

# News from Member Organisations

September 2018



# Canada

## Occupational Therapy Now

The July/August 2018 special issue of *Occupational Therapy Now* (the professional magazine of the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists) regarding economic evidence for occupational therapy is freely accessible to all:

[https://caot.ca/company/roster/companyRosterDetails.html?language=en\\_CA&companyId=103110&companyRosterId=107](https://caot.ca/company/roster/companyRosterDetails.html?language=en_CA&companyId=103110&companyRosterId=107)

## Canada advocates for OT during occupational therapy month in October

Each year, the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists hosts the #31dayOTchallenge on social media during occupational therapy month, to raise awareness of our profession. We encourage OTs from around the world to join in by talking to someone about occupational therapy every day during October and then sharing on social media using the hashtag.

For those with employee benefit plans, make sure to approach your employer, union, or plan provider and #AskforOT coverage as part of your health benefits. Together we will increase the visibility and accessibility of occupational therapy services globally.

# Colombia

## Journal Indexation News! "Ocupación Humana", the Colombian Journal of Occupational Therapy

Since the month of February 2018, the Human Occupation Journal has been indexed in the Bibliographic Database on Health Care in Ibero-America -CUIDEN, of the INDEX Foundation, and in the aggregation platform for scientific and academic content of the Ibero-American Network of Innovation and Scientific Knowledge- REDIB. These first achievements in indexing are added to the inclusion of the Journal in Google Scholar since the previous year. We continue working to achieve the indexation of the journal in other data bases that increase the visibility and the appropriation of Latin American knowledge in occupational therapy.

## Launch of VOLUME 18 N°1 OF 2018 of the "Ocupación Humana" Journal

On August 6, a new issue of the Human Occupation Journal, Volume 18 N°1 of 2018, which is available completely online and in open access, came into circulation.

Articles in this number:

### Editorial

The occupation as a right: reflections of the 33rd Council and 17th World Congress of the World Federation of Occupational Therapists

Liliana Álvarez Jaramillo, Margarita González

## Research

Use of time and significant activities of adults undergoing transplantation of hematopoietic stem cells

Natália Moreno Ulrich, Yara Batista da Luz, Dayane Regina dos Santos

## Reflection

Occupational therapies: migrations of knowledge and practices in Latin America

Mónica Díaz Leiva

## Case reports

Locomotion program and use of public transport for students with intellectual disabilities: case report

Pamela Soledad Torres Cáceres

Intervention of Occupational Therapy on the occupational performance of sexuality in people with spinal cord injury: case report

Simone De Almeida, Raphael Fabricio De Souza, Aristela De Freitas Zanona

## Historical document

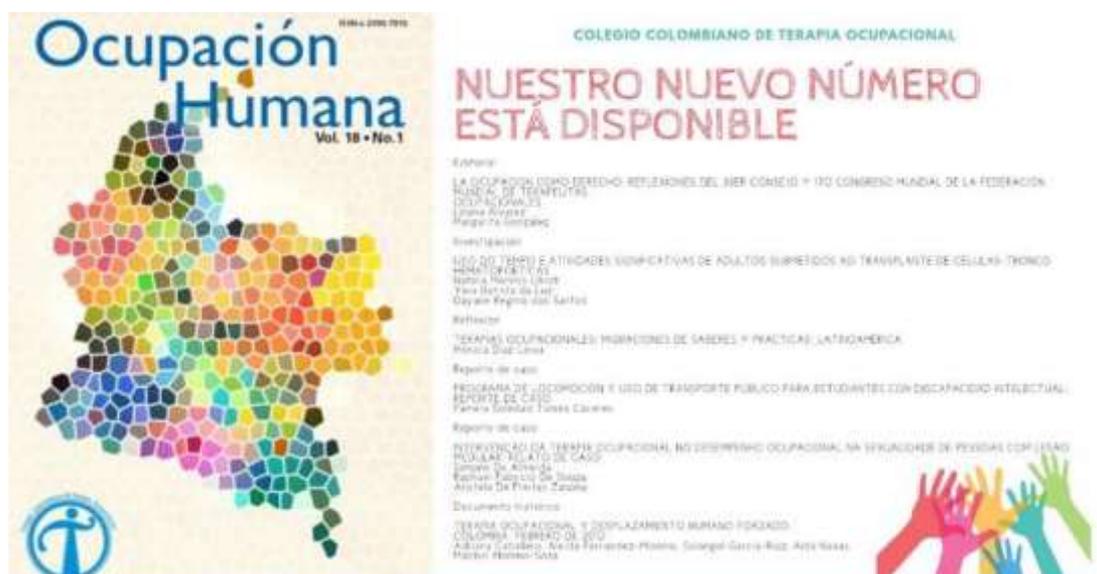
Occupational Therapy and forced human displacement Colombia, February 2012

Adriana Caballero, Aleida Fernández Moreno, Solángel García Ruíz, Aida Navas, Maribel Moreno Sosa

The complete number is available [here](#).

