



## Welcome to this issue of *Occupation in Practice*

which has a particular focus on fieldwork to keep you up to date with what is happening at AUT University.

In 2009, we welcomed Kim Frenchman to the Fieldwork team and Sandy Rutherford who has a part time role in the recently established interprofessional clinic on campus (Akoranga Integrated Health). We had two major reviews of the Undergraduate curriculum, an internal programme review, and an accreditation process by OTBNZ.

We have also celebrated Daniel Sutton and Shoba Nayar successfully completing their PhD's, taking the number of Doctors on staff to 5, quite an achievement for such a small department. We hope that you enjoy this issue and would like to thank you for your contribution to the Department and to student learning experiences. Wishing you well in 2010.

*DR KIRK REED – Head of Department, Occupational Science and Therapy*

## Interprofessional

In 2009, the National Centre for InterProfessional Education and Collaborative Practice was opened at AUT University.

The practical section of the Centre is the Akoranga Integrated Health Clinic, services are there to provide our students hands on experience with clients as well as trial new Interprofessional initiatives.

Occupational Therapy is a recent addition to the current services being provided, alongside; Physiotherapy, Podiatry and Oral Health. The goal is to investigate how OT services can be integrated alongside these existing services to provide a complementary and effective treatment plan for clients and organisations.

## Student placements 2010

We thank each of you for supporting students' fieldwork placement at your practice. Placement is the highlight of a student's journey through the Undergraduate programme, as identified by students in their feedback.

To be involved again, our 2010 placement dates are as follows:



SUE HOWETT, MARLIES DORRESTEIN, KIM FRENCHMAN (L-R)

### YEAR 1:

1 x 2-week placement, 26 October - 05 November

### YEAR 2:

1 x 4-week placement, 31 May - 25 June  
1 x 5-week placement, 20 September - 22 October

### YEAR 3:

1 x 8-week placement, 12 July - 03 September

Please contact Sue Howett to arrange your fieldwork placement offers.

Email: [sue.howett@aut.ac.nz](mailto:sue.howett@aut.ac.nz)

## Recommended texts and resources

Each edition we will highlight our recommended readings so you can stay at the forefront of the innovation and treatment techniques to better aid your clients.



- Queensland Occupational Therapy Fieldwork Collaborative [www.qotfc.edu.au/resource](http://www.qotfc.edu.au/resource) –also available via AUTonline
- Making the most of Fieldwork Education by Alsop and Ryan reprinted 2001
- Enabling Occupation II by Townsend and Polatajko (2007)

## What's hot

National Occupational Therapy Fieldwork Assessment tool – This is a joint venture between AUT and Otago Polytechnic.

The first draft has been completed and has some very exciting applications.

Watch this space for details of a trial midyear.

A new approach to fieldwork coordination: Clinical and Community Placement Model – Negotiations are well underway between the Department of Occupational Science and Therapy and some District Health Boards on a more effective, streamlined method of managing fieldwork placements in each DHB district.

The model will come into full effect by 2012.

The 2009 AUT Excellence in Fieldwork Education Award was presented to Katrina Spence at the Auckland Spinal Rehabilitation Unit.

This is a very prestigious award as Katrina was nominated by students for her outstanding efforts and guidance to students as they completed fieldwork placements at her practice.

## Innovative fieldwork projects

### COLLABORATION PROJECT

A collaboration between AUT, Coast to Coast PHO, Waitemata DHB and Restart Rehab supported our students in participating in an Interprofessional project and investigating the role of Occupational Therapy in the PHO.

This placement gave our 3rd year students an opportunity to help shape the role OT's may play in future PHO models and provided us with valuable findings to continue us moving forward in this area.

# OCCUPATION IN PRACTICE



## Fieldwork educators workshops

In 2009, we provided 14 Interprofessional Fieldwork Educator workshops at various places throughout the North Island including: two specialised workshops on Supervision Challenges and Feedback & Reflective Practice and Clinical Reasoning.

Due to the positive feedback, we will facilitate these again in 2010 with a new and improved format. Feel free to let us know some of your ideas/suggestions for these workshops.

## Filling a gap

An inaugural joint placement opportunity in Warkworth allowed our students to highlight the critical role OT's contribute to the wellbeing of the organisations' clients. Both AIM (Adults in Motion) and IHC - Warkworth opened their doors to allow us to highlight how OT work could complement their existing services. The placement has resulted in both organisations embracing the new methods with a long partnership established.



### FEEDBACK RECEIVED:

*Organisation:* "The student has led by example and re-motivated me to go back to basics, and take the time alongside service users to empower them re-independence"

*The student:* "... This placement has helped us to give confidence and encouragement [to service users] and opportunities to try new things to help up-skill them".

## Canadian student programme

AUT has an ongoing exchange programme with Dalhousie University in Halifax, Canada.



This resulted in four Canadian Masters Students successfully completing their final year placement in Auckland last year.

As a result of this relationship, some of our students will be given the opportunity to go to Canada for their final placement.

## AUT online resource

ACCESSING AUTONLINE – A WEBSITE FOR OT FIELDWORK EDUCATORS

AUTonline – a website with a range of resources that will assist fieldwork educators to successfully support students on fieldwork placements.

Go to the AUTonline web site: <https://autonline.aut.ac.nz> and log in using the following username / password combination:

- Username: **OTog**
- Password: **fieldworkog**

Under 'My Organisations' on the right, click on "OT Fieldwork Educators Resources".

You will find many folders under the buttons on the left;

- \* Announcements
- \* Staff information
- \* Newsletters
- \* BHSc(OT) information
- \* Placement documentation
- \* Fieldwork educators resources
- \* Fieldwork liaison meetings
- \* Links and resources

## Study @AUT

*Are you aware that you are able to complete Undergraduate papers and achieve a Certificate of Proficiency?*

Due to the ever-changing landscape of Occupational Therapy, our papers have undergone huge changes over the years to meet the latest innovative techniques and address the latest research findings.

To keep up with the ever-changing pace of our industry, we recommend talking to us about what papers would best suit you, for your client base (or a new client base you wish to expand into).

Information about courses is available at [www.authealth.ac.nz](http://www.authealth.ac.nz) - Undergraduate and Postgraduate options are described. Therapists can enrol in papers as a Certificate of Proficiency and can do one or several papers.

2nd year papers [refresher papers] include: Enabling Cognitive; Affective; Physical Performance for Occupation, Creating Enabling Environments and Enabling Occupation for Groups.

3rd year papers [skills extension] include: Enabling Systems Change & Promoting Occupational Justice and Participation.

People thinking of these options should contact Brenda Flood: [bflood@aut.ac.nz](mailto:bflood@aut.ac.nz)

The papers are NOT available by distance, and require attendance during the weeks they run.

Study towards a Certificate of Proficiency is a constructive way to contributing to your ongoing competence, for the purpose of re-certification with the Occupational Therapy Board of New Zealand.

Therapists planning to extend skills or re-enter the profession can also look to Postgraduate papers; Participation, & Health and Enabling Participation.

These papers are available by distance, and can also be completed as standalone options.

If you wish to discuss your postgraduate options further, contact:

Dr Clare Hocking

Email: [clare.hocking@aut.ac.nz](mailto:clare.hocking@aut.ac.nz)