

# **Inaugural International Occupational Science Think Tank**

**19 - 22 July, 2006**

The Think Tank is an “invitation only” event convened by the Australasian Occupational Science Centre (AOSC) <http://shoalhaven.uow.edu.au/aosc.html>. Numbers are restricted to a maximum of 20 people, representing the International Society of Occupational Science, the Society for the Study of Occupation: USA, Occupation UK & Ireland, the Australasian Society of Occupational Science, the Canadian Society of Occupational Scientists, the WFOT International Advisory Group Occupational Science, the Journal of Occupational Science, and recognized scholars in the field of occupational science. Included among the participants will be 3 facilitators who are neither occupational therapists nor occupational scientists. They will contribute perspectives on social policy, public health and political science respectively.

The aims of the Think Tank are:

1. to develop an occupational science research agenda
2. to establish international networks with individuals and institutions for future collaborative occupational science research
3. to promote an international voice for occupational scientists through strengthening the structure and roles of the International Society of Occupational Scientists (ISOS)

There will be 3 sessions on each day of the Think Tank. All sessions will be informal and conducted in a relaxed setting. The sessions will involve large and small group discussions. The facilitators will participate in all discussions. An experienced writer will attend each session.

The outcome of the Think Tank will be a White Paper produced by the writer. The White Paper will reflect the collective position and state the recommendations of the Think Tank participants.

In the months following the Think Tank, participants will be able to share this White Paper with their respective organizations for comment and feedback. Subsequent dialogue between Think Tank participants to finalize the White Paper will be electronic.

Once completed, the White paper will be posted on relevant websites and list servers, and published in the Journal of Occupational Science.

An additional outcome will be a Green Paper prepared by a small working party comprised of Think Tank participants. The Green Paper will outline a strategic plan to

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implement the recommendations contained in the White Paper. A draft program for the Think Tank is included at the end of this letter.

### **Venue**

The Think Tank will be held at the Shoalhaven Campus of the University of Wollongong <http://shoalhaven.uow.edu.au>. The campus is situated in Nowra, on the south coast of New South Wales, Australia. Nowra is approximately a 2 ½ hour drive south of Sydney, and 2 ½ hour drive north east of Canberra.

### **Transport Arrangements**

On Wednesday 19 July, participants will be met at Sydney Airport or at a Sydney motel and then transported by road from Sydney to Nowra. Once out of the city environs, they will travel on a very scenic route down the south coast.

Participants will be transported back to Sydney by road on Saturday 22 July.

### **Accommodation**

Participants will be accommodated in 4 cottages at the Shoalhaven Lodge [www.shoalhavenlodge.com.au](http://www.shoalhavenlodge.com.au), which is in a bush setting on the banks of the Shoalhaven River. Kangaroos, wombats, and native birds abound. The Lodge is a 5 minute drive to the Shoalhaven Campus. Single, double and shared rooms are available.

### **Meals**

A continental breakfast is provided by the Lodge. All other meals will be catered. Special diets will not be a problem.

### **Costs**

AOSC is covering the cost of participants' transport from Sydney to Nowra and return, as well as their meals and accommodation from the evening of Wednesday, 19 July 2006 to the afternoon of Saturday 22 July 2006.

### **Sponsorship**

Sponsorship of the Think Tank is currently being sought.

The levels of sponsorship are as follows:

Gold Sponsor:	AUS\$5000
Silver Sponsor:	AUS\$2000
Bronze Sponsor:	AUS\$1000
Patron:	discretionary amount

Requests for sponsorship will be sent to institutions that support occupational science.

### **Partner's Program**

A partners' program will be available. Bird watching, bush walking, shopping, visiting art galleries and museums, cruising the Bay for dolphins, wine tasting - are among some of the recreational occupations on offer. Costs for partners will need to be covered by participants.

**This International Think Tank will help shape the future directions of occupational science research. It will provide an opportunity for participants to establish networks with individuals and institutions for future collaborative research. In addition, this Think Tank will create a means by which occupational scientists will have an international voice.**

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## Program

**Wednesday  
19 July, 2006**

am & pm	participants & facilitators arrive by bus from Sydney
pm	Shoalhaven tour or rest & recovery ( for the sleep deprived and jet lagged )
7.00pm	informal dinner

**Thursday  
20 July, 2006**

9.00-9.30am	Welcome by Shoalhaven Mayor / Federal Member & Head of Shoalhaven Campus Acknowledgement of indigenous owners of the land
9.30-11.00	Session 1: Setting the scene – occupational science around the world
11.00 – 11.30	Morning tea
11.30-1.00	Session 2: Identifying issues / areas for occupational science research
1.00-2.00	Lunch
2.00-3.30	Session 3: Identifying opportunities for & means of collaboration
3.30-4.00	Afternoon tea
4.00- 5.30	Relaxation, recreational occupations, networking
7.00	Informal aussie barbecue

**Friday  
21 July, 2006**

9.00-10.30	Session 4: Exploring methods, issues and funding for international research collaborations
10.30-11.00	Morning tea
11.00- 1.00	Session 5: Creating an international voice for occupational scientists
1.00-2.00	Lunch
2.00-3.30	Session 6: Summing up & setting future goals
3.30- 6.00	Shoalhaven tour, recreational occupations, networking
7.00	Dinner for participants, partners & facilitators

**Saturday  
22 July, 2006**

am	Shoalhaven tour , recreational occupations, networking
pm	Return to Sydney via bus

## Think Tank Participants

### USA

Professor Florence Clark	University of Southern California
Professor Ruth Zemke	University of Southern California
Professor Charles Christiansen	University of Texas Medical Branch
Professor Doris Pierce	Eastern Kentucky University
Associate Professor Virginia Dickie	University of North Carolina

### Canada

Professor Elizabeth Townsend	Dalhousie University
Professor Helene Polatajko	University of Toronto
Associate Professor Debbie Rudman	University of Western Ontario

### New Zealand

Associate Professor Clare Hocking	Auckland University of Technology
Valerie Wright St Claire	Auckland University of Technology

### Japan

Professor Tamako Miyamae	Serei Christopher University
Professor Hiromi Yoshikawa	Hiroshima University

### Sweden

Associate Professor Hans Jonsson	Karolinska Institute
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### United Kingdom

Dr Matthew Molineux	Leeds Metro University
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### Taiwan

Dr Jin Ling-lo	National Taiwan University
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### Netherlands

Frank Kronenberg	Occupational Therapy without Borders
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### South Africa

TBA

### Australia

Professor Gail Whiteford	Charles Sturt University
Dr Mandy Stanley	University of South Australia
Kerry Thomas	Interpart
Dr Alison Wicks	University of Wollongong

## Think Tank Facilitators

Professor Ian Ring, University of Wollongong, Australia - 2 others TBA