We invite you to read it, share it, discuss it and enjoy it. Happy reading

We invite you to visit it: [www.revistaocupacionhumana.org](http://www.revistaocupacionhumana.org) to access all our articles from issues starting on 2006 (open access).



## OPEN CALL FOR ARTICLES FOR VOLUME 19 N°1 OF 2019 OF “OCUPACION HUMANA”

Next year we will adjust the schedule of the Human Occupation Journal. For that reason, Vol. 19 N ° 1 will be published in January 2019.

We want to extend a special invitation to send your articles in Spanish, Portuguese or English, before September 15, 2018, previously reviewing the instructions for authors, available at:

[www.revistaocupacionhumana.org](http://www.revistaocupacionhumana.org)

We encourage you to share your research and knowledge, and to widely disseminate this call among your contacts.

We look forward to hearing from you!

**CONVOCATORIA  
ABIERTA A POSTULAR  
ARTÍCULOS PARA EL  
VOL. 19 N°1 DE 2019**

¿No alcanzaste a enviar tu artículo? ¡Tienes una nueva oportunidad!  
El próximo año, ajustaremos nuestro cronograma; por eso, el Vol. 19  
N°1 se publicará en enero de 2019.

 **Postula tu artículo antes del  
15 de septiembre de 2018**

Revisa las instrucciones para autores en [www.revistaocupacionhumana.org](http://www.revistaocupacionhumana.org)  
Animate a compartir tus investigaciones y conocimientos. ¡Te esperamos!

## Finland

Finland and the Association of Finnish Occupational Therapists has been going through enormous changes.

The legislation and organization of the entire socialcare and healthcare are being transformed. At the same time the entire rehabilitation legislation is getting renewed. At the present moment this includes over twenty different laws and legislations. This means also that around 220 000 public healthcare employees need to be converted from the counties to the new regions. The goal of this legislation renewal is to increase clients right to choose regardless of their geographical location. The

state of the rehabilitation and occupational therapy within the healthcare legislation is the focus of lobbying for the Association of Finnish Occupational Therapists.

At the same time of these national legislation changes the Association of Finnish Occupational Therapists has gone through huge organizational changes which has allowed the Association to change its networking partners and strengthen the possibilities for lobbying for the benefit of occupational therapists. This organizational change came at a very high price for the Association and was completed with the help of volunteer members of its governing body and 2,5 paid employees of the Association. All this work was done while serving the members of the Association at the same time. Due to this massive amount of work and financial burden the Association has decreased its involvement with the international networks to a bare minimum. The Association will start to rebuild these international relationships as soon as it is possible.

## France

### 4th National Conference of Occupational Therapy, on April 11th & 12th, 2019 in France (Paris)

The French National Association of Occupation Therapy (ANFE) organizes the **4th National Conference of Occupational Therapy** (*Assises Nationales de l'Ergothérapie*), on the theme « *Participation, occupation and power to act: advocacy for inclusive occupational therapy* ».

This event will be held at the City of Science and Industry (Paris), **with the support of Sophie Cluzel**, Secretary of State for Persons with Disabilities, and the **sponsorship of Edgar Morin**, French Sociologist and philosopher known for the theory of complex systems.

The 2018-2022 National Health Strategy aims to reaffirm the role of the user in the health system by promoting their autonomy and their participation in a sanitary democracy. The theme of this new edition is part of the outpatient shift taken by France in the area of health, a shift that asks occupational therapists to question today about the public and their needs, to rethink their approaches and ultimately to expand their theoretical and practical concepts.

Empowerment, empowerment and environmental action to ensure social inclusion for all become important concerns for occupational therapists.

The values that occupational therapy believes in, how it analyses situations based on human activity, the vocabulary it develops ... changes the place it intends to occupy in society, the health and social protection system French.

These National Assises propose to question these different subjects, both on the substance and also on the form. **Practitioners, researchers and students will be invited to engage in reflection and exchange** around their practices, postures and values, to **build together an occupational therapy that is inclusive, innovative and adapted to the specificities of the public and their needs.**

For more information on the 4th National Conference of Occupational Therapy (program, registration) visit our website: <http://www.anfe.fr/assises>.



## India

### A BRIEF REPORT ON THE KERALA FLOODS OF 2018 AND AIOTA INTERVENTION SUBMITTED BY THE KERALA BRANCH OF AIOTA (KBAIOTA)



Kerala, which is known as the “God’s own country”, is a tropical Eden with sunbathed golden seashores, abundant coconut trees, zigzag rocky terrains of Western ghats, plantations and paddy fields, bountiful rivers and mighty waterfalls. The coastal state of Kerala lying on the southwestern tip of India has commonly been called the tropical paradise of India. Bounded by Arabian Sea at one side and the Western Ghats on the other, the beautiful land with stunning beauty has an equable and tropical climate offering a pleasing atmosphere throughout the entire year. This coastal state has hot and humid climate during April-May and pleasant, cold climate in December-

January. Summer is followed by South West Monsoon that starts pouring in the month of June and continues till September.

