



THE VIEWPOINT

Occupational Therapy Association of Oregon Quarterly Newsletter • Spring 2010

Springing Forward into Action: President's Message

The lengthening of daylight always renews in me an energy and determination to get "more involved with things". What things?

With OTAO there have been a "things" going on which you are reading about in other articles. There are lots of issues to be involved with at the Legislative level, Autism Insurance Bill, Rep. Greenlick pondering the usefulness of having separate OT and PT professions, the benefits of cultural diversity education for all licensed professions. The Continuing Education Committee is filling up the year with new events. Did you see the article about OT Britt Collins in the Statesman Journal? Check it out on-line. The date was Sunday, February 13, 2011. We need more of these to highlight our profession and renew our passion.

On Legislation

The Legislature is in full swing now, having hit the ground running on February 1. A lot of work remains to be done before their scheduled adjournment on June 30.

Many observers are surprised by the smooth operation of the House thus far. With a 30-30 split between

Here are some "things" you can get involved with as you spring forward with your life.

Ways to become involved:

- Get on a legislative committee, contact our Karen Hass or Rachel Gligorea to express interest. (Karen.hass@providence.com, Karen.a.hass@gmail.com, rqliigorea@gmail.com)
- Be on the Conference Committee, contact Sally-Ann Defreize (defriezefamily@comcast.net)
- Present at the conference, fill out the Call For Papers.
- Promote the profession like Britt Collins did by getting the fabulous work you do in the paper.
- Vote in the OTAO election.
- Start getting involved with the

different OTAO functions and then next time there is an election, get your name on the ballot.

- Check out the Career Center on our Website, post your job.
- Be thinking who should get an award this year at conference. Send me names!
- For OT Month, encourage your co-workers to join OTAO. Remind them, we are their voice.

Me? I'm getting ready to be involved with the AOTA Annual Conference in Philadelphia in April! I am getting excited to meet new people, present the wonderful state of Oregon and all you good OTs, and learn new "things" which I can come back and share with you. Happy Spring!

Sara Pickett, OTR/L
OTAO President. otsgp@aol.com

winning over political gamesmanship.

OTAO has been an actively involved this session. At the top of the interest list are two bills related to mandatory insurance coverage for autism spectrum disorders. We have supported the concept of those bills

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Education Update

A lot of activity in the education realm in Oregon at this time warrants your attention:

Pacific University OT Research & Practice Symposium on Friday April 29 (formerly known as Practitioners' Day), held at Tuality Hospital and Pacific's Hillsboro campus: Pacific University's School of OT has modified the format and content of what for the last 14 years has been Practitioners' Day. This annual continuing education program is now the Research and Practice Symposium. It continues to serve as a way to thank the practice community for the many forms of support provided to the School. This year's 15th annual event features an international keynote speaker in the morning—Nick Rowe of York, England will present the "Converge" project in which OT and other professional students have helped people with disabilities gain access to university education. After lunch program that includes awards and a silent auction, students will present results of their evidence-based research case studies and highlight some outcomes of their innovative practice projects. The student projects will be held in the new building on the Pacific campus in Hillsboro.

ADTA Annual Conference & Expo in Philadelphia-April 14-17In the 3 days of conference, one can easily earn 20 or more hours of continuing education credit delivered by leaders in the field and also glean valuable practice ideas at the sessions and in the Expo Hall. It is incredibly exciting to be among 4-5,000

OTs, and take part in both the educational and professional development opportunities provided in this annual forum. Join delegates and OTAO members at the annual ADTA Business Meeting and sign-in at the rousing state roll-call. Oregon OTs typically gather for a night of social fun to celebrate our unique contributions to the profession and enjoy some local sites. ADTA represents us nationally, lobbies for positive change in healthcare that assures OT's participation, and guides our national practice agenda. Even if you can't attend this year, please be sure to keep your membership active so in future years you'll be able to enjoy this rich source of professional development.

OTA program at Linn-Benton Community College (LBCC): The new OT Assistant program at LBCC is off to a great start with a large cohort of students with leadership by Program Director Ann Custer and academic fieldwork coordination by Maggie Hatch. This innovative program allows students from around the state to participate through the magic of distance education. OTA students at various community colleges join classes that are video and/or audio projected to the distant classroom, with hands-on instruction provided by local OT instructors. The beauty of this model of education is that it supports the education of OTA practitioners in the communities where they will continue to live and work, and thus helps get practitioners where they are desperately needed in some of the less-populated communi-

ties around the state. In the first of what is hoped to be regular collaborative learning opportunities, the LBCC-OTA students worked together with the Pacific OT students at the recent OT Legislative Day at the Capitol in Salem.

