

ADVISORY COUNCIL

The first Annual Advisory Council met on October 5, 2006. The council was comprised of eleven OTAC members (3 COTA/Cs and 8 OTR/Ls) from throughout California: Bobbi Jean Tanberg, Sylvia Ikeda-Shirinzad, Sue Hussey, Nancy Currey, Valeria Adams, Heather Kitching, Shari Curtis, Stephanie Foster, Jill Peck-Murray, Christine Vicino, and Pam Roberts.

- Certificate vs. Licensure of COTAS
- Pediatric/School-Based Issues
- Advanced Practice Designations – Use of acronyms
- Will BOD create position statement on “doctor” for OT’s. OTAC ID NO. 005441

The First Advisory Council members reported that it was a great opportunity to share opinions regarding OTAC. The input provided at the Advisory Council will have an impact on the future directions of the association. There was a request that future Advisory Councils be provided with more specific topics in advance of the meeting. This would allow time to gather input from colleagues prior to the Advisory Council meeting for greater representation.

The strengths of OTAC discussed by Advisory Council included education opportunities, networking, and mentoring. OTAC helps to create a high level of professionalism in occupational therapy throughout the state. It was pointed out that being involved with OTAC as a volunteer helps to increase one’s skills in the areas of leadership and public speaking.

The Advisory Council had ideas for areas for growth (IMPROVEMENT) for OTAC. OTAC needs to continue to recruit new members. It is important to reach out to non-members in positive ways. One suggestion was through e-mail blasts. It is important to create networking opportunities with non-OTs. The issue of outreach to employers was discussed. OTAC should support networking at the local level. And it is very important that OTAC communicate what is being done for members throughout the State.

The information gathered at the Advisory Council will help the Board of Directors and Regional Directors put member concerns at the forefront of the association. Members are encouraged to contact their Regional Director with input on the topics listed above or other with other pressing concerns.

OTAC

HIDDEN OTAC ID NUMBER

Watch for it in this newsletter. If it’s yours, you win an OTAC membership for one year!
Certain rules and restrictions apply.



The world famous opera house on Sydney’s Darling Harbour.

WFOT Congress News

Anne MacRae, PhD, OTR/L

In July of 2006, almost 2000 therapists from 63 countries around the world met in Sydney Australia for the World Federation of Occupational Therapists Congress. Approximately 10% of the participants were from the United States with California being particularly well represented.



Congress delegates Tina (L) and Herry (R) meeting SJSU representatives for a welcome dinner

Practitioners, researchers and educators alike found a wealth of new information with over 1200 presentations. But participants still had time to enjoy the spectacular scenery of Australia, particularly the lively city of Sydney.

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