



CITATION

Honorary Fellow Award – Rosemary Crouch

Dr. Rosemary Crouch has made an extraordinary contribution to the profession of occupational therapy in her country and throughout the world.

Her dedication and proactive approach to the development and promotion of occupational therapy in South Africa and in Africa-at-large has been exceptional and inspirational. She has been a leader in the development of occupational therapy in Mauritius, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, South Africa and Namibia. She was instrumental in the development of OTARG (Occupational Therapy Africa Regional Group) in 1996 through empowering and affirmation of others ensuring the success and sustainability of the organisation.

Her contributions to occupational therapy education has been consistent over many years and include: Being the chairperson of the WFOT Education committee from 1994 – 1998, she was involved in and made a major contribution to the occupational therapy curricula in Pakistan, Uganda and Tanzania; Being an external examiner at six of the South African university programmes; Conducting many training centre and curriculum evaluations on behalf of the South African regulating body as a means of ensuring quality education; Developing and teaching occupational therapy related to mental health at the university level.

Her voluntary contributions to the profession are exemplary and include: Establishing the Psychiatric Occupational Therapist's Interest Group in OTASA (Occupational Therapy Association of South Africa); Holding various offices in the South African federation for Mental Health bringing occupational therapy to the forefront of that organisation; Helping to establish the first clinic for drug and alcohol rehabilitation in Soweto; Being the South African 1st alternate delegate to the WFOT from 1986 – 1990, delegate from 1990 – 1998 and a member of the WFOT Executive from 1998 to 2002.

Her research publications and presentations have been numerous and notable. They include: Being the editor of all four editions of Occupational Therapy in Psychiatry and Mental Health, a widely used textbook based upon the South African reality with an international application. The funds accrued from the first two editions formed the capital for a trust fund which is a source of funding for research grants given to occupational therapists in South Africa to conduct occupational therapy research in the field of psychiatry; She is a senior lecturer at three universities: The University of the Witwatersrand, University of Pretoria and University of Limpopo; She is instrumental in developing a Master of Philosophy programme in Group

Therapy at the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal; She is the Mellon Research Mentor in the School of Therapeutic Sciences at the University of the Witwatersrand.

Dr. Rosemary Crouch's passion for the occupational therapy profession, research and the mentoring of clinicians has benefited the occupational therapy profession in South Africa and has permeated into many other African countries through in her leadership and commitment to the profession. Her well-deserved international reputation is substantiated through her textbook on mental health and her many years as an Executive member of the WFOT. Dr. Rosemary Crouch exemplifies the criteria established for the granting of the status of Honorary fellow of the World Federation of Occupational Therapists.