



# AOTF Research Resources

February 2018



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## Greetings to Research Resource Colleagues!

This month we are highlighting our two newest inductees into the [AOTF Academy of Research](#), [Drs Bernadette Nedelec](#) and [Ching-yi Wu](#).

Established in 1983, the [AOTF Academy of Research in Occupational Therapy](#) recognizes individuals who have made exemplary and distinguished contributions toward the science of occupational therapy. Every year, the Academy of Research invites nominations for membership. After consideration of the nominations and supporting materials, the Academy selects individuals to be inducted into this distinguished international body of researchers. We now have 68 members (63 living) of the Academy representing research labs throughout the world and we look forward to adding new members each year.

As the Foundation continues its efforts to develop new OT research scientists, to support and sustain mid-career investigators in their career advancement, and to recognize senior investigators who comprise the corp of mentors and role models who help early and mid-career investigators be successful, we will always recognize research excellence every step of the way and are happy to invest along with our funding partners in the OT research enterprise. Congratulations to our newest AOR members and thanks to all of you for your support of the Foundation.

Cheers.

Scott Campbell, PhD  
CEO

## AOTF Seeks a Scientific Programs Officer.

[Join the AOTF team and develop, implement, manage, and evaluate the Foundation's scientific programs.](#)

## [Resources on the AOTF website](#)

Pathfinders (guides to information sources on specific topics often researched by occupational therapists) can be found on the AOTF website.

Find resources on: diabetes, low vision, MS, productive aging, and obesity.

## [Call for Papers: Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, and Automation – A Special Edition](#)

This special edition of *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health* invites scholarly investigations into the potential for technologies like robots, smart homes, sensors, and automated systems to advance occupational therapy practice and the



## Bernadette Nedelec, PhD, BSCOT(C)

Dr. Nedelec is an Associate Professor and the former Director of the Occupational Therapy Program, School of Physical and Occupational Therapy at McGill University, Montréal, Québec, Canada. Her research interests focus on the rehabilitation of people who have sustained a major burn injury with a particular interest in the evaluation and treatment of hypertrophic scar. The formation of hypertrophic scar is considered one of the most important long-term consequences of a major burn injury leading

to impairments, activity limitations and participation restrictions. Research projects have evaluated the clinical instruments used to quantify hypertrophic scar and its associated symptoms, the efficacy of treatment interventions employed to minimize hypertrophic scar and its associated sequelae, practice issues related to evidence-informed practice, ensuring burn therapist competency, and the delivery of best practice rehabilitation, as well as the comprehensive evaluation of the short- and long-term outcomes associated with burn injuries.

### Q and A

Identify three words that others have used to describe you.

*Perseverant, hard-working, erudite*

How do you hope to make a difference in the world through research?

*Burn survivor rehabilitation specific research is scarce. Recent medical and surgical research advances make it possible for virtually all patients, even those with massive burn injuries, to survive. We need to provide evidence for rehabilitation interventions that will optimize function so burn survivors can participate in meaningful occupations and enjoy good quality of life.*

What is one piece of advice you have for individuals considering a career in science and research?

*Surround yourself with a like-minded, but diverse team who have expertise in areas that will complement your research program. Working with people who will support you, and at the same time challenge and stimulate your thinking, is essential to optimizing your research program.*

Beside your own areas of inquiry, what is one research priority that you believe is important for the future of occupational science and occupational therapy?

*Expert occupational therapist working in physical medicine seamlessly incorporate the evaluation and treatment of psychosocial issues into their practice. This often times goes undocumented and is undervalued. Making this treatment explicit, researching its value and improving current practice needs to be a research priority. There are also long-term health benefits associated with enabling people's ability to engage in meaningful occupations. Occupational therapy researchers need to quantify these benefits, particularly from an economic perspective, so that the value of what we do is unquestionable.*

Describe the most important role that mentors played in your professional journey.

