

AOTF

connection

Inside

Elizabeth Baker	
Devereaux Honored	2
Evidence-based Practice	
Conference Report	3
OT SEARCH's New Look	3
New Faces at AOTF	4
Conference Calendar	4

THE AMERICAN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY FOUNDATION ■ Vol. 11, No. 3 Winter 2004

The American Occupational Therapy Foundation Celebrates 40 Years of Service to the Profession

AOTF is pleased to announce its 40th anniversary and is kicking off the festivities with a photo contest showcasing “Images of Participation and Health.” Ruth Ann Watkins, AOTF’s President, calls this “an outstanding way to demonstrate the impact of the wonderful work done by occupational therapy practitioners throughout the world.” (See page 5 for full contest information.) Winning photographs will be displayed at the Foundation’s gala reception at the AOTA Conference in Long Beach, California on May 13, 2005. The Foundation’s annual reception will be on Friday this year to take advantage of an amazing opportunity; the Queen Mary, ocean liner to royalty, will be host to our reception and the winning photos. (Turn to page 4 for a calendar of all of AOTF’s events at the AOTA conference.)



The Queen Mary, once the epitome of luxury and refined art deco design, transported over 700,000 troops during WWII and was praised by Winston Churchill as having helped to shorten the war. After WWII, the Queen Mary was restored to elegance and was used by the elite of the world to cross the Atlantic. The Queen Mary crossed the Atlantic 1,001 times and has enjoyed retirement at Long Beach since December, 1967.

A traveling exhibit of the winning photographs will be available to state associations, educational programs, and community programs. This exhibit will increase the awareness about the quality of life for individuals with obvious and less obvious disabilities and those who may be at risk of losing their independence.

For the past 40 years, the Foundation staff has worked hard to fulfill the Foundation’s mission to “expand and refine the body of knowledge of occupational therapy and promote understanding of the value of occupation in the interest of the public good.” Some of our initiatives are annual, such as our scholarships to occupational therapy students. This year, in honor of our anniversary, the number of scholarships and their amounts will increase.

Since 1979, the Foundation’s research initiative (in conjunction with AOTA) has advanced the profession with grants totaling more than \$4 million. Our journal, *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*, is now in its 25th year and has the respect of the occupational therapy community. AOTF’s Wilma L. West Library houses an extensive collection of resources including journals and dissertations which are used by more than 800 individuals and libraries each year.

Martha Kirkland, AOTF’s Executive Director, calls this anniversary year a significant milestone and adds, “together, we are generating evidence proving what we’ve believed since our founding—that there is something remarkable about occupation. We’re proving that there’s a connection between a person’s well-being and their ability to participate meaningfully in society. And we’re making a difference for tens of thousands of real people every day.” ■

AOTF connection

Published by the
American Occupational Therapy Foundation

4720 Montgomery Lane
Bethesda, MD 20824-1220
301.652.6611 301.656.3620 (fax)
TDD 1.800.377.8555
www.aotf.org aotf@aotf.org

Editor

Helene G. Ross

Board of Directors

<i>President</i>	Ruth Ann Watkins
<i>Vice President</i>	Sharon Ryan
<i>Secretary</i>	Donald Lang
<i>Treasurer</i>	William H. Farland
<i>Directors</i>	Cynthia F. Epstein Ann P. Grady Phyllis Bauer Madachy Diana L. Ramsay Jane Davis Rourk Nancy Talbot
<i>Non-voting Members</i>	Martha Kirkland AOTF Executive Director Charles Christiansen AOTA Vice President Jean Deitz Chair, Research Advisory Council
<i>Honorary Life Members</i>	Elizabeth B. Devereaux Maralynne D. Mitcham Fred Sammons Nancy V. Snyder Lyla M. Spelbring Carlotta Welles
<i>Invited Participant</i>	Fred Somers AOTA Executive Director

Professional Counsel

<i>Legal Counsel</i>	Donald A. Gillies Holland & Knight Chicago, IL
<i>Auditors</i>	Bond Beebe, A Professional Corporation Certified Public Accountants Bethesda, MD
<i>Investment Advisor</i>	Stephen A. Wilburn Morgan Stanley Dean Witter Pasadena, CA
<i>Financial Advisor</i>	Patrick J. McGinn, CPA Chartered Gaithersburg, MD
<i>Development Consultant</i>	Mindy Berry Alford Group Bethesda, MD

AOTF Directors

<i>Executive Director</i>	Martha Kirkland
<i>Director of Information Resources</i>	Mary S. Binderman
<i>Director of The Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health</i>	Nedra P. Gillette

AOTF Mission

The American Occupational Therapy Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable, nonprofit organization dedicated to refining and expanding the body of knowledge of occupational therapy, advancing practice of the highest quality, and promoting understanding of the value of occupation in the interest of the public.

