

## Research Resources

A monthly newsletter of the

**AOTF Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health**

**February 2011**

Dear Colleagues,

The start of a new year seems always to invite anticipation, resolve, and planning for the months ahead. Good planning always involves some consideration of priorities.

In contemplating this year's feature topics for our various issues of *Research Resources*, it was easy to identify an overall theme to structure the process. The national research agenda, decisions about healthcare, and the resurrected debate about health care reform will inevitably place additional emphasis on Comparative Effectiveness Research.

Although few topics these days engender widespread agreement, comparative effectiveness research is viewed as essential to 21st century health care because it provides the objective data necessary to make informed decisions that lead to responsible, effective, and cost-conscious care. When the IOM released its priority areas for this research in 2009, it was noteworthy that as many of one third of them could conceivably be relevant to areas that intersect with occupational therapy interests or practices.

So, to start the year and keep this important topic on the front burner, we have provided some links featuring core information on the topic and some updates, especially regarding funding from the key agencies involved in sponsoring such research, NIH and AHQR.

As always, thanks for your interest and support.



Charles Christiansen  
Executive Director  
Interim Director, Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health

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### **AOTF Events at the AOTA Conference, Philadelphia, April 13-17, 2011**

AOTF is pleased to announce its events at the AOTA Conference in Philadelphia. Information on registration can be found on the [AOTA web site](#).

**Pre-conference Institute -- Wednesday, April 13, 12:00 pm-6:30 pm**  
**(AOTA/AOTF) *Blending Quantitative and Qualitative Research: An Overview of Mixed***

### ***Methods Research***

This Institute will explain the distinguishing characteristics of mixed methods, and alternative designs that accompany each mixed methods' purpose. The Institute will also illustrate integrated mixed methods data analyses, using different examples of studies. Susan Lin, ScD, OTR/L, AOTA, Charles Christiansen, EdD, OTR, OT(C), FAOTA, AOTF.

### **Doctoral Network Reception and Annual Meeting -- Wednesday, April 13, 7:00 pm-10:00 pm. *Research Priorities and Where You Fit In***

With Dr. Florence Clark in her first year as AOTA President and Diana Ramsey continuing as President of the AOTF Board of Directors, the AOTA/AOTF Research Advisory Panel (RAP) enters its second term with both new and continuing members, RAP Chair Shelly Lane, PhD, OTR, FAOTA, will present current research priorities identified by this group and discuss what this means to occupational therapy researchers.

Informal roundtable mentoring sessions will begin at 7:00 pm, followed by the formal reception and meeting at 8:00 pm. The informal mentoring is optional and participants will be asked to sign up for their mentor prior to coming to the Doctoral Network Meeting.

### **Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SOTL): *Pathway to Evidence-Based Education* -- Thursday, 12:30-3:30 pm**

Andrea Bilics, John White

### **17th Annual Breakfast with a Scholar -- Friday, April 15, 2011, 7:30 am - 9:00 am**

#### ***A Conversation about Moral Courage -- Ruth Purtilo, PhD, PT, FAPTA***

The intersection of human values and health care practices often creates collisions, creating vexing moral dilemmas that demand careful reflection and wise counsel. Enjoy breakfast and a stimulating conversation with Ruth Purtilo, an internationally acclaimed writer, lecturer, and health care ethicist. Formally educated in physical therapy at the University of Minnesota and holding a Master of Theology and a PhD degree from Harvard University, Dr. Purtilo has held prestigious endowed appointments and fellowships at Creighton University, the MGH Institute for the Health Professions, Yale University, and the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm. Dr. Purtilo is the author of six books on ethics and over 100 compelling articles and was a leading voice recognizing the social policy dilemmas associated with the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Join us to learn the latest ethical issues confronting healthcare and rehabilitation.