Proposal for development of a clinical doctorate OT degree (OTD): Pacific University's School of OT is proposing to transition the current Master of OT degree to a clinical doctorate or OTD degree (this is distinct from the PhD, a more lengthy research-oriented degree). There will be two pathways to earn the OTD degree, an entry-level option and a post-professional option. The exciting opportunity for current OT practitioners is that it will offer a pathway to a post-professional degree through a distance-learning format so that working therapists will be able to pursue the degree from home on a full- or part-time basis. Program Director John White is presenting highlights of the proposed degree programs around the state to groups of OTs and collecting comments and questions about the degree to be used in shaping the final curriculum, which is proposed to begin in Fall of 2012 (pending University and ACOTE approval). If you represent a group of practitioners that would like to learn more about the OTD, please contact Dr. White at whiteja@pacificu.edu or call 503-352-7648 to make arrangements for a presentation.

John White, PhD, OTR/L
Education Representative

The distance learning model at LBCC: "supports the education of OTA practitioners in the communities where they will continue to live and work, and thus helps get practitioners where they are desperately needed in some of the less-populated communities around the state."

Contribute to the Future of OT Education: Call for Comment on Draft ACOTE Standards

The Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®) is inviting comment from all communities of interest regarding the first draft of the revised ACOTE

Accreditation Standards for a Doctoral-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapist, Accreditation Standards for a Master's-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapist, and the Accreditation

Standards for an Educational Program for the Occupational Therapy Assistant.

The draft Standards are available on the ACOTE Accreditation section of the AOTA Web page at <http://www.aota.org/Educate/Accredit/Draft-Standards/47685.aspx?FT=.pdf>.

To submit comment, visit: [http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/](http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22BXAXCFVA4/)

[WEB22BXAXCFVA4/](http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22BXAXCFVA4/)

Hard copies of the survey are available upon request from the AOTA Accreditation Department at accred@aota.org. Additional comment is invited at a Standards Open Hearing on Thursday, April 14, 2011, from 1:00-3:00 pm in Philadelphia, PA in conjunction with the AOTA Annual Conference and Expo. Comment may also be provided in writing via e-mail

Invitation to Advocate for OT—it's our month

Have you ever received this reply when attempting to explain occupational therapy: "Occupational therapists, don't they help people find jobs?"

Well the month of April is a golden opportunity to help the community to better understand your chosen profession and why it is that you are so passionate about it. All around the country occupational therapists, occupational therapy assistants, students, and academic fac-

ulty are gearing up to celebrate OT Month. Pacific students will be hosting an event on April 20th geared towards helping the community to better understand the value of occupational therapy in maintaining health and wellbeing. Students will have a table setup with fun activities and will engage community members in discussion about OT. If you are interested in participating in the event with current students please contact the School of Occupational Therapy

for more information at 503-352-7288. If you are unable to make the event don't sweat it! You can make everyday a celebration of OT by taking an opportunity to explain what OT is to someone new. Good luck and happy OT Month!

Date & time: Wednesday, April 20th (11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.)

Location: TBD

Brandon Johnson, OTS

Student Update

The first years completed their first level I fieldwork experience in January, and are now back in the classroom for their second semester. The second years are now off enjoying their first level II fieldwork experience in a variety of settings. The third years are back on campus for their final semester of school working on innovative practice projects before they graduate and join the OT work force. They were also recently in Salem at the

capital for Practitioner's day to spread knowledge about OT as a profession. Many of the OT students are working hard to organize the research symposium featuring Nick Rowe from York-St. John University in England. From the students at Pacific, we hope that you have a great spring season and we hope to see you at the research symposium April 29th!



First year OT students learn surface anatomy, ROM, and MMT.

Michelle Carnegie OTS
SOTA Representative



2011 OTAO Conference "Call for Papers" Proposal

Title of Presentation _____

Name of Primary Presenter _____

Session Type

Institute <input type="checkbox"/> Half <input type="checkbox"/> Full Day	<input type="checkbox"/> Workshop Usually 3 hours	Concurrent Session <input type="checkbox"/> 1 hour <input type="checkbox"/> 2 hours	<input type="checkbox"/> Poster
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Primary Content Area

<input type="checkbox"/> Physical Disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Gerontology	<input type="checkbox"/> Education
<input type="checkbox"/> Hand Therapy	<input type="checkbox"/> Pediatrics	<input type="checkbox"/> Student Issues
<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health	<input type="checkbox"/> School Systems	<input type="checkbox"/> Admin/Mgmt
<input type="checkbox"/> Worker Rehab	<input type="checkbox"/> Sensory Integration	<input type="checkbox"/> Emerging Practice
<input type="checkbox"/> Home Health	<input type="checkbox"/> Technology	<input type="checkbox"/> other

Presenter

#1

#2

#3

	#1	#2	#3
Name			
Professional Title			
Street Address			
City, State, Zip			
Employer			
Home Phone			
Work Phone			
Email			

Scheduling Preference – please indicate your preference for the day and time for your presentation. The committee will make every attempt to schedule according to speaker preference; however, this may not be possible.

