



# The Viewpoint

Occupational Therapy Association of Oregon

Summer 2008

## Letter from OTA0's President

Greetings to all Occupational Therapy practitioners in Oregon! This is the one annual newsletter that we send to everyone, not just members, so you all can see what OTA0 is up to. I will try to be brief this time (I know, I know, hard to believe) to give you all a quick glimpse of what we've been doing and to give you some thoughts to consider.

Notice anything different? Of course you do! OTA0 is moving up into the current times. We have a new look with our new logo thanks to a recent Art Institute of Portland graduate who is civic minded and redesigned our logo for a fee that is the deal of the century! The current OTA0 board is working hard to modernize your state association to make it more accessible, visible and informative. Our membership numbers are growing steadily and our Occupational Therapy community in Oregon is getting stronger!

We've hosted 5 continuing education events just in the past six months and have had great speakers and good feedback on how to improve on our efforts. Our Lobbyist and Legislative team are already starting to get busy with issues on health care reform that are fast approaching for the 2009 legislative session. The annual conference team is way ahead of the game and conference in October in Salem is looking to be packed full of great speakers with a nice spread across practice areas.

It's been a great year for OTA0 and all signs are pointing to continued improvements to make your association stronger, more meaningful to you, and more fun! With all our efforts, we are still 100% open to member (and non-member) feedback. If you have thoughts, suggestions, concerns, and/or ideas that you

feel would help improve our efforts, please, and I mean this, please email me at [sybilfisher@mac.com](mailto:sybilfisher@mac.com) and be honest with me...I will listen and share with the board. OTA0 is YOUR association, not mine, not the boards...YOURS.

Thank you to you all who are current members. Some of you have been honest and helpful in helping us to continue to improve OTA0. By being a member, you are an active member and part of our growing OT revolution.

Enjoy the Viewpoint and stay tuned for more fun, education, information and activities from OTA0!

Have a great summer!

*Sybil*

### Inside this Issue

President's Message .....	1
Membership Benefits .....	2
Lobbyist Update .....	3
Conference Update .....	4
Marketing Update .....	5
AOTA Update .....	6
Treasurer's Update .....	7
OTA0 Updates .....	Back Cover
Job Board .....	Insert
Masters in Healthcare Admin Program .....	Insert
Conference Brochure .....	Insert



## Membership Benefits

For the majority of our OTAO members it is time to renew your OTAO membership!

Renewal is easiest online – just go to [www.otao.com](http://www.otao.com) and click on Login (upper right hand corner of the screen). You will be prompted to enter your user name and password (unless you've set it up to remember you each time) and then you will be prompted to renew. If you have any questions or problems, there is online help available, or you can email me at: [otao@otao.com](mailto:otao@otao.com). Remember, without you, we as a profession are not nearly as strong, and you benefit from your OTAO membership through:

\* Significant Continuing Ed Discounts      \* Full-Time Lobbyist

\* Online Membership Directory      \* Job Listings      \* Reduced Conference Rates

### Submitting items for the Viewpoint:



**Fax:**  
(503) 690-1819



**E-mail:**  
[otao@otao.com](mailto:otao@otao.com)



**Mail:**  
OTAO  
PO Box 7133  
Aloha OR 97007

Printed on recycled paper, the Viewpoint is published by the Occupational Therapy Association of Oregon. Editor: Desiree Keplinger, PO Box 7133, Aloha OR 97007, Phone: (503) 658-6384, Fax: (503) 690-1819, E-mail: [otao@otao.com](mailto:otao@otao.com)

**Guidelines for contributions:** News and feature articles are welcomed. Submitted articles should be practiced-related, accuracy of information is the responsibility of the authors. Publication of articles is primarily for informational and educational purposes and not for promoting or endorsing one particular technique, procedure or philosophy over another. OTAO disclaims any liability or responsibility for individual use of applications or procedures or techniques described. Subject matter presented in "Letters to the Editor" column reflects the personal opinion of the author(s) and is not meant to represent the policy or opinion of OTAO. Photos should be black and white, at least 3x5 in, with good definition of detail. **Deadline for receipt of articles is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding the desired month of publication.** Submitted materials cannot be returned. Copies of the newsletter are available from the Executive Office for \$10.00

**Subscription Rates:** Subscription is a benefit of OTAO members and is included in yearly membership rates.

**Change of Address:** Should be provided to OTAO via mail or E-mail as provided above, or done online by the Member. Newsletters are mailed 3<sup>rd</sup> class and will not be forwarded by the post office. Yearly membership is renewed in July; applications must be received by November 1 for members to be included in the annual membership directory.