### **Research Colloquium and Tea Honoring Pi Theta Epsilon -- Friday, April 15, 2011, 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm**

#### ***Sensory Processing Disorders in Occupational Therapy: Mapping Pathways of Understanding from Cages to Clinics to Communities***

**Moderator: Shelly Lane, PhD, OTR, FAOTA.**

Sensory processing disorders represent a significant part of the concerns of occupational therapy practice, whether related to autism spectrum disorders or other developmental disabilities. This first translational research colloquium will feature the work of scientists whose work involves rodents, primates, and humans to demonstrate how occupational therapy clinical problems can be approached through a wide array of relevant research along a research continuum. Speakers: Stacey E. Reynolds, PhD, OTR/L, Use of rodent models in the study of sensory processing disorders; Mary Schneider, PhD, OTR, FAOTA, Non-human primate model of atypical sensory processing: Brain, behavior, stress reactivity, and genes; Grace Baranek, PhD, OTR, FAOTA, The Sensory Experiences Project: Translational Research with Children and Adults with Autism.

The Colloquium will feature a panel of distinguished graduate students who will comment on the work and stimulate discussion, including: Jessica Lynn, Virginia Commonwealth University; Miriam Adkins, University of Wisconsin at Madison, Lauren Little, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Pi Theta Epsilon, occupational therapy's national honor society, will be highlighted at the event, and will provide a display of digital posters. High tea will be served.

**2011 Foundation Gala: *Dancing With the Stars (Philly-style)* 8:00 pm - 11:00 pm**

It's back by popular demand: AOTF's Gala for a spectacular evening of fabulous food, fun, and as dancers compete for bragging rights. Network with friends, indulge your taste buds in mouth-watering Philly-style and cast your vote for your favorite dancers and bid on Silent Auction items to raise funds in support of your favorite dancers.

## Wilma L. West Library Resource Notes

### Comparative effectiveness research

"The Medical Subject Headings (MeSH®) thesaurus is a controlled vocabulary produced by the National Library of Medicine [NLM] and used for indexing, cataloging, and searching for biomedical and health-related information and documents." (NLM, 2011). Comparative Effectiveness Research was added to MeSH® in 2010 and its scope note follows.

"Conduct and synthesis of systematic research comparing interventions and strategies to prevent, diagnose, treat, and monitor health conditions. The purpose of this research is to inform patients, providers, and decision-makers, responding to their expressed needs, about which interventions are most effective for which patients under specific circumstances." (NLM, 2011b).

Using the above scope note, the following recently published articles involving occupational therapy in a form of comparative effectiveness research were selected from OT SEARCH or PubMed.

Grimm, EZ, Meus, JS, Brown, C, Exley, SM, Hartman, S, Hays, C & Manner, T. (2009). [Meal preparation: comparing treatment approaches to increase acquisition of skills for adults with schizophrenic disorders](#). *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*, 29, 148-153.

Hall B, Lee H, Page R, Rosenwax L & Lee AH. (2010). [Comparing three postoperative treatment protocols for extensor tendon repair in zones V and VI of the hand](#). *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 64, 682-688.

Hayner, K, Gibson, G & Giles, GM. (2010). [Comparison of constraint-induced movement therapy and bilateral treatment of equal intensity in people with chronic upper-extremity dysfunction after cerebrovascular accident](#). *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 64, 528-539.

Lambert, RA, Lorgelly, P, Harvey, I & Poland, F. (2010). [Cost-effectiveness analysis of an occupational therapy-led lifestyle approach and routine general practitioner's care for panic disorder](#). *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology*, 45, 741-750.

McClure, MK, McClure, RJ, Day, R, & Brufsky, AM. (2010). [Randomized controlled trial of the Breast Cancer Recovery Program for women with breast cancer-related lymphedema](#). *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 64, 59-72.

Murphy, SL, Lyden, AK, Smith, DM, Dong, Q & Koliba, JF. (2010). [Effects of a tailored activity pacing intervention on pain and fatigue for adults with osteoarthritis](#). *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 64, 869-876.

Novak, I, Cusick, A & Lannin N. (2009). [Occupational therapy home programs for cerebral palsy: double-blind, randomized, controlled trial](#). *Pediatrics*, 124, 606-614.  
Comment in: *Aust Occup Ther J*. 2010 Dec;57(6):444-5.

