The International Journal of Occupational Therapy Education (IJOTE): Its need and development

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In this presentation...

- Describe the inspiration for the International Journal of Occupational Therapy Education.
- Discuss why our profession needs a ‘home’ for Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.
- Describe the process so far.
- Ask for your ideas and inspiration!
The Inspiration

There is high-quality research and scholarship in OT education without an obvious outlet.
Taking the inspiration forward

- Bethan and Carol did some initial work to:
  - Find out if there really could be a need.
  - Find out colleagues’ thoughts.
  - Invite an initial editorial board.
  - Do some market research.
- In 2016, Ted joined the team to develop the journal.
Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

• …a process to reflect on, and transform, teaching and learning practices.
• …focuses on teaching and learning strategies underpinning the curriculum, and promotes research-informed teaching.
• …has the potential to inform policy and practice at institutional level (Fanghanel et al, 2016)
• We argue that an outlet is needed for SoTL and education research in occupational therapy.

Why a journal for OT SoTL?

Despite there being many examples of good practice, as evidenced from conferences, there is no one peer-reviewed, professionally published international place to publish SoTL and OT education research.

Journal needs to be professionally published, part of a publisher’s ‘suite’ of education/health education journals.

It needs to work towards developing an impact factor and be recognised by Universities as high-quality.
The process so far

- Market research and establishment of first editorial group
- Proposal submitted to publisher 1
- Proposal re-submitted to publisher 1
- Expansion of editorial group
- Other publishers contacted
- Negotiation with publisher 2
- Offers from two other publishers, but requires initial investment
Next steps...

- We need to decide which way to go.
- Is there a source of start-up funding to establish the journal?
- Are there alternate routes that would better achieve our mission to have a high-quality, peer-reviewed, professionally-published international journal of occupational therapy education?
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