



Inside AOTF

The American Occupational Therapy Foundation

Winter 2013 Volume 17 Issue 1



From the Desk of Charles Christiansen, Executive Director

Dear Colleagues,

During this period of dynamic change, the Foundation continues its important work to advance occupational therapy research, promote awareness of occupational therapy and provide fellowship and scholarship support. These activities are not done in isolation, and they are vitally connected to and relevant to practice.

Over the past year, the Foundation board has reaffirmed its close working relationship with AOTA, adding an additional non-voting member from the AOTA board. We welcome AOTA Vice President Amy Lamb, OTD, to our board. Director of Research Julie Bass, PhD, works closely with Susan Lin, ScD of AOTA, assisting in monitoring the many developments that are relevant to our work on the national scene and collaborating on grant proposals and training initiatives. We are partnering with our colleagues in other organizations, such as the Foundation for Physical Therapy, The Good Samaritan Foundation, the ASH Foundation, and others, to further our work.

AOTF's work is not just relevant to scientists and scholars. It is also vital to practitioners. Policymakers look for outcomes and other evidence in weighing their decisions about services, and the Foundation works hard to support the people and projects that supply that evidence.

We appreciate YOUR support for our conference events and fundraising initiatives on Foundation Friday at the [AOTA Conference](#) April 25-28, 2013. AOTF is especially excited to host its 2013 [gala](#) in the acclaimed [San Diego Air & Space Museum](#). Your support is vital to enabling our work on behalf of the profession and the people it serves.

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Strategic Goals and Initiatives of the AOTF Institute for Study of Occupation and Health

Strategic planning has been a primary focus of the Institute in recent months. This is a critical time for focusing our efforts on research initiatives that demonstrate the importance of occupation and occupational therapy to

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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.

- [Garden Tour](#)
- [Doctoral Network](#)
- [Breakfast with a Scholar](#)
- [Research Colloquium](#)
- [Gala in the San Diego Air and](#)

health and well-being. The Institute's activities in the coming year will:

- Engage our top scientists and researchers in providing direction for AOTF research priorities,
 - The AOTF Research Commission members are guiding development of planning and partnership grant initiatives for 2013.
- Provide research resources that develop knowledge, networks, and capacity,
 - *Research Resources* is distributed to over 4,500 members of the OT community.
- Support participation in large interdisciplinary studies,
 - AOTF and AOTA recently submitted a NIH National Institute on Aging grant proposal for an interdisciplinary consensus conference on Alzheimer's and dementia, and
- Establish strategic partnerships with AOTA and an array of other organizations.
 - AOTA/AOTF co-sponsoring [two workshops on grants](#) at the AOTA conference
 - The [January meeting](#) with Good Samaritan, AOTA, and others.

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Developing Organizational Partnerships: The Good Samaritan Society

Building on the collaboration that began last summer at the In-Vivo Design Workshop (see [Inside AOTF Fall 2012](#) for details), AOTF hosted a meeting on January 30, 2013, for representatives from the Good Samaritan Society (GSS) (including Bill Anderson, Vice President of Quality, Innovation, Change Engineering and Design Systems), AOTA, and physical therapy and speech-language pathology national associations and foundations. The purpose of the meeting was to develop a framework for interdisciplinary, collaborative research at GSS and identify strategies for accessing GSS data, programs, and potential participants for research that will improve the health and quality of life for elders. Part of the group's mission is to develop opportunities for occupational therapy researchers.

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Begin AOTA Conference with a Garden Tour and Box Lunch



[Space Museum](#)

- [PTE Workshop](#) on Communication
- [AOTA/AOTF workshops](#)

AOTF Thanks its Sponsors

Thank you to these companies and organizations and individuals for their generous support of AOTF's events at the AOTA Conference.



North Coast

Gold sponsor

North Coast Medical has also sponsored two scholarships annually since 1996.

Breakfast with a Scholar Sponsors:



Donald Lang

Annual Gala Sponsors:



[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.

Join Our Mailing List!

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Visit the Alcazar and Japanese Friendship Gardens and the Botanical Building at one of San Diego's must-see destinations, Balboa Park. Take a docent-led tour of the Japanese landscape design principle: people, natural environment, and culture. Enjoy the Botanical Building with its 2,100 permanent plants, including collections of cycads, ferns, and orchids and the Alcazar Garden which offers a vibrant display of color from over 7,000 annuals and several ornate fountains.