*Mentors have played an enormous role in my academic career. They have come in many forms including colleagues, family, friends, patients, and students. They taught me the value and the sustaining power of the love of learning, to strive for excellence in all we do, to never compromise my integrity, and to always prioritize the overall goal of improving the outcome of the patients that we serve. They also modeled our responsibility to give back to the systems that support us, including supporting the development of students and junior researchers.*

Identify a favorite occupation that renews you outside of your work.

*Spending time with family, my children in particular, rejuvenates me and*

occupational science field. We welcome papers that undertake rigorous empirical or conceptual investigations by inquiring into the links between occupational perspectives and occupational therapy practices as they relate to the use of such technologies. Deadline: July 30, 2018.

### Seeking sponsors

for AOTF events at the AOTA conference in 2018 including the Breakfast with a Scholar and the State of the Science. Contact the [AOTF Development office](#).

## OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health

OTJR, published quarterly by AOTF, offers original peer-reviewed research articles of professional interest to the practicing OT with a focus on occupation and fostering interdisciplinary research. *OTJR* is now indexed in MEDLINE/PubMed. To download current, past, and future *OTJR* articles – see the [OTJR website](#).

### January OTJR

Editorial: Growth and Advances of OTJR  
Sherrilene Classen

Executive Function Measures for Children: A Scoping Review of Ecological Validity  
Anna Wallisch, Lauren M. Little, Evan Dean, Winnie Dunn

Visual Correlates of Fitness to Drive in Adults With Multiple Sclerosis  
Sherrilene Classen, Sarah Krasniuk, Sarah A. Morrow, Liliana Alvarez, Miriam Monahan, Tim Danter, Heather Rosehart

MS People's Performance and Satisfaction With Daily Occupations: Implications for Occupational Therapy  
Eman J. Abdullah, Hanan E. Badr, Fahad Manee

Content Analysis of a Participant-Directed Intervention to Optimize Activity Engagement of Older Adult Cancer Survivors  
Kathleen Doyle Lyons, Robin Newman, Anna M. Adachi-Mejia, Jessica Whipple, Mark T. Hegel

Task Oriented Training and Evaluation at Home  
Veronica T. Rowe, Marsha Neville

helps me to put things into perspective. Staying connected with nature is a nurturing force in my life.

What has been the most surprising or rewarding aspects of a career in science and research?

*The thing that has been most surprising for me is the never-ending excitement of learning, and the thrill of working with, and learning from, the amazingly talented, crazy smart people I have had the privilege to work with.*

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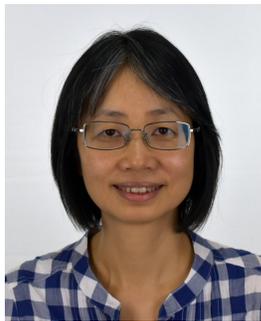
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[Read about the other members of the AOTF Academy of Research.](#)

## Ching-yi Wu, ScD, OTR



Dr. Wu is a full professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy and the Graduate Institute of Behavioral Science in the College of Medicine at Chang Gung University in Taoyuan City, Taiwan with a practice appointment as Adjunct Occupational Therapist in Chang Gung University Hospital. Dr. Wu's research interest mainly lies in neurorehabilitation after stroke and the application of motor control study in stroke rehabilitation, together with examining the psychometric and dynamic properties of outcome evaluations used in efficacy study. She has combined electrophysiological stimulation with task-oriented approaches; for example, transcranial direct current stimulation combined with mirror therapy for facilitating neural reorganization and motor recovery. Dr. Wu's research has used kinematic analysis and functional magnetic resonance imaging to study the nature of improved movement control and the possible neural mechanisms underlying

improvement. Dr. Wu has published over 172 journal articles and is the Principle Investigator of the Human-Machine Interface in the Healthy Aging Center at Chang Gung University which facilitates the application of technology in rehabilitation and occupational therapy practice.

## Q AND A

Identify three words that others have used to describe you.  
*Persistent, Action-oriented, Interdisciplinary*

How do you hope to make a difference in the world through research?

