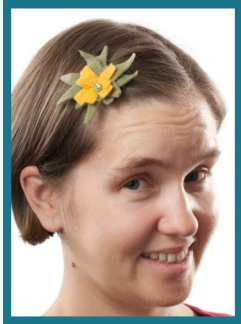




The following are excerpts from the *Fieldwork Teaching Tips* blog. For the full stories, please visit: <http://ubcfieldwork.wordpress.com/teaching-tips/> (Laura Bulk's will be posted after May 25, 2014)

## Thoughts from the Field: Reflections of an OT Educator



Holly Hergesheimer

My name is Holly Hergesheimer and I am an OT fieldwork Educator for the UBC MOT program. I have had many OT jobs over the years both in the Lower Mainland and the UK. For the past 7 years, I have worked for Vancouver Coastal Health in Vancouver Community as a Home Health Occupational Therapist (Adult/ Older Adult population). I am a full time permanent float therapist, meaning I float between 6 different Community Health Centers providing vacation relief and filling in vacancy gaps. I am

delighted to share a few of my thoughts related to taking students.

**I love having students! Here are a few reasons why:**

- students provide me with a chance to really stop and verbalize what I do and there by really examine why I do things and maybe think of new ways I could be doing things
- I love to hear from students what is new at UBC and about their curriculum and newer approaches to teaching/learning
- I am so impressed with how quickly students pick up most procedural / technology based things (like our very onerous charting system) and can get on with learning and working with clients. I have found that most

students, even in earlier placements can really be of help after a few weeks and the time spent to explain things is soon countered with the amount of help they can provide. I have been very impressed with the caliber of the MOT students!

... ([read more](#))

I have always felt it is my responsibility to take students - at least 5...why 5? Well, I figure I had 5 placements during my student years so it is my responsibility to give back at least 5, but I am sure Donna will say there is no need to limit myself to 5...!

## Perspectives: Being an OT Student and a Person With a Disability



Laura Bulk, MOT Class of 2014

My name is Laura, and I am a UBC MOT student - right now that is an important aspect of my identity. Another aspect, one which I have proudly held throughout my life, is that I am a person with a disability. I belong to a minority cultural group within society: disability culture, which is built upon the strength coming from shared experiences of stigma, a history of

oppression and resilience, and artistic expressions of marginality. This is the lens through which I approach the topic of working with students who have a disability; however, I acknowledge and respect that persons with disabilities have differing views on this, so do not take what I say as the 'right' way to view it, only a way that I have found to be beneficial.

I have been honoured to experience unique connection with clients, as someone who has experienced a degree of stigma, needed to challenge stereotypes, found ways to adapt life, managed the ups and downs of disability/health-related fluctuations,

and dealt with health/disability-related professionals throughout life. Although every disability is different, and each person with a disability has unique experiences and comes with a unique background, as members of this minority group, some of the essence of our experience is often similar.

Whether or not a student discloses or has a disability, he or she will certainly appreciate preceptors who are open to unique ways of practicing OT and who are sensitive to the expressed needs of their students. (...[read more](#))



MOT class of 2015 gathers to thank Regency Medical Supplies for recent donation of home health care equipment

The Department thanks **Regency Medical Supplies**, especially Greg Bedard, Owner, and Bill Anderson, General Manager, for their very generous donation of assistive devices for daily living, seating equipment, walker, hospital bed and lift chair! These will be well-used by occupational therapy students for years to come. Up-to-date equipment enables students to practice in the classroom, better preparing them to work in the field and serve their future clients. They have already made plans to use many of the devices in public awareness displays promoting occupational therapy, disability awareness, and adapting everyday activities.

We rely on individuals, businesses, and organizations to enrich the learning environment at UBC. If you too would like to make a contribution, click on the “Donation” button on our website [osot.ubc.ca](http://osot.ubc.ca), or contact our administrator Kathryn.Lewis@ubc.ca. Thank you for considering ways to support both entry level students and research students.

Family-owned Regency Medical Supplies has been a staple in the community since 1966, proudly providing quality home health care products and services for nearly 50 years.

Their 6,000 square foot showroom at 4437 Canada Way in Burnaby, BC has over 5,000 products in stock, ranging from physicians’ supplies to sports braces, hospital beds to power wheelchairs and scooters. They offer a full service department for equipment maintenance requirements, a rental department for short term needs, and a long term care and rehab department for those requiring more specialized equipment.