Wednesday, April 24, 1:00-5:00 p.m. Transportation and box lunch is included. See the [AOTA web site](#) for ticket information.

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Foundation Friday Starts with Breakfast with a Scholar

Join AOTF on Friday, April 26 for its three big events: the [Breakfast with a Scholar](#), the [Research Colloquium](#), and the [Annual Gala](#).

AOTF 19th Annual Breakfast with a Scholar

Rear Admiral Marty Evans, U.S. Navy (Retired)

Every year, the AOTF Breakfast with a Scholar brings thought-provoking and relevant ideas from other disciplines to enrich and broaden the understanding of occupation. This year, Rear Admiral Marty Evans will speak from her unique perspective of a 30-year naval career, and pose these questions:

How will the future be different?
What can we learn from past failures of imagination?

- The scale and scope of natural and man-made disasters on vulnerable populations.
- The extent and reach of battlefield trauma-affected veterans and the impact on families and communities.
- The health and wellness challenges of an active but aging population.

How can occupational therapists working in partnership with the Armed Forces make a difference?

RADM Evans was the first woman to command a U.S. naval station and she chaired the task force formed to address the gender-based issues that gave rise to the infamous Tailhook scandal. After the Navy, RADM Evans led the Girl Scouts of the USA and then became President and CEO of the American Red Cross overseeing its response to Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma as well as the deadly Southeast Asian tsunami in 2004. RADM Evans was named a 1979-1980 White House Fellow and has been honored with numerous awards and accolades including eight honorary degrees.

Friday, April 26, 7:00 - 9:30 a.m. See the [AOTA web site](#) for registration information.

AOTF thanks to its generous Breakfast sponsors to date: Amerigroup Foundation and Donald Lang.

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Engaging Scientists and Researchers: AOTF Research-Focused Events at the AOTA Conference

Research Colloquium: A New Era of Rehabilitation Research in Occupational Therapy: Science and Scientists

An AOTF tradition since 1982, the prestigious Research Colloquium provides a forum where scientists can engage in the important process of constructive critique and dialogue about important research topics. This year, the event features Academy of Research members, Drs. Kenneth Ottenbacher and Wendy Coster as moderators and will highlight the research in progress and professional journeys of early stage scientists who have received funding from Rehabilitation Research Career Development Training Grants: Drs. Barbara Doucet, Timothy Reistetter, and Timothy Wolf.

Friday, April 26, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. See the [AOTA web site](#) to register.

DocNet: Stories of Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Education and Different Career Paths

This year's DocNet will provide networking opportunities for participants interested in learning about doctoral and post-doctoral programs and will feature presentations by occupational therapists who have pursued different career paths after receiving a doctorate: Drs. Sherrilene Classen (scientist), Barbara Hooper (academic educator and researcher), and Mary Vining Radomski (clinical researcher).

Wednesday, April 24. Optional informal roundtable mentoring session begins at 6:30 p.m. Formal reception and meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. See the [AOTA web site](#) to register.

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Annual Gala Caps Off Foundation Friday



AOTF Takes Flight in its Annual Gala

AOTF will salute OTs in the military at the [San Diego Air & Space Museum](#), one of the country's premier aerospace museums located in beautiful Balboa Park. Docents will lead tours at the first aero-themed museum to be accredited by the American Association of Museums and a Smithsonian affiliate. Reconnect with colleagues and friends during this elegant celebration in the midst of historic aircraft including the Apollo IX Command Module.

AND take a chance on these fabulous raffle prizes: a one-week stay at Rehobeth Beach, a one-week stay in Las Vegas, (both donated by Frank Gainer and Ramon Santos); a handmade quilt stitched and donated by Sheri Montgomery; airline tickets donated by JetBlue and Southwest; and more prizes to come!

Friday, April 26, 8:00-11:00 p.m. See the [AOTA web site](#) for ticket information.

Thanks to our generous Gala sponsors to date: National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, Sand Hill Global Advisors and SLACK Incorporated.

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AOTA/AOTF Co-sponsored Events

"NIH 101" NCMRR Session

Looking for a career in research? Please join staff from the NIH for an informational session regarding the grant application process and funding opportunities at NIH.

