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## State of the Journal: Another Record Setting Year

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### Keywords

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### Credentials Display

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It is November as I am beginning to write this letter from the editor, and in the United States we are approaching the Thanksgiving holiday. In keeping with the spirit of Thanksgiving, I am reflecting on all of the people associated with the *Open Journal of Occupational Therapy* (OJOT) for whom I am grateful. First and foremost, thank you to Drs. Barb Rider and Fred Sammons for their continued support; financial, intellectual, and emotional. They are a constant source of support, and without them, we could not sustain the journal.

I am also grateful for the OJOT editorial team, which is made up of the most wonderful, hard-working, competent people with whom I have had the pleasure to work. They are the behind-the-scenes crew who work daily and steadfastly to make sure the journal is written clearly and accurately and is published on time, every single time. This team includes Ms. Allison Miller, associate editor; Dr. Ben Atchison, managing editor; Dr. Cynthia Cunningham, copy editor; Dr. Jennifer Fortuna, art editor; and Ms. Rachel Harley, assistant copy editor. Thanks to their efforts, we are able to publish a quality journal and have met every publication deadline.

There are three other boards that contribute intellectual and practical work for OJOT: the advisory board, the editorial board, and the editorial review board. Each of these boards is made up of highly accomplished, amazing people on whom I can rely for feedback and advice every time I need it. There are too many of them to list here, but their names can be found on the OJOT website. These wonderful, supportive board members have been there for OJOT year after year for the past 10 years.

Because OJOT is an open-access journal that can be read by anyone in any country without paying a subscription fee, we rely on sponsors for financial support. We rely most heavily on the financial support of Drs. Rider and Sammons, but we also rely on individuals, academic departments, and companies for sponsorship of each issue that we publish. I am grateful and amazed by the stories of the people who sponsor each issue.

### **Year in Review**

I am also grateful for the many readers of OJOT who span 204 countries worldwide. The readership of OJOT continues to grow every year and this year was no exception. Every month during this past year a record was set for the most full-text downloads in that given month of OJOT history (see Table 1). Readership typically declines during the summer months, but even during those months, there was a consistent record number of full-text downloads each month. In every month except the holiday month of December, there were more than 10,000 full-text downloads. Two years ago, the readership was about half that number. The year ended with a record 153,964 full-text downloads for 2021, bringing the total to 707,968 full-text downloads since we began publication.

This year OJOT published articles in each of the journal's categories (see Table 2). Most of the manuscripts were in the category of Applied Research. Among the manuscripts published in the Applied Research category the methods that were used were qualitative (13), quantitative (8), mixed methods (2), instrument development (6), survey (2), single subject (1), case report (1), and scoping or systematic review (3).

**Table 1***Full-text Downloads by Month in 2021*

<b>Month</b>	<b>Number of Downloads</b>
January	12,672
February	12,841
March	13,790
April	13,667
May	11,666
June	10,563
July	11,121
August	10,541
September	14,605
October	16,793
November	15,191
December	9,789

**Table 2***Publications by Category in 2021*

<b>Category</b>	<b>Number of Publications</b>
Applied Research	36
Guidelines for Practice	3
Topics in Education	5
Opinions in the Profession	7

A variety of topics were covered in OJOT this year. As always, we like to publish articles that appeal to a wide readership but also include some articles on less widely published topics. Because we published a special issue edited by Dr. Beth Elenko last summer that focused on early intervention, many of the articles this year addressed the topic of pediatric practice. We also published articles focused on intervention for people with neurological, visual, and biomechanical impairments. In addition, we included articles on less widely published topics such as occupational therapy practice related to the COVID-19 pandemic, post-secondary students with disabilities, health literacy, functional cognition, the use of Tai Chi, self-advocacy, horticulture, 3-D printing, substance use disorder, and social discrimination.

### **Conferences**

We have greatly missed meeting with everyone at conferences. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we were not able to have a booth in the expo hall or meet with people face-to-face at a national conference. We were very proud, however, to have our very own advisory board member, Dr. Sharon Gutman, give the 2021 Eleanor Clarke Slagle lecture at the Education Summit in St. Louis, Missouri, on the topic of working with marginalized populations, and our Managing Editor, Dr. Ben Atchison, give the keynote address at the Michigan Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference on the topic of childhood trauma. Both of the speeches were inspiring and excellent examples of the very best in the profession of occupational therapy.

## Upcoming Year

In the New Year, we are excited to announce two new additions to the OJOT editorial team. Dr. Rondalyn Whitney will be starting a position as the education editor. She will be working with a team of OJOT editorial review board members to develop modules to guide occupational therapy education based on publications from past issues of OJOT. Dr. Nancy Hock, who is currently on the editorial review board, will be joining the team as our new managing editor. Dr. Ben Atchison, who has steadfastly held this position even in retirement, will assist with the transition. We are looking forward to the wonderful work these two highly qualified occupational therapists will bring to our team and the readers of OJOT.

We continue to benefit from collaborating with co-editors and guest editors. In the spring issue, I will be working with guest co-editor Dr. Kris Winston, a long-time member of the OJOT editorial review board from the University of New England, to write a letter from the editor that discusses and provides guidance for conducting mixed methods research. In the summer issue we will feature guest co-editors Dr. Bryan Gee, from Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions, and Dr. Sonia Zimmerman, from the University of North Dakota, in an OJOT special issue on case reports of psychological assessment and treatment. We will also feature a special section on the role and resilience of occupational therapy during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As we look forward to the New Year, and in keeping with the spirit of gratitude that permeates the holiday season, I want to end with a quote that Dr. Karen Jacobs posted on Facebook this year. Although simple, it is also profound and captures for me not only the joy of working on OJOT each day with some of the best people I am so fortunate to know, but also the attitude that I find to be most prevalent among the occupational therapists I have known during my 35 years in the profession. “Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings” William Arthur Ward ([https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/william\\_arthur\\_ward\\_676240](https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/william_arthur_ward_676240)).

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