The JBOT Newsletter has reached year 2! This issue features presentations from Conference of the Society for the Study of Occupation (SSO), the AOTA Mental Health Specialty Conference, and the Health Criminology Research Consortium Research & Practice Symposium. Many more resources are included in this issue, as well as a practitioner reflection suggesting how to articulate the role of OT in a justice setting.

**JBOT meeting held at Conference of the Society for the Study of Occupation (SSO): USA**

Discussion topics included: women incarcerated with intellectual disabilities, substance use and addiction programming, transitioning out of prostitution, gang abatement, and team building.

**AOTA Mental Health Specialty Conference**

Discussion topics included: environmental and facility procedural barriers to providing OT; exploring new hobbies in prison; risks for carceral system involvement; communicating our work with other professionals; OT assessments; and the importance of research and showing impact.

**JBOT Meetings at 2020 AOTA Conference**

Thursday, 3/26, 12:00p - 2:00p
Friday, 3/27, 8:30a - 10:30a
Saturday, 3/28, 9:00a - 11:00a
Location: Westin Boston Waterfront, Paine Room

Space is limited, please RSVP: http://bit.ly/JBOT-2020-AOTA


JBOT AROUND THE U.S. & Internationally

Conference of the Society for the Study of Occupation (SSO): USA

The 2019 SSO Conference theme encouraged the exploration of occupations considered illegal, taboo, and risky. These concepts were highlighted through a variety of presentations including:

- Shades of Gray: Social Sanctioning of Occupation and Spheres of Social Transformation. Niki Kiepek
- Doing Non-Violent Resistance in Palestine. Gail Whiteford
- Exploring Sanctioned and Non-sanctioned Hobbies among Correctional Officers to Inform Workplace Health Promotion Interventions. Lisa Jaegers, Emily Pestello, & Crystal Dieleman
- Considering Occupational Choice in Resistance and Activism that Leads to Illegal Occupations. Kiera Peak
- Daily Routines of Drug-addicted Mothers. Laure Decastel, Staffan Josephsson
- Incarcerated Women’s Vocational Interest and Related Barriers of Societal Reentry. Selena Washington, Lisa Jaegers
- Exploring and Identifying “Othering” in Scholarship, Inquiry, and Education about Non-sanctioned Occupations. Rebecca Aldridge, Niki Kiepak, Amber Angell, Michelle Elliot
- The Other Childhood, How the Rights of Criminalized Children Have Been Violated. Erna Navarette, Rodrigo Sepulveda
- The Development and Pilot Testing of the Activity Card Sort: Including Covert Use of Occupations. Quinn Tyminski, Ronald Drummond, Shelby Evans, Clare Heisey, Audra Hendrix, Matthew Brandenburg

For more highlights of SSO Conference sessions

Save The Date

2020 AOTA Annual Conference & Expo
• March 26 - 29, 2020
• Boston, Massachusetts

Conference of the Society for the Study of Occupation (SSO): USA
• October 8-10, 2020
• St. Petersburg, Florida

CALL FOR PAPERS
2020 CONFERENCE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF OCCUPATION: USA
October 8-10, 2020, St. Petersburg, Florida
Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront
Abstract deadline February 7, 2020

https://www.sso-usa.org/2020-conference
Health Criminology Research Consortium Symposium

The Health Criminology Research Consortium at Saint Louis University is an interdisciplinary collaboration of researchers investigating the nexus of health, crime and the criminal justice system, and how to improve effectiveness in the areas of prevention, clinical intervention and policy.

The symposium was focused on research related to health and criminal justice. Practitioner workshops were targeted to physicians, psychologists, social workers, occupational therapists, attorneys, probation and parole officers, case managers and other professionals.

Session topics included health effects of police contact for vulnerable youth, gun violence, medication gap after prison, cancer prevention and cardiovascular health, access to menstrual products in justice facilities, and pre-trial diversion programs among city and county jails.

https://www.slu.edu/public-health-social-justice/research/health-criminology-research-consortium.php

On Twitter: @SLUHCRC
Karen Barney and Christine Hayes participated on a panel at a Juvenile Parole Training event to discuss how to prepare juvenile lifer clients for reentry, on January 31, 2020. This training was designed for attorneys interested in providing legal advice, representation, and support to youthful offenders given mandatory life without parole sentences in Missouri prior to recent changes in federal and state laws. The event was sponsored by The Roderick & Solange MacArthur Justice Center (RSMJC), Husch Blackwell LLP, and the Saint Louis University Law School’s Legal Clinics.

