Dear readers,

Hello and welcome to the New Graduate Bulletin.

First of all, I would like to congratulate those graduating in the next few months and wish you luck with your careers.

For those who haven’t had the bulletin before, this quarterly publication is aimed at supporting new graduates by keeping you up to date with news, resources and opportunities, and helping you to make the most of your membership.

The last 2 weeks have been quite busy but in a good way. I presented at the Northern regional student conference where I met students from 7 different universities. The theme of the conference was “Global to local” and I was fascinated by the variety of topics and workshop (Mental health, Marginalisation and occupational choice, sustainability, asylum seekers and many more).

At our Annual conference: All the student presentations were fabulous. Their focus on individuals and all factors that might affect their lives, all the struggles and challenges they are facing. This conference gave me the opportunity to see the hard work that everyone puts into helping others and how proud, passionate and motivated they are about their profession.

We ended our first day with a networking event where all the students shared what they had learn and their goals. We also asked them to write a little message “to their future self” it was a quite warm gathering and some very good points were made.

In the following newsletter you will find information and links to some of our new publications, resources and engagement opportunities. Wishing you a pleasant read through this bulletin.

Sofia Lypiridou
Education Liaison Officer
Opportunity to select research for an NIHR MY Signals: Occupational Therapy collection

The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Dissemination Centre is looking to develop a collection of NIHR Signals (short summaries of recent research) of relevance to occupational therapists, the MY Signals: Occupational Therapy collection, and is seeking occupational therapists who would be interested in selecting and commenting on Signals for the collection. The Dissemination Centre is seeking 3 - 5 occupational therapists (ideally at different career stages and with different specialisms/areas of interest) to contribute to the MY Signals: Occupational Therapy collection. You would need to:

- Browse the Signals on the NIHR Disseminations Centre’s Discover portal.
- Select 2-4 Signals that you consider the most interesting/significant to your area of practice.
- Draft a short commentary about each Signal selected.

The NIHR will edit all contributions, to arrive at the final version for online and print publication.

The MY Signals: Occupational Therapy collection would join existing collections, including the My Signals: Physiotherapy and My Signals: Patients collections. This is a great continuing professional development activity, and your chance to contribute to an occupational therapy focussed resource.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Pauline McDonald, Research and Development Officer at RCOT. Email pauline.mcdonald@rcot.co.uk or phone 020 7450 2363.

Deadline for expressions of interest: Wednesday 31st July 2019.
Engage

Nominations for RCOT Region Committee vacancies are open 16 July to 31 August 2019

The Royal College of Occupational Therapists (RCOT) Regions are branches of the professional body for occupational therapists, students and support workers. They are dedicated to supporting members regionally and locally, providing networking opportunities, learning and funding through lifelong learning grants. Regions are run by committees made up of member volunteers. Being part of a committee is a great way to engage with and develop your professional networks and provide continuing professional development (CPD). Reach out and add to your professional profile, make a difference!

Be ambassadors for your profession and become an active member of your Region’s committee.

Region committees also welcome up to six co-opted members which may include:

♦ Student Representative - Student members can be in any year of study and attend a university located within their Region
♦ New Graduate Representative – Newly qualified occupational therapists that have graduated within the last year

RCOT values all member contributions and joining a region committee is a great way to support your profession and enhance your career. Get in touch if you are interested in supporting your region committee, or just want to find out more.

CURRENT RCOT REGIONAL COMMITTEE VACANCIES

There are currently vacancies for a variety of core committee roles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Role Vacancy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Region</td>
<td>Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>London Region</td>
<td>Secretary, Member Activity Lead</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northern and Yorkshire Region</td>
<td>Regional Communications Lead/Social Media Lead (role share)</td>
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<tr>
<td>North West Region</td>
<td>Treasurer, Secretary, Social Media Lead, Member Activity Lead</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland Region</td>
<td>Vice Chair/UK Regional Forum Lead</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scottish Eastern Region</td>
<td>Chair, Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scottish Northern Region</td>
<td>Regional Communications Lead</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scottish Western Region</td>
<td>Vice Chair/UK Regional Forum Lead, Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>South East Region</td>
<td>Regional Communications Lead, Member Activity Lead</td>
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<tr>
<td>South West Region</td>
<td>No current vacancies – co-opted members welcome</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trent Region</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wales Region</td>
<td>Regional Communications Lead, Member Activity Lead</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Midlands</td>
<td>Chair, Treasurer</td>
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Region committees also welcome up to six co-opted members which For more information or to discuss the vacant roles please email: Stacey.Abraham@rcot.co.uk or Olivia.Lokko@rcot.co.uk or complete an online application form: https://www.rcot.co.uk/news/rcot-nominations-and-voting-2019
Resources

Care homes and equipment
Guiding principles for assessment and provision

This guide sets out overarching principles for the assessment, provision and maintenance of equipment for people living in care homes. Current legislation lacks clarity in regards to responsibility for the provision of specialist or ‘out of the ordinary’ equipment in care homes. 
https://www.rcot.co.uk/care-homes-and-equipment

Adaptations without delay
A guide to planning and delivering home adaptations differently

This publication, commissioned by RCOT from the Housing LIN, demonstrates how adaptations can be delivered in all four UK nations with the individual at the center. The document highlights how occupational therapists add value to the process, as well as the rationale for when they are needed due to complexity of individual circumstances. Consulted on widely with a range of stakeholders including home improvement agencies and housing associations; this important guidance will assist social care and housing managers as to how adaptations can best be provided locally.
https://www.rcot.co.uk/adaptations-without-delay

Interested in research?
If you are interested in keeping up to date with research and research opportunities, sign up to the R&D@RCOT fortnightly bulletin. To sign up contact Pauline.McDonald@rcot.co.uk with your BAOT membership number to be added to the mailing list.
A new way to search key occupational therapy journals

The British, Australian, American and Canadian journals are now searchable in one place, along with thousands of other titles.

The CINAHL database allows health professionals to search across thousands of journal titles, by subject/topic of interest. RCOT is pleased to announce that the following key journals are now additionally available for RCOT members to search through this database, via the EBSCOhost platform:

- British Journal of Occupational Therapy (BJOT);
- Australian Occupational Therapy Journal (AOTJ);
- Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy (CJOT);
- American Journal of Occupational Therapy (AJOT).

The benefits of searching and accessing these journals via CINAHL include:

- search all four journals, plus thousands of other titles, by subject, at the same time;
- access all articles during one logged-in session - no need to return to separate journal homepages; and
- search across extensive archives of back issues.

CINAHL also offers powerful advanced search options, allowing you to:

- specify which fields to search
- save searches and rerun later
- set up alerts to receive details of newly published articles by email
- search a specific large or narrow date range
- only return results with links to full text
- use advanced Boolean operators (AND, OR, NOT).

Visit: https://www.rcot.co.uk/practice-resources/library-resources/search-cinahl-and-medline
Thank you for reading this issue of the New Graduate Bulletin, I hope you have found this publication useful. Please get in touch if you have any feedback - email Sofia.Lypiridou@rcot.co.uk or twitter @RCOTStudents.

Issue 16 of the New Graduate Bulletin will be out in September, until then keep shouting about the profession and celebrating the fantastic work you are doing.

Sofia Lypiridou

Education Liaison Officer—Pre-registration