ENOTHE European Network of Occupational Therapy in Higher Education

MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER







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BOARD MESSAGE

Dear members,

As the summer approaches, we look forward to welcoming you in Krakow this autumn for the inaugural OT-Europe Congress. In collaboration with the other organisations within the OT-Europe umbrella, we have developed a comprehensive programme.

Our meeting in Porto marked the beginning of our mission statement development process, which we will be presenting to you shortly. One of our key strategic objectives is to enhance internal and external communication within ENOTHE. The first member meeting, held in June, proved interesting and instructive for those attending and offered valuable insights to the board. One key topic of discussion was the potential impact of the recently completed TUNING competencies and the agreed competencies on occupational therapists' work. The discussion highlighted the close connection between education in occupational therapy and ENOTHE, as well as the importance of practical work and the work of COTEC. As part of OT-Europe, we are pleased to be able to accompany and facilitate the discussions of the occupational field in Krakow together with COTEC and ROTOS.

We are also eagerly awaiting the ENOTHE Gathering, scheduled for ... This event will provide ENOTHE members with an invaluable opportunity to exchange ideas and network. Further details will be communicated via email. Additionally, our General Assembly will be held concurrently with the OT-Europe Congress. In anticipation of this, the ENOTHE Board is preparing for the Pre-GA, during which we will disseminate comprehensive information and present our strategic vision for the forthcoming year. This will then serve as preparation for our General Assembly and the election of two new Board members. All pertinent information regarding the election can be found on its dedicated webpage at our website.

If you have visited our website in the last few weeks, you will have noticed some changes. We would like to announce that the members' area has been redesigned and a new password sent out to all members. We therefore invite you to share your feedback on this redesign of the homepage.

As a board, we have now come together well and are working in collaboration with all stakeholders to create this network further for teachers and students in occupational therapy. It would be our pleasure to welcome you in Krakow.

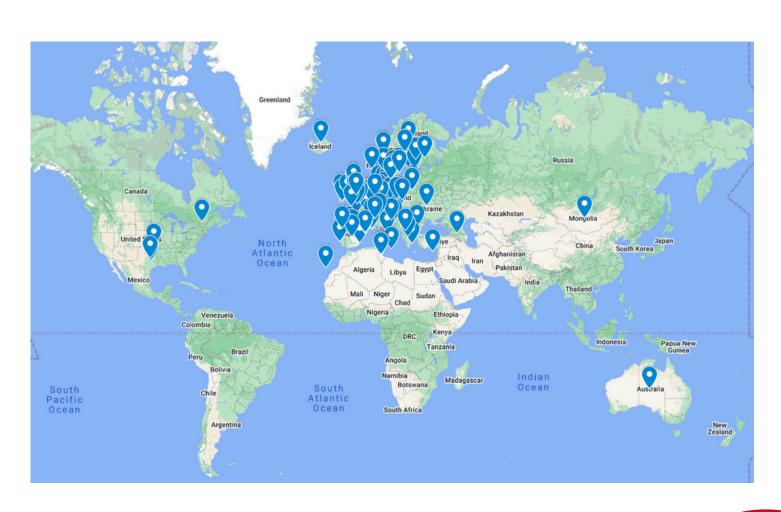
On behalf of the ENOTHE Board Katrin Pechstädt

ENOTHE

European Network of Occupational Therapy in Higher Education



MEMBERS' NEWS



COST ACTION CA23101 BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTICIPATION AND ACCESSIBILITY THROUGH LIFELONG COMMUNITY MOBILITY (BOPALIM)

In May 2024, the COST Action CA23101 was accepted for funding. The main proposer (Isabel Margot-Cattin) is from the UAS of Western Switzerland (HESSO). 80% of secondary proposers from 20 countries are occupational therapists, others are physicians, neuropsychologists, engineers, geographers, and transport urbanists.

Community mobility is essential to age-in-place, as older adults need to access medical facilities, stores, and other activities in their communities to maintain their health and well-being and to support their social participation.