<http://www.regencymed.com>



## Capstone Conference

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**AUGUST 28, 2014**

**Keynote Speaker: Paulette Bourgeois**

**Vancouver Public Library Central Branch**

**A student-led conference to showcase MOT research**

**[capstoneconference.ca](http://capstoneconference.ca)**

# Introducing Stroke Recovery Association of BC (SRABC)

*Dr Tal Jarus has been leading a research team in collaboration with the Stroke Recovery Association of BC to identify the impact and characteristics of community-based stroke clubs. Here is a description of the SRABC.*

**The majority of students, practitioners and members of the OT community will inevitably have a personal connection to stroke recovery due to the ‘two degrees of separation’ - if you don’t know a stroke survivor yourself, you do know someone who loves one.**

## **The key messages of stroke recovery:**

There is life after stroke and, for most stroke survivors; there is the opportunity for continued recovery

Stroke survivors and caregivers need tools, information, knowledge and practical ideas for all phases of stroke recovery

Stroke survivors who have recovered are vital role models and a crucial source of hope and inspiration for fellow survivors

## **Stroke and Stroke Recovery:**

Stroke is the number one cause of acquired long-term disability in adults in British Columbia. Each year, there are more than 6,500 strokes in BC, from which over 2,000 people die, making stroke the third leading cause of death in the province. While the majority of people survive their attack, most remain affected by neurological disabilities over the long term. Approximately 50,000 British Columbians are currently living with the effects of stroke.

The main question facing stroke survivors and caregivers after discharge from hospital is - “now what?” Not knowing where to go for help in the community, not knowing what is available and not knowing how to access

programs is tremendously confusing and frustrating. Stroke survivors and family caregivers need relevant education and practical guidance on living life after stroke - from how to get through life one-handed and how to help a family member who can no longer speak to how to get the most from appointments with family doctors and specialists.

## **SRABC’s Vision**

Every stroke survivor in BC has respect, inclusion, and support in their home community.

## **SRABC’s Mission Statement**

Through its local Stroke Recovery Branches, SRABC is committed to assisting stroke survivors and their caregivers throughout the province to improve their overall quality of life.

## **SRABC’s Purposes**

The purposes of the Association are:

Through its local Stroke Recovery

Branches, to assist stroke survivors and their caregivers throughout the province to improve their overall quality of life and remain living independently;

To increase awareness within the community of the impact of stroke;

To raise awareness in the community of the services offered throughout the Province to stroke survivors and their caregivers.

To act as a resource for hospitals and for people concerned with the effect of cerebro-vascular accidents on individuals and their families;

To plan and promote programs of education and of assistance to stroke survivors in British Columbia;

To disseminate information on stroke prevention.



**STROKE RECOVERY ASSOCIATION**  
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

*To find a list of our Research and Development Projects that might be of interest to students, practitioners and the OT community please go here <http://strokerecoverybc.ca/about-us/current-projects/> and click on the name of a project to read a summary.*

*For further information or to become an SRABC volunteer please contact:*

Tim Readman, Executive Director  
Stroke Recovery Association of BC  
301-1212 West Broadway | Vancouver, BC V6H 3V1  
Phone: 604-688-3603 | Toll Free: 1-888-313-3377 | Fax: 604-688-3660  
[execdir@strokerecoverybc.ca](mailto:execdir@strokerecoverybc.ca)

**Twitter:** [@StrokeRecovBC](https://twitter.com/StrokeRecovBC) **Facebook:** [StrokeRecoveryBC](https://www.facebook.com/StrokeRecoveryBC)



## With the MRSc ...

Change your thinking, change your view, change practice.

To learn more about our grads' work: [Workplace Research Abstracts](#)

Join our [Research Relays](#)

## 2014: Our 10th Anniversary Year

## UBC Online Master of Rehabilitation Science (MRSc)

As we approach our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in December 2014 it prompts Sue Stanton, Director, Online Programs, to look back...

Thanks to staff, instructors, supervisors, graduates, learners and supporters, the program evaluation data analyzed by Dr. Theresa McElroy shows we have much to celebrate in this anniversary year. Most importantly, the findings reflect the values and goals that guided and still guide delivery and development of the MRSc - among them, *learning that develops knowledge and skills that are immediately applicable to practice, that build capacity to shape practice.*

### Making a Difference

Since 2010, the Masters of Rehabilitation Science program has asked graduating learners "How has doing an MRSc made a difference to you and your career?" Analysis of the 40 responses (of a possible 43) received from 2010 to 2013 graduates revealed five themes: Positive Feelings, Research and Skills, New Opportunities, Improved Practice and Practice Change. Excerpts follow.

