Mission: To protect the public by supervising occupational therapy practice and assuring safe & ethical delivery of occupational therapy services.

OTLB News

Occupational Therapy Licensing Board

SEPT 2017

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- Sybil Hedrick Park, OTR/L, CHT, CSCS, Vice Chair
- Kari Hill, COTA/L
- Erion Moore, Public Member
- Clyde Jenkins, Public Member

BOARD STAFF

- Nancy Schuberg Executive Director
- Rachel Cillo Licensing Specialist

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2017 OTAO Annual Conference "Building on One Hundred Years" October 6th & 7th Holiday Inn Portland Airport, 8439 NE Columbia Blvd Portland, OR

By Jan Cuciti, OTAO

OTAO's Annual Conference is coming up fast! If you have never attended one of these, know it is more than just speakers, even though we have been told that we have some "pretty big names" this year with Amy Lamb, President of AOTA, Shawn Phipps, Vice-President of AOTA, speaking on "Ethics and the Changing Climate of Healthcare", and Keren Brown Wilson, President/Founder of the Jessie F. Richardson Foundation, Public Advisor on the AOTA Board, and referenced in Atul Gawande's *Being Mortal* as the person who started the assisted living movement. For those of you who attended last year, we did ask Mandy Davis, Portland State University, Director of Trauma Informed Care, back. Her presentation was so good, that before she left the stage, we were working on an encore.

All in all, in these two days, you can earn up to 16 CE credits. Two breakfasts, two lunches, and a Friday night Centennial Celebration with appetizers are included. During these two days, you get to choose from multiple sessions (we try to hit all areas of practice, but it is also good to sample other others of OT practice, as most sessions are only an hour). We have roundtables for further discussion or to introduce new topics; we have posters. We are going to be having OT merchandise for sale. Mingle with students, meet therapists from other regions of the state, or areas of practice. Hear what is going on in their lives. Get out of your bubble. We have a silent and live auction, with all proceeds going to scholarships for 2018. (Hear that we

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Shawn Phipps, AOTA Vice President

OTLB Presentation: Ethical Dilemmas and the Changing Climate of Healthcare

The Board has seen an increase in calls from therapists who are being asked to do something they are not comfortable with, that violates the Code of Ethics and the administrative rules. Examples include:

- Asked to sign notes of a patient they are not familiar with.
- Asked to change diagnostic codes when they haven't seen the client.
- Companies declining to treat a vulnerable population because earnings are lower.

Licensees are conflicted. If they refuse, they may put their job at risk. If they comply, they are compromising their ethics and jeopardizing their license.

At the May 5th board meeting, board clinical advisor, Genevieve deRenne, advised that with the changing climate of healthcare, it is likely that the Board will see an increase in these types of questions. The Board decided to bring this discussion to the forefront so licensees are aware and remind them that if there is an ethical dilemma it is up to the licensee to stay true to the OT code of ethics, and the administrative rules of the state.

To address the national stance, the Board invited AOTA Vice President Shawn Phipps to speak on this topic at the upcoming OTAO conference. The presentation will be on Friday, October 6, 12:15 – 1:15pm. All Board members and staff will be in attendance at the conference (Friday) and will be on hand if there are any issues of concern.

We want to hear from you!

Join the OTLB. The next opening on the Board will be in 2019 for an OT. OT's residing anywhere in the state can be a member—the Board pays for transportation costs to the meeting. Interested OT's please contact Nancy.Schuberg@state.or.us.

Attend a Board meeting. Quarterly Board meetings are open to the public. Contact the Director at Nancy.Schuberg@state.or.us for an agenda. The next meeting will be held **November 3rd, 10am**, at the Portland State Office Building.

Telehealth. The Oregon telehealth rules have been in place since 2014 and the OT Licensing Board would like your feedback if you have run into any issues/barriers/challenges. Please send any feedback to Nancy.Schuberg@state.or.us..

Telehealth rule link: http://www.oregon.gov/otlb/Pages/Telehealth.aspx.

Proposed Administrative Rule Changes: Comments due by 10/21/17 at Noon.

#1 OTLB is implementing national background checks by way of fingerprinting for new applicants beginning Jan. 1, 2018. The rule change updates the present rule with current procedures and aligns with the statutory authority (ORS 676.303).

