



a place of mind
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Faculty of Medicine
Department of Occupational Science
and Occupational Therapy

OT Lens - Spring 2016

Welcome!

In this issue of the OT Lens, we have a numerical breakdown of OSOT teaching and research, news of our award-winning teachers, and preliminary details of the 2016 Capstone Conference.



Happy Spring!

As we put to bed the winter and change our clocks to give more daytime hours into the evening, a moment to reflect on our last few months and what is ahead is in order. Lots of change is upon us, including Dr. Catherine Backman stepping down as the Department Head. It is indeed an understatement to say thank you, as during her tenure in this post, she positioned OSOT in such a way that heralded an extraordinary growth in research funding, hiring of 2 new faculty, and increased alumni and clinical faculty engagement. Looking forward, I am honored to serve as the department head as we prepare for the graduating class Capstone conference on July 27 (please consider joining us for this event), participate in the Faculty of Medicine Summer School

program for international students, and flourish in international participation through invited lecturers, presenting at diverse conferences and collaborating on innovations both at home and abroad. This newsletter provides you with a glimpse of what we have been up to. I hope you find it informative.

With best regards,
Sue

Susan Forwell, PhD, OT(C), FCAOT

By the Numbers

Our latest stats:

- In recent studies, the UBC OSOT department was ranked:
 - #1 in Canada when it comes to CIHR funding per PI
 - #2 in the h-index, which measures publication productivity and citation impact
- UBC OSOT admits 48 domestic students annually
 - In 2016, we attracted 339 qualified applicants; 137 were interviewed with an average grade of 83% and above
- UBC OSOT have 12.2 FTE (full-time equivalent) of faculty of which 9 FTE have research responsibilities.

In 2015, we saw:

- 120 presentations given at scientific meetings in 9 countries
 - 82 papers published or accepted in peer-reviewed journals
 - \$27M in research funding, including:
 - Over \$8M in operating and salary awards
 - \$18.98M across 8 large pan-Canadian consortiums
 - 39 invited lectures delivered
 - 5 faculty serve on 6 editorial board of the following journals:
 - CJOT (Backman, Miller)
 - JOS (Forwell)
 - Occupational Therapy International (Holsti)
 - Open Spine Journal (Miller)
 - POTPaeds (Holsti, Zwicker)
 - The Scientific World Journal (Holsti)
 - One Canada Research Chair (Holsti)
 - One CIHR early career scientist award (Zwicker)
 - One Associate Dean of the Faculty of Medicine (Miller)
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2016 Capstone Conference: "Breaking Boundaries"

July 27, 2016, 8:30am to 4:00pm
UBC Student Nest, Great Hall
6133 University Blvd, Vancouver, BC

The Capstone Conference showcases the research from students graduating from the MOT program. Each year, the Capstone Conference attracts more than 200 attendees, including incoming and continuing students, faculty members from various health disciplines, clinicians, and the general public. Politicians attended last year, to learn about our cutting-edge research.

This year's keynote speakers are Skye Barbic and Theresa McElroy. More details about the 2016 conference will be announced on the [OSOT website](#) in the coming days.

Accolades



Congratulations to **Bill Miller**, who was awarded the 2016 **Barbara Sexton Lectureship** from the University of Western Ontario's School of Occupational Therapy. The lectureship serves as a means to reward innovation and excellence in occupational therapy teaching and to foster professional enrichment. Each year since 1999, the School has invited a distinguished visitor to give a public presentation for the Evidence-Based Practice Conference. Dr. Miller's keynote was entitled "Lessons Learned from a Life 'Woven' in Occupational Therapy."



Donna Drynan, Senior Instructor & Academic Fieldwork Coordinator, is a recipient of a **2015-16 Killam Teaching Prize**, in recognition of her excellence as an instructor in the MOT program. The prize rewards sustained teaching excellence over a period of ten or more years. Congratulations, Donna, on this well-deserved award!

CAOT Fieldwork Educator Award of Excellence



Congratulations to **Jill Olson** for receiving the 2016 [CAOT Fieldwork Educator Award of Excellence](#) for UBC. Jill has a passion for education and leadership. She thoughtfully and purposefully built the student fieldwork program at JR Rehab, and established a culture of learning and teaching among the OTs at the company. To quote her nominator, "Jill was enthusiastic to teach me, patient and willing to answer my questions, and she created a comfortable, professional, and trusting environment."

Congratulations Jill. A recognition well deserved!

Hosted Visiting Scholars

Feb 2016: [Colonel Rakesh Jetly](#), OMM, CD, MD, FRCPC, Senior Psychiatrist, Canadian Armed Forces

- gave a public lecture hosted by OSOT, titled "Military Psychiatry: Providing Care in a War Zone and on the Home Front."

May 2016: [Ute Bültmann](#), PhD, Professor of Community and Occupational Medicine, University of Groningen, The Netherlands; resident scholar in School of Population and Public Health, UBC

- engaged in dialogue with OT faculty and students interested in employment, disability, and policy issues
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