This year was marked by heavy rains. In late July 2018, severe [flooding](#) affected [Kerala](#) state in [India](#) due to unusually high rainfall during the [monsoon season](#). Kerala's worst floods in nearly a century, over 373 people died within a fortnight, while at least 280,679 people were evacuated. All of the 14 [districts](#) of the state placed on red alert.

Heavy rains in [Wayanad](#) and Idukki have caused severe landslides and have left the hilly districts isolated. A state official told AFP that 370 people have died, while the [The Economic Times](#) in India has reported that 33,000 people have been rescued. The Kerala State Disaster Management Authority has placed the state in a red alert as a result of the intense flooding. A number of water treatment plants were forced to cease pumping water, resulting in poor access to clean water, especially in northern districts of the region. Over 5,645 relief camps have been opened at various locations to accommodate the flood victims. It is estimated that 12, 47,496 people have found shelter in such camps. The flooding has affected hundreds of villages, destroyed an estimated 10,000 km (6,200 mi) of roads and thousands of homes have been damaged or destroyed.



While army, navy and NDRF were all dedicatedly engaged in the rescue mission, another group of people were there at the disaster front, determined to save the last life caught in the flood. They were fishermen, who travelled over 120 kilometers with their boats to the disaster-struck areas. Fishermen

from the coastal towns and villages of the state were the pivotal force of rescue operations. Instead of waiting for instructions, they gathered their oars and set out to pull Kerala out of the havoc. 1200 fishermen and 460 outboard engine boats could do far more than the trained task forces. They succeeded in rendering help across all the inundated narrow lanes, when the army failed to take their rescue boats in.

As an initiative to help the affected rebuild their lives, the Government of Kerala started a donation website under the name Chief Minister's Distress Relief Fund (CMDRF) which is fully administered in an electronic platform. As of 28 August 2018, an amount of approximately US\$100 million) was collected from the public. Chief Ministers of almost all the states and Union Territories have pledged monetary aid from their respective state funds in addition to dispatch of various relief materials such as potable water, blankets, packed food, rice, water-purifying machines, daily-use and healthcare products. During the initial phase, rescue and evacuation was given utmost importance, followed by provision of food and shelter for the displaced. The current concern involves providing rehabilitation and financial assistance to the flood victims.



Many of the Occupational therapists themselves were affected by the floods directly or indirectly. The Occupational therapists in many parts of Kerala were still able to render their services to the victims through multiple ways. The transport of the rescued people from their homes to the camp was an arduous task in which the occupational therapists played an important role. The Occupational therapists from Kerala living abroad as well as those in other parts of India took a collaborative approach in funding and communicating to the government agencies and helplines through telephonic and social media which helped in reaching out to the stranded population and providing them with resources and rescue measures. Many occupational therapists actively participated in the rescue mission by visiting camps along with other members of the association and various philanthropists. Awareness programs were initiated through social media in alliance with the electricians about necessary precautions to be taken. Suggestions for home and environment modifications for the people with disability as well as help in cleaning were undertaken in many areas. The therapists were available for counseling and therapy which was provided free of cost. The Occupational therapists, not yet being a part of the disaster management team of India especially Kerala, is a matter of major concern. Therefore, it is essential that this is brought to the notice of the central and state governments with the adjuration of WFOT, WHO and the national associations in order to take necessary actions. The relief work by Kerala Branch of AIOOTA (KBAIOTA) is still going on. The statistics are given below:

Number of deaths	Around 373
Number of displaced	More than 1 million
Number of landslides	537
Crops destroyed	54,000 hectares
Roads damaged	10,000 kms
Number of camps	5645
Total estimated loss	More than 20000 crore (3 billion USD)



On behalf of KBAIOTA I extend gratitude to Marilyn Pattison, President World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT) for the letter of support to AIOTA, Union Health Minister Chief Minister & Health Minister of the State of Kerala towards the flood affected of Kerala.

With initiative from Dr. Anil Srivastava, President of All India Occupational Therapists Association (AIOTA) members of the Kerala Branch of AIOTA with the team of occupational therapists of the State are working with dedication for the relief and rehabilitation work.

