of life. I am particularly interested in occupational therapy care for youth, military veterans, TBI, mental health, and various underserved populations. I yearn to be an integral part of an individual's journey towards holistic health and well-being.

Below is the winning essay from Ms. Leer.

We are in the midst of rapid changes within the health industry. Most notable for the OT profession are changes involving OT interventions, with health reform being the catalyst.

Mental health interventions will dramatically increase as occupational therapy returns to its roots. In doing so, occupational therapists will play a major role in the destigmatization of mental illness. Intervention services will climb for our returning military men and women, many of who face PTSD. Services will also climb for our at-risk youth and geriatric populations, many of whom struggle with anxiety and/or depression.

OT interventions will become increasingly more preventative in nature. Significant initiatives include: concussion, obesity, suicide, fall, heart disease, and stroke prevention, as well as health coaching and workplace wellness and safety programs. Health promotion and education will be crucial intervention tools that occupational therapists will draw upon.

In response to societal concern regarding medication side effects, OT interventions will become even more holistic. Alternative therapies such as acupuncture, Reiki healing, meditation and mindfulness will become more prevalent.

Delivery systems of care will become more mobile and technology based. Home- centered care and house call services will become commonplace, as will telehealth practices. This shift will especially benefit our geriatric population. OT interventions will focus on preserving independence and increasing the quality of life through the aging process.

The global factors of research, policy issues, and technology will continue to significantly influence the practice of occupational therapy. A primary example of that is concussion care.

Concussion research is widespread, brought to critical attention by the NFL Lawsuit. Research findings have led to policy measures such as mandated testing prior to return to play. It has also led to greater societal awareness, influencing prevention measures and increasing the likelihood of rehabilitation. A promising prevention effort rooted in technology is a specialized 'smart' helmet fitted with impact detecting sensors. Ideally, these helmets will be managed and hopefully lead to more OT referrals for TBI care.

There are many powerful actions available to me, as an occupational therapy practitioner, to effect the advancement of the knowledge base of the profession, while influencing the rapidly evolving world of health intervention. Key initiatives include: active membership in professional OT related organizations, attendance at professional conferences and legislative sessions relevant to OT, and participation in

OT related educational and research opportunities. Other significant contributing actions include professional journal reading to stay abreast of current OT information and trends, collegial networking and dialogue, and involvement in volunteer service opportunities.

My typical weekend includes a volunteer service event. Participation within the community is both personally and professionally enriching. Volunteer service strengthens established relationships of trust and fosters new connections. It aids development of a greater understanding of and empathy toward individuals with various conditions. Most importantly, visibility within the community serves to publically advocate the importance of the profession of occupational therapy.

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Alan Hedge is president of HumanUse Inc. He directs the Cornell Human Factors and Ergonomics Research Group (CHFERG) and is a tenured professor in the Department of Design and Environmental Analysis at Cornell. His research and teaching activities have focused on design and workplace ergonomics as these affect the health, comfort, and productivity of workers.

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#FOTA16 ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Please choose the category you qualify for and your pricing will automatically be calculated.
Full Conference Registration OT/OTA General Conference \$230.00
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Retired Practitioner \$120.00
Student (full-time entry level) \$130.00
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If you wish to only attend one day, please select your day below
Friday Only Registration OT/OTA General Conference \$100.00
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Student Poster Presenter (full-time entry level) \$50.00
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Presenter of Education Session \$150.00
Retired Practitioner \$80.00
Student (full-time entry level) \$80.00
Student Poster Presenter (full-time entry level) \$60.00
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Previous Page
Continue

Conference Registration Deadline for discount expires October 14, 2016

Full registration fees apply after 10/15. Lunch is included in conference fee

Registration Category

When you are registering for conference and filling out the form please pay extra attention to step 3 (shown). Please choose from only one section.

You will choose either: Full Conference Registration, Friday Only or Saturday Only, but only ONCE. There has been some confusion with some registrations to date.