Learning Objectives

1. Identify NIH Institutes that support OT research
2. Identify potential pitfalls by applicants.

Speaker:

Ralph Nitkin, PhD, Deputy Director, National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research, Director, Biological Sciences and Career Development Program, (Eunice Kennedy Shriver) National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Saturday, April 27, 9:00-11:00 a.m. Registration information is on the [AOTA web site](#).

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ):

Goals, Research Opportunities, and Grantsmanship

The mission of AHRQ is to improve the quality, safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of health for all Americans. AHRQ fulfills its mission through establishing a broad base of scientific research to promote improvements in clinical and health system practices. Workshop participants will learn about the AHRQ grant application and review processes. The variety of funding mechanisms available at different career stages will be described along with current areas of special research emphasis. This interactive workshop will allow participants to discuss their research interests with the Senior Advisor for Priority Populations of the Office of Extramural Research, Education, and Priority Populations (OEREP), identify program officials to contact as they plan to apply when writing grants in the future, as well as identify members of AHRQ study sections who review applications.

Learning Objectives:

1. Describe AHRQ's goals and research priorities as well as grant writing tips
2. List AHRQ's research and training opportunities
3. Describe the fundamentals of AHRQ's application and scientific review processes

Speakers:

Harvey A. Schwartz, PhD, MBA, Senior Advisor, Priority Populations, AHRQ
Susan H. Lin, ScD, OTR/L, Director of Research, AOTA

Friday, April 26, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Registration information is on the [AOTA web site](#).

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Pi Theta Epsilon Sponsors Communications Workshop in San Diego

The Millennial Generation: Promoting Professionalism in the Workplace

Students and young OTs often face unique challenges in developing professionalism and good working communications with their professors, mentors, and supervisors. Dr. Jean Twenge, professor of psychology at San Diego State University, focuses her research on the differences

among generations and delivers talks on today's Millennial Generation based on her research and her books, *Generation Me* and *The Narcissism Epidemic*. PTE is proud to sponsor a workshop at the AOTA Conference in April featuring Dr. Twenge. In keeping with its mission to help students achieve a level of professionalism through encouraging scholarly and professional activities, PTE encourages BOTH students and educators/clinicians to attend the workshop. Dr. Twenge will discuss developing professionalism in young OT students and clinicians with a focus on teaching, mentoring and communication between generations.



This event (WS300) is included in conference registration and open to everyone. Saturday, April 27, 8:00 - 11:00 a.m. See the [AOTA web site](#) for conference information.

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More Than Two Hundred Students Apply for AOTF Scholarships

Fall 2012 saw the largest number of students begin the application process to win one of the fifty scholarships AOTF administers. Over 1,000 students began the process and over two hundred students submitted their applications. The Scholarship Selection Committee is now busy reviewing the applications.

AOTF is pleased to announce five scholarships will be awarded for the first time:

- The Florida Occupational Therapy Association
- The Harlan and Rita Temple and South Dakota Occupational Therapy Association
- The Washington State Occupational Therapy Association
- The National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy
- The Pi Theta Epsilon Martha Kirkland Leadership Legacy Scholarship

Scholarship notifications will be sent out in late April.

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AOTF Continues Fellowships to John Hopkins Summer Institute

Last summer, the [Center for Innovative Care in Aging](#) at the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing sponsored an institute planned 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. Dr. Gitlin is pleased to announce the institute will be repeated on June 12-14, 2013 in Baltimore, Maryland.

AOTF will once again provide partial fellowships to support the attendance of two promising scientists whose research is directed toward aging. The fellowship application can be found on the [AOTF web site](#).

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IRA Charitable Rollover Extended

If you are age 70½ or older and don't need your required minimum distribution (RMD) from your IRA, consider transferring it in whole or in part to the American Occupational Therapy Foundation. This provision allows for a total IRA rollover gift of up to \$100,000 per donor per year. To do this, just inform your IRA custodian that you would like to make an IRA Rollover gift to the American Occupational Therapy Foundation and specify the amount. With this IRA rollover gift, you avoid having to claim the additional income on your 2013 taxes. Gifts to AOTF make a real difference for so many people in occupational therapy through scholarships, research support and publications, leadership development and recognition, education and maintaining the largest collection of occupational therapy resources in the country.

For more information about how you can convert your taxable IRA distribution and potentially reduce your taxes and other ways to support the important work AOTF, visit the [AOTF web site](#).

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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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