

Vale **Ann Allart Wilcock**

28 May 1940 – 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019



The WFOT Executive Management Team and its member organisations were saddened to learn that Dr. Ann Allart Wilcock passed away on 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2019.

Ann's contribution to the profession of occupational therapy was profound, particularly through her academic pursuits and as a champion of occupational science. Her work had an impact on WFOT at the highest level.

Ann's ground-breaking work on both population health and "doing, being and becoming" were launched at WFOT world congresses (Melbourne, Australia 1990 and Montreal, Canada in 1998). Ann challenged delegates attending these congresses to embrace occupational therapy in its broadest perspectives.

The focus of the first WFOT International Advisory Group was occupational science – informing WFOT of the emerging impact of occupational science globally<sup>1</sup>.

The WFOT Position Paper on Human Rights included 'concepts championed by occupational therapy leaders Dr. Ann Wilcock in Australia and Dr. Elizabeth Townsend in Canada. It was their scholarship that brought issues of occupational justice and injustice, and occupational deprivation to the attention of the profession. They led to renewed recognition that society plays a pivotal role in determining access to occupation, privileging some people and systematically depriving others<sup>2</sup>.'

'An Occupational Perspective of Health'<sup>3</sup> was a seminal text for our profession, addressing health from an occupational perspective. The second edition, published in 2006, also promoted occupational therapy's importance in the World Health Organization's (WHO) public health goals. WFOT continues to work as part of its collaborative relationship with WHO to embed occupation and the occupational therapy perspective in documents, programmes and initiatives – continuing the vision of Ann Wilcock.

Every one of us who had the privilege to meet and work with Ann will remember her warmth, her intellect and her significant and passionate commitment to occupation, health, social justice, and the profession.

Our sincere condolences go to Ann's family and loved ones on this sad loss.



**Marilyn Pattison**  
**President**  
**World Federation of Occupational Therapists**

References:

1. WFOT CHRONICLE, PART THREE 1992 – 2002
2. WFOT FOURTH CHRONICLE 2002 – 2012
3. An Occupational Perspective of Health. 1998. SLACK Incorporated