

From: Suena Olson [suena@sbcglobal.net]

OOTA Representative to AOTA

Hi Everyone! I have just completed my participation in the first ever spring Online AOTA Meeting. It has been both a struggle and a valuable learning experience. We had a short meeting from Feb. 23 to 28th and from March 30 until April 10th we met in task groups, hashed out the motions, and devised substitutes for some of them. Listed below are the titles of the 6 motions and what was voted on. We will not have the true outcome for 96 hours, but that will not make the deadline for this article.

1. Re-entry Re-licensure: Seemed to have a large consensus that we need consistency in this area and to assist state license boards in this area.
2. International Fieldwork: Large interest in providing this however, with the costs at hand and our financial situation, a substitute motion was constructed to put out supporting documents to assist those attempting to do this some direction. I think more will come but this at least is getting us going in the right direction.
3. Exploration of Education, Research, Administration and Consultation as OT Practice--for clarification as to need for licensure of the individuals in these positions. Substitute motion was written to see if Education, Research, Administration, and Consultation are in fact practice of Occupational Therapy with a report back to the Fall Online RA.
4. Timeline costs EBP Prod. on Oncology: Substitute motion was presented asking the President to direct the Executive Director to develop a timeline and cost estimate for developing evidence based product on OT in Oncology with a report back to the fall 09 online RA.
5. Building Diversity for the Centennial Vision: Task group suggested defeat because although we agree with the intent of this it is already well underway and we do not need to duplicate things that are already going well.
6. Title Change for OTA's: Task group suggested defeat of this motion due to lack of interest from constituency, costs, time and effort involved to do something that no one really wants.

One of the other things we voted on was requiring a certain number of practitioners as part of the Board of Directors. Although this sounds like a truly good thing, it is felt that the academics would still skew the numbers because they also claim to be practitioners so, these folks would continue to be voted into these positions in spite of the desire to have a balance on the BOD.

Watch the list serve as I will post the true outcomes of everything as soon as the numbers become available. This was my last RA as your representative and I want to thank you for the privilege of having been allowed to serve you.

Suena Olson Your AOTA Representative