

OTA Forum: Exploring the OTA Leadership Development Toolkit

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OTA 50th Anniversary

This is the OTA Leadership Story!



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Your Leadership Story

- Your choices shape your life
- Your life is in your hands
- Your life is not a dress rehearsal
- Your life is now



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Choose to Be Active

- Know who you are
- Write a personal constitution
- Focus on what you can control
- Join the dialogue & shape the debate
- Influence the action
- Think and act like owners
- Live life to its fullest



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Choose Service

- Service creates a better world
- Service is the most powerful influence
- Service is action oriented
- Service is contagious
- Service focuses on responsibility
- Service is a way out of depression
- Service brings out the best in others



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Choose a Forward Focus

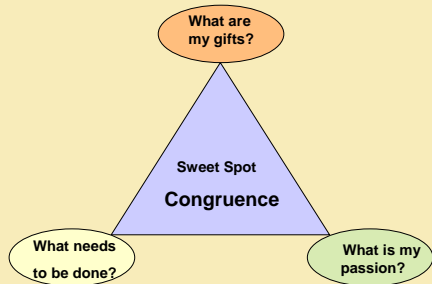
- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forward Focus<ul style="list-style-type: none">– How it can be done.– What is working.– What's right.– How am I part of the solution?– What do I want to achieve?– Make something happen.– Being accountable. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Backward Focus<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Why it can't be done.– What isn't working.– What's wrong.– Ruminating on the problem.– Who's to blame.– Making excuses.– Being a victim. |
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Choose to Use Your Skills



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Learning Objectives

- Locate and identify resources contained in the OTA Leadership Development Toolkit on AOTA's Web site.
- Identify numerous leadership opportunities within the profession that are available to OTAs.
- Recognize common and diverse paths to leadership by current OTA leaders.



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History

- OTA Leadership Development Ad Hoc Committee (2007-08)
- 3 motions made to Representative Assembly
 - Motion #1: Establishment of an ad hoc committee to create an OTA Leadership Development Toolkit for the AOTA Web site
 - Motion #2: Four articles in *OT Practice* that spotlight OTA leaders.
 - Motion #3: revise the Administrative SOP and job descriptions to include in the duties of a chairperson an assessment of the need for an OTA perspective for their committees, commissions, ad hoc groups, etc.



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Progress

- All motions were approved by 2008 RA
 - Motion 3- BPPC revised policy 2.6 to "an individual appointing members to an Association body shall consider inclusion of occupational therapists or occupational therapy assistants".
 - Motion 2- Articles are planned and have started appearing in *OT Practice* this year (2009).
 - Motion 1-OTA Leadership Development Ad Hoc Committee members assisted with gathering Toolkit contents. Toolkit is ready for unveiling in April 2009. Additional items will be added over time.



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Toolkit Committee Work

- The OTA Leadership Development Ad Hoc Committee had already brainstormed what should be included in the toolkit
- Toolkit committee began to prioritize the ideas, gather resources, and communicate with other committees



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Toolkit Contents

- Letter from AOTA President Penny Moyers Cleveland encouraging OTA involvement



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Toolkit Contents

- A self assessment for OTAs to determine if leadership is right for them
- Completed power point presentations on leadership



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AOTA Leadership Opportunities

- Link to AOTA governance and leadership opportunities on AOTA Web site
<http://www.aota.org/Governance/Leadership.aspx>
- Link to Coordinated On-line Opportunities for Leadership (COOL) when available
- A list of all AOTA Leadership bodies and opportunities for OTAs to serve



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Leadership Resources

- Resources that help OTAs recognize and foster leadership skills and potential
- Links-
 - To websites promoting leadership
 - To articles, journals, and other resources about leadership
 - To other areas of the AOTA web site with further information about opportunities



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Paths to Leadership

- Personal stories of OTA leaders and their paths to leadership
- OT Practice Articles spotlighting OTAs
- OT Practice Columns in Molly Asks or Careers that feature OTA Leaders



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CE Credit for Volunteerism

- **NBCOT certification renewal requirements**
 - Volunteering for an organization, population, or individual that adds to the overall development of one's practice roles. Also mentoring, FW supervision, presenting
- **State licensure renewal requirements**
 - **Idaho:** Holding state or national office in professional organizations
 - **Kentucky:** Participation in volunteer services performed for organizations, populations, or individuals if the services maintain or enhance the licensee's competence in professional skills in the practice of occupational therapy
 - **Vermont:** Mentorship, which includes participation as a mentor or mentee in a formalized mentorship agreement



