



From the Desk of Charles Christiansen, Executive Director

Dear Colleagues,

In his award winning book, *The Lives of a Cell: Notes of a Biology Watcher*, renowned science writer Lewis Thomas compared productive research with how bees make honey, noting that success in making honey was related to creating the right environment for bees to work together. He wrote: *If the air is right, the science will come in its own season, like pure honey.*

Our work at AOTF these days is aimed at making the *air right* for occupational therapy science to progress. Our focus on fostering conditions that help occupational therapy scientists succeed involves training fellowships, awards of recognition, webinars, and research grants. We believe that, like never before, the profession is approaching the point where it will have the critical mass of talented scientists necessary to make important progress.

At this point in our history, we are fortunate to have a mixture of highly successful scientists and an impressive group of new and emerging investigators. But if the air is to be made right, we need the resources to make it so. Your [support](#) is important, for this and for future initiatives.

As always, thanks.

Charles Christiansen
Executive Director

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AOTF/AOTA Intervention Research Grant

At the 2013 AOTA annual conference and exposition, AOTF and AOTA announced the launch of an [intervention research grant initiative](#) to support research in priority areas and lay the necessary groundwork for larger intervention studies and future funding.

For 2013, autism spectrum disorders and health issues related to aging have been selected as the funding priorities. The objectives of the grants also include: addressing pressing societal needs, funding innovative interventions that build bridges between research-evidence-practice, focusing on issues of important to our stakeholders, cultivating interdisciplinary research teams and community partners, including underserved and diverse populations in occupational therapy research, and mentoring new investigators and researchers.

Applying for the grant is a two-step process beginning with the [Letter of Intent](#), which is due August 30, 2013. The second step (the application itself) will be available September 1 and is due October 15.

We believe:



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2014 Academy of Research Nominations Open

The AOTF Academy of Research in Occupational Therapy recognizes individuals who have made exemplary and distinguished contributions toward the science of occupational therapy. Academy nomination information can be found on the [AOTF web site](#). Completed nominations are due September 1, 2013.

2014 Award Nominees Sought

AOTF invites nominations of individuals who have made exemplary and significant contributions toward the occupational therapy profession. Nomination information can be found on the [AOTF web site](#). Completed nominations are due October 1, 2013.

Mark Your Calendar for AOTF Events at the AOTA

Research + Evidence = Improved Practice.

Please give generously to the AOTF/AOTA Research Grants Program so we can grow our capacity to conduct research and develop evidence for practice. Secure donations can be made on the [AOTF web site](#); put Intervention Research Grants in the space for remarks.

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PTE Welcomes New Officers This Fall



Winner of the PTE OT Month Photo Challenge

Pi Theta Epsilon (PTE) is the national honor society of occupational therapy and a program of the AOTF. This spring, Vice President Emily A. Kringle, MOT, OTR/L, was elected to be the next president and Joseph Brey, a recent OT graduate of Washington University in St. Louis, was elected secretary. Emily and Joseph will assume their new offices at the

PTE Annual Business Meeting, November 15, at the 2013 [AOTA/NBCOT National Student Conclave](#) in Jacksonville, Florida.

In celebration of OT Month, PTE members posted pictures throughout April on the PTE Facebook page representing various themes, and this striking photo above received the most *Likes*. Congratulations to Mu Chapter of Florida International University, Chelsea Witters, photographer.

In April, PTE members from all over the country traveled to San Diego for the AOTA conference. Faculty advisors met for a lively session with mentoring, a PTE-sponsored workshop on communication with Dr. Jean Twenge open to all conference attendees was a big success, and members attended the many sessions and institutes at the conference.

PTE added new chapters in the past several months; welcome to: Delta Eta (Seton Hall University), Delta Theta (Grand Valley State University), Delta Gamma (College of St. Mary), Delta Epsilon (Salem State University), Delta Zeta (University of Tennessee Health Science Center), and Delta Iota (College of the Sciences).

Follow the [PTE Facebook page](#) for news and information.

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Conference in Baltimore

Watch for these and other AOTF events at the [AOTA Conference](#)

April 3-6, 2014. More information will be available this fall.

- Breakfast with a Scholar
- Research Colloquium
- Gala
- Highlights of Baltimore Tour including Sheppard Pratt

Be a Sponsor!

Proceeds from AOTF events support the Foundation's initiatives to champion the field of occupational therapy through research, scholarship and leadership programs. Contact [Cara Archer](#) for more information.

Donate_

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Emily Kringle

AOTF to Offer Over 50 Scholarships in 2013-14 Academic Year

The American Occupational Therapy Foundation awarded \$48,065 worth of scholarships to 38 outstanding occupational therapy students during the 2012-13 academic year.