Dr. Joseph Sunny  
 EC Member AIOTA &  
 Convener Kerala Branch of AIOTA, Cochin

### AIOTA NATIONAL HEADQUARTER INAUGURATED



AIOTA National Headquarter on 8<sup>th</sup> Floor of Business Bay, Nerul, Navi Mumbai



Board Room of the AIOTA Headquarter

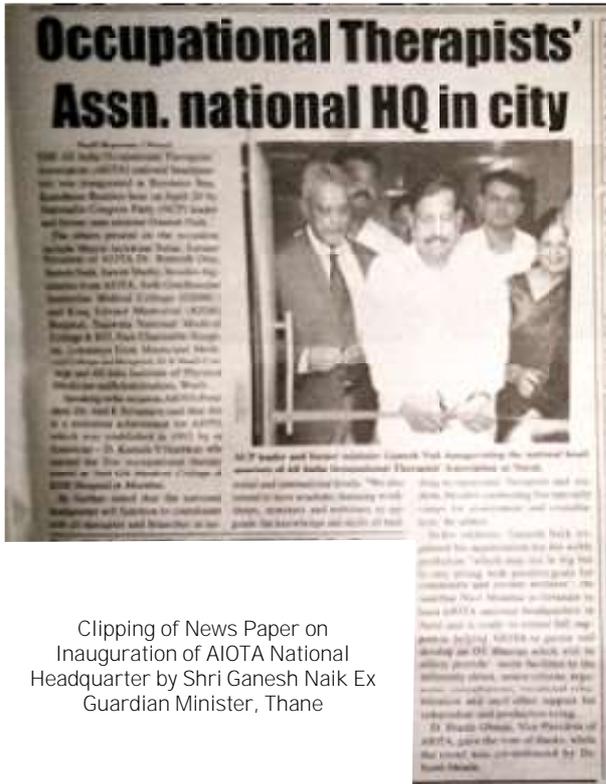


Vaastu Pooja by President AIOTA Dr. Anil K. Srivastava with Mrs. Meena Anil Srivastava prior to the Inauguration Function

**AIOTA**  
 Presidents & Secretaries (AIOTA) and Dean (ACOT)  
 1952 - 2020  
 Founder President: Dr. Kamala V. Nimbkar

President 1952-1989	Secretary 1952-1989	President 1990-2020	Secretary 1990-2020	Dean Academic Council of OT 1984 - 2020
Dr. Kamala V. Nimbkar	Dr. Ramesh Oza	Dr. N.R. Chitnavis 1990-1991	Dr. S.L. Rai 1990-1991	Dr. M .G. Deo 1984-1988
Dr. Ramesh Oza	Dr. Glenda Lopes	Dr. Madan S. Warhade 1992-1993	Dr. V.S. Thombre 1992-1993	Dr. Meera M. Shahani 1988-1992
Dr. Glenda Lopes	Dr. Pavri	Dr. R.K. Sharma 1994-2002	Dr. Anil K. Srivastava 1994-1996	Dr. Nirmala R. Chitnavis 1992-1996
Dr. M. R. Kulkarni	Dr. M. R. Kulkarni	Dr. Anil K. Srivastava 2002-2010	Dr. Odette Gomes 1996-1998	Dr. Indira R. Kenkre 1996-2004
Dr. M.G. Deo	Dr. Meera M. Shahani	Dr. Madan S. Warhade 2010-2012	Dr. Sunil P. Mokashi 1998-2000	Dr. R. K. Sharma 2004-2008
Dr. G.H. Purohit	Dr. Asutosh Pandit	Dr. Anil K. Srivastava 2012-2020	Dr. Zarine D.Ferzandi 2000-2002	Dr. M .S. Warhade 2008-2012
Dr. N.R. Chitnavis	Dr. A. C. Shrivastava		Dr. Shovan Saha 2002-2004 & 2008-2012	Dr. Jyothika N. Bijlani 2012-2020
	Dr. Madan S. Warhade		Dr. Pankaj Bajpai 2004-2006 & 2012-2016	
	Dr. Indira R. Kenkre		Dr. Satish S. Masiekar 2016-2020	

Display of list of AIOTA/ACOT Officials since 1952 in the headquarter



Clipping of News Paper on Inauguration of AIOta National Headquarter by Shri Ganesh Naik Ex Guardian Minister, Thane



President AIOta Dr. Anil Srivastava talking to reporter.



Chief Guest Mr. Ganesh Naik talking to media persons with President Dr. Anil Srivastava & Vice President Dr. Shashi Oberai



Mr. Jayawant Sutar, Mayor, Navi Mumbai talking to media persons. Other present are AIOta Vice-President Dr. Shashi Oberai, Secretary Dr. Satish Maslekar and EC Member, Dr. Joseph Sunny.

AIOta National Headquarter [801, Business Bay, Plot No.51, Sector-1, Nerul, Navi Mumbai-400706, Maharashtra] was inaugurated by Shri Ganesh Naik, Ex-Guardian Minister, Thane in the gracious presence of Shri Jayawant Sutar, Mayor, Navi Mumabai on 20<sup>th</sup> April in a grand function. Dr. Ramesh Oza Former President AIOta was Guest of Honor. Former President Dr. Madan Warhade (Nagpur), Former Secretary Dr. Vasant Thombre (Nagpur), Dr. Veena Slaich, EC ACOT (New Delhi), Dr. M.M. Sangoi, faculties and official from Charity Commissioner, Mumbai graced the occasion.

