

0294

EMERGING TRENDS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH

Category: Occupational Therapy Education

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Objectives: The occupational therapy profession is evolving and growing in scope worldwide, due in part to changes related to global transformation and evolving healthcare systems. The multidimensional and complex nature of these changes is cause for reflection on how educational programs can best prepare graduates for their roles within local, national and international communities. Occupational therapy educational research grounded in robust educational theories and methodologies, and congruent with the WFOT's revised minimum standards for the education of occupational therapists can serve to inform such reflection and guide future innovation.

This workshop aims to convene educational practitioners, researchers, administrators, and representatives from professional organizations to discuss emerging trends and future directions in occupational therapy educational research.

Specific objectives are to:

1. Identify the strengths of current occupational therapy educational scholarship;
2. Identify the challenges faced by occupational therapy educational researchers from various parts of the world;
3. Generate a list of priority areas for educational research;
4. Identify concrete strategies to advance the educational evidence base for occupational therapy.

Description of teaching methods

This workshop will include:

1. Short plenary presentations on:
 - a) Current and emerging trends in educational research;
 - b) The revised WFOT standards;
 - c) The epistemological underpinnings of educational research in occupational therapy;
 - d) The results of one national initiative aimed at promoting educational research
2. Small group discussions
3. Large group debriefing