



Inside AOTF

The American Occupational Therapy
Foundation

Summer 2012 Volume 16 Issue 1

From the Desk of Charles
Christiansen,
Executive Director
Dear Friends,

Occupational therapy has much to celebrate, and yet still much to accomplish. The Centennial Vision calls for a profession that is science-driven and evidence-based. Yet, if practitioners are going to have the research they need to guide practice, more studies will be needed, and more scientists will need to be trained to do them. [\(Read more\)](#)

Julie Bass Joins AOTF Staff

AOTF's Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health welcomed Julie Bass, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, as its new Associate Director in April. Dr. Bass is Professor in the Henrietta Schmolz School of Health at St. Catherine University where she served as past director of both the occupational therapy and public health programs.

Her new position will further advance AOTF's mission of research, education, and public awareness for occupational therapy. Dr. Bass will work to establish innovative programs, engage researchers, educators and practitioners in AOTF initiatives, and work with key organizational partners such as the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), to further develop research capacity in the field. [Details.](#) [\(Back to top\)](#)

AOTF Extends Scholarship Matching Grant Program

The AOTF Scholarship Matching Grant Program, which offers a 20% match for existing scholarships made into an endowed fund and a 100% match for newly created endowments, has been extended through September 30, 2012 or while matching funds remain available. [\(Read more\)](#) [\(Back to top\)](#)

AOTF Events Shine at AOTA Conference in Indianapolis

AOTF thanks its sponsors, including gold sponsor North Coast Medical, and silver sponsor Invacare, for their generous support of AOTF events at the AOTA conference in Indianapolis this April.



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Proceeds from the events support AOTF research and education programs. [\(Read more\)](#)

AOTF Board of Directors Welcomes New Members

The AOTF [Board of Directors](#) is pleased to welcome its two newest members voted in at the February 28, 2012 meeting. [Susan M. Fitzpatrick](#), PhD, vice president and chief operating officer of the James S. McDonnell Foundation in St. Louis, Missouri is the new public member and [Kim Schoessow](#), OTD, OTR/L, is the newly elected president of Pi Theta Epsilon and will represent the honor society on the board.

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Harlan and Rita Temple

Harlan and Rita Temple Endow Scholarship

Harlan K. Temple, a successful South Dakota businessman and farmer, and his wife Rita, are believers in the value and importance of occupational therapy. Working in collaboration with the South Dakota Occupational Therapy Association, the Temples have now endowed a perpetual fund to support the education of occupational therapy students in South Dakota. [Read more.](#)

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Evelyn Jaffe Named AOTF Community Volunteerism Award Winner



Evelyn Jaffe and Lance

family in celebrating his memory.

The 2013 Award for Community Volunteerism application deadline is October 1, 2012. [Details.](#)

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Academy of Research Welcomes Four New Members

The AOTF Academy of Research was pleased to welcome four new members in 2012 at the AOTA Conference in April.

Anita Bundy, ScD, OTR, FAOTA, University of Sydney.

Sherrilene Classen, PhD, MPH, OTR/L, FAOTA, University of Florida.

[Scholarship Deadline - November 16, 2012.](#)

Mark Your Calendar for AOTF Events at the AOTA Conference in San Diego

Watch for these and other AOTF events at the [AOTA Conference](#) April 25-28, 2013. Registration begins January 2013.

- **Research Colloquium**
- **Breakfast with a Scholar**
- **Gala in the San Diego Air and Space Museum**

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AOTF Staff

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[Mindy A. Hecker](#)

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[Julie D. Bass](#)

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Dorothy Farrar Edwards, PhD, University of Wisconsin.

[Contact Us](#)

Annette Majnemer, PhD, OT(C), FCAOT, McGill University.

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For a complete list of all Academy members and for information on the nomination process, please see the [AOTF web site](#).

Deadline for 2013 nominations is September 1, 2012.

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AOTF Scholarship Program Announces 2012 Winners

In 2012, The Board of Directors of the American Occupational Therapy Foundation awarded over 25 scholarships to deserving occupational therapy students. Visit the [AOTF web site](#) for the list of scholarship winners.

Since 1996, North Coast Medical, Inc. has generously sponsored a scholarship for students whose "excellence and high standards demonstrate commitment to the profession of occupational therapy and who will be outstanding leaders in the field." This year's recipients were Molly A. Harlacker, Washington University in St. Louis, and Annandhi Chandrasekaran, the University of New Mexico.

For the thirty-sixth consecutive year, Kappa Delta Phi Sorority has funded two scholarships. This year's recipients were Jessica A. Olson, Xavier University and Alison M. Cogan, University of Southern California.

Through its [Matching Grants Program](#), AOTF has partnered with state occupational therapy associations, other organizations and individuals to create 26 fully endowed scholarships. For a complete list of available scholarships, visit the [AOTF web site](#).

