

October 2008

Report of the Vice President

Florence Clark, PhD, OTR, FAOTA

A.1. Centennial Commission Activities, April–September 2008

Activities of Commissioners and their groups

➤ Town Hall Meetings

President Penny Moyers conducted a Town Hall meeting in conjunction with a Maryland OT Association meeting in June with more than 50 students, faculty, and practitioners in attendance. President Moyers spoke about the Centennial Vision (CV) and Leadership and solicited feedback and questions from the groups. The response was very positive.

➤ ASD

- The ASD April meeting had a day devoted to thinking about CV issues.
- Brainstorming about 4 major areas
 1. Mental Health
 2. Linking research, education, practice
 3. Increasing diversity
 4. Increasing public awareness

➤ Networks (represented by Jaime Munoz)

- Distributed info to all networks at Long Beach in order to get people involved
- Encouraged folks to submit to CFPs 2009
- Participated in Diversity page on AOTA's web site
- Black Caucus trying to form more chapters
- Thinking about ideas for a keynote speaker relative to Diversity

➤ Program Directors

President Moyers has appointed two Program Director Ad Hoc groups.

Certification Exam Ad Hoc

This Committee of academic program directors was formed in the second half of FY08 and was charged by the President to identify key recommendations to address the challenges facing the academic programs related to achieving and maintaining excellent national certification examination pass rates. The Committee met by regular conference calls and is writing a report for submission to the President in September. The recommendations will focus on early identification of “at risk students” and development of resources for both faculty members and students in preparing for the examination.

Faculty Shortages Ad Hoc

This Committee of academic program directors was developed in the second half of the year and was charged by the President to develop recommendations to address current and anticipated faculty shortages as senior faculty at many educational institutions approach retirement. The Committee met by regular conference calls and is writing a report for submission to the President in September. Recommendations will focus on recruitment, education and support for new and existing faculty members.

➤ **RA**

- Penny and Brent sent out an e-mail to all chairpersons of committees and committees (RACC) + the RALT to have standing bodies join them in re-examining their “work” and asking the questions about relevance of existing procedures and activities
- Discussion with groups as to how to link back to the CV and logic model when focusing their work

➤ **General Centennial Commission discussion**

- The globally connected aspect is not being highlighted in the CV even though we are doing things, so how can we rectify this
 - May need to discuss a more consistent presence at international conferences
 - May need to look at connecting with more international associations
 - May need to more clearly separate globally connected from diversity issues on the logic model
 - We may need to capture all the activity happening at a global level at the university level

Measuring and reporting outcomes for the Centennial Vision

➤ **Logic Model**

- Logic model is a way for us to measure our progress towards the vision
 - A way to help us focus
- Distributed current work of AOTA relative to logic model to all commissioners with brief discussion
 - Penny’s goal would be that many of the governance committees could use the logic model in order to prioritize their work and make work decisions

Dissemination

OTP articles

April 14, 2008:

New OT Brand: “*Living Life To Its Fullest.*” Page 7.

Continuing Competence: Professional Development and Certification: What's In It For Me? By Coralie "Corky" Glantz & Mary Kay Curry. Page 21-22.

April 28, 2008:

Molly Asks: Charles Christiansen. By Molly Strzelecki. Page 40.

June 30, 2008:

Focus on: Developmental Disabilities Special Interest Section. By Ricardo C. Carrasco. Page 23.

July 14, 2008:

Fieldwork Issues: A Vision for Fieldwork. By Donna M. Costa. Page 20, 22.

August 25, 2008:

Practice Perks: *Health Promotion.* By Vibeke Talley. Page 18.

Focus on: Education Special Interest Section. By Jyothi Gupta. Page 20.

