

VIRTUAL

DATE AND TIME

Thursday, June 11, 2026
6:30pm – 8:00pm

**REGISTER BY TUESDAY,
June 9, 2026**

**Register Online
[HERE](#)**

QUESTIONS?

Contact OTAC staff:
Email staff@otaonline.org
Call toll-free (888) 686-3225



Everyday Advocacy: Small Actions that Lead to Positive Change and Empowerment (1.5 PDUS)

Thursday, June 11, 2026 | 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Presenters Heather J. Kitching, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA

The regulatory and representational organizations most closely impacting practice in California will be reviewed. The emphasis will be on how to easily navigate their websites and track the most pertinent actions and policy changes relevant to the practice of occupational therapy. Understanding the organizational structure of the profession within the larger political and professional systems is critical to developing an action-oriented perspective. Knowledge is power. And power allows for action and evolution.

Learning Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Identify types of action at the local, state, and national level that serve the profession.
- Understand how to participate actively in state licensure revisions.

Fee \$19 – OTAC members | \$29 – nonmembers



Heather J. Kitching, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA, is the MSOT coordinator at California State University Dominguez Hills (CSUDH) and serves as the academic senator from the Department of Occupational Therapy. She has been on faculty at CSUDH since 2016. She serves on two committees for the California Board of Occupational Therapy: Practice Committee and Ad Hoc Committee on Supervision Standards. She is currently completing a third year of service on the Alhambra Library Board of Trustees. Kitching has more than 30 years of experience in acute rehabilitation and, more recently, acute medical-surgical care. She completed her clinical doctorate degree at the University of Southern California in 2010 and has experience both in clinical teaching as well as classroom instruction.

Her doctoral studies focused on political and cultural applications of occupational therapy and occupational science concepts. Kitching served as assistant director of a 12-week program in the summer of 2004 on an indigenous American reservation in central California and collaborated with anthropologist and occupational scientist, Gelya Frank, in facilitating a cultural intervention with the Tule River Tribe to meet their own goals of recording their history. Her current interests are in leadership and advocacy within the profession. In the role of an OTAC board director, she established an expanded calendar of outreach events for her constituency and became the first regional director to not only stabilize the region's budget, but create a regular stream of revenue. She has held many elected and appointed positions within the Occupational Therapy Association of California and served as its president for two terms (2016-2020). She was appointed as chair of the Affiliated State Association Presidents with the American Occupational Therapy Association (2021-2022).

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ABOUT SPECIAL TOPIC FORUMS

Why OTAC Special Topic Forums? To support OTAC Core Value 7 – Professional Development: To provide quality education and resources to advance the knowledge, skills, and continued competence of occupational therapy practitioners.

Professional Development Units (PDUs)

PDUs will be entered into your OTAC profile.

To earn PDUs, registrants must complete the post event survey that is emailed out within one week following the event.

Event Disclaimer

This event is sponsored by OTAC for the purpose of professional development. The material presented is not intended to represent the only or the best methods appropriate for the occupational therapy and/or medical condition, or professional development issues being discussed, but rather is intended to present the opinions of the presenters, which may be helpful to other health care professionals at arriving at their own conclusions and consequent application. Attendees participating in this professional development education program do so with the full knowledge that they waive any claim they may have against OTAC and its representatives for reliance on any information presented during this educational event.

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[You must agree to these disclaimers/terms. Please don't register if you do not.](#)

About OTAC. OTAC is a nonprofit, 501c6. This means that end-of-year net revenue is retained for operations and benefit of the members and is not distributed to private owners. It is governed by an elected, noncompensated Board of Directors and hires a professional association management team.

OTAC Mission Statement. OTAC is the collective voice that serves, promotes, and supports the profession of occupational therapy and its practitioners.

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