

Australasian Occupational Science Centre
Shoalhaven Campus
University of Wollongong
NSW, Australia

Inaugural International Occupational Science Think Tank

19-22 July 2006



Welcome to the Inaugural International Occupational Science Think Tank



I am absolutely delighted to welcome you to the beautiful Shoalhaven, for the world's first International Occupational Science Think Tank.

You will be having discussions with occupational science educators and researchers and with members of the growing number of occupational science societies and organisations that have developed in recent years. The International Society of Occupational Science, the Society for the Study of Occupation: USA, Occupation UK & Ireland, the Australasian Society of Occupational Science, the

Canadian Society of Occupational Scientists, the World Federation of Occupational Therapists International Advisory Group Occupational Science and the Journal of Occupational Science will be represented at the Think Tank.

Discussions in the Think Tank will focus on an occupational science research agenda that could help inform health and social policy. Additionally, the Think Tank will provide an opportunity to establish networks for future collaboration, enhancing the relevance and contribution of occupational science in communities around the globe. Participants will also explore effective means of promoting occupational science to individuals, communities and organisations worldwide.

The number of people invited to participate in this event has been limited to 20, in order to maximise interaction within an informal and relaxed setting. There will be three sessions each day. A non occupational scientist has been invited to provide critical comments and feedback. Any recommendations or resolutions arising from the Think Tank will be disseminated through appropriate fora.

On behalf of the Australasian Occupational Science Centre I am extremely honoured to be hosting this significant event.

I feel confident that you will be stimulated by your participation in the Think Tank and I am sure you will enjoy the company of like-minded colleagues and friends in an environment that captures the essence of the Shoalhaven.

With fond regards,

Alison Wicks
Director, Australasian Occupational Science Centre
<http://shoalhaven.uow.edu.au/aosc>

Think Tank Program

**Wednesday
19 July,
2006**

am & pm	participants from Sydney
pm	rest & recovery for the sleep deprived and jet lagged – walk for the more energetic
7.00pm	informal dinner in cottages – self serve

**Thursday
20 July,
2006**

9.00-9.30am	Welcome to country by Uncle Ben Brown Welcome to Shoalhaven by Deputy Mayor, Peter Murphy Welcome to Shoalhaven Campus by Robbie Collins, Head of Campus Launch of Think Tank, Joanna Gash, Federal Member for Gilmore
10.00-11.00	Session 1: Setting the scene for the Think Tank
11.00 – 11.30	Morning tea
11.30-1.00	Session 2: Trends in occupational science research
1.00-2.00	Lunch
2.00-3.30	Session 3:
3.30- 5.30	Relaxation, recreational occupations, networking
5.30-	Informal dinner @ Wicks
7.30	Movie option

**Friday
21 July,
2006**

9.00-10.30	Session 4:
10.30-11.00	Morning tea
11.00- 1.00	Session 5: Creating an international voice for occupational scientists
1.00-2.00	Lunch
2.00-3.30	Session 6: Summing up & setting future goals
3.30- 6.00	Relaxation, recreational occupations
7.00	Dinner at Silos restaurant

**Saturday
22 July,
2006**

am	Early walk
	Return to Sydney via bus

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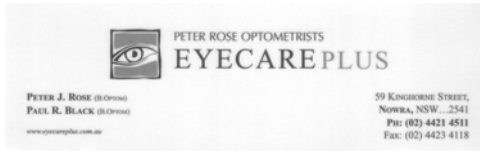


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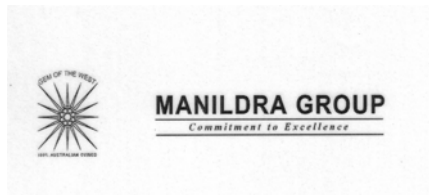


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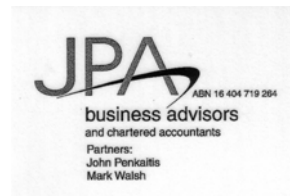


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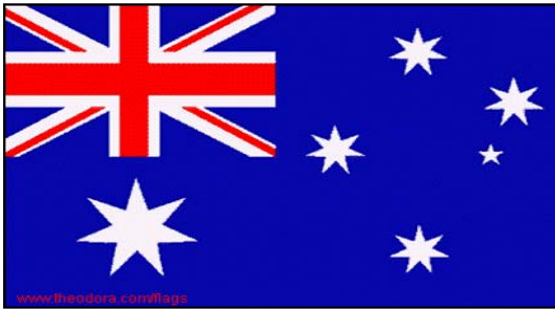
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Countries Represented



