

Australasian Occupational Science Centre AOSC

Director's Report

June – December 06

Publications

Journal Articles

Wicks, A., & Whiteford, G. (2006). Conceptual and practical issues in qualitative research: Reflections on a life history study. *Scandinavian Journal of Occupational Therapy*. 13(2). 94-100.

Conference proceedings

Wicks, A (2006). Do it now: A project promoting participation in engaging occupations. Papers submitted for peer review and presented to 39th National Conference of the Australian Association of Gerontology. Australian Association of Gerontology: Sydney

Reports

Wicks, A. (2006). *Occupational Science: Generating an International Perspective*. Report on the Inaugural International Occupational Science Think Tank, AOSC, Nowra.

Wicks, A. (2006). *Do It Now: Promoting participation in engaging occupations during retirement*. Report on the 'Do It Now' Project. AOSC, Nowra.

Conference presentations

Wicks A (2006) Do it now: A project promoting participation in engaging occupations. 39th National Conference of the Australian Association of Gerontology. Australian Association of Gerontology: Sydney, Australia. 23 November.

Wicks A (2006) *...he pushed them and they flew: Developing the potential of occupational therapy*. Invited presentation. Occupational Therapy Inter-Disciplinary Seminar Series 2006/07. Cork, Ireland, 20 September.

Wicks A (2006) *In search of the evidence: Health-e-ageing amongst rural seniors*. 5th Occupation Uk & Ireland Occupational Science Symposium. Northampton, UK, 11-12 September.

Wicks A (2006) *Introducing an occupational perspective of health*. HSA Group Professional Conference. Coogee Beach, Australia. 11 August.

Wicks A & Wilding C (2006) *Professional Issues Forum: Occupation in practice*. World Federation of Occupational Therapists Congress. Sydney, Australia. 27 July.

O'Halloran D & **Wicks A** (2006) *Professional Issues Forum: Career paths for OTs*. World Federation of Occupational Therapists Congress. Sydney, Australia. 25 July.

Wicks A (2006) *Promoting an occupational perspective of health*. In: Promoting our profession. International Expert Panel. World Federation of Occupational Therapists Congress. Sydney, Australia. 25 July.

Wicks A & Bomba D (2006) *Health-e-living for seniors: A local project with global connections*. Poster presentation. World Federation of Occupational Therapists Congress. Sydney, Australia. 25 July.

Wicks A (2006) *Understanding occupational potential*. In Bringing occupational science into practice. Pre Congress Workshop. World Federation of Occupational Therapists Congress. Sydney, Australia. 23 July.

Grant Applications

Funding Body	Type of grant	Date submitted	C. I.	Term	Amount	Outcome
UOW	Community Engagement	16 Jun 06	A Wicks B Cambourne S deHaan		\$9 750	Approved 22 Sept 06
Cancer Institute of NSW	Health Services research program	28 Aug 06	Prof Kathy Eagar	3 years	\$498,791, \$488,791 \$488,791	unsuccessful

Projects

Health-e-living for seniors: A pilot study March 06 - February 07

The overall purpose of the project is to examine whether Internet access and use promotes health and well-being amongst rural seniors by enabling them to become and remain socially connected and productive.

The specific aims are: 1. to develop and evaluate an Internet training workshop with seniors 2. to develop and evaluate a student network to support senior Internet users 3. to develop and test instruments for collecting pre and post intervention data on seniors' Internet use and health related factors eg satisfaction, social connectedness, productivity.

Learning and teaching creatively: Engaging with community partners to facilitate learning and teaching

May 06 - December 06

'Learning and teaching creatively' is an innovative and multidisciplinary Shoalhaven initiative. The project involves the creative use of community resources and partnerships to teach the GDE students at Shoalhaven Campus the NSW D.E.T.'s mandatory syllabus in Creative and Performing Arts. The partners in this project are the Shoalhaven Campus, the Bundanon Trust, the Faculty of Education and the Australasian Occupational Science Centre (AOSC).

A unique aspect of this project will be the use of the Shoalhaven GDE students as an integrative element to facilitate Shoalhaven Campus engagement with the Bundanon Trust, a highly valued, internationally renowned 'living arts centre' located in Shoalhaven. Bundanon Trust is a community resource dedicated to the promotion of the practice, enjoyment, education and research of creative arts. Additionally, the Shoalhaven GDE students will be a conduit between the Bundanon Trust and the broader community. Students will draw on the project experiences and apply their enhanced understanding of creativity gained through the project during their school-based practicums in Shoalhaven schools. Hence, Shoalhaven primary school students and their teachers are also significant stakeholders this project.

The project will involve master classes for the GDE students given by Shoalhaven artists at the Campus and masterclasses given by Bundanon artists in residence at the Bundanon Education Centre.

Public lectures

22 June 2006 The Resourceful Shed, Mark Thomson

International visitors

July 2006 Professor Susan Ryan, University of Cork College, Ireland

Workshops

September 2006 Occupation-based practice. Year 2, Masters in Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy
Leeds Metropolitan University, Leeds, United Kingdom

Occupation-based practice and research. Year 4, Occupational Therapy Undergraduate Program
University College Cork, Cork, Ireland

Invited international visits

September 2006 Leeds Metropolitan University, Leeds, United Kingdom
University College Cork, Ireland

Student Supervision

Peter Swan, DBA candidate, UOW Graduate School of Business

Work experience for international occupational therapy student

Gabrielle Bidart, from the University of Southern California was a work experience student at AOSC from 1 – 15 August, 2006, at the request of Prof. Florence Clarke.