

School of Occupational Therapy



Elizabeth A. Townsend

CONTACT INFORMATION

Elizabeth Townsend, PhD, OT Reg. PEI, FCAOT

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Professor Emerita

Related Information: Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Education, University of Prince Edward Island

Research Topics: Occupational Science, Occupational (Everyday) Justice, Everyday Human Rights, Adult Education, Social Conditions of Aging, Person, Community and Population-Centred Practices, Professional Power Relations

Education

- Doctor of Philosophy (Social Foundations of Adult Education), Dalhousie University
- Master of Adult Education, Saint Francis Xavier University, Antigonish
- Bachelor of Science (Occupational Therapy), University of Toronto
- Diploma, Physical and Occupational Therapy, University of Toronto

Research Interests

Current research interests take an *occupational* perspective focusing on the societal and professional practice conditions/power relations that limit or enable aging populations in everyday occupational justice and human rights. Linking occupational science, occupational therapy and adult education, research is as author, editor, guest speaker, thesis examiner, collaborator, or mentor emphasizing critical social theory and institutional ethnography.

Selected publications

- **Townsend, E.A.,** Marval, B. (2013). Can professionals enable occupational justice? *Occupational Therapy*

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Journal, Federal University of São Carlos (Cadernos de Terapia Ocupacional da Universidade Federal de São Carlos), 21, 215-228 (English; Portuguese: pp. 229-242).

- **Townsend, E.A., & Polatajko, H.P.** (2013). *Enabling occupation II: Advancing an occupational therapy vision of health, well-being and justice through occupation.* (2nd ed). Ottawa, ON: CAOT Publications ACE.
- **Townsend, E.A.** (2012). Boundaries and bridges to adult mental health: Critical occupational and capabilities perspectives of justice: 2010 Townsend and Polatajko Lectureship. *Journal of Occupational Science, 19(1), 8-24.*
- **Townsend, E.A. & Sandiford, M.** (2012). *Reaching Out: Today's Activist Occupational Therapy.* Beachwalker Films, Inc. Full version: <http://youtu.be/LlcfyQ3RwT0>, Short version: http://youtu.be/_RXL4V505Bw.
- **Townsend, E.A.** (2012). Six Digital Fact Sheets. The Health of Canada's Young People: a Mental Health Focus, Public Health Agency of Canada.
- **Townsend E.A.,** Wicks, A., van Bruggen, H., Wright-St Clair, V. (2012). Imagining occupational therapy. *British Journal of Occupational Therapy, 75(1), 42-44.*
- **Townsend, E.A.,** Polatajko, H.J., Craik, J.M., & von Zweck, C.M. (2011). Introducing the Leadership in Enabling Occupation (LEO) Model. *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy, 78, 255-259.*
- Nilsson, I., & **Townsend, E.A.** (2010). Occupational justice – bridging theory and practice. *Scandinavian Journal of Occupational Therapy, 17, 57-63.*
- **Townsend, E.A.,** Stone, S.D., Angelucci, T., Howey, M., Johnston, D., MacAulay, A., Lawlor, S. (2009). Linking occupation and place in community health. *Journal of Occupational Science, 16(1), 50-55.*
- Christiansen, C., & **Townsend, E.A.** (2010). *Introduction to occupation: The art and science of living, 2nd Edition.* Thorofare, NJ: Prentice Hall.
- **Townsend, E.A., & Twohig, P.** (2008). *History of Occupational Therapy in Atlantic Canada* website, Dalhousie University, School of Occupational Therapy, <http://history.occupationaltherapy.dal.ca/>
- **Townsend, E.A.,** Birch, D., Langley, J., & Langille, L. (2000). Participatory research in a mental health clubhouse. *Occupational Therapy Journal of Research, 20, 18-44.*
- **Townsend, E.A.** (1998). *Good intentions overruled: A critique of empowerment in the routine organization of mental health services.* Toronto, ON: University of Toronto Press. **Townsend, E.A.** (1997). Occupation: Potential for personal and social transformation. *Journal of Occupational Science: Australia, 7, 18-26.*
- **Townsend, E.A.** (1996). Institutional ethnography: A method for analyzing practice. *Occupational Therapy Journal of Research, 16, 179-199.*
- **Townsend, E.A.** (1993). Occupational Therapy's Social Vision/Notre Vision Sociale en Ergotherapie, Muriel Driver Memorial Lecture 1993. *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy, 60, 174-184.*

Selected awards and honours

- 2014 Ruth Zemke Lectureship in Occupational Science (awarded October 2013)
- 2013 Invited Keynote Speaker, Occupational Science Conference, Ghent, Belgium
- 2011 Invited Keynote Speaker, Occupational Science Conference, Plymouth, England
- 2011 Invited Keynote Speaker, 45th Japanese Association of Occupational Therapists Conference, Saitama, Japan
- Townsend Fellowship in Occupation and Society (Dalhousie Endowment Established 2010)
- 2010 Invited Keynote Speaker, First South Caucasian Occupational Therapy Conference, Tbilisi, Georgia
- 2008 Townsend and Polatajko Lectureship in Occupational Science. Canadian Society of Occupational Scientists (CSOS)

- 2014 Barbara Sexton Memorial Lectureship, University of Western Ontario
- 2003 Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal, Canadian Governor General Awards
- 2002 Fellow of the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists (FCAOT)
- 2001 Thelma Cardwell Lectureship, University of Toronto
- 1993 Muriel Driver Memorial Lectureship, Canadian, Association of Occupational Therapists (Academic Award)

Current Memberships

- Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists (CAOT, Life Member)
- Canadian Association for Studies in Adult Education (CASAE, Member)
- Canadian Society of Occupational Scientists (CSOS, Founder and Member)
- International Society for Occupational Science (ISOS, Founder and Member)
- Nova Scotia Society of Occupational Therapists (NSSOT, Life Member)
- Prince Edward Island Health Professions Regulatory Board (PEIHPR, Registered Member, License #119)
- Prince Edward Island Society of Occupational Therapists (PEIOTS, Founder and Current Member)
- World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT, Member)