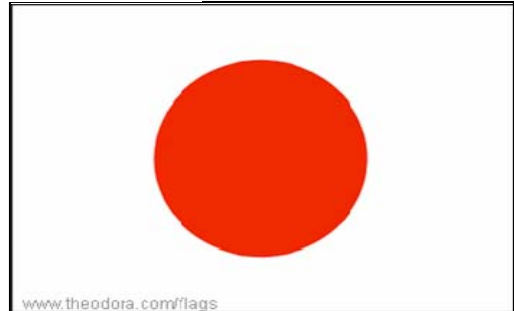
Australia



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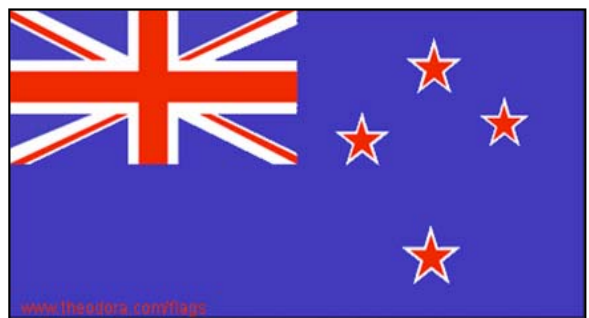
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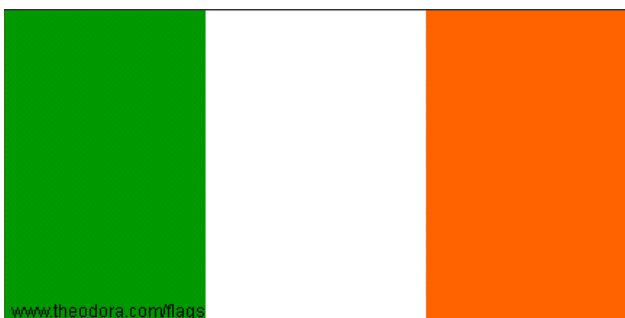
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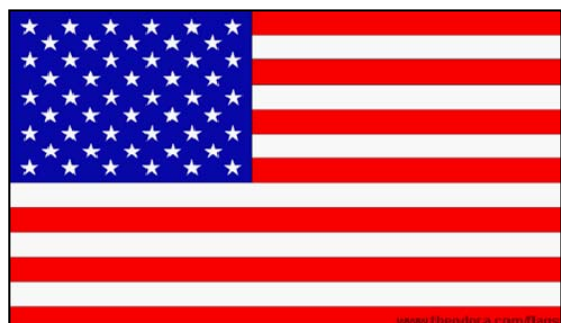
Ireland



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Taiwan



USA

Think Tank Participants

Florence Clark, Ph.D., OTR, FAOTA (Professor and Chair of the USC Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy) is a widely published and noted scholar. Appointed as a charter member of the Academy of Research of the American Occupational Therapy Association, Dr. Clark has served as special consultant to the U.S. Army Surgeon General, been on the board of the National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research and been the recipient of an Eleanor Clarke Slagle Lectureship, the highest academic honor of the American Occupational Therapy Association. In 1999, the American Occupational Therapy Association honored her with its Award of Merit and in 2001 she received a lifetime achievement award from the Occupational Therapy Association of California. In 2004 she received the Presidential Medallion from the University of Southern California, its ultimate honor, awarded to those who have brought distinction and honor to the University. Dr. Clark has also recently been elected as the Vice President of the American Occupational Therapy Association. Dr. Clark's research interests over the past two decades have largely centered on the relationship of activity and lifestyle to health and wellness. Her recent scholarly activity centers on the design of lifestyle interventions for various populations such as independent-living older adults, business executives, obese adults, and individuals with spinal cord injury. She is perhaps most well known as the Principal Investigator of the NIH-funded USC Well Elderly Study which demonstrated that an intervention her investigative team developed entitled Lifestyle Redesign® slowed down the declines normally associated with aging and, in some cases, actually improved health. In addition to being published as the lead article in the Journal of the American Medical Association's global issue on aging in 1997, the findings of the USC Well Elderly Study was widely covered by the print and television media. Currently, Dr. Clark is the Principal Investigator overseeing another U.S. National Institute of Health funded study on the effects of changes in lifestyle on health.

