

The Way Forward Plan

for

ISOS

The International Society for Occupational Science

ISOS has a Mission, which is the facilitation of a world-wide network of individuals and institutions committed to research and education on occupation and to promoting occupation for health and community development.

ISOS describes occupation broadly as the various everyday activities people do as individuals, in families and with communities to occupy time and bring meaning and purpose to life. Occupations include things people need to, want to and are expected to do.

ISOS has three main aims:

1. to facilitate international collaboration in research on occupation
2. to facilitate international collaboration in the development and delivery of occupational science / occupation-based curricula at all levels of education
3. to promote occupation for health & community development in policy and practice arenas at local, national and international levels

ISOS will support and enable:

- A broad range of approaches to knowledge generation
- Cross cultural research
- Mentoring and support of doctoral level research students
- Scholar exchange
- An occupational perspective
- An occupational perspective of health
- Transference of evidence to practice
- Translation of knowledge to policy

ISOS will be a virtual society:

- ISOS will develop and maintain a website that will enable communication internationally among people and institutions interested in occupational science research and education, and in promoting occupation for health and community development.
- A five-member Executive, elected by the ISOS members for a term of 3 years, will manage ISOS. The members of the Executive will communicate with each other via teleconferences and email.
- Members of ISOS will login onto the website to access documents and information, and to have discussions and meetings. Membership is open to people and organisations interested in occupational science research and education, and those who support the promotion of occupation for health and community development.

By 2017, ISOS hopes:

- Occupational science is a cohesive, dynamic and diverse science.
- Occupational scientists form innovative partnerships to advance the science.
- Occupational scientists are leaders in being socially and ecologically responsible and socially and politically influential.
- Occupational science research and education is being conducted in most major universities around the world.
- Occupational therapists around the world incorporate occupational science in education and practice.
- An occupational perspective is mainstream; that is, the general public, government officers and academics acknowledge the significance of occupation and recognize the description of occupation as everyday activities people do as individuals, in families and with communities.
- Knowledge gained from occupational research is translated into practices and policies that enhance everyday living for individuals, families and communities.

ISOS Strategic Plan 2007-2012

MISSION

Facilitation of a world-wide network of individuals and institutions committed to research and education on occupation and to promoting occupation for health and community development.

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Aims	Strategies	Activities
<p>1. to facilitate international collaboration in research on occupation</p> <p>Focus areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A broad range of approaches to knowledge generation • Cross cultural research • Mentoring and support of doctoral level research students • Scholar exchange 	<p>1.1. establishing an online community of occupation-based researchers</p>	<p>General list serve for members</p> <p>Research Interest Group list serves</p> <p>Message Board</p> <p>Discussion Board</p> <p>Calendar of occupational science and other relevant symposia & conferences</p> <p>Links to relevant symposia & conferences</p> <p>Databases of past, present and proposed occupation-based research – categorised by topic, context, methods etc</p> <p>Database of occupational science research literature – link to JOS</p> <p>Database of members’ research interests & expertise</p> <p>Positions Vacant / Wanted - postings re doctoral & post doctoral research opportunities or requests</p>

	1.2. supporting & / collaborating with national occupational science & other relevant groups to organize research workshops	ISOS supported workshops at ENOTHE and WFOT Congresses ISOS support of programs organized by national occupational science groups eg Think Tanks, Doing Tanks, symposia
	1.3. supporting doctoral student research	Travel grants / stipends to students Speaker awards Billeting of students at symposia etc
2. to facilitate international collaboration in the development and delivery of occupational science / occupation-based curricula at all levels of education Focus areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A broad range of approaches to knowledge generation • Cross cultural research • Mentoring and support of doctoral level research students • Scholar exchange 	2.1. establishing an online community of occupation-based educators	General list serve for members Message Board Discussion Board Education Interest Group list serve Links to occupational science / occupation-based educational programs Calendar of occupational science and relevant symposia & conferences Database of members' education interests & expertise Positions Vacant / Wanted – postings of educator & post grad. teaching opportunities or requests Database and reviews of relevant texts, books & films

<p>3. to promote occupation for health & community development in policy and practice arenas at local, national and international levels</p> <p>Focus areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occupational perspective • Occupational perspective of health • Transference of evidence to practice • Translation of knowledge to policy 	<p>3.1. increasing awareness of occupation and occupational science among the general public, government officers and academics</p>	<p>Publication of occupation-based stories in mainstream media</p> <p>Letters to the Editors</p> <p>Position papers</p> <p>Members' publication of occupation-based research in high impact scholarly journals</p> <p>Members' presentations of occupation-focused papers at a various symposia/conferences</p> <p>Members' participation in interdisciplinary research and education programs and conferences</p> <p>Support and promotion of occupation-focused continuing professional development programs</p>
	<p>3.2. supporting partners and relevant associations</p>	<p>Continued support for and collaboration with JOS, WFOT & ENOTHE</p> <p>Support of national occupational science organizations</p>
	<p>3.3. joining relevant organizations e.g. WHO, UN</p>	<p>Responses to issues re social, economic & community development</p>

Action Plan

30 July 07	launch of new ISOS member website registration for membership begins
1-14 September 07	on-line nomination for members of the new Executive
15-23 September 07	on-line voting for new Executive
30 September 07	new Executive announced on member website

