THE ASSOCIATION

Bylaws Results

In a ballot election concluded October 31, 1991, the membership of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) approved the following amendments to the AOTA Bylaws:

Article XI, Section 3.B.1.: Qualifications for the Commission on Practice Chairperson

(a.-c. remain the same)
The chairperson (d) shall be certified for at least 5 years as an occupational therapist, registered (OTR), or certified occupational therapy assistant (COTA); (e) shall be a member in good standing of the association; (f) shall be a member in good standing of a state association; (g) shall have at least 3 years of experience on association committees or commissions; (h) shall sit on the Commission on Practice without vote until assuming the position of chairperson the following year. (Renumber subsequent Bylaws accordingly.)

Article XI, Section 4.B.2.: Creation of the Position of the Commission on Standards and Ethics Chairperson-Elect and Description of Position

(a) Election shall follow the rotation schedule of the president-elect; (b) shall meet the election criteria of the chairperson; (c) shall assume the position on July 1 following the election; (d) shall sit on the Commission on Standards and Ethics without vote until assuming the position of chairperson the following year. (Renumber subsequent Bylaws accordingly.)

Article XI, Section 2.82.: Qualifications for the Commission on Education Chairperson

(a) Election shall be by individual members in good standing by mail ballot for a 3-year term; (b) shall be certified for at least 5 years as an occupational therapist, registered (OTR), or certified occupational therapy assistant (COTA); (c) shall be a member in good standing of the association; (d) shall have at least 3 years of experience on association committees or commissions; (e) shall have at least 5 years' experience in occupational therapy; (f) shall have a minimum of a master's degree; (g) shall have the qualifications stated in the SOP of the Special Interest Section Steering Committee.

Article XIII, Section 5.B.3.: Creation of the Position of the Special Interest Section Steering Committee Chairperson-Elect and Description of Position

(a) Election shall follow the rotation schedule of the president-elect; (b) shall meet the election criteria of the chairperson; (c) shall assume the position on July 1 following the election; (d) shall sit on the Special Interest Section Steering Committee without vote until assuming the position of chairperson the following year. (Renumber subsequent Bylaws accordingly.)

Article XI, Section 2.B.1.: Qualifications for the Commission on Standards and Ethics Chairperson

(a.-c. remain the same)
The chairperson (d) shall be certified for at least 5 years as an occupational therapist, registered (OTR), or certified occupational therapy assistant (COTA); (e) shall be a member in good standing of the association; (f) shall be a member in good standing of a state association; (g) shall have at least 3 years of experience on association committees or commissions; (h) shall have at least 5 years' experience in occupational therapy; (i) shall have at least 3 years of experience on association committees or commissions; (j) shall sit on the Commission on Standards and Ethics without vote until assuming the position of chairperson the following year. (Renumber subsequent Bylaws accordingly.)

Article XIII, Section 5.B.2.: Qualifications for the Special Interest Section Steering Committee Chairperson

The chairperson (a) shall be elected by individual members in good standing by mail ballot for a 3-year term; (b) shall be certified for at least 5 years as an occupational therapist, registered (OTR), or certified occupational therapy assistant (COTA); (c) shall be a member in good standing of the association; (d) shall have at least 3 years of experience on association committees or commissions; (e) shall have a minimum of a master's degree; (f) shall have at least 5 years' experience in occupational therapy; (g) shall have the qualifications stated in the SOP of the Special Interest Section Steering Committee.
Article XI, Section 2.B.3.: Changes in Commission on Education Nonvoting Membership

Voting members (a) Steering Committee members; (b) one academic and one student representative from each approved technical, accredited professional, and postprofessional graduate program; (c) one fieldwork educator representative from each approved technical and accredited professional program; (d) one academic fieldwork coordinator representative from each school having approved and/or accredited programs, regardless of the number of program levels represented; (e) one program director from each developing technical or professional-level program as identified in a Letter of Intent submitted to the Accreditation Committee; (f) all voting members shall be individual members in good standing of the association.

Article XI, Section 2.B.4.: Changes in Commission on Education Nonvoting Membership

Nonvoting members (a) National Office staff liaison and (b) Parliamentarian.

Article XI, Section 2.D.5. and Section 2.D.7.: Additions to Functions of Commission on Education

The Commission on Education (5) shall serve as a resource on issues relating to occupational therapy education; (7) shall act upon charges received from the Representative Assembly or Executive Board.

Article XI, Section 2.E.2.: Changes in the Commission on Education Program Advisory Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Program Advisory Committee shall be to provide consultation regarding educational issues to developing and ongoing educational program.

Article XI, Section 2.E.4.: Changes in Commission on Education Nominating Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Nominating Committee of the Commission on Education shall be to prepare a slate of candidates and conduct elections for the Steering Committee of the Commission on Education except for COE chairperson.

Article XI, Section 2.F.2.: Changes in Composition of Commission on Education Steering Committee

Composition (a) a chairperson of the commission; (b) a chairperson-elect of the commission who shall be without vote; (c) chairpersons of the standing committees; (d) an academic representative who represents each of the levels of technical, professional, and postprofessional education; (e) a fieldwork representative who represents each of the levels of technical and professional education; (f) an academic fieldwork coordinator representative who represents the levels of technical and professional education; (g) a student representative who represents each of the levels of technical, professional, and postprofessional education; (h) National Office staff liaison without vote.