CV Power Point Presentations

- The annotated PP available to members on the web has been updated

A.2 General Centennial Vision Related Activities

➤ **Leadership**

The jointly sponsored AOTA and Leadership Mentoring Program for program directors has been meeting regularly by phone. This Leadership Mentoring Program has been tailored for occupational therapy program directors who are eager to move forward in their academic careers, handle administrative and programmatic challenges at the next level, and take on increased leadership roles within the academic community. The 17 leadership "fellows" will meet in September for their closing "circle" in Denver with Catherine Nielson, the "catalyst mentor," Ellie Gilfoyle and Ann Grady, the facilitators, as well as staff from AOTA and AOTF. The leadership development plans of each person will be shared with the group at that time.

A 1-year follow-up survey to check in on the first group of "fellows" is currently being designed and will be launched sometime this fall.

Discussions are underway for determining the participants for the third "mentoring circle." No firm decisions have been made as to the target group for this circle.

Ellie and Ann will present an institute related to leadership at the 2009 conference. A brief description follows:

*Leader learning for participants in this institute will evolve through a didactic dialogue designed to provide participants with an opportunity to explore and discuss their own ideas about leaders and leadership while comparing their ideas to the Five Practices of Exemplary Leadership™ model developed by James M. Kouzes and Barry Z. Posner and published in the book *The Leadership Challenge* (2002)*

➤ **Conference Related**

VP Clark led panel of speakers for the Centennial Vision presentation at the 2008 Conference. The session was entitled “*Practitioners Poised for the Future.*” Plans are already underway for the 2009 CV conference session which will highlight practitioners from diverse backgrounds and their successes.

The 2009 Conference theme is *linking research, education and practice.* The “plenary” session at conference will be devoted to this theme and will feature the *Living Laboratory (LL) for Elder Care* at Thomas Jefferson University.

Dr. Freeman Hrabowski, President of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, will deliver the keynote address at the 2009 conference; the address will be devoted to diversity.

➤ **Work with External Partners**

- AOTA continues to collaborate with AARP and the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) on initiatives related to home modification and aging in place.
 - AARP provided 10 scholarships for occupational therapists to attend 2 days of NAHB’s Certified Aging in Place (CAPS) designation courses at AARP’s headquarters in Washington, D.C. on June 10 and 11. Twenty OT practitioners and students applied for the scholarships. The 10 awardees were from OK, PA, MA, MD, ME, and KY.
 - National Association of Home Builders (NAHB)
 - NAHB has invited AOTA to exhibit at their Fall Remodeler’s Show in Baltimore. The focus will be on the value of OT and remodeler collaboration.
 - AOTA, AARP, and NAHB
 - AOTA, AARP, and NAHB met at AOTA on June 19 to discuss collaborative efforts to date and plan for future collaborations. The second round of panel presentations of the 3 organizations at various conferences will add information about communication strategies to improve collaboration between OTs and contractors. AOTA staff has suggested 2 projects for possible AARP funding: a consensus conference following the older driver model and an academic education module.
 - AOTA will participate with NAHB and AARP in an interactive session at the AARP conference in Washington, D.C. in September. The session will introduce attendees to the AARP Home Fit Guide and demonstrate simple modifications to improve safety and comfort in the home.
- Maureen Peterson, Chief Professional Affairs Officer, and Beth Bristow, faculty from UAB, participated in a Low Vision “A Team” meeting in Seattle in June. The meeting brought together representatives from AOTA, the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the American Optometric Association, and the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind

and Visually Impaired. The results of the meeting included an agreement to pursue an MOU defining our collaborative relationship and to undertake a project that would disseminate low vision information via the various professionals to the consumer.