US National Library of Medicine. (2011a). Introduction to MeSH - 2011. Bethesda, MD: NLM. Retrieved January 20, 2011 from [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/intro\\_preface.html#pref\\_hist](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/intro_preface.html#pref_hist)

US National Library of Medicine. (2011b). Introduction to MeSH - 2011. Bethesda, MD: NLM. Retrieved January 20, 2011 from online MeSH Browser [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/cgi/mesh/2011/MB\\_cgi](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/cgi/mesh/2011/MB_cgi)

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### Employment Opportunities

#### [AOTF](#)

AOTF has two positions available: [Director of Development](#) and the [Director of the Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health](#) (responsible for programming of the AOTF).

***OTJR:  
Occupation,  
Participation  
and Health***

### Conference Announcements

#### [Workshop on the Allied Health Workforce and Services -- Institute of Medicine \(May 9-10, 2011, Washington, DC\)](#)

The workshop will explore the following questions: what is allied health and who is part of that workforce?; what workforce strategies hold promise to improve access to selected allied health services across the continuum of provider professions?; and how can policy makers, state and federal governments, and allied health care providers improve the regulations and structure of allied health care delivery to increase access to care?

#### [The 36th US Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association Conference \(USPRA\) \(June 13-16, 2011, Boston, Massachusetts\)](#)

This conference offers workshops and presenters from around the world in order to advance the practice of psychiatric rehabilitation.

#### [Bringing Science to Life: The Interdisciplinary Advantage \(April 27, 2011, Washington, DC\)](#)

This half-day meeting is jointly sponsored by The National Center for Research Resources and the National Institute of Nursing Research of the National Institutes of Health to improve interdisciplinary research participation. Experts will share information about successful interdisciplinary collaborations that have advanced the translational trajectory from bench to bedside, and to community practice.

#### [The International Society for Anthrozoology Conference 2011 \(ISAZ\) \(August 4-6, 2011, Indianapolis, Indiana\)](#)

The conference theme is Human-animal Interactions: Challenges and Rewards; abstract deadline is April 1, 2011.

### Web Resources

#### [Report to Congress on Activities Related to Autism Spectrum Disorders and Other Developmental Disabilities Under the Combating Autism Act of 2006 \(FY 2006-FY 2009\)](#)

A new congressionally-mandated report, released by US Representatives Mike Doyle (D-PA) and Chris Smith (R-NJ) and prepared by the Office of Autism Research Coordination at the National Institutes of Health, shows that the Combating Autism Act (CAA) of 2006 (Public Law 106-416) has expanded research and surveillance and addresses the growing need for appropriately trained professionals able to assess, diagnose, treat and support individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD).

#### [Environmental and Policy Change \(EPC\) Clearinghouse for Healthy Aging](#)

The EPC Clearinghouse, created by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), provides resources, tools, and concrete strategies that support

## Winter 2011

***OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health***, published quarterly by the American Occupational Therapy Foundation, Inc., offers original research articles of professional interest to the practicing occupational therapist with a focus on occupation and fostering interdisciplinary research.

Visit: [OTJR Online](#).

### Guest Editorial

**In Memoriam: Gary Wayne Kielhofner (February 15, 1949-September 2, 2010)**  
Charles Christiansen, EdD, OTR, OT(C), FAOTA; Renee R. Taylor, PhD

### Feature Articles

**Practitioners' Use of Interpersonal Modes Within the Therapeutic Relationship: Results From a Nationwide Study**  
Renee R. Taylor, PhD; Sun Wook Lee, MS, OTR/L; Gary Kielhofner, DrPH, OTR/L, FAOTA

**The Home and Caregiving: Rethinking Space and Its Meaning**  
Rachel Mayes, BAppSc (OT) Hons, PhD; Rosemary Cant, BEd(Hons), Med(WA), PhD(Nursing); Lindv

local efforts in environmental and policy change for healthy aging. Resources included here have been chosen for their relevance and usefulness to people working in the fields of aging services, public health, planning, architecture, engineering, recreation, transportation, and health care.