AOTF Vision

The American Occupational Therapy Foundation promotes a just and equitable society in which individuals, regardless of age or ability, may participate in occupations of their choice that give meaning to their lives and foster health and well being.

Through its dedication to scientific inquiry, education and leadership development, the Foundation pays tribute to the significance of everyday activities in enabling those who face personal challenges to realize their full potential in society.

Adopted by the AOTF Board of Directors, November 2004.

Elizabeth Baker Devereaux Honored

In May, Elizabeth Devereaux became the ninth occupational therapist to receive the AOTA and AOTF Presidents' Commendation in Honor of Wilma L. West. Ms. Devereaux was honored at the Opening Ceremony of the 2004 AOTA Annual Conference as a master clinician, educator, and researcher who designed, administered, and evaluated programs in mental health.

In presenting this commendation, AOTF President Ruth Ann Watkins and AOTA President Barbara Kornblau heralded the values and principles Elizabeth Devereaux championed throughout her career. "Liz", as she is known by her many friends and colleagues, holds degrees in both occupational therapy and social work, which positioned her as a policy advisor, influential architect, and skilled administrator within the community mental health movement.

Elizabeth Devereaux authored more than 50 professional publications, presented nearly 100 seminars and workshops, and served on countless professional committees and task forces. She is an AOTA Fellow and recipient of



Elizabeth Devereaux accepts the Presidents' Commendation in May.

the Association's highest honor, the Award of Merit.

"Liz has played an influential role throughout her years of service to the Foundation," adds Martha Kirkland, AOTF Executive Director. "She served as Vice President and two terms as President during the Foundation's most significant period of programmatic and financial growth." Elizabeth Devereaux received the AOTF Meritorious Service Award and Honorary Life Membership on the AOTF Board of Directors, a distinction held by only six individuals in the Foundation's 40-year history. ■

Evidence-based Practice Conference a Success With International Community

The International Conference on Evidence-based Occupational Therapy was held in July, 2004 in Potomac, Maryland and was deemed a success by all. This conference, jointly sponsored by AOTA and AOTF and primarily funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), invited scholars and educators from 13 countries to examine three critical topics on the development and dissemination of critical evidence and the educational practices that would help move the profession forward. ReDoc and PsychCorp, a brand of Harcourt Assessment, contributed funds to the conference and representatives of each attended the conference.

The conference began with a dinner and remarks by Dr. Margaret Giannini, Director of the Department of Health and Human Services Office on Disability. The Planning Committee: Dr. Wendy Coster, Boston University; Dr. Mary Law, McMaster University; Dr. Jessica Scheer, George Washington University; Deborah Lieberman, AOTA; and Nedra Gillette, AOTF, not only did a superb job organizing and planning the conference, but were also delightful hosts.

Participants were assigned to one of three task groups according to their preferences: Critical Review and Synthesis, Knowledge Transfer, and Practitioner Education. The groups met in separate sessions and came together periodically to make decisions and recommendations. Each task group ended the conference with statements of priority needs such as: supporting the continuation of OTseeker (an existing Australian database for cataloguing evidence from occupational therapy and related research documents), organizing an educators' workshop at the WFOT conference in 2006 on teaching evidence-based prac-

tice, and developing a free-access Web portal for accessing evidence. Some of these priorities can be achieved through hard work and collaboration; others require large amounts of money if they are to succeed. The AOTF has agreed to solicit, screen, and post on its Web site those educational materials made available by participating scholars and educators. In some instances, participating countries are being asked to make financial contributions to specific

efforts, for example, the OTseeker database. Already, in December 2004, the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists has agreed to underwrite the development costs of the Web portal, one of the priority needs of the conference.