AOTF is now accepting online applications from students currently enrolled full time in either a professional occupational therapy educational program OR an occupational therapy assistant program. Complete information and a full list of available scholarships can be found on the [AOTF web site](#). Online applications must be submitted by October 31, 2013. Scholarships will be awarded based on academic merit and leadership potential.

Questions? Contact [Jeanne Cooper](#), scholarship coordinator.

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AOTF Events in San Diego Sparkled

AOTF started the AOTA Conference on Wednesday, April 24 with a docent-led tour of the Alcazar Gardens in San Diego. Participants enjoyed a boxed lunch and visited the Japanese Garden.

Friday, April 26 was home to the Foundation's signature events. Retired Rear Admiral Marty Evans was our distinguished speaker at the Breakfast with a Scholar and spoke on past failures of imagination. If you would like to view it again, or if you were unable to attend, it can be viewed on [Youtube](#). Descriptions and links to photographs of AOTF events including the [Breakfast](#), the [Research Colloquium](#), and the [Gala](#) held at the San Diego Air & Space Museum can be found on the [AOTF web site](#).

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AOTF Continued its Support of the John Hopkins Summer Institute

In June, the [Center for Innovative Care in Aging](#) at the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing repeated its institute by Laura Gitlin, PhD, a well-established scientist whose work focuses on activity-related interventions for persons with Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias. The institute focused on a host of important issues, including developing interventions suitable for funded research, measurement, recruitment of subjects, and ethical issues. AOTF continued its support of the Institute by providing partial fellowships to Erin Foster, OTD, MSCI, OTR/L, Marcia Novelli, PhD, OT, and Theresa Smith, PhD, OTR/L, CLVT to attend the institute.

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Wilma L. West Library and OT SEARCH Continue to Grow

Over the last year, the Wilma L. West Library added over 700 items to the collection. The Library now has over 3300 monographs (books) and maintains subscriptions to over 40 journals, many with links to online sources. Every addition to the Library, including dissertations and journal articles, is added to OT SEARCH for ease in online bibliographic research.

In addition, the WLW Library makes [Pathfinders](#) available online at no charge. Pathfinders are guides to information sources on specific topics often researched by occupational therapists and get updated periodically. Currently, Pathfinders on cerebral palsy, diabetes, obesity, multiple sclerosis, low vision and environmental modification and universal design are available.

Mary Binderman, MLS, Director of the Information and the Wilma L. West Library, retired in 2006 but continued her relationship with the Foundation by cataloging for the Library, writing the column for Research Resources and creating Pathfinders. But this summer, Mary moved to the Boston area to be closer to her grandchildren, and we will no longer see her smiling face in the office. But do not fear, Mary will continue her work with the Foundation and the Wilma L. West Library thanks to the magic of computers.

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What is Research Resources?

Research Resources is a free monthly e-newsletter of the AOTF Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health that is distributed to over 4,500 members of the occupational therapy community. The newsletters are also archived on the [AOTF website](#). The e-newsletter has an easy-to-read format with features that help readers keep up-to-date on opportunities, issues, and the latest information related to research, including:

- **Resource Notes:** A monthly topic and a review of the supporting literature by Mary Binderman, staff for the Wilma L. West Library
- **OT: History in Focus:** An enlightening and entertaining discussion of the people and events that shaped occupational therapy by Dr. Charles Christiansen, executive director of the AOTF.

- [Education and Fellowship Opportunities, Conference Announcements, Dates to Remember](#): One-stop-shopping information that alerts readers to time-sensitive information on occupational therapy and interdisciplinary opportunities, compiled by Helene Ross, communications associate at the AOTF
- [Online Resources, OTJR Updates](#): Information on recent publications of interest to occupational therapy and opportunities to contribute through publications, presentations, and service compiled by Helene Ross, communications associate at the AOTF.

We believe *Research Resources* is a valuable resource for students, educators, practitioners, and supporters of occupational therapy as well as our researchers and scientists. *Research Resources* supports our efforts toward Research + Evidence = Improved Practice. If you are not yet a subscriber, email [Helene Ross](#) to join this research network. Your contributions to AOTF support Foundation initiatives like *Research Resources* and help build a community of occupational therapy scholars and researchers. [Back to top.](#)

AOTF Mourns Jim Plumtree

The Foundation mourns the passing of [James S. Plumtree](#), on July 1, 2013. Jim Plumtree served as a member of the AOTF board of directors between 1984 and 1996, holding the position of secretary for nine years. In 1996 he was honored by the Foundation as Distinguished Citizen of the Year.

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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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