### How has doing an MRSc made a difference to you and your career?

*The program improved on my critical thinking skills, provided me with tools on how to effect change in my work setting, and I learned how to test my theories and rely more on making decisions based on data rather than on personal assumptions. - Nov 2012 Grad*

*It has maintained my enthusiasm for the profession and has challenged my way of practicing, making me critically analyze what I am doing on a day-to-day basis. It has provided me greater confidence in decision making and advocating for services within various workplaces. - May 2013 Grad*

*I have taken on a new administrative role that requires a knowledge base that is definitely supported by the courses I took for the MRSc. I am not sure I would have considered this role prior to embarking on my master's. - May 2010*

*The process of going through the program has given me a kind of renewed energy, and appreciation of rehabilitation practice and research. I feel I can approach each patient more confidently as I consider what I have learned about the patient-centred approach, clinical reasoning, critically reading research, and seeking peer feedback (among other things). - May 2013 Grad*

### 20 Practitioners Receive MRSc Degrees in 2013

Expanding reach through  
practice change.

### It's time... Your Master's is Just a Click Away!

Check out course-based and research study options at [www.mrsc.ubc.ca](http://www.mrsc.ubc.ca) or email us at [info@mrsc.ubc.ca](mailto:info@mrsc.ubc.ca)

**MRSc:** Apply by April 30 for September entry; September 30 for January entry  
**GCR:** May 15 for September entry; October 15 for January entry

## MResc 2013 Graduate Jodi Boucher Receives Physiotherapy Alberta 'Excellence in Innovation' Award

**Boucher, J.,** & MacIntyre, D. (in press). Survey of a pelvic health community of practice - A pilot study. *Physiotherapy Canada*.

Durlacher, K., Verchere, C., & Zwicker, J.G. (accepted). Splinting programs for babies with congenital limb anomalies: Parents' experiences. Platform presentation. *Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists Conference*, May 7-10, 2014, Fredericton, NB.

**Sabarre, C. L.,** Rassekh, S. R., & Zwicker, J. G. (in press). Vincristine and fine motor skills of children with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy*.



# Lens on Faculty

## *Recent Teaching and Learning Enhancement (TLEF) Awards*

### **Student-run rehabilitation clinic for persons with Multiple Sclerosis: A pilot project**

**Principal Investigator: Susan Forwell**

This project mounts a student-directed clinical learning experience that departs from traditional methods of clinical education and includes inter-professional mentoring, program development experience, and collaborative practice. In partnership with Vancouver Coastal Health, the UBC Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy establishes a rehabilitation student-run clinic in the highly specialized UBC MS clinic. Moving beyond traditional clinical education, a student-run clinic provides both a transformative learning experience and offers a creative solution to build capacity in the health sector. This project also assesses the feasibility of future expansion of the student-run clinic to include students from other disciplines (such as PT, SLP, SW), satellite MS clinics located across the province as well as other neurological clinics (such as the Parkinson's and Alzheimer's clinics).

### **Near-Peer Evaluation: Implementation of T-RES for Occupational Therapy Fieldwork Placements**

**Principal Investigator: Donna Drynan**

T-Res is a web-based tool that allows students to record their daily patient encounters and reflect on these

learning experiences while in fieldwork. The aim of this second phase of the project is to evaluate this platform for occupational therapy students to track placement activities with accuracy and engage in seamless reflective practice. It also builds in the means for receiving feedback on submitted reflections by “near-peers” that is senior students providing feedback to junior students.

### **West Coast Interprofessional Clinical Knowledge Evidence Disseminator (WICKED)**

**Principal Investigator: Alison Greig,**

**coPI: Michael Lee & Ben Mortenson**

There is a need for learners to adopt an evidence-informed approach to practice. A web-based, interactive, simulated learning model will be developed and tested to teach students the steps of evidence-informed health care (EIHC). The team will develop a series of five virtual patient cases following the five steps of evidence based practice: translation of uncertainty to an answerable question, systematic retrieval of best evidence, critical appraisal of evidence, application of results in practice, and evaluation of performance. The content and design of the cases will allow integration into the curricula of all health professionals.

