

Fall 2025 AOTA Academic Leadership Councils Meeting Online ~ October 22-24, 2025

Except for the small group breakouts ALL sessions will be **recorded** and made available to registrants following the meeting. All times reflect Eastern time zone.

Schedule is subject to change based on last minute availability of speakers.

Day 1: Wednesday, October 22nd (3.5 contact hours)

10:50 am	Open Room
10:55 am	Chair's Welcome
11:00 am	Plenary: State of OT/OTA Education Neil Harvison, PhD, OTR, FNAP, FAOTA
12:00 pm	Plenary: President's Panel: Empowering the Next Generation: A Collaborative Approach for Success Facilitator: Arameh Anvarizadeh, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA Participants: Angela Macauley PMP, (NBCOT); Lynn Kilburg, DHSc, MBA, OTR (ACOTE); Erika Kemp OTD, OTR/L, BCP, FAOTA (COE) & Barbara Seguire, MAED, COTA/L, ROH (COE)
1:15 pm	BREAK
1:30 pm	State Associations & Collaboration with Academic Programs
2:30 pm	Session concludes

Day 2: Thursday, October 23rd (3.5 contact hours)

CONCURRENT SESSIONS: Annual ALC Sections Meetings

11:00 am-2:30 pm

Room 1: OT- ALC Annual Meeting

Lenin Grajo, PhD, EdM, OTR/L, ALC (Chair)

11:00-12:00	Main Presentation: The Supporting Hardiness in New Endeavors (SHINE) Program: A programming designed to normalize adversity, enhance student confidence and belonging, and promote student well-being and professional growth. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ketki D. Raina, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, Avital Isenberg, CScD, OTR/L, and Erin Mathia, CScD, OTR/L – University of Pittsburgh
12:00-12:30	Questions and Discussion
12:30-12:40	Break
12:40-2:20	Panel Presentations

- 12:40-1:10 – Exploring Well-Being: Resilience, Stress, and Self-Care in Occupational Therapy Practitioners and Students – Dr. Evguenia Popova, Rush University Medical Center
- 1:10-1:40 – A Multi-Component Approach to Supporting Student, Staff, and Faculty Resilience – Dr. Caroline Umeda, Dominican University
- 1:40-2:10 – Integrating Resilience Programming into Curricula: Trial and Error – Dr. Dragana Krpalek, Loma Linda University

2:10-2:30 Questions and Discussion

Room 2: OTA- ALC Annual Meeting

Barbara Seguire, MAED, COTA/L, ROH (Chair)

Bridging the Gap—From OTA Education to NBCOT Certification

This session explores common challenges OTA students face, shares strategies that support progression, and emphasizes aligning educational efforts with certification success to ensure students are well-prepared for practice.

Facilitators:

- Julie Bezold, OTD, OTR/L State College of Florida- Manatee Sarasota
- Tara Brock, MHS, OTR/L Cincinnati State
- Vicky Vu, OTD, MA, OTR/L, MBA, BCP, American Career College

11:00 Welcome and Introduction Barbara Seguire, OTA-ALC Chair
 11:05-11:30 Breakouts Session: Identifying the Gaps
 11:30-12:15 Tools and Resources - Vicky Vu, Facilitator
 12:15-12:30 Break
 12:30-1:15 Curriculum and Assessment Strategies - Julie Bezold, Facilitator
 1:15- 2:00 Supporting the Student Journey - Tara Brock, Facilitator
 2:00- 2:20 Closing the Gaps - Barbara Seguire, Facilitator
 2:20-2:30 Wrap-up

Room 3: AFWC- ALC Annual Meeting

Rebecca L. Simon, EdD, OTR/L, FAOTA (Chair)

11:00 Welcome & Introduction Rebecca L. Simon, EdD, OTR/L, FAOTA
 11:05-12:30 Reasonable Accommodations on Fieldwork: Legal and Practical Steps to Inclusion
 Presenters:
 • Kathryn Sorensen, OTD, OTR/L, ADAC
 • Becky Ozelie, DHS, OTR/L, FAOTA
 • Courtney Gohean, Ed.D., OTR/L, CLT
 • Hannah Oldenburg, EdD, OTR/L, BCPR
 12:30-12:40 Break
 12:40-1:10 Working Lunch with ACOTE (Open Q and A)
 Presenters: Lynn Kilburg DHSc, MBA, OTR/L & Teresa Brininger, PhD, MBA, OT
 1:10-1:15 Stretch Break
 1:15-2:30 Professionalism Matters: Shaping Tomorrow's Occupational Therapy Practitioners Today
 Presenters:
 • Bethany A. Horne, OTD, MS, OTR/L

