



WFOT Congress 2026 – Education Day

08:30 Registration

Participant registration.

09:00 Welcome and Introduction

Opening remarks and overview of the day's objectives.

Speaker: Samantha Shann

09:20 Overview – WFOT Minimum Standards for the Education of Occupational Therapists (2026 Update)

Presentation of the key revisions and developments in the updated WFOT Minimum Standards and Q&A.

Speaker: Claudia von Zweck

09:50 Plenary Session 1 – Cultural Responsiveness in Occupational Therapy Education

Exploring principles and practices that promote culturally responsive education, curriculum design, and professional conduct.

Chairs: Kee Hean Lim, Supalak Khemthong

Speakers:

Kee Hean Lim: "Cultural Humility approach: self-examination, power, privilege and positionality."

Anan Ghabbash: "Collectivism and Occupational Therapy: Respecting cultural norms, the value of families and communities, and a shift away from concepts of individualism and independence towards the collective and interdependence."

Pamela Talero Cabrejo: "Curriculum design, structure and delivery: Decolonising curriculum, challenging dominant narratives, diverse views and inclusive perspectives."

Supalak Khemthong: "Community-focused initiatives, respecting cultural differences, community priorities and values, partnerships and cultural sensitivity."

10:15 Coffee Break

10:45 Breakout Session 1 – Applying Cultural Responsiveness in Practice

Small-group discussions focused on strategies to enhance cultural inclusion and responsiveness in educational and practice settings.

11:45 Outcome and Discussion

Presentation of key insights and shared conclusions from Breakout Session 1.



12:30 Lunch

13:30 Plenary Session 2 – Fieldwork and Practice Placements

Examination of evolving models for fieldwork education, supervision and assessment, with emphasis on quality, equity, simulation and sustainability.

Chairs: Tecla Mlambo, Maliwan Rueankam

Speakers:

Tecla Mlambo: “Evolving models and approaches in fieldwork education, what does best practice look like?”

Neelum Zehra: “Innovative fieldwork and placements opportunities, different supervision models and approaches.”

Tongai Chichaya: “Supporting students who experience discrimination or prejudice during their fieldwork placements.”

Patty Coker- Bolt: “Use of simulation in occupational therapy education.”

Maliwan Rueankam: “Non-traditional placements, working with charities, NGO, and community organisations.”

14:15 Breakout Session 2 (Part 1) – Innovations and Challenges in Fieldwork Education

Collaborative group discussions addressing best practices, barriers and opportunities in fieldwork and placement experiences.

14:45 Coffee Break

15:15 Breakout Session 2 (Part 2) – Developing Strategies for Improvement

Continuation of group work to identify practical solutions and recommendations for enhancing fieldwork education.

16:00 Outcome and Discussion

Reporting and reflection on the outcomes of the afternoon sessions.

16:30 Summary and Close

Summary of main themes, key learning points, and next steps.

17:00 End of Programme