President AIOTA Dr. Anil Srivastava in his welcome address said that it is a significant achievement of past more than six decades of All India Occupational Therapists' Association (AIOTA). It would not have been possible without selfless dedicated services from each one of the pioneers, members and the present Executive Committee. The AIOTA headquarter inaugurated today has well equipped Board Room for arranging the meetings and academic workshops. He emphasized that now the mission of AIOTA is to try building an OT Bhavan in Navi Mumbai in next five years. It will have provisions of AIOTA secretariat, board room, mini auditorium for academic workshops & professional meetings and specialized OT facilities for developmental disorders, elderly, orthopedic & neurological dysfunctions. Chief Guest Shri Naik offered his full cooperation for acquiring land for the proposed OT House in Navi Mumbai. Vice President AIOTA Dr. Shashi Oberai was the organizing convener of this well-knit inaugural program.

### **AIOTA'S ANNUAL FELLOWSHIP IN ADVANCED OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**

AIOTA's innovative First Annual 9 month's duration Fellowship in Advanced Occupational Therapy on Neuro-Developmental Disorders (FAOTNDD-India) which began on 18<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2017 was concluded on June 11, 2018 at Hotel Avion, Mumbai. This very successful innovative fellowship program had 20 postgraduate OT participants and more than 30 national and overseas faculties including key resource faculty Erna Blanch (USA).



Inaugural function of FAOT: NDD at T.N. Medical College Mumbai

Inauguration of AIOTA's First Fellowship in Advanced Occupational Therapy on Neuro-Developmental Disorders (FAOTNDD-India) by Dean of T. N. Medical College, Mumbai in gracious presence of



Closing function of FAOT: NDD at Hotel Avion Mumbai

President AIOTA Dr. Anil Srivastava, Dean ACOT Dr. Jyothika Bijlani and former Dean ACOT Dr. I. R. Kenkre. The AIOTA's Annual Fellowship in Advanced OT as live and webinar mode of teaching, on vivid areas of OT Practice is welcomed by members at large. Dr. Jyothika Bijlani, Dean Academic Council of OT is Principal Coordinator of the annual fellowship programs.

Chairman of the Administrative Committee of Fellowship Program & President AIOTA Dr. Anil Srivastava in his concluding address announced opening of the 2nd Fellowship in Advanced OT on Neuro-Rehabilitation (FAOT: NR-India) beginning from 25<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2018 at Mumbai.

OT's with postgraduate qualifications may contact Principal Coordinator FAOTNR & Dean Academic Council of OT-Dr. Jyothika Bijlani for registration. (Email: [aiotafellowship2018@gmail.com](mailto:aiotafellowship2018@gmail.com))

### **COTE ON DRIVER REHABILITATION AND WHEELCHAIR SEATING AND MOBILITY**

Academic Council of OT in collaboration with Occupational Therapy Department of All India Institute of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation has successfully organized 2<sup>nd</sup> certificate course on 'Driver Rehabilitation' on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 and will organize Continuing OT Education Program (COTE) on 'Wheelchair Seating & Mobility' on 29<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2018. HOD OT Department Dr. Anita Gupta is organizing Convener.

### **THE 56<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF AIOTA [OTICON'2019]**

OTICON'2019 with international participation is being organized by All India Occupational Therapists' Association in cooperation with Occupational therapy Department of country's pride the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh from Feb. 8-10, 2019. The Theme of the conference is 'Interdisciplinary Approach: Towards Comprehensive Healthcare'. Delegates from UK, USA, Canada, Sri Lanka and the Middle East Countries have consented to participate. Ritchard Ledgerd Executive Director WFOT has consented to deliver the Key Note Address and also will be guest speaker. The conference is being organized in a grand way enriched with academics of high standards and cultural evenings infused with great entertainment by local artists and students of AIOTA accredited OT Colleges from all over India. President AIOTA Dr. Anil Srivastava is the Organizing Chairman, Dr. Bhavinder Singh Suchdev (PGIMER, Chandigarh) is Organizing Secretary and Dr. Punita Solanki (Mumbai) is Chairperson of the Scientific Program for this event of prestigious significance for AIOTA.

For more details visit: <http://oticon.aiota.org/>

### **COTE HELD ON SCIENCE AND ETHICS OF RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND ART OF WRITING RESEARCH**

1<sup>st</sup> Annual, Intensive, Live and Webinar COTE on "Science and Ethics of Research Methodology and Art of Writing Research" under the aegis of Academic Council of Occupational Therapy (ACOT) in collaboration with Indian Journal of Occupational Therapy (IJOT) was successfully organized with 18 participants (9 live and 9 participants as webinar) from 22<sup>nd</sup> (Sunday) to 25<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday) April, 2018 at AIOTA National Headquarter in Nerul, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra, India and completed with enthusiastic zeal. Dr. Anil K. Srivastava, President AIOTA inaugurated the event on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The 12 eminent faculty members from India and overseas, delivered talks, as live or webinar mode of teaching.

