

## From the Society's Desk – May 2015

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Dear members of the Society,

Approximately a month remains till the Annual Israeli Occupational Therapy Conference, and members of the Conference Committee are working in collaboration with the staff of the Occupational Therapy School of the Hebrew University on final preparations to ensure that the upcoming conference will be an interesting, enriching, and engaging experience for all of us. I would like to take this occasion to thank all those who submitted abstracts for the conference. Many abstracts were received, all of which reflect the professional, important, challenging, creative and diverse work being done by the community of occupational therapists in the country and around the world. The conference will focus on innovations in the field and will feature a rich program that reflects the many areas of practice in the profession. I invite everyone who has not yet registered - do so soon!!

In addition, for the first time in Israel, a course is being offered for occupational therapists that will address the topic of intervention for people with Parkinson's disease. Extensive and comprehensive efforts have been devoted to produce a rich program that includes lectures by various professionals from around the country and abroad. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the steering committee of the course: **Dr. Naomi Schreuer, Orit Lif Kimchi, Tamara Schechter Margalit, Marwa**



**Adi Stern**

**Sarsoor, Tali Lavi, Dr. Maayan Katz and Vered Yaari** for their initiative and their preparation, organization and execution of this valuable course.

This past month the **Society's website** and **Facebook page** have been revamped. The new website includes all the relevant information about the Society, the profession, organizations and institutions, the journal (IJOT) and of course the latest information on conferences, seminars, courses, job opportunities and more. The design of the site has been updated, making it simpler and more convenient to navigate and we are making efforts so that in the coming months it will also be accessible to people with various disabilities. The Society's Facebook page has also undergone a "facelift" and it is more interactive and collaborative. You are all invited to make use of these resources to inform and be informed.

Registration opens in the beginning of May 2015 for the licensing exam

**preparation simulator.** It includes numerous questions from various fields as well as the relevant explanations for each question. This year, efforts were made to improve and upgrade the simulator regarding the range of questions and the explanations provided to help ensure a meaningful learning experience and a successful outcome for those who have registered.

At the same time, the members of the Society's committee are continuing to perform their multifaceted activities in general and for their committees in particular. Among other things, the Community Relations Committee is working closely with the Society's public relations firm to promote the profession and the Society among the community of occupational therapists and other audiences as well. Much thought has been devoted to the specific needs of occupational therapists in the Arab sector and soon a survey examining the attitudes and needs of this population will be published. In addition, the Society is continuing to address the subject of professional training and devise the means by which training groups in various fields can be implemented.

**Looking forward to see you all soon  
at the annual conference!**

Yours,

**Dr. Adi Stern**  
**Chairman of the Israeli Society of  
Occupational Therapy**

\* Written in May 2015

**www.isot.org.il**

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OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**

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