- AARP, American Automobile Association (AAA) and American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) signed a 3-year CarFit MOU demonstrating a commitment to the continued development and expansion of this program.
- AOTA and The Hartford will soon begin collaboration on a 2-year research project to better understand the impact of occupational therapy driver rehabilitation services on older driver behaviors and decisions. AOTA will receive funding to support staff time spent on this project.
- The General Motors Mobility division is expanding their GM Mobility Web site to better describe the network of services and providers available to persons with disabilities. This modification will include both a link to the AOTA Older Driver Website www.aota.org/olderdriver and a database of occupational therapy providers who address driving and community mobility needs.
- AOTA has signed a MOU with the *International Council on Active Aging* (ICAA), an association that supports professionals who develop wellness and fitness facilities and services for the older-adult market. Through this partnership, ICAA and AOTA will educate each other's members in their respective areas of expertise by sharing education, information and resources. ICAA will help to improve knowledge about older-adult wellness among AOTA members, while AOTA will help to educate ICAA members about occupational therapy and its role in the emerging discipline of older-adult wellness. The associations will also encourage their members to work more cooperatively, thereby enhancing the services these professionals offer their aging clients.

➤ **Board Centennial Vision Priorities**

❖ ***Image Building Campaign***

- The brand has been created and was launched at conference during the Presidential address: ***Living Life To Its Fullest***
- **Next steps**
 - Develop materials for the profession: In development is a poster and a brochure. The poster will be inserted into *OT Practice* magazine (currently scheduled for November) so that every member has a tangible, visual, iconic image to ingrain the brand into their consciousness and their daily promotion of OT. Products bearing the brand will be available for sale through AOTA near the end of the year; these will carry over into OT Month. Under consideration is redoing the AOTA display for use at external conferences in synch with the brand. A page on the website, as well as some of aspects of the website visuals will be altered to include the brand message.

- Develop materials for the public: Pending
- Advise on media activities: Pending
- **National and local media coverage:**
 - *U.S. News & World Report*: OT One of Best Careers in 2007, again in 2008
 - *New York Times*: OT and Head Injury
 - **Reuters International News Service**: OT and Wii
 - *USA Today*: OT in Iraq, Afghanistan
 - *Woman's Day magazine* has produced their Backpack story that will run in September. AOTA Public Affairs worked with the reporter to ensure they had the correct data.
 - *The New York Times* published the Carfit story that AOTA worked on with them beginning in April 2008. The AOTA web site then promoted the placement with a link to the *Times* story.
 - Pediatric Coordinator wrote article entitled "OT in Community Based Early Intervention Settings" for *Infants and Toddlers Coordinators Association* (ITCA) newsletter

July 2008

- July 29: The *Ashville Citizen-Times* ran an article about backpack safety tips, citing AOTA as the source.
- July 30: Chief Public Affairs Officer Christina A. Metzler was interviewed by Lindsey Rushmore at *Eli's Rehab Report* about therapy caps and the Physician Payment Schedule.
- July 31: Director of State Affairs & Reimbursement Chuck Willmarth and Regulatory Counsel Sharmila Sandhu were interviewed by Emily Beaver at *HCPPro* about working with OT aides.
- July 31: Submitted a letter to the editor authored by Executive Director Frederick P. Somers to *Boston Globe Magazine* in response to an article about aging.

August 2008

- August 1: *The Birmingham News* ran a photo of an occupational therapist in the Jobs section, provided by the American Occupational Therapy Association.
- August 1: Submitted a letter to the editor authored by Chief Public Affairs Officer Christina A. Metzler to the *Chicago Tribune* in response to an article about autism.
- August 1: Submitted a letter to the editor authored by Chief Public Affairs Officer Christina A. Metzler to the *News & Observer* in response to an article about older drivers.
- August 4: Vice President Dr. Florence Clark was interviewed by Allan Richter at *Energy Times* about change in a person's life and Alzheimer's.
- August 6: Former President Dr. Karen Jacobs, EdD, CPE, OTR/L, FAOTA, was interviewed by Amy Mayer at *Wi-FiPlanet.com* about improper laptop use.
- August 6: The *Rapid City Weekly News* and *The Black Hills Pioneer* ran an opinion editorial by AOTA member Kim Anderson about backpack safety.