If you do not fill this out properly, you may be charged incorrectly.

This year we are trying our best to offer the best conference experience for every attendee, no matter your level. For the first time, we are offering a student track with student only focused material as well as practitioner focused courses and specialty course offerings.

Institutes at FOTA16



FOTA Institute We have 2 amazing Pre-Conference Institutes this year. There is an additional fee to attned. They take place on Friday, Nov. 4,8 am - 12 pm. Each course earns 4 CEUs. Institute attendees must register for at least one conference day. Click on the course for the abstract information. If you have already registered for conference, you can still attend an institute. Please contact us.

- •IN-1 Understanding and Managing Visual Processing Disorders in Children
- •IN-2 Hands on Learning about Lymphedema

Institute + Friday \$210* earn up to 8 CEUs Institute + Saturday \$260* earn up to 12 CEUs

Institute + Friday + Saturday \$375* earn up to16 CEUs

*fees reflect FOTA Member and Early Bird discounts

#FOTA16 ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Attendee Registration: Click for more info

There are many price points this year as we have opened up single day conference options. Please make sure you register correctly. Early bird deadline is October 15.

Exhibitor & Sponsor Information: Click for more info

Please consider exhibiting and/or sponsoring #FOTA16! There are sponsorships available and the exhibitor hall is open 2 days and you can choose if you want to exhibit 1 day or 2 day.

Institutes: Click for more info

4-hour Pre-Conference Institute. Please note there is an additional charge for these courses and you can select which institute(s) you would like to attend when you submit your conference registration form. We are offering the following: Lymphedema and Understanding and Managing Visual processing

Student Track & Posters: Click for more info

Poster Sessions 1-3 all take place Friday, November 4, 2016, followed by awards. The deadline to submit your application to present at FOTA16 is September 15, 2016. We have a very tight turn-around schedule, so please be prompt. Once the applications are reviewed, we will notify the applicants and put together a schedule and post here.

This year, FOTA is pleased to offer the first ever **student track** at our annual conference. In addition to the many continuing education workshops available, you will also have the opportunity to attend courses JUST FOR YOU. We have experts scheduled to address those issues important to OT and OTA students including: Landing your first job, Preparing for Level II fieldwork, Managing your income and addressing debt

Venue: Click for more info

The venue for our conference is impressive! The hotel and the facilities are modern, beautiful and in a wonderful location. The hotel offers many amenities such as a gym and a spa. The location is on I-drive and conveniently located to Sea World (directly across the street) and to many specialty restaurants and bars. This is truly a fun location for the whole family, so you many want to consider staying the whole weekend and enjoying the FOTA rate at this wonderful facility.



#FOTA16 EXHIBIT INFO



FOTA Conference: Sponsorships

PLATINUM LEVEL SPONSORSHIP: \$4000

2- Day Exhibit Booth, 2 Conference Registrations, Logo on Conference Tote & marketing postcard, Registration Sponsor: Literature placement & table with company representative at Registration and/or Student Track Sessions, Banner Ad & web link on www.flota.org Conference Registration Page from sponsorship date - Conference, Banner ad & web link on (4) FOTA Eblasts,, Logo on Conference Program Cover & full page ad, (4) Full-Page ads in FOTA Newsletter, Exposure as Conf Sponsor on FOTA Social Media sites, Sponsor signage at FOTA Booth & FOTA Awards



GOLD LEVEL SPONSORSHIP: \$3000

2- Day Exhibit Booth, 1 Conference Registration, Logo on Conference Tote & marketing postcard, Logo and sponsor recognition on program and on www.flota.org with link to sponsor website, (4) 1/2 page ads in FOTA Newsletter, Full Page Ad in Conference Program, Recognized at FOTA Mtg/Awards, Banner ad on (3) FOTA Eblasts, Registration Sponsor: Literature placement & table and/or Student Track Sessions, Exposure as Conf Sponsor on FOTA Social Media sites, Sponsor signage at FOTA Booth & FOTA Awards