All minds are now focused on the WFOT Conference in Australia in 2006 to continue this, as one participant observed, "atmosphere of collaboration." ■



Daehyuk Kang of the Republic of Korea and Nedra Gillette of AOTF confer at the EBP Conference.

OT SEARCH Has New Look, Improvements

OT SEARCH is "new and improved!" Now, no one will get the frustrating "busy signal" because the system can accommodate an unlimited number of users.

Improved features include:

- Retrieval of related articles with one click,
- Gathering documents by the same author with one key stroke,
- Option of "Simple" or "Power" searches to accommodate different users' needs, and
- Access to a revised and expanded integrated thesaurus of subject headings.

Contact the Wilma L. West Library, wlwlib@aotf.org, for additional information or to arrange a trial subscription for an occupational therapy education program.

New Members on the AOTF Team

Dr. Helene Polatajko, Professor and Chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy at the University of Toronto, became editor of *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health* in March, 2004. A member of the journal's Editorial Review Board since 1999, Dr. Polatajko is well acquainted with the journal's history and its current focus on occupation and participation. She is a co-author of the well-respected Canadian Occupational Performance Measure (COPM) and will continue the work of Dr. M. Carolyn Baum transforming the journal into a publication that "...makes public the profession's commitment to the study of occupation, participation and

health; and at the same time, fosters interdisciplinary dialogue...."

Mindy Hecker has recently joined The Wilma L. West Library as reference librarian. Mindy's name might be familiar because she was Director of Membership for the AOTA for 14 years before returning to school for a master's degree in library science. While studying for her degree, Mindy digitized and catalogued over 1000 photographs for the Wilma L. West Library's archives. Mindy is now responsible for helping library users access sources in the library. In addition, Mindy provides instruction so that searchers can not only find what they need now, but improve their searching skills for the

future and learn to evaluate the quality of the information they find.

Debra Goldstein joined AOTF in October, 2003 as Development Associate. Debra brings a great deal of experience to the Foundation in the areas of fundraising, editorial, and public and media relations. She holds a master's degree in journalism and a bachelor's degree in English.

"I'm so excited to continue my work in an environment dedicated to improving the lives of others," says Debra. "I've been so impressed by the breadth of knowledge and depth of commitment I've experienced in the occupational therapy community." ■