This Action aims to develop an overarching framework to guide European and country-specific processes in the areas of driving, driving retirement, and usable accessible transportation for older adults. This action will coordinate a cohesive program of tasks in four interlinked working groups mobilizing international and cross-cultural development in the areas of: a) assessing driving fitness and retraining of driving capacities; b) driving retirement and transition planning to maintain community mobility; and c) usability and accessibility of alternative transportation modes, including walking and public transport.

interested in working llf joining are you a group: https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA23101/#tabs+Name:Working%20Groups%20 and%20Membership

For questions or additional information: lsabel.margot@hetsl.ch



ERASMUS+ SIMBA PROJECT TEAM: OPEN-ACCESS WEBINAR ABOUT SIMULATION-BASED LEARNING IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY EDUCATION

The SIMBA (Simulation-Based Learning (SBL) in Occupational Therapy) project is a three-year Erasmus+ funded project that aims to develop a package of evidence-based resources and tools for the application of simulation-based learning and evaluation methods in all phases of undergraduate-level education in occupational therapy. Our team is made up of five partners representing occupational therapy programmes across Europe: project coordinator AP University College (Antwerpen, Belgium); the University of Applied Health Sciences (Zagreb, Croatia), Turun Ammattikorkeakoulu OY (Turku, Finland); Istanbul Medipol Universitesi Vafki (Istanbul, Turkey) and FH Joanneum Gesellschaft MBH (Graz, Austria).



We are already in the second year of the project and are very pleased to be able to share news of the first results of our project. Based on the results of a series of literature reviews and focus group studies aimed to gather and validate information about the potential of thesimulation-based learning paradigm as a methodology through which professional competencies can be practiced, acquired, and evaluated in occupational therapy education, we are proud to present the SIMBA Framework of occupational therapy competencies in simulation-based learning and SIMBA Guidelines for the implementation of SBL in OT education. Together, the SIMBA Framework and Guidelines offer a comprehensive, evidence-based, and practical foundation that serves as a theoretical, scientific, and conceptual baseline from which we are developing further resources for the development and implementation of simulation-based learning in OT education. You can learn more about these important project results in a short webinar series, now available on the SIMBA website: https://simba.turkuamk.fi/results/.

In the coming academic year, we will be embarking on another important phase of the project in which all project members will be engaged in the implementation and validation of 30 hands-on and digital simulation experiences (scenarios) and the SIMBA assessment tool for the evaluation of student competencies within our educational programmes. Together with the SIMBA Framework and Guidelines, the simulation scenarios and assessment tool will also be available on our website upon completion of the project as open-access resources for OT educators interested in simulation-based learning.

The SIMBA team is also looking forward to actively participating in the academic programme of the upcoming OT Europe conference in Krakow this autumn, where we will be presenting the work and results of various phases of the project in more detail. We look forward to sharing and discussing our work with you all in Poland!



OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY STUDENT COMMUNITY PROJECTS IN CHILE

The first and third-year students of Occupational Therapy at the San Sebastián University, Santiago campus, Chile, have taken a leading role in developing projects that benefit the community of older adults and the community of Occupational Therapy students. These students, with the financial support of San Sebastián University, have been encouraged to acquire skills in design, management, and project development during their first year of study.

Under the guidance of Francisca Espinosa, career director of Occupational Therapy, and Dr. Cristina Perdomo, assistant professor of Occupational Therapy, the students have been actively involved in the design and execution of these projects.



A contribution to inclusion from Occupational Therapy: "Stimulation for older people."



The first-year Occupational Therapy students (Geraldine Concha, Daniela Curiel, Antonia Flores, and Valentina Núñez) created the initiative to seek a positive approach between older people at the Hogar de Cristo residence with forty first-year Occupational Therapy students. Through this project, the students offered support to older people in poverty, with a high level of dependency

and without support networks, to improve their social participation.

The objective of the project was to provide an opportunity for older people to carry out therapeutic activities that provide a pleasant and meaningful experience but, above all, allow first-year occupational therapy students to

demonstrate through their values, the motivation to do good with commitment and occupational responsibility to a group of older people.

This initiative offered first-year Occupational Therapy students the opportunity to acquire first-contact experiences with older people with high levels of vulnerability and the possibility of learning about the practice of occupational therapy in the community environment. The project lasted two months, and 40 first-year occupational therapy students participated.