- August 7: Chief Public Affairs Officer Christina A. Metzler was interviewed by Judy O'Rourke at *Rehab Management* about electronic healthcare records.
- August 7: The *Starkville Daily News* ran an article about backpack safety tips, citing AOTA as the source.
- August 11: The *Kansas City Star* ran a quote by Chief Professional Affairs Officer Maureen Peterson about the use of the Wii in occupational therapy.
- August 11: The *El Paso Times* ran an article by AOTA member Stephanie Capshaw, OTDc, OTR, about backpack safety.
- August 13: Former President Dr. Karen Jacobs was interviewed by Stephanie Nolasco at *Latino Life* about back-to-school backpack tips.
- August 14: Following Cindy McCain's wrist injury, AOTPAC Chair Amy Lamb, OTD, OTR/L, spoke with the CBS Early Show about AOTA's Grip and Grin campaign and how candidates across the country can prevent similar injuries.
- August 15: The *Times Herald* ran an article about backpack safety tips, citing AOTA as the source.
- August 19: AOTA member Alexander Lopez, JD, OTR/L, was interviewed by Terri Schaefer at *Advance for Health Care Careers* about occupational therapy as a career.
- August 19: The *Centre Daily Times* re-ran the *Kansas City Star* article quoting Chief Professional Affairs Officer Maureen Peterson about the use of the Wii in occupational therapy.
- August 20: Wi-FiPlanet.com ran an article about ergonomics quoting former president Dr. Karen Jacobs, EdD, CPE, OTR/L, FAOTA.
- August 25: AOTPAC Chair Amy Lamb, OTD, OTR/L, was interviewed by Jamie Paton at the *Rocky Mountain News* about AOTA's attendance at the Democratic National Convention.
- August 26: The *Rocky Mountain News* ran an article about AOTA attending the Democratic National Convention and the Grip and Grin campaign.
- August 26: The *Akron Beacon Journal* ran an article about backpack safety tips, citing AOTA as the source.
- August 28: The *Herald Times* ran an article about backpack safety tips, citing AOTA as the source.
- August 28: MSNBC.com ran an article about backpack safety tips, citing AOTA as the source.
- August 29: The *Iowa Hawk Eye* ran an article about backpack safety tips, citing AOTA as the source.

September 2008

- September 2: AOTA Older Driver Initiative Coordinator Elin Schold Davis was interviewed by the *Star-Ledger* about CarFit.
- September 2: Former President Dr. Karen Jacobs, EdD, CPE, OTR/L, FAOTA, was interviewed by Veronica Majerol at Grandparents.com about backpack safety tips.

- September 3: *United Press International* (UPI) ran an article about backpack safety tips, citing AOTA as the source.
- September 3: The *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* ran an article about backpack safety tips, citing AOTA as the source. The article included the date of National School Backpack Awareness Day.

❖ ***Advocacy to Ensure Funding for OT***

- Federal affairs staff was successful in stopping the outpatient Medicare therapy cap from full implementation twice over the past year through AOTA advocacy efforts. In December 2007, a 6-month extension of the exception process was passed and in July 2008 an 18-month extension was successfully put on the Congressional agenda. AOTA also successfully removed harmful proposed language that could have led to inappropriate changes to the payment structure. AOTA also advocated for other Medicare issues which were successfully addressed: the preventing of a cut to the Physician Fee Schedule and a stabilization of payment for rehabilitation hospitals
- As previously reported, AOTA submitted nominees to RTI and CMS for the 5-year project “**Developing Outpatient Therapy Payment Alternatives.**” AOTA members Nancy Richman, Elizabeth Skidmore and Susan Coppola have been named to the Technical Expert Panel (TEP) participated in a two day meeting at CMS on July 8-9. Policy staff briefed the nominees July 7 before the TEP meeting. Staff also attended an open door forum on the project, expressing AOTA’s concerns about approaches that did not fully consider clinical judgment and patient differences.
- Reimbursement staff and AOTA’s Quality Consultant Mary Radomski submitted a Capital Briefing article for *OT Practice* regarding AOTA’s work on **quality issues** outlining the activities that have succeeded in gaining recognition of occupational therapy-related outcome measures. This has involved significant work with external organizations including the American Medical Association.
- Policy staff provided a Legislative Briefing and coordinated visits to Capitol Hill during new Board Member orientation. During the day of lobbying four AOTA Board members made a series of nine visits to Senators and Representatives to advocate for the profession.
- Federal Affairs staff, in conjunction with Professional Affairs, worked with the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke Director Story Landis, MD, on implementing report language that AOTA achieved in last year’s appropriations bill promoting research involving occupational therapy and recovery from stroke. AOTA submitted comments on the Report of the Stroke Progress Review Committee.

