

2026 Dr. Janet Falk-Kessler Distinguished Lectureship and Day of Scholarship Program

**January 30, 2026
12:00pm –4:00 pm EST**

Fully virtual on Zoom

**Join an international and diverse roster of clinicians, educators, scholars, and presenters and earn up to 4 professional
development contact hours!**

Attendees can join live virtually or access all session recordings for up to 4 weeks after the conference.
No missed opportunity to attend and earn contact hours!

**Welcome and Opening Remarks
12:00-12:15pm**

Concurrent Oral Presentations

12:20-2:35pm

	Track 1	Track 2	Track 3	Track 4	Track 5	Track 6	Track 7	Track 8
Session 1 12:20 - 12:50pm	Navigating the Occupation of Sleep in the Acute Care Setting Stephanie Gross, MS, OTR/L, CLT	Translating Evidence Into Practice: Updating AOTA's Clinical Practice Guidelines for Children & Youth With Sensory Integration & Processing Differences Krysti Teng, MS, OTR/L, BCP	Development of Wearable Devices to Improve Hand Function for Stroke Survivors: Challenges and Opportunities Lauren Winterbottom, EdD, MM, OTR/L	Forming a Band: Innovative Collaboration in Occupational Therapy and Neurologic Music Therapy Maeve Potter, MS, OTR/L, CNS	Occupational Therapy Standardized Patient Program: Development, Implementation, and Outcomes Kaitlyn Louie, MSOT Daniel Geller, EdD, MPH, CSOT, OTR/L Danielle Mahoney, OTD, OTR/L	Addressing Sexuality and Intimacy in Occupational Therapy through Standardized Assessment Lauren Bellante, OTR/L, MSOT	Mental Health First: Reclaiming OT's Roots in Emotional Well-Being for Older Adults Jamie Wronka, MS, OTR/L	Promoting Awareness and Early Intervention for Pregnancy-Related Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Laurie Pacheco, BS, MA, OTR/L, CHT
Session 2 12:55-1:25 pm	Occupational therapists role in management of chronic graft-versus-host disease (cGVHD) and treatment-related impacts following allogeneic stem cell transplantation (Allo-SCT) Mary Fain, OTD, OTR/L	Occupational Therapists' Perceptions of Interprofessional Collaboration With Educational Stakeholders in U.S. Pre-K–12 Education Tracey-Ann Barclay, EdD, OTR/L	Scoping Review: Culturally Appropriate Care for Arab Elders in Long-Term Care Settings Najat Alhaizan, MOT	Broadening the Criteria of Success in Vocational Rehabilitation Grace Richardson, MA	LGBTQAI+ & Disability: Sexuality and Healthcare Daniel Geller, EdD, MPH, CSOT, OTR/L	Innovation of a Quantitative and Qualitative Assessment of the Essential In-Hand Manipulation Skills Julie Corbett, MS, OTR CHT	Coping mechanisms of women with early onset cancer and the relationship on mental health Janet Kim, MS, OTR/L, CHT	Assessing the Integration of Assistive Technology into Occupational Therapy Education: Survey Findings, Implications, and Current Resources Morgan O'Neil, MS, OTR/L

Session 3 1:30 - 2:00pm	Implementing a Self-Directed Functional Electrical Stimulation (FES) Program in an Acute Rehabilitation Setting: A Feasibility Study Ammarah Fadoo, OTR/L CBIS	The Role of Occupational Therapy in Treating Adolescents Undergoing Stem Cell Transplant in an Acute Care Setting Julia Forbes, MS, OTR/L	Virtual Training on Trauma Informed Care for Undergraduate Peer Counselors and Residential Assistants Pat Precin, PhD, PsyD, NCPsyA, LP, OTR/L, FAOTA Phyllis Simon, Nicole Batoy	Exploring the Influence of Active Music Listening on Chronic Pain Management Nicolas Edma, OTD, OTR/L	Development of a Competency-Based Level I Fieldwork Education Experience in Occupational Therapy Enmanuel Bencosme, MS, OTR/L	Why salience matters for Upper-Limb Rehabilitation when paired with Vivistim protocol Caroline McCarthy, OTR/L	Sensory Experiences in Pregnant Women with Autoimmune Diseases and Their Impact on Antenatal Mental Health: Addressing a Critical Gap in Research Amanda Jacobson, MS	Bridging the Gap: Evidence-Based Advocacy to Improve Access to Complex Rehab Technology in Skilled Nursing Facilities Lauren Rosario, MS, OTR/L, ATP
Session 4 2:05pm - 2:35pm	Bridging the Practice Gap: A Conceptual Model for Remote Therapeutic Monitoring in Occupational Therapy Sunha Park, MS, OTR/L	Aquatic Therapy as an Occupational Therapy Intervention for Children with Neurological and Sensory Processing Disorders Angeline Cailles, MS, OTR/L	The Current Role of Occupational Therapy in Substance Use Rehab and Its Promising Potential Amy Lopez, MS, OTR/L Kelly Parker	Implementation of PREP2 and Relation to Discharge Disposition on an Acute Stroke Unit Lindsay Steckler, MS, OTR/L, BCPR, CBIS	Determining the Needs of Law Enforcement Personnel Pertaining to Occupational Therapy Interventions for Work-Related Mental and Physical Injuries Lola Halperin, EdD, OTR/L Mary-Ellen Johnson, OTD, MAHSM, OTR/L	Perceptions of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Among U.S. Occupational Therapy Program Directors Rhianna Hopkins, OTD, OTR/L	Sensory and Mental Health Experiences of Pregnant Individuals with Autism: Implications for Occupational Therapy Research and Practice Casey Dugan-Moran	Sexuality and Stroke: The Importance of Considering Cognitive and Perceptual Impairments in Post-Stroke Sexual Functioning Daniel Geller, EdD, MPH, CSOT, OTR/L

Plenary Session

2:45 – 4:00pm

2026 Dr. Janet Falk-Kessler Distinguished Lecture



Dr. Gordon Muir Giles, PhD OTR/L FAOTA

“Function and Meaning: Clinical Formulation in Occupational Therapy”

Dr. Gordon Muir Giles is a leading expert in neurological rehabilitation, known for creating the first publicly funded long-term neurobehavioral program in the USA West of the Mississippi. He co-developed the Neurofunctional Approach with Jo Clark-Wilson, which effectively accelerates recovery after traumatic brain injury. His recent research focuses on functional cognition and performance-based measures to identify optimal interventions for clients with varying neurocognitive dysfunctions.