



## Enabling Occupation

For ACOTUP members who missed the web-based conference on June 12 launching the newest landmark in occupational therapy guidelines, you can still get a copy of this great publication. "Enabling Occupation II: Advancing an Occupational Therapy Vision of Health, Well-Being and Justice through Occupation" is a companion book to *Enabling Occupation 1997/2002*. The primary authors are Dr. Elizabeth Townsend and Dr. Helene Polatajko with over 60 contributing authors. ACOTUP members can call Lisa Sheehan, CAOT, at 1-800-434-2268 ext. 232 to get more information on ordering the guidelines.

## Exciting news from the University of British Columbia

On May 16, 2007, the UBC Senate approved dissolving the School of Rehabilitation Sciences and the creation of the occupational science and occupational therapy department, effective July 1.

Separate departmental status means more independence to the division, where the Head reports directly to the Dean and the departments have budget autonomy. The division has

changed its name to the Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy to better reflect the academic mission: to provide leadership in the understanding of human occupation and the development of evidence-based practices that enhance function and well-being.

Inherent in this statement is the division's resolve to provide leadership, not only in the

area of occupational therapy but also occupational science.

With this name change, UBC has reaffirmed its intention to "centre its science on occupation" and to develop doctoral level opportunities in occupational science, as it is only through research in occupation that we can improve the occupational therapy techniques implemented by clinicians.

## Around the World

Join Occupational Therapists from across the globe at these upcoming events or explore their websites:

### Melbourne, Australia

OT Australia National Conference  
September 11-13, 2008 | [www.ausot.com.au](http://www.ausot.com.au)

### Buenos Aires, Argentina

7th Argentinean & Latin-American Congress of OT  
September 12-15, 2007 | [www.tocongresoarlat07.com.ar](http://www.tocongresoarlat07.com.ar)

### Florida, U.S.A

International Conference on Aging, Disability and Independence  
February 20-23, 2008 | [www.icadi.p.php.ufl.edu](http://www.icadi.p.php.ufl.edu)

Let us know about your upcoming conference, event, workshop or symposium!

## Best practices poster day

On November 23, 2006, two McMaster University student occupational therapists, Erlene Wong-Sing and Julie Park, participated in a Best Practices

Poster Day organized by St. Joseph's Health Care, Hamilton. The students were participating in an emerging role clinical practicum in a harm reduction

residential program for people that are chronically homeless and dependent on alcohol. The poster focused on describing the OT role and impact on the program.





## McMaster Lens: bringing theory and practice into focus

The OT Faculty at McMaster University has responded to the challenges that students face in trying to understand how theory links with practice.

The McMaster Lens is a tool for "thinking" about theory, and

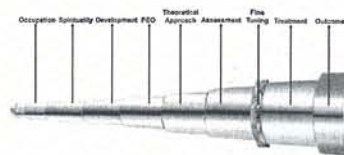
incorporates concepts and ideas from current OT literature including Enabling Occupation (CAOT, 1997) and the Theoretical Basis of Occupational Therapy (McColl et al., 2003).

The Lens is a graphic

depiction of the unique view of occupational therapists in clinical situations, and demonstrates how we use theory in daily practice.

So far, students, tutors and preceptors have found the Lens booklet helpful.

### McMaster OT Lens



## University of Alberta welcomes new faculty members

### Department of Occupational Therapy, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine

The University of Alberta, Department of Occupational Therapy, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine is pleased to welcome six new faculty members. They are: Tenure track - Dr. Cary Brown (from UK), Dr. David McConnell and Dr. Trish Wielandt (both from Australia), Clinical track - Susan Burwash, Rashid Kashani and Annette Rivard. U of A also welcomes Dr. Martin Ferguson-Pell as Dean of the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine.

The new faculty members have already forged connections with the clinical community. In the spring, Drs. Cary Brown and Trish Wielandt delivered a one-day capacity building workshop to build research relationships with the clinical community.

The participants in the workshop stated it was a highly interactive day and they appreciated the balance between theory and hands-on practice.

## Global citizenship at work : International fieldwork at UBC

In 2007, nine of the 39 graduating OT students at the University of British Columbia participated in an international fieldwork experience. Put in perspective, that is 23 percent of the class!

The experiences ranged from placements in the hospitals in countries such as

Singapore, Nicaragua, and St. Vincent's, BVI to experiences in facilities such as orphanages in Mexico and community-based rehabilitation in Ladak, India.

This surge in interest and passion for work abroad has let the Division of OT at UBC to develop guiding principles and beliefs

around contributions of students as global citizens, the learning outcomes that can be achieved abroad and legacies the students can leave in the respective agencies they were working with. In addition, research questions are being developed and addressed with current and future students.

## University of Western Ontario announcement

The School of Occupational Therapy at the University of Western Ontario is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Angela Mandich as Director effective July 1, 2007.

Dr. Mandich has been a faculty member in the School since 1994. She has established an international reputation

through her work with children with developmental coordination disorder (DCD) and was instrumental in the development of Cognitive Orientation for Daily Occupational Performance (CO-OP). She will also continue as the Director for the Kids' Skills Research Lab here in the School.

She has published widely in the area of interventions for children with coordination difficulties.

We are pleased to have Dr. Mandich assume this position and know our colleagues in the clinical community and in education will join us in wishing her every success.

## U of T committee chair receives Medicine Colin Woolf Award for Excellence

Debbie Hebert, Chair of the Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy's Continuing Education Committee Chair has been selected as the 2006 recipient of the Medicine Colin Woolf Award for Excellence in Continuing Education.

Ms. Hebert's numerous achievements include leading the

presentation of an average three to four course offerings a year, coaching 15 clinicians involved in the department's CE Committee and has conducted and disseminated original research in continuing education. She and her colleagues also recently received a Faculty of Medicine Continuing Education Research Award.