- Federal Affairs staff is scheduling a meeting with the key mental health administrator in the Veterans Administration, to discuss OT's role in PTSD and other areas. This opportunity resulted from Carolyn Baum's testimony on behalf of AOTA before the House Veterans Committee. It complements AOTA's work in promoting communication with members who work in the VA.
- Participated in a Hill Briefing in the Capitol arranged by Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) for the Association for Ambulatory Behavioral Health (AABH) regarding Medicare's Partial Hospitalization Program. This led to a meeting with the National Association for Behavioral Health (NABH) which represents independent community mental health centers. AOTA agreed to work with NABH to advance legislation to improve payments under medicare for partial hospitalization.
- AOTA became an official outreach partner to end health disparities with the Office of Minority Health. AOTA committed to integrating cultural competency, and attention to health care disparities into its policy and practice agenda.
- Policy staff worked in collaboration with the Falls Free Coalition and were successful in doubling CDC funding in both House and Senate Appropriations bills related to falls prevention.
- Reimbursement staff defended the full scope of OT in Medicare by submitting comments on a number of Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs). LCDs establish Medicare coverage policy at the local level. AOTA submitted comments to Mutual of Omaha on a wound care, to First Coast on coverage for the assistive technology CPT code (97755) and continued to advocate with NGS on the use of the cognitive services CPT code (97532).
- AOTA submitted multiple letters of comment to funding agencies regarding priorities and plans for research. These included the Interagency Coordinating Committee on Disability Research, NIMH, and NIDRR. AOTA also joined a new coalition to advocate for more funds for disability research and signed on to testimony they submitted.
- Veterans
 - Outreach to DoD, Veterans Health
 - Congressional awareness
 - Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
 - Traumatic Brain Injury
 - Dr. Carolyn Baum testified before the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Health about the role of OT in treating PTSD
- Centers for Disease Control
 - Joint work on falls prevention, TBI, and elderly

- Session at Conference 2008
 - Support for funding
- Special/Regular Education
 - Promoting role of OT—Early intervening
 - Positive Behavioral Supports
 - Ohio, Idaho Medicaid recognition
 - Advocacy on promoting rehabilitation in Medicaid
- AOTA staff met several times with key advocates in the mental health arena including the Annapolis Coalition, the Campaign for Mental Health Reform and the National Council for Behavioral Healthcare. AOTA staff Tim Nanof made a presentation at NCBH's national conference in Boston to promote use of occupational therapy in community mental health systems.

❖ *Linking Research, Education and Practice*

AJOT

- A series of articles reporting the findings from the EB literature review on Driving and Community Mobility for Older Adults was published in the March/April 2008 issue of AJOT.
 - All articles include a 'translation' section on implications for education, research and practice

OT Practice

• **Feature Articles**

- ***Using AOTA's CAT and CAP Series to Link Evidence to Practice: Supporting the Integration of Research Evidence, Practitioner Expertise, and Client Perspectives in the Clinical Decision-Making Process*** (March/April 2008)
- ***Qualitative Research and EBP*** (June 2008)