Friday <input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM	Saturday <input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM
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AV Equipment Needed

<input type="checkbox"/> computer	<input type="checkbox"/> projector	<input type="checkbox"/> screen
<input type="checkbox"/> other		
<input type="checkbox"/> other		

**How will you
recognize
Occupational
Therapy
Month?**

Galvanize, Inspire, Ignite—April is OT Month!

The profession of occupational therapy consistently faces the challenge to advocate for and communicate its role, scope, and value. What an opportunity OT month affords! Here are some ideas from OTAO board members:

- hold a brown bag lunch about a occupation-related topic
- bring a treat to your referral sources
- write thank you notes to your patients for choosing you as their therapist
- make OT trivia cards for your waiting room
- encourage your co-workers to join OTAO
- have a special lunch or brunch out with your co-workers

On Legislation *(continued from front page)*

while expressing concern about the lack of public safety protections. Maggie Hotch has done an outstanding job in public testimony explaining OTAO's position.

We also have worked closely with the OTLB and supported the Board's bill to make some housekeeping changes to their statutes.

Other bills have drawn our attention including one that limits the use of terms like "clinic", "institute", and "specialist". After an initial hearing in February, the bill has had no further consideration. Legislators are

also considering a measure to require health professionals to receive continuing education in cultural competency. At this point it is unclear whether the bill would mandate a one-time training like the pain management requirement or if the training would be periodic.

Budget issues, of course, are at the top of Legislators' agenda. Potential reductions from the funds necessary to maintain programs at current levels are causing anguish throughout the Capitol. One prominent example is a proposal to cut the general fund allotment to the Children's De-

velopment and Rehabilitation Center (CDRC) by 53 percent. I recently testified in support of the programs at CDRC and hopefully, legislators can find the funds necessary to avoid such a drastic reduction.

In May Legislators will receive one final forecast of expected state revenues before the session ends. With that forecast in hand, budgets will be finalized. Until then, we can expect a very busy few months.

John McCulley
OTAO Lobbyist

OTAO 2011 BALLOT
Vote by June 1, 2011 to be counted

President-Elect

_____ SARA PICKETT, OTR _____ OTHER: _____
(Candidate is running unopposed)

Vice-President

_____ No Candidate at this time _____ OTHER: _____

Treasurer-Elect

_____ JAN CUCITI, OTR _____ OTHER: _____
(Candidate is running unopposed)

*** Vote ONLINE, or ballots can be returned by fax, e-mail or mail:**

Fax completed ballot to: (503) 690-1819

e-mail to: otao@otao.com, or

mail to: OTAO, PO Box 7133, Aloha OR 97007

If Faxed, E-Mailed or Mailed - Ballot must be **RECEIVED** by June 1st

About the Candidates:

Sara Pickett:

Sara Pickett, OTR/L, University of Washington graduate, works at Oregon State Hospital in the neuropsychiatry program, current OTAO President. Would like to run for another term because this position offers such a great amount of learning experiences, that I feel I am just getting started and would love to continue to help support OTAO and its' advocacy for it's members and the profession of Occupational Therapy.

Jan Cuciti:

Graduated from the University of Minnesota OT Program in 1983 and moved to Oregon with in 1985. MBA, minor in Healthcare Administration, from Concordia University in December 2007. Presently, I am Rehab Services Manager at Valley West Health Care Center in Eugene. I want to run for another term as OTAO treasurer because I believe that I can continue to build on systems and processes that I/we've implemented in the last couple years.



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Advertising: All ads should be submitted to: Desiree Keplinger, OTAO, PO Box 7133, Aloha OR 97007, or via email at: otao@otao.com, by the 15th of the month preceding the desired month of publication. OTAO is not responsible for statements made by its advertisers; unless so stated, publication of advertisements does not reflect an official endorsement of the OTAO. Prepayment must be received prior to inclusion of advertisement. Advertising rates can be viewed at: www.otao.com/Advertising

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

The next meeting of the **OT Licensing Board** will be **Friday-Saturday May 6-7, 2011**. It will include a planning session and a review of legislation. Contact Felicia Holgate at 971-673-0198 or Felicia.M.Holgate@state.or.us if you want details. The Board is currently following about 30 legislative bills which might affect OT or licensing/discipline issues.

Celebrate OT Month with the Students at Pacific University: **Wednesday, April 20th** (11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.)
Location: TBD
For information call 503-352-7268.

Pacific University OT Research and Practice Symposium: Friday, April 9th, for information call 503-352-7268

Deadline for OTAO Election Ballots: June 1

Submit an article for publication or an idea to make the newsletter a useful and engaging benefit of membership. Contact Lizzie Scanlon, OTR/L at egscanlon@gmail.com.