SILVER LEVEL SPONSORSHIP: \$2000

2- Day Exhibit Booth, Discounted Conference Registration, logo & sponsor recognition on program & on www.flota.org, (4) 1/2 pg ads in FOTA Newsletter, Full pg Ad Conference Program, Recognized at FOTA Mtg/Awards, registration Sponsor: Literature placement & table with company representative at Friday & Saturday Registration, 2 Logo/Banner ad on FOTA Eblasts, Exposure as Conf Sponsor on FOTA Social Media sites, Sponsor signage at FOTA Booth &

FOTA Awards

BRONZE LEVEL SPONSORSHIP: \$1000

2- Day Exhibit booth, Discounted Conference Registration, Company logo and sponsor level recognition on program and on www.flota.org, (4) 1/4 pg ads in FOTA Newsletter, 1/2 pg Ad Conference Program, Recognized at FOTA Mtg/Awards, Acknowledgement at Registration Table, (2) Logo/Banner ad on FOTA Eblasts, Exposure as Conf Sponsor on FOTA Social Media sites, Sponsor signage at FOTA Booth & FOTA Awards

Conference Exhibit Booth

- One or Two-day exhibitor option, Booth Rental: \$300 1-day or \$375 2-days, Electrical Charges will apply
- Access to over 500 occupational therapy attendees

Exhibit Hours: Friday Nov. 4, 2016, 8 am – 4 pm, * 1 hour Unopposed, Saturday November 5, 2016, 8 am – 4 pm, *1.5 hours Unopposed

Registration Packet Stuffer

Ensure that everyone leaves conference with a reminder of your company! Cost per promotional item \$100, Deadline to Register: October 15, 2016

FOTA Website Ad

All Logos and Links will remain on the website through at least November 8, 2016. The sooner you register the more exposure your company will get! Website Ad Rate: \$150

#FOTA16 FRIDAY SCHEDULE

click to view course abstracts: Education Sessions

	Labrid A	Labrid B	Atlantis A /B	Odyssey A	Odyssey B	Mako	Ballroom	Executive Boardroom		
7:00	7:00 AM : FOYER - Registration for Institutes & SP-1									
	8:00 AM : FOYER - Open Registration for All									
8:00	IN-1	IN-2	SP-1		ST-1		Exhibit			
8:30	Understanding and Managing Visual	Hands on Learning about Lymphedema	Set-up & Judging	SC-1 The Archives, Philosophical Origin	Employer	SC-2 Opportunities to	Hall Open			
9:00	Processing Disorders in Children			and Science of OT	ST-2 Presidential Address	Impact Practice Through AOTA Standards				
9:30	Gimaion		SP-1 Presentation Open to all	WS-1 Occupational Based Clinical Interventions	9:10-10:10	SC-3 Best Practices in Continuing				
10:30			SP-2 Set Up Judging	Across the Continuum of Care		Competence for Occupational Therapy Practitioners				
11:00				9:40-11:40		SC-4: School-based OT/PT services & self- advocacy skills in				
11:30						students with disabilities 11:00-12:00				
12:00				FOTA Welcome	e: Ballroom					
12:30			Lunc	h : Atrium			Exhibit	SIS Team		
1:00			y	ç			Hall	Meeting		
1:30	WS-2 Medical Errors	SC-5: Validity/Training in Administering Home Environmental	SP-2 Presentation open to all		ST-4 Preparing for the NBCOT exam	SC-6 Successful Treatment of Autism	Open			
2:30			SP-3 Setup & Judging							
3:00		SC-7		WS-3	ST-5	WS-4				
3:30	WS-5 Laws and Rules	Home Health and OT		The Crucial Role of OT in Dementia Care	Fieldwork Preparation	Managing Sensory- Based Challenges				
4:00	3:40-5:40	SC-8 Health Coaching as an Emerging Enablement Skill in OT 4:10-5:10	SP-3 Presentation open to all					BZ-1 Mindfulness Exericses 4:10-5:10		
4:30										
5:00										
5:30	Student Poster Awards : BALLROOM									