• **Evidence Perks:**

- National Library of Medicine (Sept 2007)
- AARP (online research databases) (Oct 2007)
- Institute on Work and Health (Dec 2007)
- Mental Health Evidence-Based Programs and Practice (SAMSHA) (Feb 2008)
- Reviewing Table of Contents of Journals to find evidence (May 2008)
- AOTA's Evidence Based Practice Resource Directory Update (September 2008)

Student Conclave

- To promote the linkages between universities and practitioners, AOTA's student conclave provided a venue for:

- mock interviews (how to present yourself as a life-long learner in the interview process)
- modeling the documentation of evidence-based activities for a professional portfolio
- developing strategies, including being a change agent when presented with the current disconnect between evidence-based and historical-based practice

AOTA EBP conference session

- *Evidence-Based Occupational Therapy: Finding, Synthesizing, and Applying Clinical Evidence (workshop included participation from Associate Director, US Cochrane Center.)*
- *Evidence-Based Literature Review of Occupational Therapy Interventions for Individuals with Work-Related Injuries/Clinical Conditions*

EVIDENCE BYTES

September 3, 2008

Evidence Byte: Systematic Review Webcasts

The National Center for the Dissemination of Disability Research (NCDDR) will host two free Webcasts in September to discuss the systematic review process used for evidence-based practice by those in the disability and rehabilitation fields. See the Web site for descriptions of the September 3 and September 17 Webcasts and free registration.

<http://www.ncddr.org/webcasts/11/index.html>

August 18, 2008

Evidence Byte: Updated NCDRR Web Site

The Web site for the National Center for the Dissemination of Disability Research (NCDDR) has been recently updated and includes a Registry for Systematic Reviews. Search the registry by keyword, journal title, author, type of review, and year of publication. Resources on knowledge translation are also included.

<http://ncddr.org/?emc=lm&m=281379&l=33&v=2175957>

August 4, 2008

Evidence Byte: Stroke Rehabilitation

The Evidence-Based Review of Stroke Rehabilitation Web site provide reviews of up-to-date evidence on topics including the efficacy of stroke rehabilitation, cognitive disorders and apraxia, the rehabilitation of severe stroke, and the rehabilitation of younger patients. The site was developed by a Canadian team of stroke experts.

http://www.ebrsr.com/index_home.html?emc=lm&m=271942&l=17&v=2174339

July 21, 2008

Evidence Byte: Falls, Neurological and Cognitive Disorders

Health Care Innovations Exchange, a resource of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), is a nationwide repository for successful and failed health care innovations. A description and rating of evidence for each program is provided. Search by topic to find information on falls and on neurological and cognition disorders.

<http://www.innovations.ahrq.gov/>

July 7, 2008

Evidence Byte: Early Education and Intervention

A presentation titled "Evidence-Based Practice [EBP]—What Does It Really Mean for Early Education and Intervention?" offers not only a review of EBP but also ideas for its application to practice, policy, and research. Developed by Virginia Buysse, PhD, and contributors at the FPG Child Development Institute at UNC-Chapel Hill, this resource is highly recommended for school-based practitioners.

http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~handouts/Buysse_zerotothree_5-22-07.pdf

June 23, 2008

Evidence Byte: Health and Wellness

The National Center on Physical Activity and Disability contains summaries of evidence-based studies on the effects of an active lifestyle on the health and wellness of persons with disabilities. The Center also has information specialists available to answer questions and help consumers and practitioners maximize their use of the Web site.

<http://www.ncpad.org/>

June 9, 2008

Evidence Byte: Arthritis Intervention Programs

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provides information on evidence-based programs to improve the lives of people with arthritis. Types of interventions are organized by subject heading and include communications campaigns promoting physical activity, four physical activity programs, and self-management education programs.

<http://www.cdc.gov/arthritis/intervention/index.htm>

May 27, 2008

Evidence Byte: AccessMyLibrary

The AccessMyLibrary Web site provides free access to subscription databases for educational, personal, and research needs through your personal library card or U.S. driver's license. Type in key search words or browse by encyclopedia, publication, or a specific subject heading to begin your search.

