



# NEWSLETTER

Issue 10

## NEW PREMISES

From 1 July 2010 the Board has moved to new premises situated at:

Suite 3, 154 Fullarton Road  
ROSE PARK SA 5067

Telephone: (08) 8431 0818  
Facsimile: (08) 8431 2467

Email: [admin@otbsa.com.au](mailto:admin@otbsa.com.au)  
Website: [www.otbsa.com.au](http://www.otbsa.com.au)



## Who is on the Board

Pursuant to the Occupational Therapy Practice Act, 2005, membership of the Board is as follows:

**Four occupational therapists elected in accordance with the Election Regulations by registered occupational therapists:**

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| • Anne Morgan (Deputy Chairperson) | <i>Appointed 13 September 2001 – 30 August 2010</i> |
| • Nandkishore Nandoskar            | <i>Appointed 31 August 2006 – 30 August 2012</i>    |
| • Geraldine Iwanicki               | <i>Appointed 31 August 2009 – 30 August 2012</i>    |
| • Joanna Buttfeld                  | <i>Appointed 31 August 2009 – 30 August 2012</i>    |

**An occupational therapist that gives instruction in occupational therapy at a university in South Australia selected from a panel of three persons nominated by the Council of the University of South Australia:**

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| • Mary Russell (Chairperson) | <i>Appointed 6 December 2007 – 5 December 2010</i> |
|------------------------------|--|

**A legal practitioner nominated by the Minister:**

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| • Claire O'Connor | <i>Appointed 4 September 2008 – 3 September 2011</i> |
|-------------------|--|

**A medical practitioner nominated by the Minister:**

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| • Lesley Shorne | <i>Appointed 31 August 2006 – 3 September 2011</i> |
|-----------------|--|

**Two persons nominated by the Minister who are not eligible for appointment under a preceding provision:**

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| • Patricia Graskie | <i>Appointed 21 February 2008 – 20 February 2011</i> |
| • Alison Sinclair  | <i>Appointed 4 January 2010 – 23 January 2013</i>    |

## Message from the Chairperson

The last year has seen a number of significant changes for registration and the operation of the OT Board of SA.

On 30 August 2009 Brenton Kortman retired from the Board after 15 years of service, 3 of them as Chairperson. Brenton provided leadership both to the SA Board but also through his contribution to the Council of Occupational Therapists Registration Boards (Aust and NZ). In particular, Brenton made a significant contribution in presenting the case for occupational therapy's inclusion in national registration. Kevin Duffy also retired in August 2009 after 10 years of service, as Deputy Chair. Kevin was a key contributor to the ongoing work of the Board in areas including complaints processes and sub-committee work. Our current Deputy Chairperson, Anne Morgan is retiring when her term ends in August this year. Anne's extensive experience both as a practitioner and Board member have been invaluable during this transition. Brenton, Kevin and Anne have all contributed their expertise and time to the Board's work over a long period of time. I am sure you will join me in thanking them for their commitment and service. Susan Raphael resigned from the Board this year, to move to Korea. Susan was a very active contributor to the Board, bringing a community perspective to our work. We also thank Susan for her contribution to the Board.

We have also welcomed new members to the Board. Geraldine Iwanicki and Joanna Buttfeld joined the Board in August 2009 as elected members of the profession and Alison Sinclair was appointed by the Minister in January 2010. Geraldine, Joanna and Alison have been very active contributors to both the ongoing work of the Board and in managing the many issues and changes this year.

In August 2009 it was announced that occupational therapy would be included in the national registration and accreditation scheme from 1 July 2012. This will mean that, for the first time, occupational therapists and OT students in all Australian states and territories will be included in a national regulation system. This is an important step in promoting the safety and quality of services provided to the public, by ensuring that practitioners are appropriately qualified and competent to practice. The Occupational Therapy Board of SA will continue to operate until 30 June 2012, after which time responsibility for registration will transition to a new, national board.