Virginia Dickie, PhD. When I introduce myself to participants in my research studies, I say that I am an occupational therapist and an anthropologist and that my studies are in occupational science. Then I go on to say that I'm interested in the ordinary, everyday things that people do – things they want to do, things they have to do. This explanation pretty well sums up who I am. I have always thought that occupational therapy lacked sufficient understanding of those things we call occupations and their interdependency with individual lives and the economic, social, political, and physical world. My doctoral studies in anthropology were influenced by this view, and so I focused on work, organizational culture, American labor history, and economic anthropology. These areas came together in my dissertation ethnography of self-employed craftspeople in a large Midwestern metropolitan area. Since that time, I have studied contemporary quilt making in North Carolina, taking a broad perspective of this area of practice as it is situated in time and place. These studies have forced me to see the deeply contextual nature of all occupation, and have caused me to question the individualistic nature of much of the language in occupational therapy and occupational science. My professional history: I have my B.S. and M.S. degrees in occupational therapy (University of Wisconsin at Madison and Wayne State University), and my Ph.D. in anthropology (Wayne State University). I worked in mental health for a number of years, primarily with adults with severe mental illness (an interest I continue through membership on the Board of Directors of a psychosocial clubhouse in Durham, NC). I taught at

Eastern Michigan University for 13 years, and have been on the faculty of the Division of Occupational Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill since 2000.

Clare Hocking, PhD., is an Associate Professor in the School of Occupational Therapy at the Auckland University of Technology, where she coordinates three postgraduate papers on occupational science and occupational practice. She was appointed editor of the Journal of Occupational Science in 1996 and continues in that role. Clare has a number of occupational science publications, many focusing on the relationship between people's identity and the objects they make and use. In addition, she is one of the instigators of the food-centred occupations study, an international collaborative study of the meanings food related occupations associated with Christmas and Song Kran (Thai New Year) hold for older women. Not surprisingly, occupation is the focus of many of the MHSc and doctoral level theses Clare has and is currently supervising. Current supervision topics include how new immigrants use occupation to sustain a sense of self and well-being, the role of occupation in recovery from serious mental illness, patterns of play behaviour in typically developing children and those with ADHD - University of Sydney, and the meaning of occupation. Clare's future research project will tap the strategies people who experience challenges to occupation use to manage challenges to participation in occupation, and the barriers they face.

Hans Jonsson, - PhD, is Associate Professor and head of the Master Program at Division of Occupational Therapy, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm in Sweden. He also has a position as research manager at Hogeschool van Amsterdam in Holland (in connection to the European Master Program). He's interest in research regards occupational transitions like retirement that specifically has been studied. He has also conduct research regarding occupational balance and qualities of occupation from an experience based perspective. Methodological his focus is on the use of narrative methodology as a tool to study human occupation. In the European arena he is working towards conducting cross-national projects in connection to the European Master Program with the aim in long term to start European PhD-program in a European Partnership between several universities.

Frank Kronenberg, (BSc OT, BA Ed), is an international guest lecturer and consultant in occupational therapy. Joint founder of SPIRIT of SURVIVORS - Occupational Therapy without Borders and one of the editors of Occupational Therapy without Borders: Learning from the Spirit of Survivors (2005). He is also the coordinator of the WFOT project team on Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR). He has extensive international experience in development contexts. As an OT (graduated 1999) he worked in paediatrics in the US and in the Netherlands and with street children in Mexico and Guatemala. His special interest is in contributing to make occupational therapy available as a relevant and useful resource for people in the context of 'strengthening places of origin'. Frank also holds a part-time position as a lecturer and consultant at the faculty of occupational therapy at Zuyd University in Heerlen, the Netherlands. With Nicholas Pollard (UK) and Dikaios Sakellariou (Greece) he is currently working on a new book with the work title "The political Practice of Occupational Therapy" (Elsevier-Churchill Livingstone,

Oxford, deadline May 31, 2007). He is in the process of establishing a home in Cape Town and new projects in South Africa.