A contribution to inclusion from Occupational Therapy: "Stimulation for older people."

The third year Occupational Therapy students (Ignacia Ríos and Maite Núñez) developed the initiative to offer Equine Therapy activities through collective games in contact with nature and horses to provide motivating therapeutic experiences to Occupational Therapy students to reduce possible symptoms of stress and anxiety due to the academic load. The students who coordinated the project organized the activities with the students through the three principles of Equine Therapy: 1.- Transmission of body heat: this means that the heat that the horse transmits provides sensory stimuli (sense perception); 2.- Transmission of rhythmic impulses: it originates with the movement that is generated in the horse's back, helping muscle tone and balance (voluntary movement); and 3.- Transmission of a locomotion pattern equivalent to the physiological pattern of human gait through movements in the sagittal, lateral, and frontal plane together with the horse.





The project sought to address a problem that many higher education students experience due to the high demands and academic responsibilities, in addition to tests and required work, with other factors such as economic problems, where some students must work to pay for their studies, generating even more stress and anxiety. Fourteen third-year occupational therapy students participated in the Equine Therapy activities. The project's objective was to provide self-care tools to the students through activities with horses. The project lasted two months and was carried out at the Centro Ecuestre El Castillo.

INPRO WEBSITE INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND PRACTICE

The INPRO consortium invites you to read the results on the project website of INPRO – Interprofessionalism in action www.inproproject.eu.

You can find information about 4 topics in the menu: Interprofessional <u>Education</u>, Interprofessional <u>Practice</u>, Interprofessional <u>Competencies</u> or <u>ICF Person-centred practices</u>.

Additionally, there is a search box and categories under <u>Materials</u> in the menu.

Please get inspired by visiting the website www.inproproject.eu

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NEWS

Dear ENOTHE members,

ince the new year has started a few things have happened in SPOTeurope. The following is a short summary of what SPOT has been up to over the past four months.

There have been a few changes on the board. First of all, we would like to welcome Victoria Amoako. She is the new general board member of SPOTeurope. We are confident that Victoria will achieve great things for SPOT with her strong leadership and empathetic nature. Furthermore, we also want to welcome Gaëlle Van Liefferinge. She will take over the role of "Blogger" from Aleyna Kayım. We are convinced that Gaëlle's creativity will be a great addition to SPOTeurope. Together we will continue our teamwork with devotion.

In March, a Spotinar titled "OT in Schools" was organized, hosted by researchers from SASUF, and featuring a keynote speech by Katharina Hanssmann. The event was dedicated to exploring the roles of occupational therapy (OT) students and practitioners in educational contexts, with a particular focus on promoting interdisciplinary collaboration and implementing strategies to bring about substantial improvements in schools. Central themes included defining effective interdisciplinary working principles and cultivating innovations designed to enrich the school environment.

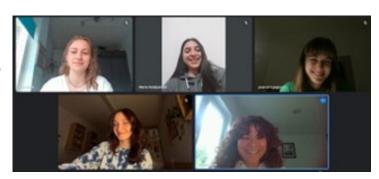
In April, the SPOTinar titled "A Perspective on AOTA and Leadership: Honoring OT Month 2024" featured Dr. Cristina Reyes Smith, AOTA Vice President, who shared insights into AOTA's strategic leadership initiatives and their significance within the occupational therapy profession. Dr. Reyes Smith's presentation highlighted AOTA's commitment to advancing the field through innovative leadership strategies and fostering collaboration across the OT community. Her discourse underscored the importance of leadership in shaping the future of occupational therapy practice and advocacy efforts, resonating with attendees as they celebrated OT Month 2024.



Over the past few months, we've conducted numerous SPOT promo presentations for students from various locations: Malaga, Spain; Msida, Malta; Alcoitão, Portugal; Nijmegen, the Netherlands; Ljubljana, Slovenia; Potsdam, Germany; Salford, United Kingdom; and Zuyd, the Netherlands. Looking ahead, we're eager to continue organizing more of these events to further expand our engagement.