The 2012-13 Scholarship Cycle will kick-off in late August. To receive notifications and information, contact [Jeanne Cooper](#).

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AOTF 2012 Award Winners Honored at AOTA Conference

The following awards were presented at the 2012 AOTA Conference.

A. Jean Ayres Award -- Shelley E. Mulligan, PhD, OTR/L, University of New Hampshire and Grace Baranek, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA. University of North Carolina.

AOTF Service Commendation -- Nancy Vesper Snyder, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA, Columbus, Ohio.

Certificate of Appreciation -- Jane Case Smith, EdD, OTR/L, FAOTA, The Ohio State University.

AOTF Meritorious Service Award -- Melissa Oliver, MS, OTR/L, McGuire Veterans Administration Medical Center, Richmond, Virginia.

[Deadline](#) for 2013 Awards is October 1, 2012. For descriptions of

award requirements and nomination forms, please see the AOTF [web site](#).
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Wilma L. West Library Updates Software

The Wilma L. West Library has been busy upgrading the bibliographic database software and will launch the new version in early July. This new version will allow for searches using an app on mobile devices as well as improvement in the visual look of pages.

OT SEARCH, the bibliographic dataset for the collection, now includes over 41,500 records including 3,300 monographs. New monographs are added monthly. In addition, the library continues to catalogue individual articles from the over 30 journals that are collected.

The library staff members are creating [pathfinders](#) -- guides to information on specific topics of interest to occupational therapists. If you have a suggestion for a topic for a future pathfinder, please e-mail it to the [library](#).
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Pi Theta Epsilon Reelects Officers

Pi Theta Epsilon, PTE, is the national honor society of occupational therapy. Since its establishment in 1958, PTE has existed to recognize and encourage scholastic excellence of occupational therapy students and alumni. Currently, PTE has over eighty chapters; two chapters were added in the past year.

Emily A. Kringle, MOT, OTR/L and Rachel M. Proffitt, OTD, OTR/L were reelected as vice president and treasurer, respectively, this summer. They rejoin President Kim Schoessow, OTD, OTR/L, and Secretary Sally Stevenson, MS, OTR/L as the officers of PTE.

The PTE Annual Business Meeting will take place at the 2012 AOTA National Student Conclave in Columbus, Ohio, November 9-10. PTE history, membership information and documents, and all forms can be found on the [AOTF web site](#).
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OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health Updates Submission Process

After several months of planning, *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health* launched its new web-based peer-review and submission process in January 2012. The new process uses the Rapid Review system by Cadmus Communications. This system makes submissions easier, provides immediate acknowledgement of submissions, and allows authors to log in and check the article's status. Since its launch, 20 articles have been submitted through the process and both authors and reviewers are pleased with the process.
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From the Desk of Charles Christiansen (continued)

Over the years, AOTF has been a leading voice for the development of research in occupational

therapy. We published the first professional journal in the field dedicated to research. And our first doctoral fellowships went to several individuals who are now senior scientists and whose work generates millions of dollars of research funding for the universities they call home.

Similarly, scholarships from the Foundation have helped hundreds of students complete their studies to join the ranks of a field now identified among the top ten most desirable professions by magazines such as [Forbes](#) and [U.S. News and World Report](#).

Yet, occupational therapy's ability to remain a profession in high demand will depend on its ability to continue to provide services of value to the health care system. This makes it more essential than ever that research to support practice be one of the profession's top priorities.

The boards of AOTF and the AOTA are working in partnership to jointly sponsor initiatives to train scientists and to provide seed funding for vital research. We will need the support of the entire profession to make these initiatives successful. Most importantly, we need you to be part of the effort.

Thanks for all you do to help make occupational therapy one of the most important parts of successful health care in the 21st Century!

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AOTF Extends Scholarship Matching Grant Program (continued)

The scholarship program is one of the Foundation's longest standing programs to advance education. An endowed scholarship protects the principal from the volatility of the market because the scholarship or fellowship amounts are based on the earnings of the endowment. To date, 26 endowments have been created to support the future of occupational therapy through this program, including the [National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy Endowed Scholarship](#) and our newest state endowment with the Louisiana Occupational Therapy Association.

For information on the matching grants program, contact [Pam Spears](#), Director of Development.

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AOTF Events Shine at AOTA Conference in Indianapolis (continued)



Kathy Adkins and John Ricketts, Grand Prize winners

The 18th annual Breakfast with a Scholar featured Lex Frieden, architect of the American with Disabilities Act, with moderator Robin Jones. An internationally known scholar and disability rights advocate and leader, Frieden's presentation, *Evaluating the Americans with Disabilities Act: An Accounting of Progress*, encouraged a thought-provoking question and answer session from the audience. Breakfast with a Scholar sponsors were Donald Lang and the Amerigroup Foundation. [View](#) photos from the Breakfast.