Debbie Laliberte Rudman, PhD., is an Assistant Professor in the School of Occupational Therapy, Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario Canada. She obtained a PhD in 2003 from the Department of Public Health Sciences at the University of Toronto, a MSc. in 1993 from the School of Occupational Therapy at the University of Western Ontario, and a BSc. from the Department of Occupational Therapy at the University of Toronto. She has been actively involved in research related to occupational science since 1993. The majority of her research addresses occupation in later life, in terms of how it is experienced and managed by individuals in the negotiation of occupational identity and how occupational possibilities are shaped by contextual factors (e.g. political, cultural and economic factors). She is also interested in examining the growth and development of occupational science as an academic discipline, and in the development of innovative approaches to the study of occupation that link individual and structural elements.

Jin Ling Lo, PhD, has been an Associate Professor in the School of Occupational Therapy, College of Medicine at the National Taiwan University since 1995. She completed her PhD in 1994 through the Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy at the University of Southern California, U.S.A. Prior to this she completed her MA in 1981 at the Department of Occupational Therapy, Texas Woman's University, and her Bachelor of Science, majoring in occupational therapy, in June 1976 at the National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan. Since 1981 she has worked as an occupational therapy practitioner and occupational therapy manager across a diverse range of organisations in Taiwan. She is currently the Standing Director of the Taiwan Occupational Therapy Association, following four years as President of the Association. She is also Coordinator of the Occupational Therapy service in school system for the Bureau of Education, Taipei and consultant to the Taiwan Nursing Home Association.

Tamako Miyamae, PhD, is currently Professor and Head of the Graduate School of Rehabilitation Sciences at Seirei Christopher University in Japan. She also holds the position of Head, of the Occupational Science Research Group at the University. Prior to this she has held a range of academic positions at the National Rehabilitation Center Hospital for the Physically Disabled and the National Hiroshima University. She completed her Doctor of Medical Sciences at the University of Tokyo in 1992. Prior to this she completed her Master of Science in occupational therapy at the Colorado State University, USA, in 1976, and her BA, majoring in Education at the Aoyama Gakuin University in 1965. She gained her first position at the University of Tokyo Hospital as an occupational therapy practitioner in 1969 and went on to work as a head occupational therapist for a number of organisations. She has convened a number of professional conferences including the 36th Japanese Congress of Occupational therapy and the 9th Japanese Occupational Science Symposium. She was keynote speaker for the 3rd APOTC conference in 2003, and was Head, Japanese Society for the Occupational Therapy Education. She has a range of publications in the fields of occupational therapy practice and research.

Matthew Molineux, PhD, graduated from the University of Queensland, Australia, with a Bachelor of Occupational Therapy in 1990. I worked in a hospital setting on acute medical and surgical wards, in outpatient diabetes clinics, and in a rehabilitation unit. I moved to work in a mainstream prison for a short period before travelling with a group of friends to the UK for a year to work and travel in 1993 - and I am still in the UK. In the UK I have worked in London in hospital and community settings with people with physical disabilities, as well as paediatric services, and I have managed services as well. In London I worked as a clinical lecturer at what was the School of Occupational Therapy at the Royal London Hospital Medical College. In 1996 I moved to York St John College to take up a full time post as a lecturer, later senior lecturer, and in the same year I completed my MSc in occupational therapy at the University of East London. I moved to Leeds Metropolitan University in March 2004 to set up a new MSc Occupational Therapy (Pre-registration) course and a new Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy group. That course had its first intake in January 2005 and they will graduate in January 2007. In November 2005 I submitted my PhD at the University of Queensland and was awarded my degree for the thesis *The Occupational Careers of Men Living with HIV Infection in the UK: Insights into Engaging in and Orchestrating Occupations*. My research interests are in exploring living with chronic illness from an occupational perspective, using qualitative methods, and an occupational approach to pre-registration education. I have been awarded a Leeds Metropolitan University Promising Researcher Fellowship for 2006/07 which will enable me to take both of those areas forward with colleagues at Leeds Met and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Doris Pierce, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, is the Endowed Chair in Occupational Therapy at Eastern Kentucky University, in the United States. This unique fulltime position has five goals: to produce scholarship in occupational science and therapy, to provide students with opportunities to work with a nationally known scholar, to seek and manage grants, to facilitate the development of the scholarly culture of the Department, and to enhance the reputation of the Department. Dr. Pierce's teaching is focused within the required disciplinary coursework of occupational therapists in the Ph.D. in Rehabilitation Sciences Program. The Department of Occupational Therapy at Eastern also has a unique format: a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Science as a primary entry route to the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy. Dr. Pierce has been an occupational therapist for twenty-five years and has been involved with occupational science for twenty. Her practice background is in community-based private practice with infants and young children in the diverse area of greater Los Angeles. In recent years, she has been the Project Director of an interdisciplinary training grant preparing occupational therapists, psychologists, and social workers to provide services to adolescents with mental health needs within the rich culture but limited resources of Appalachian Kentucky. Dr. Pierce was privileged to have been the "gopher" supporting the work of the faculty group at the University of Southern California who designed and launched in 1989 the Ph.D. in Occupational Science. She subsequently entered its first class and completed her Ph.D. in 1996. Her occupational science research thus far has addressed definitions of occupation and activity, descriptions of infant-toddler interactions with the home environment, video methods for occupational science and therapy research, and internationally comparative research on food preparation for annual celebrations in elder women of rural Kentucky, New Zealand, and Thailand. In 2003, she published *Occupation*