**Advertising:** All ads should be submitted to: Desiree Keplinger, OTAO, PO Box 7133, Aloha OR 97007, or via email at: [otao@otao.com](mailto:otao@otao.com), by the 15<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.otao.com/Advertising)

## Lobbyist's Update

by John McCulley

**S**tate legislative committee seeks changes to health professionals licensing boards

The operation of health-related licensing boards has been at the top of the House Health Care Committee's agenda since the last legislative session, was discussed by the committee during the February session and is the committee's main focus for the rest of the year.

Meeting with licensing board administrators and professional association representatives on May 27, Committee Chair Rep. Mitch Greenlick (D-Portland) said the committee will introduce a bill in the 2009 legislative session. The legislation may include the following elements:

- 1) Number of public members on each board. It appears the committee won't try to adjust the size of the boards, but may introduce legislation to have each board consist of 50 percent minus one public members. The OT Licensing Board, as I have mentioned previously, already complies with this approach.
- 2) Removal of board members. There is interest in having each board member serve at the pleasure of the Governor. In some boards, members can only be removed "for cause" or for violation of a specific requirement that provides grounds for removal. State law is silent on removal of OTLB members. The Board members are appointed by the Governor who may choose from nominees submitted by OTA and the Board itself.
- 3) Monitoring of licensees with substance abuse. There is no clear direction on this one yet. Some believe there is value in having a single agency monitor all licensees from any board who are being treated for substance abuse.

Another idea on the table is more government oversight of the boards although no one has

articulated what that means. One legislator suggested requiring Senate confirmation for all board members as a way to provide oversight.

The good news is that the legislators recognize that it's not practical to establish a boilerplate that each board must follow. It further appears that requiring specific geographic representation on every board does not meet with the committee's favor.

Board and association representatives will be invited to comment on these issues at two upcoming committee meetings, July 8 in Portland and September 16 in Salem. In addition the boards and associations are meeting to develop a coordinated response to what the Legislature may propose. That group meets on June 24 in Salem.

After receiving input, the Committee will develop legislation that would be approved for introduction at its November meeting.

A quick note on health policy reform. The Health Fund Board and its subcommittees continue to meet working to develop a plan for the 2009 session. At the core will be a medical home that, I think, still needs some work. And, of course, there's the question of how to pay for it.

Already one legislator has presented a health care reform concept. Rep. Ron Mauer (R-Grants Pass) stirred the pot in mid-June suggesting expanding health care availability by requiring state workers to pay part of their health care costs. State employee unions quickly assaulted that plan as did the Rep. Greenlick. Rep. Mauer's idea will be one of many the Legislature will see next session.

---

---

Insert ad from Jenjo (pdf)

### **Salem: A Path To The State Conference**

The OTA State Conference this year is going to be in Salem, OR at the new Salem Convention Center in downtown Salem. It is looking like a full conference with plenty of opportunities to gain knowledge in a wide area of practices. It is the conference committee's hope that sessions will provide information in more than one practice area, so that therapists can learn something in all sessions.

The theme this year is: *Imagine ... A Path to Well-Being*, and we touch on this in various forms. There will be the annual Yoga session, but this year it will be Friday for 30 minutes during the lunch hour. There will also be two sessions at sites away from the Convention Center, where people can easily walk to, getting a little exercise while seeing more of Salem (the Capitol and the Easter Seals Children's Therapy Center). The option of lunch will be provided at cost for those events. For those who are interested, Sue Wimmer will also lead a walk to the riverfront park Friday during the lunch hour. The option of lunch will be provided at cost for this event as well. Friday will end with the annual awards banquet with guest speaker, Roy Orr, Superintendent of Oregon State Hospital, and a former OT.

Saturday will highlight the keynote lunch with speaker, Joyce M. Engel, on pain management. Joyce M. Engel, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA is a professor at University of Washington in the Occupational Therapy Program of the Rehabilitation Department. She teaches psychosocial content in the program and has a special interest in cognitive behavioral strategies for improving health and pain reduction and single-subject designs in clinical research. Her research emphasis is on pain evaluation and chronic pain management interventions. She is the principle investigator for an NIH project studying the efficacy of relaxation training in children with physical disabilities and related pain. Dr. Engel earned her Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and both her Master of Arts in Human Development and Family Life, and her PhD in Development and Child Psychology at the University of Kansas. Her Keynote address on Saturday October 25th will be on The Evaluation and Treatment of chronic Pain in Persons with Disabilities. She will do an additional 3 hour presentation on Sunday October 26 regarding relaxation techniques for youths with chronic pain. Saturday ends with the annual auction for the Pacific University OT students.

Sunday starts with the annual OTA breakfast meeting where we get to network and learn all that has been happening this past year with OTA. The rest of the morning continues with sessions, some a continuation of themes from previous days.