### [The 2011 Workforce Recruitment Program for College Students with Disabilities Database](#)

This database is now available to help federal and private-sector employers recruit workers with disabilities. Federal officials can register and search for candidates who meet their hiring needs. Private-sector employers can search the program's database through the Employer Assistance and Resource Network or by calling 866-327-6669.

### [Resolve to be Ready in 2011](#)

The Ready Campaign of [disability.gov](#) provides the tools and resources needed to take the three important steps: get a kit, make a plan and be informed. Download the Resolve to Be Ready Toolkit, which includes information about the importance of including people with disabilities in planning for emergencies.

### [PubMed for Handhelds](#)

The National Library of Medicine has a free web application, PubMed for Handhelds. This app is designed for handheld devices to help healthcare professionals read journal abstracts, access ClinicalTrials.gov or search PubMed in a variety of ways: directly or via a PICO interface. The PubMed search also allows restriction to Systematic Reviews or Clinical Queries. Join the staff of the Southeastern/Atlantic Region of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine and Paul Fontelo of NLM for a [web presentation](#) and discussion of PubMed for Handhelds on February 16, 2011, noon to 1:00 pm.

## Grants, Fellowships, and Education Opportunities

### [New National Science Foundation Proposal Guidelines](#)

The new *Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide, January 2011* is effective for proposals submitted or due on or after January 18, 2011.

## Publications

### [Music, Disability, and Society](#)

In *Music, Disability, and Society*, Alex Lubet challenges the rigid view of technical skill and writes about music in relation to disability studies. He addresses the ways in which people with disabilities are denied the opportunity to participate in music and elaborates on the theory of "social confluence," Lubet convincingly argues that where music is concerned, disability is a matter of culture, not physical impairment. Lubet, A. (2010) *Music, Disability, and Society*. Temple University Press: Philadelphia.

Clemson, BAppSc (OT), MAppSc (OT), PhD

**Convergent Validity of the Engagement in Meaningful Activities Survey in a College Sample**

Aaron M. Eakman, PhD, OTR/L

**Participation Patterns in Preschool Children With an Autism Spectrum Disorder**

Patti LaVesser, PhD, OTR/L; Christine Berg, PhD, OTR/L

**Belief in Doing and Knowledge in Being Mothers With Arthritis**

Linda Del Fabro Smith, MSc, BSc(OT); Melinda Suto, PhD, OT(C); Andrew Chalmers, MD; Catherine L. Backman, PhD, OT(C)

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**[The Career Planning Curriculum for People with Psychiatric Disabilities](#)**

This curriculum, by Boston University's Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation, is a two-part product with an Instructor's Guide and a Reference Handbook designed to guide rehabilitation practitioners in helping people with psychiatric disabilities plan for and attain vocational goals. While quantities last, the publisher has reduced the price of this curriculum set and additional copies of the Reference Handbooks have also been reduced.

**AOTF Institute Image of the Month**

**From the [Archives of the AOTA](#), housed in the AOTF Wilma L. West Library.**



The American Occupational Therapy Foundation mourns the passing of honorary board member, [Lyla M. "Spelly" Spelbring](#), PhD, OTR, FAOTA. Dr. Spelbring died on January 20, 2011 after a protracted illness. Dr. Spelbring had a long and distinguished career as an occupational therapist, an academic administrator, and a reserve military officer. She served for 27 years in both the US Army and the Marine Corps through World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars. As an academic, she had a distinguished career as the head of the Department of Associated Health Professions

at Eastern Michigan University, where she held the rank of Professor Emerita in the Department of Occupational Therapy.

*The AOTF Institute makes this image, as well as the [Guide to the Archives of the AOTA](#), available publicly as part of its mission to honor the past and be the best possible steward of the unique body of knowledge that is occupational therapy. To this end, the AOTF Institute warmly welcomes individuals from within and beyond occupational therapy to explore the guide and use the archives for purposes of research, education, and leadership.*

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For more information about the American Occupational Therapy Foundation and its Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health see our web site: [www.aotf.org](http://www.aotf.org).