#FOTA16 SATURDAY SCHEDULE

click to view course abstracts: Education Sessions

	Labrid A	Labrid B	Atlantis A	Atlantis B	Odyssey A	Odyssey B	Mako	Eecutive Boardroom	Ballroom
6:45			Yoga: 6:45-7:35						
7:00	7:00 AM : FOYER - Registration								
8:00	WS-6 Active Learning Course Design 8-10	SC-9 Implementing Evidence-Based Practice through Modified Constraint Induced Movement Therapy			WS-7 Adult sibling perspective of autism 8:00-10:00	SC-10 Mobilizing a New Profession for War: The Reconstruction Aides in OT during World War I	SC-11 Community Health Transitional Care Program		Exhibit Hall Open
9:00		SC-12 An Applied Model for the OT Practice Framework 9:10-10:10		SC-13 The Story Of The Roots, Pioneers, And Leaders Of OT 9:10-10:10		WS-8 Parkinsonism versus Parkinson's Disease: What Can Occupational Therapists Do?9:	WS-9 Family-Centered Care: Lessons Learned and Directions Moving Forward		
10:00	BZ-2 Mental Health Wellness 10:10-11:10			BZ-3 Ergonomics in an Era of Electronic Medical Records 10:20-11:20	SC-14 One-Handed Ponytail Device and Learning Kit 10:10-11:10	10-11:10	9:10-11:10		
11:00 11:30		<u> </u>	FΩ	: TA Members	: shin Meeting	: Rallroom			
			10	'IA WEILIDEIS	sinp weeting	j. Daili Oolii			
12:30				Lur	nch: Atrium				
1:00									Exhibit Hall
1:30	WS-10	SC-16	WS-11	WS-12	SC-17	SC-18	WS-13	BZ-4	Open
	Medical Errors	Occupational Therapy's embrace of Primary Care Initiatives	Occupational Therapy and the Relationship Map: Seeing relationships through EBP	Playapy's Smart Guide to Printing Letters	Hints and Hacks for Splinting	Florida Department of Transportation's Health Care Needs Assessment: Addressing Older Adult Drivers	Occupational Therapy	Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and OT Practice	
2:30		WS-14 Therapy Dogs			BZ-5 The new certification for	WS-15 Conversations: Reactions &		BZ-7 Relationship Between	
3:00		2:40-4:40			sensory integration for OT 2:40-3:40	Occupational Impact of the Orlando Pulse & Similar Tragedies		Learning Styles and Education	
3:30	WS-16 Laws & Rules 3:40-5:40		SC-19 Teaching Structured Reasoning to Create a	SC-20 Poised for Empowerment:		2:40-4:40		BZ-6 It takes a village (of OTs): Home	
4:00	33 010		Culture of Safety in the Clinic 3:40-4:40	1	SC-21 Establishing and sustaining service learning		SC-22 Project Fun: The Influence of the Environment on Play	& Community Health 3:40-4:40	
4:30					partnerships to facilitate student learning. 4:00-5:00		Participation in Children with Disabilities 4:00-5:00		
5:00 5:30				7					

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FOCUS

- Submit Non-Advertising articles and manuscripts to the FOCUS editor at FOTA.focus@gmail.com.
- If submitting an article, please also submit a .jpg headshot. If submitting photos, please include captions and identify who is in the pictures.
- Please review <u>Article submissions</u> guidelines prior to submission.
- If you submit photos or articles, FOTA reserves the right to publish on our website and social media.
- FOCUS Deadlines
 - Winter Dec. 15
 - Spring March 15
 - Summer June 15
 - Fall Oct. 15