*I hope to make a difference in clinical practice in terms of optimizing the benefits of interventions for persons with physical dysfunction. Research on the mechanism and efficacy of theory-based and innovative interventions and on searching for the most appropriate clients to the specific approach is critical to achieve this aim. I also hope to make a difference in knowledge and practice by incorporating contemporary technology such as non-invasive brain stimulation, artificial intelligence to clinical decision making, monitoring, evaluation, and intervention of occupational therapy.*

Beyond Words: Using Qualitative Video Methods for Researching Occupation With Young Children  
Helen Lynch, Mandy Stanley

Fidelity of Occupational Performance Coaching: Importance of Accuracy in Intervention Identification  
Fiona Graham, Jenny Ziviani, Ann Kennedy-Behr, Dorothy Kessler, Caroline Hui

What is one piece of advice you have for individuals considering a career in science and research?  
*Be enthusiastic and interested in exploring unknown phenomenon.*

Beside your own areas of inquiry, what is one research priority that you believe is important for the future of occupational science and occupational therapy?  
*Integrate artificial intelligence and telerehabilitation into OT knowledge and practice for health care and promotion.*

Describe the most important role that mentors played in your professional journey.  
*I am fortunate to be surrounded by respectful scholars who are devoted to research and professional development. What I learned and I'd like to pass on to the young researcher or scholars is to sharpen your thinking and create all kinds of possibility for enriching the field of interest.*

Identify a favorite occupation that renews you outside of your work.  
*Travel, cuisine, hiking*

What has been the most surprising or rewarding aspects of a career in science and research?  
*The most rewarding aspect is to mentor graduate students and postdoctoral fellows and collaborate with colleagues to go through a series of the research programs finding out the possible/temporary answers to the research question and contributing to establishment of the scientific base of occupational therapy.*

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[Read about the other members of the AOTF Academy of Research.](#)

## Conferences and Calls for Papers

[2018 Institute on Health Services Research \(HSR\) – Quality Strategies in Rehabilitation: Advancing Health Services Research](#) (April 4, 2018 (evening), April 5, 2018 (full day), Boston, Massachusetts)

Co-sponsored by CoHSTAR & the Center for Large Data Research & Data Sharing in Rehabilitation (CLDR).

This year's HSR Institute will focus on research strategies to evaluate and improve quality of care. Attendees will learn about quality initiatives from nationally known thought leaders, deepen their understanding of health services research methods, and develop relationships both within and across disciplinary boundaries.

## [2nd National Knowledge Translation Conference in Rehabilitation \(April 19-20, 2018, Montreal, Quebec\)](#)

This conference is relevant for researchers, professional and graduate students, health care professionals, clinical managers/administrators, and decision-makers interested in knowledge translation.

Deadline for Abstract Submission: March 1, 2018.

## [AOTA Annual Conference & Expo \(April 19-22, 2018, Salt Lake City, Utah\)](#) [Pre-conference institutes on April 18.](#)

Registration and hotel reservations are now open.

## [WFOT Congress 2018 \(May 21-25, 2018, Cape Town, South Africa\)](#)

The theme is 'Connected in diversity: positioned for impact', and the program will feature world leading experts, unique social events, and an exhibition.

## [Occupational Therapy Summit of Scholars – Expanding our Research Outcomes through Team Science \(June 8-9, 2018, Kansas City, Missouri\)](#)

This invited Summit is co-hosted by the University of Kansas Medical Center and the University of Missouri and will provide a forum for scholars to share their research, develop networks across academic institutions, mentor emerging scientists who have post-doctoral fellowships, career development awards, or newly funded grants, advance science in occupational therapy by strengthening approaches to the study of occupation, participation, and health, and generate dialogue about funding opportunities and strategies to enhance success. A new track will be added this year: Large Data sponsored by the [University of Texas Medical Branch Center for Large Data Research & Data Sharing in Rehabilitation](#). Kenneth Ottenbacher, PhD, OTR and his team mentor scientists submitting abstracts with a large data focus.

## [4th Canadian Fall Prevention Conference \(June 11-12, 2018, St. John's, Newfoundland\)](#)

This conference will address fall or injury prevention for seniors, patient populations, and the general public, for research studies or practice/community initiatives.