### **Inclusive Campus – Developing a Personalized Accessibility Plan (myAP)**

**Principal Investigator: Tal Jarus**

This project creates a process to address systematic barriers/exclusion experienced by UBC students with disabilities in the health and human service disciplines by developing and testing a personalized Accessibility Plan - “myAP”. The first phase investigated factors and strategies that assist students with disabilities to fully participate in UBC professional programs and Phase 2 then focused on developing, implementing and evaluating a myAP with eight students. In this, the third phase, myAP is further refined (based on feedback), implemented and tested with a larger cohort for a longer period of time. Based on work to date there is a better understanding of barriers faced by UBC students with disabilities which resulted in the development of :

- A framework for a personalized myAP;
- a workshop on disclosure;
- guidelines for students, faculty and staff; and
- A clinician mentorship program.





## Building synergy in promoting mental health awareness across campus using a student-led participatory action approach

Principal Investigator: Michael Lee

This project expands the scope of the Mental Health Awareness Club (MHAC) and the Mental Health Needs Assessment (MHNA) projects (both of which engage students in mental health awareness and interdisciplinary interactions) to involve international students at the newly developed Vantage College. This project tests the MHNA participatory-action approach that is integrated into the occupational therapy curriculum and the psychology curriculum at Vantage College. Through this project, the MHAC is able to expand its focus to be inclusive of international students by enhancing academic learning and improving integration into the UBC. Moreover, the results from this MHNA project will help MHAC to better understand international students' mental health needs, resulting in initiatives to improve students' mental health awareness, their health and academic success.

## More Awards and Kudos

**Jill Zwicker** was recently awarded a Career Development Award from the Canadian Child Health Clinician Scientist Program (CCHCSP); she is Co-Chair of the next CCHCSP symposium being held in Vancouver June 6-8, 2014. Dr. Zwicker, an expert in developmental coordination disorder (DCD) recently presented the "ABCs of DCD" at the Department of Pediatrics Grand Rounds (Department of Pediatrics <http://pediatrics.med.ubc.ca/events/grand-rounds-presentations/>).

**Tal Jarus** and **Liisa Holsti** recently received operating grants from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) for projects they are leading with interdisciplinary research teams. Tal's project is titled *Diversifying health human resources: Exploring the experiences of practitioners with disabilities in the health professions*. Liisa's is *Calmer: A Novel Approach for Treating Infant Pain*.

**Bill Miller** received a CIHR Meetings, Planning and Dissemination Grant: Aging KPE to advance his team's work on wheeled mobility, a project called *SWAT: Smart Wheelchairs for Assessment and Training of Older Adults*.



# Living the Dream



Ms Moore moves to Minneapolis

**T**iffany Moore, past administrative support for the MRSC/PhD program (run jointly with Physical Therapy) left UBC earlier this year in order to throw her hat into the employment ring in Minneapolis. She informs us that she has snagged an amazing job. She's the Executive Producer of the local news program...no wait, that's not right...but she has found her fit with Ten7 Interactive, a programming firm, full of bright young minds!

The Society for the Study of Occupation (SSO): USA, the Canadian Society of Occupational Scientists (CSOS), & The International Society for Occupational Science (ISOS) are pleased to announce their

## JOINT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN OCCUPATIONAL SCIENCE

Globalization & Occupational  
Science: Partnerships,  
Methodologies & Research  
October 16–18, 2014  
Minneapolis Minnesota, USA

<http://www.sso-usa.org/cms/>





# UBC & CAOT 2014

Look who's talking at the national occupational therapy conference in Fredericton May 7-10, 2014. Students and faculty are presenting the following sessions. The search term was "UBC" - our apologies if your session was not captured from the official program!