In the lead up to national registration, the Council of Occupational Therapists Registration Boards (Aust and NZ) reviewed its constitution and name. Now the Occupational Therapy Council (Aust and NZ), this body includes nominees from registration boards, from OT Australia in states without registration, from ANZCOTE and consumer representatives. The Occupational Therapy Council will continue to work with the Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Agency, OT Australia and other stakeholders to prepare for a smooth transition to national registration, as well as working on other issues related to registration, accreditation and overseas assessment of qualifications.

You will also see elsewhere in this newsletter that the Board has moved to new premises. The three Boards with which we used to share a building and staff transitioned to national registration on 1 July this year. Over the years we were located at Mile End, many of you will have had contact with Angela Wicks, Jessica Schwarz and Liz Girolamo, who have all now moved to new roles in the Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Agency. The Occupational Therapy Board of SA has relocated to an office in the Parks Building at Suite 3, 154 Fullarton Road at Rose Park. Please note our new phone number and email details for your future contact with the Board. We welcome Jane Erickson as Executive Assistant. Jane will be your main contact in the office. Peter Martin will continue as Registrar. The opening hours of our office will be slightly reduced, but please leave a message if Jane is not available to take your call.

Rebecca Singh has continued her work on the new requirements to demonstrate ongoing professional development. Rebecca's appointment is the first time the Board has employed an OT project officer and we hope that the resources, presentations and individual contact Rebecca has provided have made it easier for you to understand and prepare your professional development plans and records.

We anticipate another very busy year. Please do feel free to contact our office at any time of you have queries about registration or wish to share feedback.

**Dr Mary Russell**  
**Chairperson**

## Registration Numbers

As at 30 June 2010, the number of active registrants with the Occupational Therapy Board of South Australia was as follows:

Occupational Therapists:

**1076**

- 969 are female and 107 are male
- 113 are registered as non-practising
- 1013 (95%) reside in South Australia
- Average age is 36.2 years

Occupational Therapy Students:

**358**

- 312 female and 46 male
- Average age is 22.6 years

Occupational Therapy Service Provider List: **37**

## Board Prizes

The Board offers the following prizes to outstanding graduating occupational therapy students of the University of South Australia:

### **Ethical & Clinical Practice Prize for the Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy)**

Awarded annually to a final year student in the Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) who has demonstrated the highest academic and practical performance in the courses relating to enabling occupation studies and occupational therapy field work practice over the 4 years of the degree course.

**2009 winner:** [Sarah Kennedy](#)

### **Ethical & Clinical Practice Prize for the Master of Occupational Therapy (Graduate Entry)**

Awarded annually to a final year student in the Masters of Occupational Therapy (Graduate Entry) who has demonstrated the highest academic and practical performance in the courses relating to enabling occupation studies and occupational therapy field work practice over the 2 years of the degree course.

**2009 winner:** [Alison Tippett](#)

In recognition of their outstanding achievements Sarah and Alison will each receive a certificate and cheque from the Board.

## Limited Registration Policy (Adopted April 2010)

The Board has adopted a policy for limited registration. This policy can be viewed on the website under Other Guidelines/Policies (<http://www.otrb.sboards.com.au/policy-LimitedReg.pdf>.)

### **"LIMITED REGISTRATION**

*For those occupational therapists applying for registration who at the time of applying cannot provide to the Board evidence of:*

- a) *a minimum level of \$5m professional indemnity insurance (PII) cover (refer Section 61 of the Occupational Therapy Practice Act, 2005 in relation to mandatory PII cover in order to practice); and/or*
- b) *a practice audit plan lodged with the Occupational Therapy Council (Australia and New Zealand) – OTC.*

*the Board will grant limited registration for a period of 3 months only in order for the applicant to provide this information. Provisional registration may be granted by the Registrar if in his opinion the Board is likely to grant Limited registration.*

