



**First Graduation of Occupational Therapists**  
**At the Sulkhani-Saba Orbeliani Tbilisi State Pedagogical University**  
**I.Chavchavadze av. 32, Tbilisi 380079, Georgia**



in cooperation with

**Center of Child Neurology and Neuro-Rehabilitation (CCNNR)**  
**European Network of Occupational Therapy in Higher Education (ENOTHE)**  
**18<sup>th</sup> of November at 15.00 hours**



**Tempus**

**Granted by: MP\_JEP-23154-2002**

## WELCOME

It is a very great pleasure to welcome you to the first graduation of occupational therapists in the Sulkan Saba Orbeliani Tbilisi State Pedagogical University.

The first occupational therapists have been educated by teachers of the European Network of Occupational Therapy in Higher Education (ENOTHE) in close cooperation with the initiative takers, organisers and supervisors of the Center of Child Neurology and Neurorehabilitation and granted by CORDAID (from 2001-2003). In September 2003 the project has been extended to the Sulkan Saba Orbeliani Tbilisi State Pedagogical University in order to guarantee the continuation of occupational therapy education and to facilitate the final graduation of the first occupational therapist.

At the same time a new project was approved by the European Commission (Tempus programme) with the aim: "Development of Occupational Therapy Education in Armenia and Georgia; Facilitate Participation of the Disabled in Armenia and Georgia (FaPaDAG)

### Definition of Occupational Therapy

"Occupational therapy uses a client centred approach through the medium of activity to enable occupational performance and promote well being within the environment, in order to enhance quality of life" (ENOTHE 2000)

In all cases the basis of the role of occupational therapy focuses on peoples' occupations- in particular, the competencies, habits, meaning and environments needed for health, well being and quality of life. Occupational therapists will enable people who are limited by age, disability or social circumstances to have meaningful and useful occupations.

This graduation will be a celebration of the achievements of the CORDAID project and the first results of the TEMPUS project:

- Eight out of eleven students have finished all courses and hope to get their degree in OT
- Over 10 open seminars have been carried out and contacts have been established for fieldwork and further co-operation
- Three well developed plans for small projects of inclusion of children with disabilities are ready to be carried out
- An OT department is equipped and running
- A brochure about OT has been published
- An OT association has been founded
- A Curriculum framework in OT for Armenia and Georgia has been formulated
- New OT students have been admitted and followed the first 5 modules

The long-term goal of the TEMPUS project is to create conditions to enable the participation of physically and mentally disabled children and adults in the Armenian and Georgian society. The introduction of the profession and education of occupational therapy will play an important role in this process.

We wish you all a warm welcome and hope that this will be an enriching and memorable graduation for all of you.

Sincerely yours:

#### Organising committee:

Hanneke van Bruggen, ENOTHE  
Kethi Makashvili, Orbeliani University  
Nina Mikeladze, CCNNR

#### First occupational therapists:

Ana Arganashvili  
Maia Bagrationi  
Nino Javakhadze  
Tina Kavtaradze  
Rusiko Lortkipanidze  
Nino Okrosashvili  
Nino Rukhadze  
Tako Tavartkiladze

November 2004

## Programme

<b>Time</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Speakers include:</b>
15.00-15.10	Opening: Implementing Occupational Therapy Education in Pedagogical University	Mr. Sartania Vakhtang, Rector of the University and Ms. Kethi Makashvili, coordinator of the new OT study programme
15.10-15.25	CORDAID project Introduction of Occupational Therapy in Georgia” in health, social and educational settings	Mr. Kakushadze Zaza, MD. Director of the Centre of Child Neurology and Neurorehabilitation (CCNNR)
15.25-15.40	Occupational Therapy supporting the disability strategy and implementing new ways of teaching	Ms. Van Bruggen Hanneke, Executive Director of ENOTHE
15.40-15.55	Philosophy in Occupational Therapy	Ms. Bagrationi Maia, BSc. OT,
15.55-16.10	Occupational Therapy Development and History in Georgia	Ms. Kavtaradze Tina, Bsc. OT,
16.10-16.20	An inclusive society and the need for occupational therapy	Ms.Sandra Elisabeth Roelofs, First Lady of Georgia
16.20- 16.30	Foundation of the Georgian Occupational Therapists’ Association	Ms. Tavartkiladze Tako, BSc. OT
16.30-16.40	Reflection on the educational process	Ms. Nina Mikeladze, MD, Supervisor of the first group of students
16.40-17.20	Diplomas Rewarding Ceremony	Ms. Van Bruggen Hanneke and Ms. Kethi Makashvili
17.20-17.30	Performance (Mini theatre)	Social Therapy House in Tbilisi for people with Learning Disabilities
17.30-17.50	Performance: Georgian National Dances	University Troupe
18.00	Closing	Celebrating the first Occupational Therapists in Georgia