## **Educational research in occupational therapy – Results of a national survey**

Aliki Thomas, Rosemary Lysaght, Michael Lee, Ann Bossers

## **Healthy campus communities: Supporting students with disabilities in health education**

Tal Jarus, Michael Lee, Sue Murphy, Gurdeep Parhar, Marlee Groening, Bathseba Opini, Julia Rosanova, Earlene Roberts, Ruth Warick, Kim Fink-Jensen

## **Facilitating access for students with disabilities in health education**

Tal Jarus, Laura Bulk, Luisa Yu, Michael Lee, Yulia Rozanova, Kimberley Fink-Jensen, Sneha Shankar, Parisa Ghanouni

## **KT Cafe: Moving handwriting research into effective school intervention**

Ivonne Montgomery, Jill Zwicker

## **Fostering participation in chosen occupations among individuals with mental illness**

John Killoran, Ben Krieger, Erin Goodman, Kary Otterstein, Tal Jarus, Melinda Suto

## **Community gardening: Exploring wellbeing for people with mental illness**

Melinda Suto, Emma Brown, Dana Statham

## **Validation of the WheelTalk Test among older adult wheelchair users**

Andrea Schneider, Derek Bains, Nicole Wilson, Kayley Gilham, Jonathan Hall, Ed Giesbrecht, William Miller

## **Change agents to increase funding for occupational therapy research: Strategizing together**

Mary Egan, Catherine Backman, Marcia Finlayson

## **Are disability benefits in British Columbia a barrier to employment?**

Susan Forwell, Chris Hurlburt, Joey Fong, Duane Geddes, Stephen Street

## **Sexuality and sexual function among individuals with spinal cord injury**

Benedetta Costa, Paula Smith, Jackie Cramp, Susan Forwell

## **Splinting programs for babies with congenital limb anomalies: Parents' experiences**

Kim Durlacher, Cynthia Verchere, Jill Zwicker

## **Effect of pain scale for functional capacity evaluations**

Shelly Dornian, Joel Short, Shannon Smith, Lindsey Townsend, Susan Forwell

## **Healthy students' communities: Development of university sources of stress scale**

Olga Kastioukevich, Michael Lee, Tal Jarus

## **Enacting equity: Implications for occupational therapy**

Alison Gerlach, Annette Browne, Melinda Suto

## **Sensory processing and sleep in typically developing infants and toddlers**

Mark Vasak, James Williamson, Jennifer Garden, Jill Zwicker

## **Pathways to health equity for Aboriginal children**

Alison Gerlach, Annette Browne, Melinda Suto, Margo Greenwood

## **Occupational therapy student fieldwork: Synchronous or asynchronous with Canadian practice?**

Susanne Murphy, Donna Barker, Ann Bossers, Margaret Anne Campbell-Rempel, Eric Constantin, Donna Drynan, Nathalie Perrault, Cori Schmitz, Caroline Storr, Catherine Donnelly

## **Sensory processing patterns in children born preterm**

Jill Zwicker, Stephanie Crozier, Jennifer Goodson, Margot MacKay, Anne Synnes, Ruth Grunau, Steven Miller

## **Effects of Nintendo Wii vs. Kinect in community stroke rehabilitation**

Danielle Collette, Rachel Pringle, Parisa Ghanouni, Tal Jarus

## **E-Health, ethics, engagement: Self-managing chronic illness in the digital era**

Catherine Backman, Anne Townsend, Jenny Leese, and the eHealth Ethics Team

## **Student perceptions of mental health stigma through participatory action research**

Michael Lee, Lara Belagamage, Devon Cochrane, Melinda Suto, Jackie Cramp, Mineko Wada

## **A comprehensive battery of outcome measures for traumatic brain injury**

Kristoffer Kent, Luc Jeanneau, Susan Forwell, Giovanna Boniface, Jeff Boniface





## Accreditation Decision Received

The MOT Program at UBC was reviewed by the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists in 2013, and the on site evaluators' report was reviewed by the Academic Credentialing Council and CAOT Board of Directors in March. In her letter of congratulations, Dr. Elizabeth Townsend, Chair, ACC, writes,

*"CAOT is very pleased with the progress achieved to this point in developing the MOT program at UBC. On behalf of CAOT I wish to congratulate the MOT Program faculty, staff, students, library personnel and others at UBC for the excellent progress and your success in earning the seven-year Accreditation Award."*

OS&OT thanks everyone for contributing to this success!



The Department of Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy supports three graduate academic programs.

- The [Master in Occupational Therapy \(MOT\)](#) program, for those looking to practice professionally as an Occupational Therapist;
- The [Master of Science \(MSc\) and PhD programs in Rehabilitation Sciences](#), for those interested in research credentials and the science of occupation; and
- The online [Master of Rehabilitation Science \(MRSc\)](#) is for practitioners interested in obtaining a graduate degree while working that will advance their career and change practice.



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Watch the OSOT Highlight *Video* on



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