It happened to be the first academic program which was superbly organized at AIOTA National Headquarter. Dr. Punita V. Solanki was the organizing convener; Dr. Lakshmanan S. was the co-convener; and Dr. Joseph Sunny was the website coordinator under the potential leadership of Dean ACOT Dr. Jyothika Bijlani for this live & webinar COTE.

### **WEBINAR ON AIOTA VISION & MISSION AND “HEALTH CONDITIONS IN CHILDREN & ADOLESCENTS”**

Live and Webinar Program was organized by AIOTA with ACOT in Collaboration with its Regional Chapters/Branches on “AIOTA Mission and Vision” and “Health Conditions in Children & Adolescents” on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018. The power point presentations on “Vision and Mission of AIOTA, ACOT & IJOT” were delivered by Vice President, Dr. Shashi Oberai; Dean, Dr. Jyothika N. Bijlani & Associate Editor, IJOT, Dr. Punita V. Solanki respectively. It was followed with 2 faculty presentations viz. “Project Career: iPad Use Among Post-Secondary Students with Traumatic Brain Injury” by Dr. Karen Jacobs, Boston, USA and “Diagnostic Assessment in Autism Spectrum Disorder: Occupational Therapy Perspective” by Dr. Harsh Vardhan, New Zealand.

The webinar was hosted from AIOTA National Headquarters, which was coordinated by Assistant Editor (Promotion), IJOT, Dr. Lakshmanan S. (Bangalore). It was attended by 15 members and 17 student members of AIOTA from various regions of India.

### **PUBLICATION OF IJOT BY MEDKNOW UNIT OF WOLTERS KLUWER (INDIA)**

On recommendation of Editorial Board, the Executive Committee of AIOTA has approved publication and printing of Indian Journal of Occupational Therapy (IJOT) by Medknow, a unit of Wolters Kluwer (India) Pvt Ltd. Henceforth the IJOT Vol. 50 Issue -3 (2018) onwards, will be managed and published by Wolters Kluwer-Medknow Publication House, Mumbai. The entire journal work will be processed on Journal on Web (JoW) system. Regular updates about the newer beginnings, important highlights and latest status of IJOT indexing and abstracting will be available on IJOT's new website being developed by Medknow.

Wolters Kluwer | Medknow is a global level publishing service provider and provides worldwide services of publishing to peer-reviewed, online and print-plus-online journals in medicine. It operates the Open Access (OA) model of publishing services, providing unrestricted online access to peer-reviewed scholarly research. AIOTA & Wolters Kluwer partnership is aimed to be effective in respect to quality of publication, dissemination of research in global market and making the journal as far as possible self-funded.

### **AIOTA AWARDS 2018**

Following members were selected with prestigious AIOTA awards for their exemplary achievements and contribution for OT in India and AIOTA. The 2018 awards were presented during the inaugural function of OTICON2018: i.e. 55<sup>th</sup> Annual National Conference of AIOTA on Feb.16, 20-18 at Nagpur-

**President AIOTA's Crown of OT Award:** Dr. Shashi Oberai (Navi Mumbai) & Dr. Jyothika N. Bijlani (Mumbai)

**Life Time Achievement Award:** Dr. M.G. Deo (Nagpur) & Dr. V.S. Thombre (Nagpur)

**Professional Excellence Award:** Dr. Vijay Suple (Canada) Dr. Sunil P. Mokashi (Bhubaneswar) and Dr. S.K. Meena (Jaipur)

**Young OT Achiever's Award:** Dr. Lakshamanan.S. (Bangalore) & Dr. Shriharsh Jahagirdar (Mumbai)

## AIOTA INTERVENTION KERALA FLOODS 2018



Convener KBAIOTA meeting with Chief of Disaster Risk Reduction in the UN Environment Programme Dr. Muralee Thummarukudy and Additional Chief Secretary Revenue & Disaster Management Shri P.H. Kurian IAS

The State of Kerala had unusually high rains beginning in late July causing severe flooding encircling almost whole of the State. It was the worst flood of the century, in Kerala. The hundreds of people died and the damages were worth billions of rupees. 10000 KM of roads were damaged and thousands of homes were damaged and /or destroyed. With initiatives from AIOTA the Kerala Branch of AIOTA under the leadership of the Convener Dr. Joseph Sunny took adorable measures in cooperation of members of the branch to provide relief service for fold affected. Although OT's are not yet a part of the government controlled disaster management team in Kerala. WFOT President Marilyn Pattison & President AIOTA Dr. Anil Srivastava sent letters of support to Union Health Minister, Chief Minister and Health Minister of the State of Kerala offering their full support with request for inclusion of occupational therapists in the disaster management team with key stake holders engaged in rehabilitation and relief work for the flood affected in Kerala.