In April, OT Month was commemorated with enthusiasm by the SPOTeurope community through a series of engaging activities. A highlight was the creation of a unique video that celebrated the diversity of occupational therapy across cultures. Participants were invited to contribute six words related to occupational therapy in their languages, which were compiled into a creative and original video. This initiative not only showcased the global reach of occupational therapy but also highlighted its core principles and values through linguistic diversity. Additionally, this month we hosted a SPOTinar in collaboration with AOTA.

Lastly, in March, we held our Fifth MiniSpot Meeting. Together, we exchanged ideas and insights, reflected on our recent activities, and prepared plans.



That is all we have to report for the moment. We will be back with a new update in the ENOTHE winter newsletter.

Greetings,
The board of SPOTeurope

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European Network of Occupational Therapy in Higher Education



UPDATES

CALOHEE - TUNING PROJECT



cycle levels TUNING Competences Masterclass Courses -

To be scheduled soon!





1st Occupational Therapy Europe Congress

Future-Proofing Occupational Therapy 15-19 October 2024, Kraków



pre-congress 3H masterclass

"Intensive short course on Programme Evaluation and Design in Occupational Therapy through lenses of Tuning Competences 2024"



TUNING focused OT-Europe workshop

"Occupational therapy education in Europe: integrating practice, theory, and research for promoting individual, community, and societal well-being and health - advancing competences for occupational therapists"

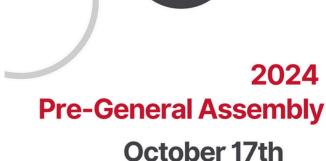


https://ot-europe2024.com/



Registration is OPEN!

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!#OTEUROPE2024



October 17th 16-17:30H





October 18th 11:30-13H



ICE Kraków Congress Centre 1st OT-Europe Congress

More information here: https://enothe.eu/members-pages/generalassembly/general-assembly/

Dear member,

The ENOTHE Board would like to you to consider being nominated for the new board position coming up to serve for a four-year term on the board. This includes the potential for a further re-election nomination of two-years.

There are 2 (two) positions open for election at the October 2024 General Assembly.

Deadline to receive Board nominations is Sunday, 7th October 2024.

More information HERE.





28th Annual Meeting 23-25 October 2025

Leiria, Portugal





Polytechnic of Leiria School of Health Sciences 39°44'15.1"N 8°48'40.8"W

Dear member,

The 28th ENOTHE Annual Meeting will take place between **23-25 October 2025**, hosted by the Department of Occupational Therapy at the School of Health Sciences of the Polytechnic of Leiria, Leiria – Portugal.

The **theme and topics** for this Annual Meeting are

"Occupational Therapy Education: fostering global citizenship and partnerships"

- Human variation and diversity competence
- Curriculum designs for social action and planetary health
- Technology for bridging gaps

We encourage you to stay up-to-date to don't miss important developments! AM webpage here: https://enothe.eu/annual-meeting/leiria-portugal-25/

CALL FOR ANNUAL MEETING HOSTS



Each year since 1995 ENOTHE has run an Annual Meeting. The ENOTHE Annual Meeting is a 3 day in-person Annual Meeting (AM) event in the month of October.

It has been a time when Academic Occupational Therapists, Professional Occupational Therapists, Student Occupational Therapists and all others interested in the field of Occupational Therapy can meet and network. Key themes and challenges are presented in keynote talks. The development of Occupational Therapy is discussed throughout. And it is also a great platform for work to be presented either as a new presenter or an experienced one. It's a fantastic opportunity to share work, seek collaborations, raise program profiles and for students a brilliant opportunity as a stepping stone towards scientific conferences. So far the ENOTHE Annual Meeting was held in 20 different countries and had participants from all over the world.

Interested in hosting an ENOTHE Annual Meeting? Calls are open for 2026 and 2027.





2027



Explore the Annual Meeting host protocol and apply online - visit <u>HERE</u>.

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SUBMIT TO THIS NEWSLETTER ALL YEAR ROUND

3 publications a year: Spring, Summer, Winter

Know more about the newsletter submission guidelines, the online submission form, disclosure and much more <u>HERE</u>.

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