Article XII, Section 3.D.2.: Changes in Name and Voting Membership of the Strategic Plan Committee

Members (a) a vice-president; (b) two representatives from the Representative Assembly; (c) one representative from the Committee of State Association Presidents.

Summary of Executive Board Minutes, October 1991–January 1992

The Executive Board met in October 1991 and January 1992 to exercise its management responsibility for the Association. The Board devoted a substantial amount of time to fiscal management issues, including an entire day at the January meeting to develop the 1992–93 budget proposal. The Board meetings included receipt of reports from the Executive Director, all Association officers and officials, Commission and Special Interest Section Steering Committee chairpersons, the World Federation of Occupational Therapy (WFOT) Associations Delegate, the Student Committee of AOTA, and the American Occupational Therapy Foundation. Some of the actions and activities related to those reports included:

- Oversight of actions taken within the operations of the National Office regarding reorganization of the office.
- Approval of the 1992–93 budget proposal as developed by the Fiscal Advisory Committee for recommendation to the 1992 Representative Assembly.
- Approval of the development of a Specialty Certification Committee.
- Acceptance of the Mental Health Task Force report refinement of the 1992–93 Strategic Plan to include specific objectives related to the practice area of mental health.
- Approval of a membership recruitment initiative.
- Prioritization of potential sites for the 1995 and 1996 Annual Conferences.
- Approval of a draft of an updated Model Practice Act for submission to the 1992 Representative Assembly.
- Appointment of the following: David Ethridge as AOTA Representative to the Board of Directors of the Accreditation Council on Services for People With Developmental Disabilities; Patricia Mahoney to the AOTPAC Board of Directors; Dr. Valerie Rice as the AOTA representative to the Executive Board of Certification in Professional Ergonomics (Human Factors Society); and Kim Tiernan, COTA, as co-chair of the COTA Task Force.
- Charging the Executive Director to develop and conduct continuing education programs that increase practitioners’ competence in the safe and appropriate use of physical agent modalities within the scope of occupational therapy practice.
- Development of a system to collect data regarding requests for information regarding use of occupational therapy aides.
- Endorsement of the First International Conference on Mental Health and Leisure; the National Joint Committee on Communicative Needs of Persons With Severe Disabilities; and the Functional Facts poster and brochure produced by Dr. Lawrence H. Bernstein.
- Appointment of an Ad Hoc Committee of the Executive Board to examine...
the issues surrounding collaboration between AOTA and state associations.

- Continuation of the COTA Task Force through the 1994 Representative Assembly so that the Task Force can consider developing mechanisms for incorporating COTA issues and the COTA Task Force into the formal structure of AOTA.


- Charging the Commission on Practice to develop a position paper on the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 for submission to the 1993 Representative Assembly.

- Charging the Commission on Practice to develop a statement on service competency.

- Examination of the feasibility of developing collaborative relationships with other membership organizations that certify occupational therapists in specific areas of practice.

- Financing of a task group to revise the Uniform Terminology, Second Edition, for submission to the 1993 Representative Assembly.

- Approval of guidelines for internal National Office handling of confidential information and materials.

- Development of a 1-year ad hoc committee to enhance communication and problem-solving initiatives between the Executive Board and the Committee of State Associations.

- Endorsement of the active participation by AOTA in the national debate and congressional development of a health care program.

- Appointment of an Ad Hoc Committee on Licensure and Regulatory Efforts with representation from the Executive Board, the Committee of State Association Presidents, the Representative Assembly, and the AOTA National Office.

- Referral of the Policy on Long Term Care to the 1992 Representative Assembly.

- Referral of the documents developed by the Long Term Care Task Force entitled “Suggestions for Long Term Care Curriculum Content” and resource packet to the Commission on Education, the Department of Education of the AOTA National Office, and the Education Special Interest Section.

- Instruction of the AOTA Delegate to the World Federation of Occupational Therapists to cast an affirmative vote for Joanna Barker as Honorary Fellow of WFOT.

- Agreement to enter into a joint venture with the American Physical Therapy Association and the American Speech, Hearing and Language Association to develop a videotape regarding the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990.

- Acceptance of the final report of the Task Force on Recruitment.

- Initiation of a process to allow membership to consider withdrawal from the collaborative accreditation relationship with the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation of the American Medical Association.

- Charging the Chair of the Commission on Standards and Ethics (SEC) to initiate review of the Code of Ethics in 1993 and that the SEC alter its Standard Operating Procedure so that subsequent reviews will be scheduled on a 6-year cycle.

- Commendation of the members of the following task forces: Long Term Care, Mental Health, Recruitment.

The Executive Board is scheduled to meet in March 1992. Members are encouraged to contact a representative of the Executive Board for clarification of actions that are included in this report.

Submitted by Ellen L. Kolodner
AOTA Secretary

1992 Election Results

The following persons were elected to office:

- Secretary
  Susan O. Gans

- Treasurer-Elect
  Doris J. Shriver

- Commission on Education, Chair
  Marlys M. Mitchell

- Commission on Practice, Chair
  Jim Hinojosa

- Standards and Ethics, Chair
  Ruth Ann Hansen

- SIS Steering Committee, Chair
  Jane Case-Smith

- WFOT Delegate
  Satoru Izutsu

- WFOT First Alternate
  Elinor Anne Spencer

- WFOT Second Alternate
  Elizabeth S. Kohler