## [12th World Congress of the International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine \(ISPRM 2018\) \(July 8-12, 2018, Paris, France\)](#)

Top rehabilitation specialists from across the world will present the latest research and cutting edge techniques. The scientific program will include hands-on workshops, lively debates and more.

## [Healthy Aging Summit \(July 16-17, 2018, Washington, DC\)](#)

The 2018 Healthy Aging Summit seeks broad participation by subject matter experts from diverse disciplines, provider types, and the public-private sectors. We want to learn from subject matter experts first-hand what is working across important areas such as healthcare, transportation, built environment, housing, law and policy, and faith-based partnerships.

[Submission deadline:](#) February 12, 2018.

## [Progress in Clinical Motor Control: Neurorehabilitation \(July 23-25, 2018, State College, Pennsylvania\)](#)

The first conference on Progress in Clinical Motor Control: Neurorehabilitation will bring together leading scientists in the basic, engineering, and clinical sciences to exchange and share research and development in cutting edge science and technology applied to neurorehabilitation. This conference will provide a premier interdisciplinary platform for researchers, practitioners and educators to hear from top scholars on recent research and technological innovations, as well as practical challenges in integrating these advances into the field of neurorehabilitation.

## [ACRM Annual Conference \(September 30-October 3, 2018, Dallas, Texas\)](#)

Conference theme is Progress in Rehabilitation Research. Preconference will be September 28-30, 2018

Learn about cutting-edge research and its translation into clinical practice to improve the quality of life experienced by people with disabilities and to improve their own lives – improve their own well-being and connect with like-minded professionals

[Deadline for submissions:](#) February 13, 2018.

## [Doctoral, Postdoctoral, and Research Training Opportunities](#)

### [Postdoctoral Fellowship in Disability Policy Research – Washington State University](#)

The primary goal of this fellowship at the WSU Department of Health Policy and Administration is to provide a highly personalized 18-month research training experience to scholars with disabilities who hold doctorates or similar advanced degrees and are personally committed to understanding and improving health policies and services for all

Americans with disabilities. The fellowship involves rigorous coursework and progressively more independent research activities. All fellows will be eligible for extensive accommodations and ongoing support by advisors who have both personal and professional experience with disability.

### Rehabilitation Science (RSD) PhD Program – University of Florida

This research is funded through a grant from HUD to develop new technologies for affordably retrofitting existing housing for people with disabilities. The project will culminate in the team using their research to redesign homes and digitize the designs in virtual reality with haptic simulations. This fully-funded PhD student will complete the didactic component via taking classes in the RSD program, while the research component will be completed under the supervision of Dr. [Sherrilene Classen](#) and Dr. [Linda Struckmeyer](#) (contact them for more information).

### Disability Research Fellowship Postdoctoral Program for 2018-2019

This fellowship opportunity from the Collaborative on Health Reform and Independent Living (CHRIL) provides a personalized 18-month training experience for emerging scholars with disabilities who hold a PhD or similar advanced degree and are committed to building knowledge and evidence on health policies and services for people with disabilities. All fellows are eligible for accommodations and ongoing support by advisors with experience in disability research. For more information on the program contact [Dr. Jae Kennedy](#), the principal investigator of the CHRIL.

Review of applications will begin December 15, 2017 and continue through 2018 until the position is filled. Fellowship start date in 2018 is flexible.

### Postdoctoral Fellowship in Health Services R&D Center of Innovation on Disability and Rehabilitation (CINDRR)

The purpose of this 2-year fellowship is to develop a cadre of scientists with health services expertise for the VA healthcare system and to foster the development of high quality health services research and development at local and national levels. The fellowship is located at the HSR&D Center of Innovation on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (CINDRR) at the Tampa VA Hospital, Tampa, FL in collaboration with the VA HSR&D Service and partnership with the University of South Florida.

### Postdoctoral Disability Research Training Program on Veterans with Disabilities

The National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) has provided funding to the Occupational Therapy Department at the University of Florida for postdoctoral opportunities focused on community living and participation for Veterans with disabilities. This award is in partnership with the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Center of Innovation for Disability and Rehabilitation Research where fellows will be hosted. Three openings are currently available.