Besides topics in pain management, fieldwork supervision, and hand therapy, Christine Urish, Ph.D, OTR/L, BCMH, FAOTA, President of Iowa Occupational Therapy Association, will be presenting on the AOTA Board and Specialty Certification and Professional Development plan, for those therapists who wish to acknowledge their expertise in a specific field. Last year's successful mental health forum have encouraged other SIS areas to have forums where specific topics, sharing and problem solving can occur.

The Conference brochure and registration information is being mailed with this newsletter, and can also be found on the OTA website. Please contact OTA or Sara Pickett at [sara.g.pickett@state.or.us](mailto:sara.g.pickett@state.or.us) if you have any questions.

We are having a lot of fun down here in Salem planning all this and look forward to seeing everyone in October!

2008 Conference Committee: Sara Pickett, Diane Adams, Kara Ford, Margaret Hotch, Jan Reid, Michelle Swanger, LeAnne Skinner, April Walker, Sue Wimmer, and Kris Wright

## Marketing Committee Update

by Amanda Moore and Sally Stauffer

Renew, Rethink, Rebuild. That was the theme of the 2007 OTAO Conference in October. That theme has carried us through the fall, winter, spring and into the summer as marketing works (to renew OTAO's commitment to its members and ) to renew interest in OTAO membership, rethink what OTAO represents through rebuilding or growing our relationships, image and services.

Through the efforts and connections of the OTAO board and previous student representative, marketing was able to pursue development of a new logo for OTAO. We worked with a recent graduate of the Art Institute of Portland, Jenny Fotland, who provided professional graphic design services at a much reduced rate. Over the course of 3 months, multiple meetings, sketches, and emails, the board selected a design to become the new logo of OTAO. Set within the outline of Oregon and a horizon of green trees against grades of blue sky, the text OTAO stands out in the foreground. While not a vast departure from the former black/white logo, the new logo has superior resolution for printing (in color or black and white) and embodies graphic techniques that lend it a more modern feel.



You may have already glimpsed the logo on continuing education fliers. Marketing plans to continue rolling it out on merchandise, the website, and mailings to members and prospective members.

You can help renew, rethink and rebuild by volunteering for the marketing committee. We need volunteers to assist with promoting OTAO events, merchandise, and recruiting members. Get involved by contacting [otao@otao.com](mailto:otao@otao.com).

## Advanced Concepts and Innovative Techniques for Extensor Tendon Injury Management

will be presented by Susan Mitchell, MS, LOTR, CHT  
at Providence Portland Medical Center  
in Portland, Oregon  
on July 12 & 13, 2008.

You earn 7.0 CEUs for attending Day 1 only.  
You earn 12.0 CEUs for attending both days (Day 2 is a splinting workshop).

Cost:

Day 1 only: \$180.00

Day 1 and 2: \$280.00

For More Information & to Register Online go to:

<http://www.ccseminars.net>

call: (225) 773-2940 or email: [susan@ccseminars.net](mailto:susan@ccseminars.net)

## A Note From Your Oregon AOTA Representative, Heather Chiappisi

As I approach the end of my three year term as your alternate representative and then as your representative, I want to thank all of the Oregon AOTA members for allowing me to serve in this position. I have learned many things through my term, and at the top of that list is the importance of being both an OTAO and an AOTA lifetime member. The volunteers that serve in our state and national association deserve our support through membership, so that they may continue their work to promote Occupational Therapy and to support Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapy Assistants at both the state and national level.

### 2008 Representative Assembly Meeting Highlights

The following is a brief summary of some of the 62 actions taken by the AOTA Representative Assembly (RA) at the 4-day April 2008 meeting in Long Beach, CA. For more details, contact Heather Chiappisi ([heather@efn.org](mailto:heather@efn.org)) and thanks for your membership in AOTA.