by Design, an introduction to occupational science and its potential for therapy. She served as Chair of the Charter Group to Establish the Society for the Study of Occupation: USA in 1999, and served as its Chair-elect and Chair, 2003 to 2005.

Helene J. Polatajko, PhD, OT(C), OT Reg. (Ont.), FCAOT., is an internationally respected researcher, educator and clinician with extensive experience in pediatric practice and outcome measurement. She is professor in the Department of Public Health Science and Professor and chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy and the Graduate Department of Rehabilitation Science, University of Toronto, Canada. She was an Honorary Professor in Occupational Therapy at the University of Queensland for six years and has been an invited lecturer in countries around the world, including: Australia, England, Germany, Holland, Hong Kong, Iceland, Korea, New Zealand, Scotland, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland and the USA, in addition to her native Canada. She is frequently sought after as a speaker and has given keynote addresses in conferences in Canada, New Zealand, Singapore and Germany. She has received numerous honors and awards including the Muriel Driver Lectureship, is a Fellow of the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists, and an inductee of the American Occupational Therapy Foundation Academy of Research. Dr. Polatajko has held over \$4,000,000 in grant money. Dr. Polatajko is one of the most published occupational therapists in the world. She has well over 150 publications; including books, chapters, and peer-reviewed articles in print, and has made over 250 presentations, world wide. Her primary research addresses the role of cognition in performance in children, for which she has received international recognition. Her research has led to the development of the *Cognitive Orientation to daily Occupational Performance* approach, which enables clients with performance problems to achieve competence. She has chaired or served on the committees of 7 PhD and 27 Master students.

Mandy Stanley, PhD is a lecturer in the occupational therapy program at the School of Health Sciences, University of South Australia. She has been interested in occupational science for a number of years having witnessed "the birth" of the science in Australia in the office next door, that of her former work colleague, Professor Ann Wilcock. Mandy's passion and commitment is currently demonstrated by her teaching occupational science at the under-graduate level, her role as sub-Editor of the Journal of Occupational Science, Vice President (Administration) Australia for ASOS, and in her research profile. Her research activities and supervision of research students focus on occupational transitions, occupational adaptation and enabling occupational therapy students to achieve their occupational potential. She has recently completed her PhD studying older people's perceptions and understandings of well-being using grounded theory. Mandy is collaborating with Shelley Wright on another grounded theory study of the transition from being an occupational therapy clinician to being an occupational therapy educator. Whilst at present she is developing expertise in the use of qualitative methodologies, Mandy is competent in the design of quantitative studies and conducting statistical analysis.

Kerry Thomas's diverse background in community health and rehabilitation, social development, and capacity building grew out of occupational therapy experience in South Australia (SA). For several years she was involved in a number of programs