Dr. Joseph Sunny, EC Member & also Convener Kerala Branch of AIOTA met with Chief of Disaster Risk Reduction in the UN Environment Program Dr. Muralee Thummarukudy and Additional Chief

Secretary Revenue & Disaster Management Shri P.H. Kurian IAS and requested with supporting documents for inclusion of occupational therapists in disaster management team of the State.

Report as received from Dr. Joseph Sunny Convener Kerala Branch of AIOTA is attached for the reference.



*Dr. Anil K. Srivastava*  
*President - All India Occupational Therapists' Association [AIOTA]*

*WFOT Delegate*

*Email: [president@aiota.org](mailto:president@aiota.org), [editorinchief.ijot@aiota.org](mailto:editorinchief.ijot@aiota.org)*

*Alternate Email: [aiota.ak@gmail.com](mailto:aiota.ak@gmail.com)*

*Website: [www.aiota.org](http://www.aiota.org)*

## New Zealand

New Zealand Aotearoa



**Ko ngā tapuwae tukuiho, ko te huarahi manawapou**  
**Nurturing and Enabling Resilience and Sustainability**

**16-19 September 2018 | Napier | Clinical Workshops**  
**[otnzwnaevents.co.nz](http://otnzwnaevents.co.nz)**

Occupational Therapy New Zealand - Whakaora Ngangahau Aotearoa is preparing for the next Clinical Workshops. We have an exciting programme starting with a Tangata Whenua Hui for all Kaiwhakaora Ngangahau, for building capability and capacity of Tangata Whenua Kaiwhakaora Ngangahau through a Te Ao Maori worldview. This will be followed by 3-day programme offering 50:50 content relating to Tangata Tiriti and Tangata Whenua, in addition to a 2-day driving special interest group programme.

The office has just completed the annual round of subscription renewals using a new integrated data base, website and payment system. The number of renewals at the cut-off date was higher than previous years and the automated functionality of the new system saved a lot of time and stress.

The Continuing Professional Development governance committee met in June and identified two streams of major work to focus on:

- **Te Umanga Whakaora review & tangata whenua education in Governance, Strategy and Leadership.** Discussion with Maria Baker, the CEO from Te Rau Matatini, resulted in approved funding for the review and provision for tangata whenua leadership, strategy and governance training.
- **Research and publication.** There is a need to connect the practitioners and academics to ensure work is being documented and recognised via publications. OTNZ-WNA would benefit from having access to a researcher as required.

### Advocacy Activity

OTNZ WNA has: made a submission to the Mental Health and Addictions Inquiry; met with ACC to enable occupational therapists working in hand therapy to have authority to sign off client lodgment forms; discussed the future role of allied health professionals within the New Zealand Aotearoa health system with the Minister of Health David Clark, and discussed the International Standard Classification of Occupations Advocacy with various ministry departments.

Ngā mihi

Tracey Partridge | WFOT Delegate

Occupational Therapy New Zealand | Whakaora Ngangahau Aotearoa

T) 0274 210 318 E) traceyp.ot@outlook.com

## Romania

**How a national association can take action in order to demonstrate the impact of occupation in promoting the profession**

Mirela-Carmen Burilău, OT (post-graduate EU-program), Romania.

The 2018 is the year in which the Association has been involved in many projects nationally and internationally.

The "Continuing Professional Education Program", launched in 2015, has managed to offer between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of March three trainings and workshops to its members, occupational therapists practitioners and students in three different locations, all coordinated by Dr. Mary-Margaret Windsor (ScD, OTR/L. USA and PAOTR consultant):

1. In Bacău, at University "Vasile Alecsandri", the course entitled «Pediatric Evaluation of Disability Inventory: Administration. Scoring. Interpretation» as well as the workshop on «Positioning problems in sitting».

2. In Bucharest, at CNCRNC "Dr. Nicolae Robănescu", the course entitled «Dynamic positioning for daily function» for doctors, physical therapists, and ergo-therapists. At the end of training the Rehabilitation Centre manager has shared with us her desire to support the education of the Ergotherapists in order to become graduated Occupational Therapists.

3. In Alba-Iulia at "Maria Beatrice" Centre (already a good partner of the PAOTR), the course entitled «Occupational Therapy in feeding and oral-motor dysfunction in children with neurological condition» and the workshop on «Using play in occupational therapy intervention» led by Heather Miller Kuhaneck (PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA).

This "Continuing Professional Education Program" is a very good way to be connected and updated with our members, their practice, academic areas providing education in Occupational Therapy and the field and multidisciplinary team in which they work. This year's novelty is that the Association was asked to provide trainings to a multidisciplinary team that includes OTs, such as "SOS Autism Bihor" (August – October) on «Functional activities to improve communication and independence in ADL for young adults with Autism and related disorders», and "Maria Beatrice" Centre from Alba-Iulia (27–29 October) on «Sensory Integration and Sensory Processing Disorders».