The day-long training provided a background on juvenile parole in the U.S., as well as the federal class action case filed by the MacArthur Justice Center challenging the Missouri Parole Board’s demonstrated abuse of power, disregard for due process and failure to comply with state and federal law when it comes to youthful offenders previously given mandatory life without parole sentences. The training also covered trauma and adolescent development, how to conduct a mitigation investigation, and how to keep parole board hearings client-centered. Speaker and mitigation specialist, Chris May, with the Missouri Office of the Public Defender (MOPD) was the original referral source for SLU OTTIS to provide evaluation reentry services with clients.

Barney and Hayes discussed the role of occupational science and occupational therapy in their pre and post release practice, working with people sentenced as juveniles to life without the option for parole (JLWOP) and who’ve served 25+ years in prison. The panel included one of their clients who was the first JLWOP released to the community in MO, a client who is in transitional release, and a gentleman who was exonerated in 2008 after serving over 20 years in prison. Also presenting on the panel was Husain Lateef, PhD, a social worker and assistant professor at Brown School, Washington University, who previously worked with JLWOP clients in the Arizona carceral system. Barney and Hayes highlighted the need to focus on planning and preparation of daily occupations – roles, habits and routines--from prison life to community, especially the activities that one needs, wants, and is expected to do. Some of the major client goals include living wage employment, safe housing, reliable transportation, and healthy leisure activities.
Practitioner Reflection

Claire Daaleman, MOT, OTR/L
Community Transitions Occupational Therapist
Occupational Therapy Transition and Integration Services (OTTIS)
Saint Louis University, Department of Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy

When asked about how she describes OT services in a jail based setting, Claire offered this example from her own practice.

An OT promotes individuals’ return to their daily activities or occupations; to do this, OTs are distinct in their ability to assess and intervene holistically, considering a person’s physical, cognitive, sensory, and emotional needs, as well as concurrently adapting the environment to promote engagement in occupations.

Within a jail based setting, OTs follow the same principles as in other settings, but instead of focusing on occupations such as dressing and bathing, OTs focus on promoting engagement in occupations important to reentry, such as employment, education, social participation, caring for others, financial management, as well as developing mental health coping skills and relapse prevention strategies to promote clients’ engagement in their meaningful occupations.

Additionally, to promote clients’ engagement in their self-identified occupations, an OT within a jail-based setting also assists clients in exploring and connecting to appropriate community service providers.

In the Literature

https://ajph.aphapublications.org/toc/ajph/110/S1. “This supplement issue examines the public health concerns surrounding mass incarceration, with research and perspectives on improving health outcomes for justice-involved populations, psychological distress in solitary confinement, the links between mass incarceration and climate change, the public health implications of criminal justice reform, and more.”

Reflections

Share your reflections on justice-based OT!

Students, practitioners, researchers, collaborators, and clients are welcome to send their story to JBOT for a future newsletter!

~250-300 words
~include a photo

Email: ljaegers@slu.edu
Impact of Incarceration

REPORT: Half of All U.S. Adults Have Immediate Family Member Currently or Previously Incarcerated. Studies suggest “how its [incarceration] impact extends beyond the prison walls on to the families on the other side.” Link to the report: https://everysecond.fwd.us/downloads/EverySecond.fwd.us.pdf.

In the News

https://news.stlpublicradio.org/post/one-3-missouri-jail-officers-struggles-depression-study-reports

Featured on St. Louis Public Radio / NPR.

One In 3 Missouri Jail Officers Struggles With Depression, Study Reports


Continuing Education

Due to overwhelming interest and in an effort to support the needs of those interested in justice-based practice, education, research, and program development, Saint Louis University has developed an online continuing education course that is now open for trainees. Proceeds from the course go directly back to the SLU OT Transition & Integration Services (OTTIS) program (http://bit.ly/ottis_slu).

OTTIS Continuing Education Course: https://tji-slu.thinkific.com/
For more info, please contact Christine Hayes at 314-977-8583 or christine.hayes@health.slu.edu

Join Us On Facebook!

Justice-based Occupational Therapy (JBOT)
Email Pam Stephenson to be added: pstephenson@marybaldwin.edu
Tweet about JBOT topics using hashtag #JusticeOT
Sign up for meeting updates and info via email: http://bit.ly/JBOT-2020-AOTA

This newsletter was developed at Saint Louis University with the assistance of student worker support through the Center for Service & Community Engagement.