### Postdoctoral Fellow Opportunity - University of Florida

The Dept. of OT invites applications for a full-time postdoctoral fellow under the mentorship of Dr. Sherrilene Classen in multidisciplinary research with a focus on driving rehabilitation science. Applicants must have a PhD in Rehabilitation Science or a closely-related field and are preferably licensed/license-eligible as an occupational therapist in the state of Florida.

### Postdoctoral Fellowship in Multiple Sclerosis Research - Johns Hopkins University

The overall goals of this two-year postdoctoral research Fellowship funded by the National MS Society and Johns Hopkins Dept. of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation are to:

1. Train clinician-scientists who will go on to be leaders in the advancement of rehabilitative strategies for people with MS.
2. Equip trainees with the skills needed to become independent, grant-funded investigators.

This program will provide clinical and research training in MS-related rehabilitation science,

For more information, contact [Meghan Beier](#).

## Publications

### Advancing Obesity Solutions Through Investments in the Built Environment: Proceedings of a Workshop-in Brief

This September 12, 2017 National Academies workshop brought together diverse partners to examine the ways in which the places we live, work, and play influence obesity, health, and equity. Real estate developers, leaders from state, regional and local government, and innovative non-profit organizations came together to discuss strategies to create more healthful and equitable built environments, concluding with a wide-ranging discussion on next steps.

### [The Challenge of Treating Obesity and Overweight: Proceedings of a Workshop](#)

On April 6th, 2017, the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions held a workshop to explore what is known about current obesity treatment approaches and the challenges involved in implementing them, including their effectiveness (and how "success" is defined); payment for services; training of the workforce that provides the services; and health equity issues involved in treatment. Participants discussed strategies that hold promise for progress in treating overweight and obesity. The speakers' PowerPoint slides and video recordings of the proceedings are [available here](#).

### [People Living with Disabilities: Health Equity, Health Disparities, and Health Literacy: Proceedings of a Workshop](#)

To better understand how health literacy, health equity, and health disparities intersect for individuals living with disabilities, the Roundtable on the Promotion of Health Equity and the Elimination of Health Disparities and the Roundtable on Health Literacy implemented a workshop on June 14, 2016 that explored issues at the intersections of health equity, health disparities, health literacy, and people living with disabilities.

## Grants and Funding Opportunities

### [Clinical Scholars – Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#)

The Clinical Scholars program is a three-year leadership program for OT and PT practitioners. The program offers providers the opportunity to build and develop the unique skills they need to lead communities and organizations toward a Culture of Health. Strong applicants include a team of innovative providers that will bring a knowledge of and experience in the art and science of health care services; a unique perspective as providers in health and health care systems; and an understanding of the special professional status and relationship with patients and communities. Application deadline: March 14, 2018.

### [US Department of Health and Human Services Grants](#)

Search the [grants.gov website](#) for up to date information on grants that are available. Learn about [how to apply](#) for NIH grants.

## News and Other Resources

### [NIH News and Info](#)

- [Revised NIH Grant Policy Statement](#)
- [New Video Provides Overview of New NIH Policies on Human Subjects Research and Clinical Trials](#)  
Do you do research with human participants? This 15-minute video provides a succinct explanation of the various policy changes and what they mean for you.
- [NIH's Next Generation Researchers Policy Now Posted](#)  
NIH posted current plans for the Next Generation Researchers Initiative. NIH leadership has reviewed data and deliberated about how best to proceed on their goal to increase the number of NIH-funded early-stage investigators and assure that funded early-stage investigators have a reasonable chance to secure stable funding during the earliest stages of their independent research careers.
- [NIH Grant website.](#)
- [Perspectives on Evidence-based Funding.](#) a talk by NIH Deputy Director for Extramural Research, Mike Lauer on concerns about the hypercompetitive nature of applying for NIH support and other topics.
- [Advice from NIH on resubmitting grant applications.](#)



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Read more about AOTF and its activities to *Build Evidence to Improve Practice and Health* at [www.aotf.org](http://www.aotf.org).

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