In Cape Town, South Africa besides mentoring Ukraine Delegation and participating in group activities within WFOT programs areas, on 19 of May at the 33<sup>rd</sup> WFOT Council Meeting PAOTR becomes WFOT Active Member (moving from WFOT Associate Member acquired in 12 April, 2012), the Bachelor program in Occupational Therapy provided by University "Vasile Alecsandri" from Bacău being approved for the next 5 years (2018 – 2013) according to MSEOT©WFOT, 2016. Great joy and great responsibility at the same time for our Association! During the WFOT Congress in the Poster zone on 23 of May we shared under the title "Translation and Cross-Cultural Adaption of the Pediatric Evaluation of Disability Inventory (PEDI, 1992)" the experience of choosing to translate and adapt a valid assessment that reflects domains relevant to practice, as well as to provide a model professionally feasible for developing programs in occupational therapy in Romania. On the last day of Congress, the 25 of May, a panel discussion on "Occupational Therapy as change agency: Connecting diverse ideas" (where we contributed as the WFOT – Europe Region) provided a global picture on global health strategy related to themes emerging from the congress that urge all OT to take position and act in a global and interdependent context in order to demonstrate the impact of occupation in health, wellbeing, and healing of humans.

At the end of August, the Council Board votes Marinela Rață, president of PAOTR, as the new WFOT Delegate. In the months that we have left before the end of the year we have to publish the 3<sup>rd</sup> number

of the national association bulletin, to finish and provide the established courses, to celebrate "27 October as World OT Day" and to convene the General Assembly.

2018 is the year of diversity in human resources, topics, culture, emerging areas of the profession, social events, workshops, as well as the perspectives of Occupational Therapists coming together in order to share, to network, to support, to present or just to be an OT and speak for the profession.

## Ukraine

The Ukrainian Society of Ergotherapists (USET), established in June of 2016, has been working diligently to promote the development of occupational therapy in Ukraine. USET became an associate member of WFOT in December of 2017 and since then has been caringly supported by WFOT. It truly was a turning point for the organization as international affiliation and support by WFOT not only became a legitimate source of credibility but also a powerful spring of inspiration, wealth of experience and wisdom.

Earlier this year, the Ukrainian Society of Ergotherapists had an opportunity to tap into international exchange and collaboration at the WFOT Council meeting and Congress in Cape Town, South Africa. USET was represented by two delegates, Olya Mangusheva and Erin Arant. As a result of this experience, USET introduced 5 working groups within the society:

- Developing Educational Programs
- Educational Resources
- International Collaboration
- Professional Development
- Promotion and Advocacy

In July of 2018, WFOT collaborated with Lviv Catholic University to host the face to face module of the Train the Trainers pilot program. The course was attended by 25 participants among whom were physical therapists and educators that are planning to teach or become clinical instructors for future OT students. In Ukraine there are over 60 programs offering a joint Bachelor's degree in physical and occupational therapy, with minimal knowledge and understanding of our profession. Needless to say, occupational therapy courses are mostly taught by people who have never seen an occupational therapist at work. That is why the importance of the Train the Trainers program for Ukraine cannot be underestimated. USET would like to extend our sincere gratitude to WFOT and all instructors who volunteered their time and shared their knowledge to promote occupational therapy in Ukraine: Samantha Shann (WFOT Vice-President Finance), Sue Baptiste (immediate past WFOT Vice-

President), Kirrily Kilbane (Australia), Susan Hannah (Canada) and Maria Filijowycz (Canada). The final module of the course will take place in October, 2018. In July, Samantha Shann and Sue Baptiste also kindly participated in the meeting of the Ukrainian Society of Ergotherapists in July.

While establishing and promoting a new profession is a large task, the USET is pushing forward and gaining momentum. Since December of 2017, the society has tripled in size and continues to see growth. Many participants of the Train the Trainers program have become members of USET. And although there are still only two full members in the organization (occupational therapists who graduated from WFOT-approved programs), such fantastic growth of the organization is encouraging. Members of USET are becoming active advocates of occupational therapy and the excitement and desire to understand more is spreading.

We look forward to seeing how occupational therapy story unfolds in Ukraine and we invite you, our colleagues from abroad to join us in this endeavor. It is very important for us to consolidate all the efforts, and unfortunately as Ukraine is a big country we sometimes hear that occupational therapists travel to Ukraine but we don't know anything about it. We will be extremely grateful if you contact us directly at Ukrainian Society of Ergotherapists at [ergo.ukraine@gmail.com](mailto:ergo.ukraine@gmail.com). Thank you!

### **Our Gratitude**

The USET would like to extend their gratitude to Samantha Shann and Sue Baptiste, who were the primary instructors in the face to face portion of the Train the Trainers program.