<http://www.accessmylibrary.com/>

May 12, 2008

Evidence Byte: Improving the Quality of Health Care

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's Evidence-Based Practice Centers (EPCs) Program provides links to evidence reports and technology assessments. Reports

are categorized into clinical, technical, and health care services headings, and include diagnostic, prevention, and treatment information to improve the quality of health care.
<http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/epcix.htm>

April 28, 2008

Evidence Byte: Understanding EBP

The National Institute of Health's Web page on Clinical Center Nursing provides an overview of evidence-based practice (EBP), including topics on determining the quality of research studies and ways to implement evidence in practice. Definitions, models, tutorials, and other resources about specific components of EBP are also available.
<http://clinicalcenter.nih.gov/nursing/ebp/index.html>

April 14, 2008

Evidence Byte: Model of Human Occupation

The MOHO Clearinghouse features information about the Model of Human Occupation. Searches for articles that inform evidence-based practice can be specified by topic of interest, age, practice area, setting, and assessment. Archived listserv discussions related to searches done at this site are also available.
http://www.mocho.uic.edu/evidence_based_practice.php

March 31, 2008

Evidence Byte: Social and Emotional Foundations

The Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning is a resource center for dissemination of evidence-based practices for those working with young children. Many briefs are available for download, including "Helping Children Understand Routines and Classroom Schedules" and "Using Environmental Strategies to Promote Positive Social Interactions."
<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/csefel/>

March 17, 2008

Evidence & Research

Evidence Byte: Evaluating the Evidence

The Critical Appraisal Skills Programme (CASP) of the Public Health Research Unit, in Oxford, has excellent resources to evaluate the quality of research articles being considered as evidence for practice. The resources can apply to a variety of research designs, including systematic reviews, randomized controlled trials, and qualitative research.
<http://www.phru.nhs.uk/Pages/PHD/resources.htm>

March 3, 2008

Evidence Byte: Making Scientific Evidence More Relevant to Practice

A recent National Institutes of Health lecture by Lawrence W. Green, a public health researcher and developer of the "Precede-Proceed Model," proposes five ways to make scientific evidence more relevant to practice. The methods—both traditional and new—offer a comprehensive approach that could be used for occupational therapy and other health professions. The lecture is available as a video or podcast titled "If We Want More

Evidence-Based Practice, We Need More Practice-Based Evidence."

<http://videocast.nih.gov/pastevents.asp?c=3>

February 19, 2008

Evidence Byte: Individuals Using Wheelchairs

Seating and mobility, a Web site developed by Sunny Hill Health Centre in British Columbia, is a goldmine of evidence-based resources for OT practitioners who work with people using wheelchairs. See the 2001-2006 Proceedings of the International Seating Symposium for valuable evidence-based references.

<http://www.seatingandmobility.ca/default.aspx>

February 4, 2008

Evidence Byte: Institute of Medicine Report Calls for National Program to Assess Health Care Services

Citing soaring health care premiums and consumer and payer confusion, a prestigious panel of scientists has recommended a national program that would give the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services the authority and resources to fund and manage the systematic review of the clinical effectiveness of health care services. The proposed program would serve as a "trusted resource for reliable information" and lead to the development of a common language and standards for systematic reviews, scientists said.

<http://nationalacademies.org/morenews/20080124.html>

❖ **Research Agenda**

- The Research Advisory Panel (RAP) has met via conference call to continue its initial task towards the alignment of the AOTA / AOTF "research priorities" with those of the federal funding agencies. Work continues on presentation of the Research Priority Grid with consensus on the examination of occupational therapy interventions through efficacy and effectiveness studies.
- Susan Lin, ScD, OTR/L assumed the AOTA Director of Research position August 4, 2008. Susan has been orienting to her role and becoming familiar with the research needs of the organization.
- AOTA presented comments to the **Interagency Committee on Disability Research** (ICDR) on ways to improve the future of research for individuals with disabilities.
- AOTA commented on the **August 13, 2008 testimony of the disability and rehabilitation research coalition before the Interagency Committee on Disability Research** relative to recommendations and conclusions.
- The RAP chair has been actively working with staff in dialogue with Dr. Storey Landis, director of the National Institute on Stroke and other Neurological Diseases, to implement Congressional language urging collaboration with AOTA on promoting improved research and practice in stroke.
- **Meetings attended by Research Director**