*If satisfactory evidence is not provided within this period of time the name of the occupational therapist will be removed from the Register and the therapist will no longer be able to practice as an occupational therapist in South Australia otherwise serious penalties may apply (refer to Section 33 and 35 of the Occupational Therapy Practice Act, 2005). The application fee and 50% of the Annual Practice fee will not be refunded. The therapist would need to reapply for registration at a later date when this information can be provided.*

*Upon receipt of appropriate evidence within 3 months of being granted Limited registration the occupational therapist will:*

- *in the case of a) above, be granted full registration and forwarded a Certificate of Registration and an Annual Practising Certificate.*
- *in the case of b) above, have their limited registration extended until receipt of a Certificate of Practical Completion from OTC."*

## Ongoing Professional Development

### **Ongoing Professional Development Guidelines for Occupational Therapists**

The Ongoing Professional Development Guidelines for Occupational Therapists were adopted by the Board in July 2009. Since this time a number of initiatives have been undertaken to assist Occupational Therapists to understand their responsibilities regarding ongoing education. These have included the following:

- Provision of a comprehensive initial information pack including copies of all recording templates.
- Development of a new section on the Board's website dedicated to "Ongoing PD".
- Provision of information sessions for Occupational Therapists regarding explaining the guidelines and how to submit the Professional Development Plan and Record (PDPR) with a total of 23 sessions undertaken.
- Email updates to clarify key issues and remind Occupational Therapists to review their PDPR.
- Availability of the Professional Development Project Officer to field questions as required.
- Provision of example PDPR's for reference.

With the first year's PDPR's due with the 2010 annual returns an evaluation of the Ongoing Professional Development Guidelines for Occupational Therapists and related processes will be undertaken. An online survey will be undertaken with all registered occupational therapists invited to participate, however, should you want to provide feedback to the Board personally you can do so by writing to the Board.

## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY JOINS THE NATIONAL REGISTRATION AND ACCREDITATION SCHEME

Occupational therapists in Australia will join the Commonwealth Government National Registration and Accreditation Scheme in July 2012. The scheme, which commences in July 2010 for the 10 currently nationally registered professions, will ensure for the first time that all occupational therapists in Australia are registered health professionals.

Currently, occupational therapists in Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia and the Northern Territory are registered with State-based registration boards, and will transition automatically into the new National Scheme in 2012.

Occupational therapists in New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania and the ACT, who have never been registered under State legislation, will be required to apply for registration to continue their professional practice. This includes not only occupational therapists who work in positions designated as "occupational therapist", but all those that hold themselves out in any way as an "occupational therapist", regardless of the job title.

The key advantages of national registration is to ensure the safety of consumers of occupational therapy services by ensuring practitioners across the country are appropriately qualified and competent to practise. National registration also facilitates workforce mobility across state and territory borders.

Occupational therapists and their employers will be required to ensure that occupational therapists in all States and Territories hold registration under this new scheme, commencing in July 2012. Students in occupational therapy programs will also need to be registered.

Members of both OT Australia and the Occupational Therapy Council (Australia and New Zealand) are working together to stay apprised of developments in the new scheme and will update occupational therapists with new information as it comes to hand. The aim is to ensure that all occupational therapists are adequately prepared and fully aware of the requirements for registration in plenty of time prior to 1 July 2012.

Detailed information about the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme is available from:

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency: [www.ahpra.gov.au](http://www.ahpra.gov.au)

## Contacting the Board

### Board Staff

- **Peter Martin, JP** *Registrar/CEO*
- **Jane Erickson** *Executive Assistant*
- **Rebecca Singh** *Professional Development Project Officer*

**Phone:** (08) 8431 0818  
**Fax:** (08) 8431 2467  
**E-mail:** [admin@otbsa.com.au](mailto:admin@otbsa.com.au)  
**Website:** [www.otbsa.com.au](http://www.otbsa.com.au)  
**Street Address:** Suite 3  
154 Fullarton Road  
Rose Park SA 5067

**Office hours are Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.00pm**