including the establishment of SA's first head injury service, an innovative community transition program for teenagers with moderate to severe disabilities, and return to work rehabilitation programs for injured workers. She went on to become Chief OT for a domiciliary rehabilitation and geriatric service covering a good deal of the state. Moving into 'overseas aid and development' in the mid-1980s, she has since worked in more than 20 countries in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, as well as with groups in Australia including Aboriginal communities. Arising from this she has developed an awe and appreciation for cross-cultural engagement and learning. A long-time conservationist and human rights advocate, she has also developed a deepening understanding of the vital links between people, the environment and structures of power. Facilitating integrated social, ecological and livelihood development has thus become a particular interest and focus of Kerry's work, especially with people and communities who are vulnerable and disadvantaged. This has seen her role evolve into one that is variously called 'capacity builder', 'process facilitator' or 'community developer'. She now works in quite varied contexts, across health, education, disability, rural and community development, natural resource management, economic and governance development, with national and local governments and international and local organizations. Her professional practice has involved strategic program and project development and management, training, educational and institutional strengthening, networking, service and policy development, and evaluation and research roles. Specialising in approaches that encompass capacity development and participatory processes, Kerry is actively involved in exploring ways in which we can collaboratively generate insights, shared learning and creative responses to the complex and highly challenging situations with which we are increasingly faced on this small planet of ours. This includes for example, working with traditional/local knowledge, experience and processes, use of narrative approaches, strategies for promoting genuine cross-sectoral integration and wholism, and the implications for being a 'professional'. *interPART* (International Partners in Action, Research and Training) is the platform from which much of Kerry's work and interests are progressed. She is Director and Senior Consultant of *interPART* and Associates Pty Ltd and a member of Friends of *interPART* Inc, organisations that particularly endeavour to support vulnerable people in their efforts to realise their potential and to access meaningful, long term livelihoods. Her interest in 'occupation' relates largely to capacity building, including the implications this has for the relationship between government and civil society, the dynamics between ecological, socio-cultural and economic imperatives, balancing ideals with practical needs - and what all this means for 'development facilitators', and their own development.

Liz Townsend, PhD, is Professor and Director of the School of Occupational Therapy at Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia in Canada. She attended the founding meeting at which the International Society of Occupational Scientists (ISOS) in Canberra, and the ISOS gathering in Stockholm, Sweden during the WFOT Congress of 2002. With Brenda Beagan, Liz co-hosted Canada's first Occupational Science Symposium at Dalhousie University. She is one of two founding chairs of the Canadian Society of Occupational Scientists (CSOS) which was incorporated in August 2002 by an inaugural Board of interested persons in Canada. She is now Past-Chair/Past President of the CSOS which formed its first elected Board of Directors in June 2006. Her research interests are in critical social science, using institutional ethnography to explicit how occupations as well as

occupational science are governed within power relations which are experienced as a taken-for-granted everyday world.

Gail Whiteford, PhD, is currently Professor of Occupational Therapy at Charles Sturt University. Concurrently she also is a research centre director, and head of the Albury-Wodonga campus and during 2005 Gail was acting as Pro Vice Chancellor of research for the university. She holds concurrent appointments as an adjunct professor at Dalhousie University in Canada, and at James Cook University in Queensland. Gail sits on the Editorial Boards of *The Journal of Occupational Science* and *The Journal of Interprofessional Care* based in London and the book she co-edited with Valerie Wright St Clair, *Occupation and Practice in Context*, has subsequently been reprinted because of its popularity. In the last two years she has given invited and keynote presentations in South Africa, England, and Ireland and early in 2005 was particularly honored to present at a UN conference on Communities. In May 2006 Gail was one of the keynote speakers at the Canadian Occupational Science Symposium in Vancouver, Canada and later this year Gail will be giving keynote addresses at the National Occupational Therapy Conference in Wellington, New Zealand and to the ENOTHE forum in Ankara, Turkey.

Alison Wicks, PhD, has been active in promoting the development of occupational science internationally since 1999. She has convened the International Society of Occupational Scientists (ISOS), the World Federation of Occupational Therapists: International Advisory Group – Occupational Science (WFOT:IAG-OS) and the Australasian Society of Occupational Scientists (ASOS). She also founded the Australasian Occupational Science Centre (AOSC) at the University of Wollongong. Currently Dr Wicks is the ISOS Executive Assistant, Project Leader of the WFOT:IAG-OS, ASOS President, International Promotions Officer for the *Journal of Occupational Science*, AOSC Director and Honorary Research Fellow at the Centre for Health Service Development, University of Wollongong, Australia. Her doctoral research explored the construct of occupational potential and its development and realisation across the life course. Life stories of older women were the data for her study. She has been invited to universities in Canada, the United States, Ireland and the United Kingdom to present her research findings and to speak about occupational science from an international perspective. Dr Wicks is hosting the Inaugural International Occupational Science Think Tank at the AOSC on behalf of ISOS.