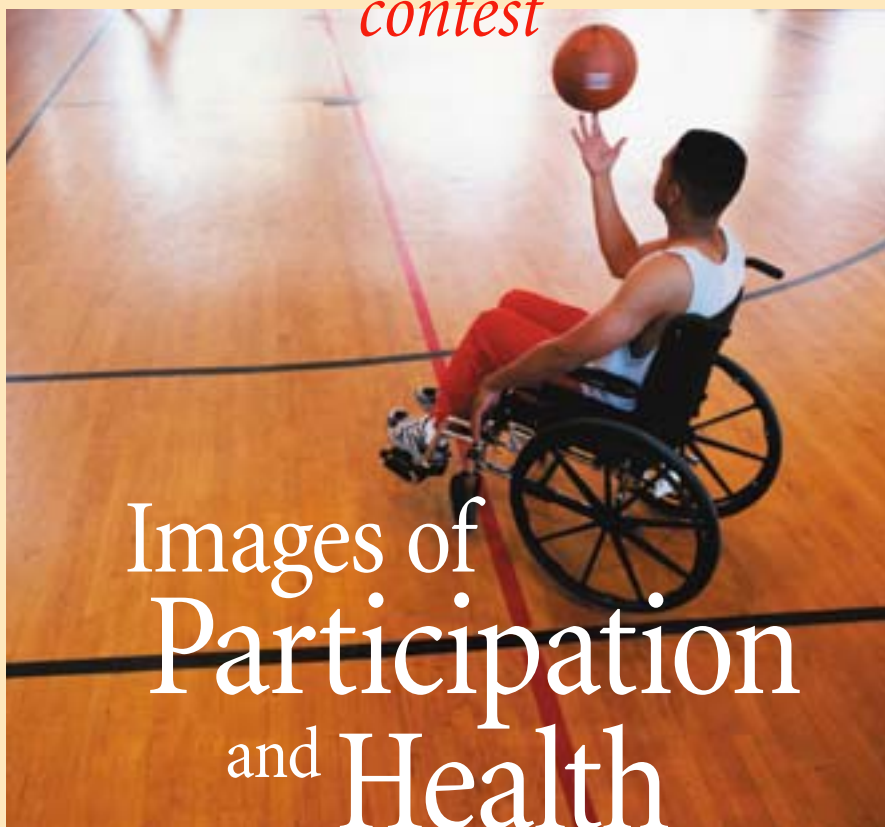
2005 Conference Calendar

Date	Event	Time	Cost
Wednesday, May 11 Part 1	Pre-Conference Institute: <i>Anatomy of a Scholar:</i>	12:00 p.m.–6:30 p.m.	See the AOTA Web site for special pricing
Thursday, May 12 Part 2	<i>Identity, Teaching, and Research</i>	11:00 a.m.–6:30 p.m.	
Wednesday, May 11	Doctoral Network Annual Meeting and Reception	7:30 p.m.–10:00 p.m.	\$25
	PTE Annual Meeting	3:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.	free
Thursday, May 12	PTE Workshop: <i>Taking It to the Street: Occupational Therapy Practitioners in Disaster Response</i>	12:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.	free
Friday, May 13	Graduate Student Poster Session	9:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m.	free
	Research Colloquium and Tea	2:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.	\$25
	AOTF Gala aboard the Queen Mary	8:00 p.m.–12:00 p.m.	\$100
Saturday, May 14	Breakfast With a Scholar featuring Elizabeth Yerxa	7:30 a.m.–9:00 a.m.	\$45
	Qualitative Research Exchange	2:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.	free

For registration, go to the AOTA Web site, www.aota.org, beginning in January 2005.

Join The American Occupational Therapy Foundation's
40th Anniversary celebration in 2005

by entering its
*first-ever photography
contest*



Images of Participation and Health

How We Work, How We Live, How We Play

Send AOTF your best shot!

In each of three thematic categories:

First-place winners receive a cash prize of **\$1,500**

Second-place winners receive a cash prize of **\$1,000**

Third-place winners receive a cash prize of **\$500**

All winners receive a Kodak digital camera valued at \$395.95

Entry deadline: January 31, 2005

Find full details and entry forms at

www.aotf.org/html/photocontest.html

The theme of AOTF's 40th-anniversary photo contest is **Images of Participation and Health**. Entries will be accepted in three categories: How We Work, How We Live, and How We Play. The theme supports AOTF's vision of a world in which people, regardless of age or ability, may participate in the occupations they choose that are meaningful and that contribute to their health and well-being.

Contest entries should capture evocative images of the quality of life for people who live with obvious and not-so-obvious disabilities and challenges. Photographs must illustrate how participation in occupations promotes independent living, longevity, and healthy lifestyles.

The contest is open to active or retired occupational therapy practitioners and occupational therapy students.

First, second and third-place winners and two honorable mentions will be selected by the judges to receive prizes in each of the three categories. Members of the Judging Committee will include professionals in the fields of photography, communications, health, and advocacy.

Winners will be announced and winning photographs will be displayed at the AOTF Gala on May 13, 2005, held in conjunction with the AOTA Annual Conference and Exposition in Long Beach, California.

Winning entries will be compiled in a traveling exhibit and later published in an attractive 2006 appointment calendar.

Visit www.aotf.org/html/photocontest.html for the Official Contest Rules, Entry Form, and Subject Release Form. Learn how to enter by mail or via the Internet.

The contest runs from October 1, 2004 to January 31, 2005.

Winners will be asked to sign a release provided by AOTF permitting use of their photographs to promote the role occupational therapy plays in promoting participation for people with disabilities and those at risk of losing their independence.

AOTF is privileged to acknowledge the generous corporate support of the Eastman Kodak Company.

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Open to residents of the 50 United States and D.C. who are currently active or retired occupational therapists, occupational therapy assistants, or students enrolled in an accredited occupational therapy education program. Void where prohibited. See rules for details at www.aotf.org/html/photocontest.html. Contest ends 1/31/05.



AOTF acknowledges the generous corporate support of the Eastman Kodak Company.

AOTF THE AMERICAN
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
FOUNDATION