Motion	Action	Comments
Motion 1: Core competencies be developed for entry-level OTs for physical rehabilitation of UE	Defeated	3 substitute motions that address the intent of the original motion were <b>adopted</b> including a fact sheet regarding OT practice in physical rehab of UE.
Motion 2: ACOTE to reconsider having OTAs participate in OT educational programs as Academic Fieldwork Coordinators	Defeated	RA supports 2006 ACOTE standards; OTAs can serve as Academic Fieldwork Coordinators for OTA level programs and may be “delegated administrative duties such as coordination and acquisition of fieldwork sites in masters and/or doctoral level OT programs”.
Motion 3: Task force to categorize our library holdings and recommend items that need to be prioritized to a more durable digital/electronic form.	Defeated	However, a <b>substitute motion was adopted</b> : Executive Director of AOTF will be asked to give a report by 2009 on: (a) current condition and location of archives, (b) procedures for archiving (c) timeline for completing archival process, and (d) plan for increasing availability of documents for future utilization.
COE’s statement on <i>Academic Terminal Degree</i>	Adopted	Educators felt that SACS and other accrediting organizations would accept this statement from AOTA as justification for hiring faculty with diverse doctoral degrees.
OTA educational programs phasing to an associate degree as the requirement	Adopted as amended	ACOTE will implement a 5 year timeline for the existing 3 certificate level OTA programs to transition to the associate degree level
Implement COE’s Voluntary Credentialing for Fieldwork Education Program (VCFWE)	Adopted as amended	Amended motion shortens the timeline to develop and implement the program since many felt this is urgently needed.
Operationalize the Coordinated Online Opportunities for Leadership (COOL) program	Adopted as amended	This online database will allow members to sign up and volunteer for <b>leadership</b> opportunities and will enable AOTA to quickly locate volunteers with expertise and skills in particular areas.
COP’s motion to adopt the revised Occupational Therapy Practice Framework: Domain and Process	Adopted	
School System’s SIS name change to Early Intervention & School SIS (EISIS)	Adopted	There was some discussion about whether Early Intervention deserved its own SIS, but many felt that this idea has been talked about and postponed for over a year and it was time to act.
New motion: Feasibility study for specialty certification in UE rehabilitation	Defeated	Several RA members spoke against more specialty certifications; CA spoke against it citing the confusion over multiple certifications in their state. CCCPD stated that there is limited staff and finances so they recommend not adding more certifications at this point.
New motion: 100% of RA to financially contribute to AOTPAC in honor of their 30 <sup>th</sup> anniversary this year	Adopted	<b>RA met their goal of 100%</b> participation and raised <b>\$11,000 for AOTPAC</b> . The RA Leadership Team will be developing a statement challenging every AOTA member to financially contribute to AOTPAC.
RA members to communicate AOTA’s new brand and branding campaign to their constituents	Adopted	

AOTA unveiled its new brand to communicate what occupational therapy does. Look for more information and promotional materials from AOTA about the new brand, **“Living life to its fullest”**.

The 2008 RA finished its business early, signifying that its efficiency measures worked. Thank you to all who contributed, voted, and participated in the RA process!

**From the Treasurer:**

We are currently working to put together a budget for the next fiscal year, July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009. Jan Reid, Treasurer Elect has been actively participating in planning the budget and learning the role of Treasurer as she will take over the position on July 1, less than a month away now. I am saying good-bye after serving two terms and welcoming Jan with her budget experience, enthusiasm and fresh ideas.

In this next fiscal year, we will be spending \$14,400 on a legislative lobbyist to protect our profession. This is a huge expense for us, one that we are not used to having. As always, we will be working to increase membership and attendance at conference to cover our expenses. A new goal to increase revenue this year is to try and bring our advertising rates up to a competitive value. Also, we will only be printing one newsletter this year. (The others will be available on the web and e-mail.) In addition to saving money, this will also save the environment.

We will be accepting donations to help with the cost of the lobbyist. Please consider supporting this worthwhile expense.

Heather Santesson  
Treasurer

Renew  
online!  
[www.otao.com](http://www.otao.com)

**Continuing Education:****Level I: Musculoskeletal Disorders & Ergonomics Certification Workshop****Description:**

This workshop teaches basic ergonomics assessment skills and certification (CEAS) using the OSHA guidelines. Skills learned will assist the healthcare or safety professional in the development and implementation of ergonomics programs that will decrease the frequency, severity and costs of musculoskeletal disorders and will increase worker productivity. 1.5 CEU's/15 contact hours for most professions

**Location**

Golden West Homes  
2445 Pacific Blvd. SW, Lunchroom  
Albany, OR 97321

**July 19 & 20, 2008**

8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Tuition:**

\$435 regular price

\$392 if paid 14 days in advance

\$348 if you register 3 or more

All health care and safety professionals are welcome.

AOTA Approval # 4849

BOC Approval # P731

**Instructor:** Ronald Porter, PT, CEAS

For more information, please contact:

Back School of Atlanta  
1962 Northside Drive NW  
Atlanta, GA 30318-2631

[www.backschoolofatlanta.com](http://www.backschoolofatlanta.com)

[info@backschoolofatlanta.com](mailto:info@backschoolofatlanta.com)

800-783-7536 Toll Free

404-355-3907 Fax

## OTAO News:

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

July 25 – Seaside: Pain Management CE Event  
with the Licensing Board at Seaside Providence  
Hospital

Sept 20 – Portland: High Functioning  
Autism/Asperger Syndrome (HFA/AS) CE Event

Oct 24-26 – Salem: OTAO Annual Conference (see  
brochure inside). Register online after July 20<sup>th</sup>



### 2008 OTAO Board Elections

With a record-breaking turn-out online we have  
two clear winners! Congratulations to:

**Trish Ostrander, OTAO Secretary**  
**Maggie Hotch, OTAO Trustee**