- Courtney J. Taylor, OT, OTD, OTR
- Tara Mansour, OT, OTD, MS, OTR
- Kelly Kennedy, OTD, OTR/L, NTMTC, FNAP

Room 4: DCC- ALC Annual Meeting

Theresa Delbert, OTD, OTR/L (Chair)

11:00-11:20	Welcome
11:20-12:00	Panel on Doctoral Capstone Teaching and Learning Process
12:00-12:15	Break
12:15-1:00	Panel on Doctoral Capstone Outcomes and Impact
1:00-2:15	SPARK presentations
2:15-2:30	Research Agenda and wrap up

Day 3: Friday, October 24th (3 contact hours)

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

11:00 am-2:15 pm

10:50 am - Open Rooms

Room 1: Becky

Accessible & Inclusive Programs & Technical Standards

This session will introduce strategies and leadership opportunities to design accessible and inclusive OT and OTA educational programs. Participants will review laws and standards, examine current trends, gain a better understanding of how institutional policies and programs impact participation and student success, and provide strategies for authentic inclusion and leadership to remove common barriers to OT and OTA education programs.

Participants will be introduced to program Technical Standards, tools for reviewing current Technical Standards, and have an opportunity to review and provide feedback on the draft AOTA Technical Standards document.

Session Learning Objectives:

1. Participants will be able to define authentic inclusion and at least 2 ways to improve program accessibility and inclusion
2. Participants will be able to identify at least 2 laws or standards required to ensure disabled students' equitable participation in educational programs
3. Participants will be able to identify at least 2 leadership opportunities to improve equitable participation by students with disabilities
4. Participants will be able to utilize at least 2 tools or samples to review and improve their program's Technical Standards

Room 2: Theresa

Scaffolding EBP and Scholarship Across the OT Curriculum: Intentional Design and Outcomes

This interactive session explores innovative strategies for embedding evidence-based practice (EBP) and scholarship across the OT curriculum. Participants will examine a scaffolded approach from foundational learning to capstone projects, consider the role of innovative teaching and community partnerships, and leave with practical strategies to prepare students as evidence-based practitioners and future OT leaders.

Session Learning Objectives:

1. Identify strategies for embedding evidence-based practice (EBP) and scholarship across the OT curriculum
2. Explore innovative teaching and community partnership models
3. Learn from student voices and capstone exemplars
4. Develop actionable ideas to apply in your own program

Room 3: Lenin

From Faculty Burnout to a Model of Flourishing (11:00am-12:30pm EST)

David Vermette, MD, MBA
Assistant Professor of Medicine and Associate Program Director
Division of General Medicine and Geriatrics
WashU Medicine

This session explores how academic leaders can foster faculty well-being by shifting from a disease-model of burnout model toward a health model of flourishing. We'll examine evidence-based leadership strategies to cultivate faculty flourishing and enhance agency, meaning, and connection. Participants will leave with practical tools to implement person-centered leadership practices that support sustainable excellence in occupational therapy education.

Learning Objectives:

- 1) Define the construct of flourishing as a holistic conceptualization of well-being
- 2) Discuss strategies for educational leaders to cultivate faculty flourishing
- 3) Describe evidence-based practices support individual flourishing

Breakout Session: Faculty Work Groups on Developing Guidelines for Workload Calculations for OT and OTA Programs (12:40-2:15pm)

This Breakout Session will form groups of faculty across different OT and OTA programs to discuss essential considerations to help draft a Commission on Education guiding document on Workload Calculations for OT and OTA Programs.

Room 4: Barb

Promoting Occupational Therapy: Campaign Strategies, Resources, and Outreach

Building the pipeline of future OT and OTA practitioners starts early, with awareness long before college decisions are made. This session will showcase the Why Choose OT? campaign, highlight free resources for programs to use, and share progress on the national campaign, including recognition initiatives and the growing Promote OT Challenge. Participants will also explore strategies for reaching prospective students through partnerships with groups like HOSA and learn practical ways to increase program visibility.

Learning Objectives:

1. Describe how the Why Choose OT? campaign and the Promote OT Challenge support early program outreach and visibility.
2. Identify resources and national partnerships that can help engage prospective students.
3. Apply strategies from the campaign to strengthen local recruitment and awareness efforts.



**We would like to thank our sponsor
for supporting the Fall 2025 Academic Leadership Councils Meeting**

