

# WORLD FEDERATION OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS



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Dear Marta Perez de Heredia Torres

In 2002 the sixty-three members of the World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT) approved the Revised Minimum Standards for the Education of Occupational Therapists.

Among the essential components for an occupational therapy educational program are specific areas of core knowledge, skills and attitudes for competent occupational therapy practice. These components are to be taught by experienced qualified occupational therapists.

Graduates from an occupational therapy educational program are expected to have substantial knowledge, skill and attitudes within the following five areas:

- the person-occupation-environment relationship and the relationship of occupation to health and welfare;
- therapeutic and professional relationships;
- an occupational therapy process;
- professional reasoning and behaviour; and
- the context of professional practice.

A curriculum must have the above aspects of core occupational therapy knowledge for the education program to be approved by the WFOT, a prerequisite in most countries for formal recognition of professional occupational therapy credentials. The context of the presentation of this core knowledge content is to be determined by the nature of local health needs, local health, welfare, disability and legislative systems, locally relevant health giving occupations together with the program philosophy and purpose.

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The WFOT therefore strongly endorses the position of National Conference of Occupational Therapy School Directors (CNDEUTO) that occupational therapy educational programs, and the graduates of those programs have a professionally unique and distinguishable core set of knowledge, skill and attitudes which enable them to be competent practitioners of the occupational therapy profession. It is our conviction that all university courses (both theoretical and practical) included in the core set of knowledge must be taught by qualified occupational therapists.

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kit Sinclair", written in a cursive style.

Kit Sinclair, PhD, OTR, FWFOT, FAOTA  
President

Anne Carswell, Ph.D., FCAOT, OT Reg.(NS), OT(C)  
Coordinator, WFOT Education and Research Program.