

Minutes 11/1/16

Boardroom to Classroom

Our speaker today was Debi Hinderfeld, MS, OTR/L, Speaker to the AOTA Representative Assembly and part of the Boardroom to Classroom program. Her two topics of discussion were advocacy and the distinct value of OT. Below are some of her main talking points as well as contact information!

Advocacy

- Worked in OT for 30 years and graduated from Syracuse University
- Our advocacy is largely focused on promoting the profession; this is huge as far as new policies go for reimbursement and access for consumers of our services.
- Clear policies written about OT limit other professions encroaching on our scope of practice.
- Current factors affecting advocacy: Healthcare reform, Medicare/Medicaid (in particular the current cap on Medicare services for OT/PT/SLP services), Rehabilitation Science-prioritizing grant money for rehabilitation focused research at NIH, Home Health Flexibility Act- allows OT to come in at the primary care level, Medicare/Lymphedema Treatment Act- advocating for Medicare to cover wrapping and compression pumps for lymphedema.
- Hill Day: <http://www.aota.org/Conference-Events/Hill-Day.aspx>
- How does AOTA support advocacy? Federal affairs department track documents, give education, advocate for our services, analyze on federal

regulatory charges, collaborate with state OT associations to support on state level

- Ways we can get involved? Hill Day, being involved in AOTA sponsored advocacy activities, letter writing campaigns, and building relationships with local government and congress members, contribute to AOTPAAC and keep up with your AOTA membership
- Legislative Action Center- <http://www.aota.org/Advocacy-Policy/Congressional-Affairs/Take-Action/How-to-Get-Involved.aspx>
- Association of Student Delegates- political action committee
- Resources: AOTA Student Conclave held yearly, AOTA National Conference held yearly, AOTA Student Membership Circle

OT's Distinct Value

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TreCtf5Nm28>
- What value do we bring to American Healthcare? Reduce healthcare costs via safety screenings and home assessment to prevent costly readmissions to hospitals and prevent injury, Instrumental in care of people with chronic conditions via home management, improve efficiency of healthcare via analysis of risk factors, vision impairment, fall management, and healthy routines and hobbies.
 - Ways for students to get involved: Deliver targeted messages to distinct audiences about OT services and intervention, consider emerging areas of practice in primary care, mental health and wellness and prevention, be a good practitioner

by being client centered, having good documentation, and always explain to clients why you chose a particular intervention.

- OT centennial vision focuses on filling the gaps in healthcare and where we can meet the needs.

Email: debihinderfeld@me.com

*****SOTA did not elect a fundraising chair today, this will be addressed at a later time. If you have any questions, comments, or recommendations regarding this position please email Jack Beyer!