- Attended ICDR hearing
- Will attend Agency of Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) conference in early September
- Registered for webcasts on systematic reviews offered by NCDRR in September
- **Conference**
 - Continues to refine and improve research programming. The 2008 *Call for Papers* was revised with input from our own research community relative to research submissions. For the first time we also introduced “research platforms”. There were 171 specific research offerings at the 2008 conference; the break down is as follows:

<u>Session Type</u>	<u>Total</u>
Poster	48
Research Paper	40
Research Platform	52
Research Work in Progress	23
Short Course	8

- 3rd Annual Conference Institute (2008): “***Building an academic career with a research training award***”
- 4th Annual Conference Institute (2009): “***Meet the Grant Makers***”

❖ ***Model Curriculum***

- Both the OT and OTA ***Model Curriculum*** Ad Hoc Committees met for a three day in person meeting and conducted regular conference calls throughout the year. The Committees are currently working on the final draft versions of the Model Curriculums which will guide the user through the steps in developing and/or revising a “Model OT/OTA Curriculum”. The drafts should be ready for review in early fall 2008. Each model curriculum will include exemplars. As a follow-up to the work of these committees, a “***Blueprint for the Future of Education***” Committee has been budgeted for FY’09. This committee is charged with identifying the curriculum content and expected student learning outcomes for occupational therapy and occupational therapy assistant programs in order to meet society’s needs in the 21st century

❖ ***Outcomes Database***

- AOTA’s BOD approved the Phase I Ad Hoc report on the development of a universal computerized outcomes data base. As a result a staff committee met on an ongoing basis to obtain additional information about specific outcome measures and systems and database management companies to more fully understand the existing landscape. A final report of staff findings and recommendations was presented to the BOD in June 2008. Future work will include AOTA endorsement of AM-PAC as the outcome measure for the profession’s national outcome database and the development of patient record

and documentation system for occupational therapy services in conjunction with an existing database management company.

A.3. General Activities of the Vice President

VP Clark facilitated the Centennial Vision presentation at the 2008 Conference in Long Beach. The session was entitled **Centennial Vision: Practitioners Poised for the Future**, and highlighted six practitioners from around the country who are pioneering innovative occupational therapy practice in meeting society's needs. Panel presentations included the work of Kerrie Ramsdell, MS, LOTR, in bringing universal design principles into the rebuilding of post-Katrina New Orleans, as well as of Joy Hammel, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, in empowering people institutionalized in nursing homes to return to their communities.

VP Clark presented to AOTA members at the Annual Business Meeting at the 2008 Conference regarding the latest status of Centennial Vision priorities and progress. VP Clark also provided an update on Centennial Vision priorities at the Program Directors' Education Council Meetings at Conference.

VP Clark's presentation of "AOTA's Centennial Vision: What It Is, Why It's Right" has been uploaded onto the AOTA website for use as a presentation by AOTA members, and is periodically updated to reflect current progress.

VP Clark participated in the development of the logic model, which aims to be a valuable tool to measure progress toward the Centennial Vision.

Centennial Vision tracking system has been uploaded onto AOTA Sharepoint and is being continually monitored by VP Clark's assistants.

Events/audiences and presentations scheduled for VP Clark on the Centennial Vision have included and will include:

- AOTA Annual Conference – April 2008
- Arizona Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference keynote speaker – September 2008
- Utah Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference keynote speaker – October 2008
- Occupational Therapy Association of California Annual Conference keynote speaker – October 2008
- AOTA Annual Conference- April 2009