339-010-0012 Background Checks and Fingerprinting Requirements

The Board may require Oregon or National criminal history checks, including fingerprints or other background checks such as the Law Enforcement Data System (LEDS), from any applicants for a license as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant, a limited permit, **or** an applicant to reinstate a lapsed license. ~~and applicant or licensee under investigation to determine their fitness~~**. The fingerprints shall be provided in a format prescribed by the Board.** The Board will provide information on where acceptable fingerprints may be obtained and what acceptable procedure is to be used for submitting them. The Board will use the fingerprints to conduct Criminal History Checks. **When applicable, fingerprint cards will be destroyed as required by law**~~.~~ **The Board may conduct a criminal record check on licensees applying to renew a license using the Law Enforcement Data System (LEDS) maintained by the Department of State Police.**

#2 Provides authority to sanction a license if an OT or OTA fails to cooperate with Board investigations.

339-010-0020 Unprofessional Conduct

(3) Unprofessional conduct relating to the Board includes:
(a) Practicing occupational therapy without a current Oregon license;
(b) Failing to renew license in a timely manner;
(c) Failing to provide the Board with any documents requested by the Board;
(d) Failing to answer truthfully and completely any question asked by the Board;
(e) Failing to provide evidence of competency when requested;
(f) Violating the Practice Act, Board rules or Board Orders;
(g) Failing to cooperate with Board investigations.

#3 Consistency between CE requirements for applicants for licensure and CE requirements for licensees.

339-010-0016 CE Requirements for Applicants for Licensure

(1) All applicants for licensure ~~who have passed the NBCOT certification examination and have been unlicensed for up to three years will need 15 points of board approved continuing education a year prior to becoming licensed in Oregon~~. **will either be current on their NBCOT certification (National Board of Certification in Occupational Therapy) or will need 30 points of Board approved continuing education two years prior to becoming licensed in Oregon.**

WHAT'S COMING UP?

October 6-7, 2017 OTAO Conference - Holiday Inn at PDX

November 3, 2017 Board Meeting @ PSOB

February 2, 2018 Board Meeting

May 4, 2018 Board Meeting @ LBCC

July 20, 2018 Board Meeting

November 2, 2018 Board meeting

2017 State Holiday Closure Schedule:

Sept. 4 Labor Day
Nov. 10 Veterans' Day
Nov. 23 Thanksgiving
Nov. 24 Day After TG
Dec. 25 Christmas Day

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OTAO Conference *Cont'd from page 1.*

already have an OT quilt, a laptop, a beach weekend, gift baskets and many more items already donated) We have vendors. We will have representatives from OTLB (Licensing Board), AOTA (Halley Read, Oregon's RA Representative), and the OTAO board who will gladly chat with you. We are going to be having a presentation with our legislative committee and lobbyist, Niki Terzieff (if you are not an OTAO member, do take a moment to thank an OTAO member, as their membership pays for our lobbyist who advocates for ALL Oregon occupational therapists). Not only will Niki tell you about our last legislative session (hippotherapy, workload/caseload in the schools, and loan forgiveness for rural therapists), she is at conference to gather information for what we need to focus on in our next legislative year. We also will have Representative Susan McLain at our legislative session to speak and answer questions. Representative McLain is our own personal OT hero. She was the legislator who sponsored our bill for workload/caseload in the schools.

It's our centennial celebration! If energy is high for a regular conference, this one is going over the top. So, check us out at www.otao.com/2017-conference. **Register! Nominate someone** for an award! There's still time to put in a **poster proposal** (OT Domination! Share your expertise!) **If you know a vendor that other OT's should know, recruit them**! You are already in a profession that is amazing. Don't be the one who misses out!

Licensee Count:
OT's: 2,146
OTA's: 525
Total: 2,671

The new OTLB website is now live!

www.oregon.gov/otlb

Help us improve! Let us know what you think by completing the Survey Monkey at the top carousel. Check regularly for CE Courses under the Continuing Education tab.

Did your legal name change?

To change your name: Go to www.oregon.gov/otlb for the name change form or send an email to Nancy.Schuberg@state.or.us. Fax us the legal document showing the name change at 971-673-0226.

Are You Moving?

To change to your contact information: Go to www.oregon.gov/otlb for the address change form or send an email to Rachel.Cillo@state.or.us.

To order a verification to be sent to another state: email Nancy.Schuberg@state.or.us and give the exact address where it needs to be sent. There is No Charge. We do not need their form. We will email you back when it is done.