Occupational Therapy Australia

Sylvia Docker Lectureship Guidelines



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1. Title

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2. History

At the Federal Council meeting of the Australian Association of Occupational Therapists (AAOT) in September 1964, it was decided that the Sylvia Docker lecture be established. The name was selected to honour Miss Sylvia Docker, who established the first training school for Occupational Therapists in Sydney in 1941. The lecture also commemorates the foundation of the AAOT in December 1945. The first lecture was delivered at the 4th Conference of the AAOT in 1966, by Miss Gwendoline Simms, Senior Occupational Therapist at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney.

3. Objectives

The objectives of the lecture are:

- To inspire and advance the development of the profession; and
- To contribute to the occupational therapy literature through a contemporary, creative and inspirational discussion on professional practice, theory, research or education.

4. Scope

The Sylvia Docker Lectureship consists of a keynote address at the Occupational Therapy Australia National Conference and publication of the presentation in the Australian Occupational Therapy Journal.

As part of accepting the honour of presenting, the Sylvia Docker Lecturer will commit to:

i. Undertaking media and marketing activities to promote the lectureship and the conference;

ii. Hosting a webinar within one month post the lecture, answering submitted questions from conference delegates and OTA members; and

iii. Submitting the manuscript for the Australian Occupational Therapy Journal within four weeks of the lecture.

A period of 45 minutes is allowed for the lecture which will be programmed at the discretion of the Conference Management Team.

The lecturer will be presented with a certificate and gift by the Occupational Therapy Australia President at the conclusion of the lecture.

The value of the gift to be presented to the Sylvia Docker Lecturer is to be determined at the time the lecturer is selected.

The purchase of the gift for the Sylvia Docker Lecturer is the responsibility of the Executive and the cost to be borne by Occupational Therapy Australia.

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5. Expenses for Lecturer

Occupational Therapy Australia will be responsible for expenses incurred to the recipient to attend the conference to present the Sylvia Docker Lectureship.

Expenses which will be covered include:

- Travel expenses;
- Accommodation during the Conference if necessary; and
- Conference fees including admission to attend the conference, welcome drinks and dinner or equivalent.

6. Criteria for Selection

Eligibility Criteria

- The nominee is an Australian resident; and
- The nominee is a current and continuous member of Occupational Therapy Australia for at least five years.

Assessment Criteria

- The nominee has developed a body of academic knowledge which has made an outstanding contribution and Impact to the occupational therapy profession including practice, education or research in Australia or internationally.

Guidance

- Previously unsuccessful nominees are encouraged to renominate.

7. Procedures for receiving nominations

Occupational Therapy Australia will call for nominations.

The Nominations must include:

- Nominations form;
- A list of the most significant publications by the nominee, with a focus on the last five years; and
- A list of the most significant research and/or projects undertaken and / or in progress by the nominee, outlining the impact this has had on occupational therapy practice and the profession.

8. Selection of Lecturer

The Occupational Therapy Australia Board will select the lecturer. In the event of a board member being nominated, those nominees will withdraw from the Selection Committee.

The application for each nominee will be circulated to Board members and a decision will be made based on the selection criteria.

The announcement of the Sylvia Docker lecturer will be made as part of the communications plan of the National Conference.

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9. Indicative timeline

13 months pre-conference	Call for Nomination
9 months pre-conference	Nominations Close
8-9 months pre-conference	Board undertakes selection
8 months pre-conference	Sylvia Docker Lecturer and Conference Committee advised of outcome
6-8 months pre-conference	Sylvia Docker lecturer announced as part of Conference Communications
Conference	Sylvia Docker Lecture presented
2-4 weeks post-conference	Q&A webinar held
1-month post-conference	Lecturer submits manuscript to Australian Occupational Therapy Journal (AOTJ)
2 months post-conference	Sylvia Docker Lecture published in the AOTJ Conference Journal

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