Valerie Wright-St Clair, MPH, is currently a doctoral candidate researching how elders experience aging in their everyday community lives following a hermeneutic phenomenological methodology guided by the philosophies of Gadamer and Heidegger. She holds a compelling interest in understanding peoples' everyday worlds, the meanings of what people do, the relationship between occupation and wellness, and patterns of occupational participation. A further study in its final stages explores the meaning of celebratory food occupations for older women, as part of a cross-cultural study in Auckland, Chiang Mai, Thailand, and Kentucky, USA. The research team is developing research methods consistent with the derived etic approach with the aim of illuminating essential notions of human occupation by looking across culturally different occupational ways. Her past research and research interests span the fields of competency based education,

women's lived experience of multiple sclerosis, the effectiveness of home programmes for people following stroke, and New Zealand health policy related to refugees and HIV/AIDS. Her current teaching includes research methods and design and ethical reasoning in the BHSc(OT) and the supervision of Masters in Health Science students.

Hiromi Yoshikawa is working as a professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy, Faculty of Health and Welfare, Prefectural University of Hiroshima, Japan. Occupational Science has been one of the research fields in our graduate school since 2005. She has held the occupational science class for freshman students in our university since 2000. Her awareness and interest in occupations has been expanding since coming into contact with occupational science. Her occupational therapy practices have focused on occupations that are meaningful for clients and initiated by clients. Her teaching style has also changed to a learner-centered approach. She is a director of the Hiroshima Association of Occupational Therapy. She contributes to local health promotion events as a member of the Association. She has been the head of the international section of the Japanese Association of Occupational Therapists and the 2nd alternate from Japan in the World Federation of Occupational Therapists since 2005. She was educated at the Rehabilitation School of National Chest Hospital and received the Occupational Therapist Licensure from the Ministry of Welfare, Japan. After she had worked for ten years with clients with physical dysfunction and at a university, she obtained a master's degree from the department of occupational therapy, Western Michigan University, US. She is a member of the American Occupational Therapy Association and an associate member of the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists. She translated the Canadian Occupational Therapy Performance Measure (COPM) into Japanese in 1998. She became a trainer for Assessment of Motor and Process Skills (AMPS) training courses in 2002. She holds several lectures about COPM and AMPS each year.

Ruth Zemke, Ph.D., OTR, FAOTA (Professor Emerita, University of Southern California) is an internationally recognized leader in the development of occupational science, with 40 years experience as an occupational therapist. She's a USA Midwesterner, with her bachelor's degree in Occupational Therapy from the University of Wisconsin (1965) and her graduate degrees in Development from Iowa State University (1974,1978). With experience in psychiatry, physical dysfunction, pediatrics and geriatrics she has been a generalist in occupational therapy practice. After completion of her graduate work, she began her OT academic career at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Just a few years later, in 1981, with her family's move west, she became a faculty member at the University of Southern California, becoming Coordinator of the undergraduate and then the graduate programs. Ruth was a member of the faculty group which planned and gained approval for the first degree offered in occupational science (USC's PhD) in 1989, as well as their new OTD program. Over the years, she taught courses in development and neuro, and OT for physical disabilities, pediatric and geriatric practice, as well as graduate courses in occupational science. As Co-PI with Dr. Florence Clark on the USC Well Elderly Project (1994-97), the colleagues tested the application of concepts of occupational science to occupational therapy practice. About the same time, they co-edited the book *Occupational Science: The evolving discipline* (1996). Dr. Zemke was AOTA's Eleanor Clarke Slagle Lecturer in 2004 and has presented named lectures honoring others in the US including the Caroline Thompson Lecture at the University of

Wisconsin- Madison, the Wilma West Lecture at the USC Occupational Science Symposium, the Mary Ann Epstein Lecture at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center. Internationally she has presented the Barbara Sexton Lecture at the University of Western Ontario, the Thelma Caldwell Lecture at the University of Toronto, and the Sato Memorial Lecturer in Japan. However, she felt most honored when the Society for the Study of Occupation: USA named its Research Conference Keynote speech the annual "Ruth Zemke Lecture in Occupational Science". With almost \$2 million in research and training grants, she contributed a diverse spectrum of knowledge development. Her publications have appeared in the *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, the *Japanese Journal of Occupational Therapy*, *Physical and Occupational Therapy in Geriatrics*, *P & OT in Pediatrics*, *OT in Mental Health*, the *Journal of Occupational Science*, *Allied Health and Behavioral Science*, *International Journal of Rehabilitation Research*, *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, *International Journal of Aging and Human Development*, *Journal of the American Medical Association*. As her nomination for Fellow of the American Occupational Therapy Association attested, she has contributed to education, research and practice; she has exemplified leadership, loyalty and commitment.

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