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Learning Activities for Educators

- Encouraging professional behaviors and leadership development in students
 - Course example
 - Students will become acquainted with OT practitioners' responsibilities in professional activities and in promoting OT to consumers, payers, other professionals
 - Activity examples
 - Legislative activities, legislative analysis
 - "Pay it Forward" program with state association
 - Leading high school tours



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Community Opportunities

- Examples of opportunities for OTAs to present OT related information in the community
 - Host Backpack Awareness events
 - Present to seniors on fall prevention, home modification, adaptive equipment
 - Participate in CarFit, DriveWell, Rebuilding Together events
 - Host OT Month events in the community



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Connecting with OTAs/OTA Leaders

- Links to rosters for the Representative Assembly, AOTA BOD
- Links to NBCOT volunteer opportunities
- State Association links on AOTA Web site
- OT Connections
 - OTA listserv is now OTA forum



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Encouraging Employer Support

- Resources for OTAs to use with employers to encourage support for volunteerism
 - Talking Points for OTAs to use with employers
 - Sample volunteer thank you letter
 - COOL (after launch) will have descriptions and time commitments for volunteer opportunities



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AOTA Leadership Opportunities

- Board of Directors Positions (elected)
 - President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, 6 Directors (1 must be OTA)
- Commission Chairpersons (elected)
 - Commission on Practice (OT or OTA)
 - Commission on Education (OT or OTA)
 - Commission on Continuing Competence and Professional Development (OT)
 - Ethics Commission (OT or OTA)



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AOTA Leadership Opportunities

- Representative Assembly
 - Speaker, Vice-Speaker, Recorder, Agenda Chair, BPPC Chair, CRAC Chair (OT or OTA)
 - Representative from each state for the Representative Assembly (OT or OTA)
 - OTA Representative and OTA Alternative Representative to the RA (OTA)
 - Nominating Committee (at least 1 OTA)
 - Recognitions Committee (at least 1 OTA)



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AOTA Leadership Opportunities

- Assembly of Student Delegates Steering Committee (OT or OTA student)
- American Occupational Therapy Political Action Committee (OT or OTA)
- Commission Members (appointed)
 - COP (at least 1 OTA)
 - COE (1 educator member who is an OTA)
 - CCCPD (OT or OTA)
 - EC (1 OTA member)



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AOTA Leadership Opportunities

- Special Interest Section Council (OT or OTA)
- SISs (Special Interest Sections) Standing Committee Chairpersons or members
 - Administration & Management, Developmental, Education, Early Intervention & School, Gerontology, Home and Community Health, Mental Health, Physical Disabilities, Sensory Integration, Technology, Work and Industry



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AOTA Leadership Opportunities

- Accreditation Council on Occupational Therapy Education Chair (OT)
- ACOTE Members, Roster of Accreditation Evaluators (OT or OTA)
- Specialty Certification
- Topic/Event Specific Appointments
- Potential Ad Hoc Groups/Task/Projects
- Conference Related Activities



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Leadership Opportunities

- NBCOT
- State OT Associations & Districts
- State Licensure Boards
- Community Consumer Groups



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Paths to Leaderships

- Examples of OTA Paths to Leadership
 - Teri Black
 - Janet Neely
 - Other OTA Leaders



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2009 RA Motions

- **MOTION 1**
Definition of OT/OTA Roles Within the Model Practice Act and All Other Relevant Documents
- **MOTION 2**
Specialized Knowledge and Skills Paper for Occupational Therapists in Oncology
- **MOTION 3**
Title Change for Occupational Therapy Assistants



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2009 RA Motions

- **MOTION 4**
Develop Model Requirements for Re-Entry/Re-Licensure
- **MOTION 5**
Ensure Broad Practice Area Representation Within the AOTA Board of Directors
- **MOTION 6**
Building Diversity in Occupational Therapy Now To Meet the Centennial Vision



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Your Feedback About the Toolkit

- Are there items in the Toolkit that you think will be particularly helpful?
- Are there other resources you would like included in the Toolkit?
- What methods would you suggest to publicize the Toolkit?



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