This year's Research Colloquium focused on *Translating Cognitive Research into Clinical Practice*. This annual forum provides an opportunity for researchers to engage in constructive critique and dialogue about current research studies. Lisa Tabor Connor, PhD, moderated this year's as well as presenting her research. [View](#) photos from the Research Colloquium.

This year's presenters were:

- Becky Russell OTR/L, Barnes Jewish Hospital & Washington University, St. Louis Missouri. *Strengths and the challenges of bringing lab to life: A Clinician's Perspective*
- M. Carolyn Baum, PhD, OTR, FAOTA, Elias Michael Director of the Program of Occupational Therapy and Professor of Occupational Therapy and Neurology, Washington University School of Medicine St. Louis, Missouri. *Challenges and Lessons Learned in Assessment of Educational abilities after Stroke.*
- Joan Toglia PhD, OTR/L Professor and Program Director Graduate Occupational Therapy Program, Mercy College and Professional Associate, New York Presbyterian Hospital-Weill

Cornell Medical Center, NYC, New York. *Challenges and Lessons Learned in Intervention Awareness Deficits in People with TBI.*

- Naomi Josman PhD OT (I) Registered Israeli OT, Associate Professor Department of Occupational Therapy, Faculty of Social Welfare and Health Studies, University of Haifa, Israel. *Challenges and Lessons Learned Using the Virtual Action Planning Supermarket to Investigate Executive Functions and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living.*
- Lisa Tabor, PhD, Assistant Professor, Program in Occupational Therapy, Departments of Neurology and Radiology, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri. *Challenges in the Development of EEG-Guided Rehabilitation: Operationalizing the Just-Right Challenge.*

The Annual Gala featured five dance teams from across the country in the Dancing with the Stars "Indy" Style competition. Our thanks go to gala sponsors National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy and Sand Hill Global Advisors and the individual team sponsors. AOTF congratulates all of its talented dancers and thanks all gala participants who made the evening a success for the Foundation.

Grand Prize Winners: Kathy Adkins and John Ricketts - sponsored by Zaner-Bloser

Technical Dance Category Winners: Sheri and Fred Montgomery - sponsored by AOTA and AOTA Press

Costume, Creativity and Charm Category Winners: Emily Vaught and Shaji Varughese - sponsored by Slack Incorporated

Sally Stevenson and Scott Yaden - sponsored by Spalding University and PTE

Lynn Bitz and Jeff Stratton - sponsored by Elsevier

Gala Hosts: Betsy Francis and Shawn Phipps

Gala Judges: Mark Biehl, President and CEO, North Coast Medical Inc. Paul Grace, Executive Director, NBCOT Fred Somers, Executive Director, AOTA Thomas Fisher, Professor and Chair, Dept of OT, Indiana University Paul McCain, Arthur Murray International.

[View](#) photos of the Gala here.

The AOTF Doctoral Network (DocNet) supports occupational therapy practitioners engaged in doctoral education by providing networking opportunities and encouraging collaboration among emerging and established scholars. Each year, the DocNet sponsors an event which includes small group mentoring, a speaker and a reception. In 2012, Winifred Dunn, PhD, OTR, FAOTA; Max Ito, PhD, OTR/L; Jane Bear-Lehman, PhD, OTR; and Shelly Lane, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA spoke on *Everything You Wanted to Know About Working on a Doctorate.*

Throughout the conference, Foundation staff members Mindy Hecker, Jeanne Cooper, Helene Ross, and Pam Spears served as resources for Foundation programs and services at the AOTF booth.

Learn how you can be a [sponsor for AOTF events](#) at the 2013 AOTA Annual Conference.

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Harlan and Rita Temple (continued)

Temple was diagnosed with cerebral palsy and uses a powered wheelchair for mobility and, for more than eight years, he and his wife have offered their farm as a site for occupational therapy classes. The students learn about occupational issues unique to a farm and ranch population and specifically farming and ranching with a disability. They receive a firsthand look at the modifications and adapted strategies that Temple has used in order to complete farm tasks. Since 2003, 150 occupational therapy students have visited the Temple's farm.

"God has blessed us in so many ways that we wanted to share our blessings by leaving a legacy with occupational therapy students for their education," said Temple.

The endowment will fund scholarships awarded to students enrolled in an accredited occupational therapy educational program within the State of South Dakota and who are members of the South Dakota Occupational Therapy Association.

[Read](#) Mr. Temple's story in his own words.

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About Us

The American Occupational Therapy Foundation (AOTF) is a 501(c)(3) charitable, scientific and educational organization founded in 1965. Its mission is to advance research, education, and leadership in the field of occupational therapy and raise public awareness of the importance of enabling individuals to participate fully in life regardless of their physical, social, mental, or developmental circumstances. For more information: www.aotf.org.

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