

Alia Harb

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Palestine

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Objective As an academican and clinician my goal is to enhance the profession of occupational therapy through my participation in programs and projects that improves the knowledge base of the profession and improves the ability of the clinician to contribute to the well – being of the patient. Using the most recent and most pertinent approaches, I wish to address the needs of our knowledge – based society.

Education **2002 – 2003** **University of Southampton / UK** **Southampton**
Master of Science in Management of Childhood Disability
Research topic: Occupational Therapy in Jordan: Views and Experiences of Parents of Disabled Children.
Scholarship awarded from the University of Jordan

1999 – 2001 **Bethlehem University** **Bethlehem**
Bachelor Degree in Occupational Therapy
Cumulative GPA 3.77 (Deans' List)
Scholarship awarded from the Ministry of Health/ Jordan

1993 – 1996 **Occupational Therapy College/ Amman - Jordan**
King Hussein Medical Center
Diploma in Occupational Therapy (3 years Course)
▪ I was rewarded a Certificate from the Ministry of Higher Education for achieving the highest average in the Kingdom in this specialization.

**Professional
experience**

**2018 – present Arab American University Palestine
Lecturer at the Occupational Therapy Department / Faculty of Allied
Medical Sciences**

Lecturing

- Professional Issues in Occupational Therapy
- Occupational Therapy in Pediatrics
- Occupational Therapy in Pediatrics Skills
- Research in Occupational Therapy
- Therapeutic Communication
- Evidence Based Practice
- Special Topics in Occupational Therapy

Program development activities

**2013 – 2018 Bethlehem University Bethlehem
Lecturer at the Occupational Therapy Program / Faculty of Nursing and
Health Sciences**

Module Leadership/teaching

- Research and Evaluation Course
- Introduction to Neuroanatomy
- Occupational Therapy Theory II (Neurology)
- Occupational Therapy Skills II (Neurology)
- Occupational Therapy Theory III (Pediatrics)
- Occupational Therapy Skills III (Pediatrics)
- Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR)
- Clinical Field Work II, III, IV
- Clinical Field Work V, VI

Paradigm and Curriculum Development

- Evaluation of current paradigm and courses at BSc level.
- Developing and up-grading the content and methodology used in delivering BSc level courses.
- Evaluating the structure and content of clinical field work delivery for student's clinical placements.
- Reviewing and writing the OT program specifications and program portfolio at BU.

Service Evaluation and Development projects

- Worked with a team of international experts in the field of Visual Rehabilitation on a Tempus application and a 3 years project on curriculum reform and enhancing the services provided for people with visual impairments in Palestine.
- Collaboration with Occupational Therapy departments in a number of national rehabilitation centers in Palestine for development of service provision and staff development.

Professional experience

- Conducting training workshops and presentations in a number of rehabilitation centers in Palestine in occupational therapy topics and clinical practice.

2013 – 2016 Grant awarded and International Project Collaboration

- EU Grant awarded of Euro 73,161.25
- Coordinator of a 3 years European Union project – Tempus Curriculum and Skill Development in Vision Rehabilitation.
- Developing a plan for curriculum reform for all partner universities involved in the Tempus project.
- Reviewing courses taught at the OT program at BU and integrating vision rehabilitation material into appropriate courses.
- Developing curriculum and teaching material for relevant courses.

2014 – 2017 Consultancy collaboration with (POPS)

- Developing, coordinating and implementing a multidisciplinary training program in collaboration with the Palestinian Osteoporosis Prevention Society (POPS) and Alata' Association for Elderly Care on Osteoporosis and Prevention of Falls for 10 Nursing and Elderly care Homes in Bethlehem area – Palestine.
- Conducting a number of training workshops in collaboration with the Palestinian Osteoporosis Prevention Society (POPS) for doctors from national hospitals across Palestine on best international practices and guidelines for prevention of falls and environmental modifications.
- Conducting a number of training workshops in collaboration with the Palestinian Osteoporosis Prevention Society (POPS) and Thalassemia Patients Friends Society - Palestine for patients with Thalassemia and their families on the prevention of falls and environmental modifications.

Feb. 2016 Consultant - Guidance and Training Center for the Child and Family (GTC)

- Conducting an evaluation of the “Promotion of Psychosocial Health in Palestine” project. The primary aim of this evaluation was to contribute to ensuring that GTC services are relevant to the needs of the community. In addition to assessing the current operation of the two year project.
- The evaluation final report highlighted good practices, and made recommendations as a contribution to the improvement of quality of GTC's services in relation to mental health in Palestine.

Jan. 2015 – May 2015 Consultant - Handicap International Palestine

- Conducting a participatory needs assessment for upper level managers and key rehabilitation professionals (Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, and Social workers) of nine rehabilitation centres members of the User Centred Approach steering committee (UCA SC).
- Written report on the results of the participatory needs assessment that will serve as a guiding document for a strategic plan and a capacity-building plan for the nine rehabilitation centers.
- Developing off-the-job training curriculum for upper level managers and key rehabilitation professionals (Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, and Social workers) of the nine rehabilitation centres.
- Developing twelve training modules, six training modules for upper level managers and six training modules for key rehabilitation professionals (Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, and Social workers) of the nine rehabilitation centres.
- Developing on-the-job training plan and assignments for each training module.

Oct. 2013 – Feb. 2014 Consultant – Swedish Organization for Individual Relief (SOIR)

- Capacity development of SOIR staff in using modern models and approaches of occupational therapy and service delivery for people with Intellectual Disabilities.
- Developing and designing training program, training courses and material for SOIR Day Centre training and continuous professional development.
- Developing, designing and implementing a training program on Assessment from an Interdisciplinary approach and family involvement.
- Developing, designing and implementing a training program on Integrated Model of Service Delivery.
- Designing and implementing a training program on Developmental, Individual Difference, Relationship based model (DIR) Floor-time model.
- Producing a written report with the findings and results of the capacity development program.

Mar – May 2013 Consultant – Swedish Organization for Individual Relief (SOIR)

- Conducting an evaluation of the quality of current working methods at SOIR Day Centre, and whether a Special Education approach is suitable to continue or if training methods should change to be in alignment with an Occupational Therapy approach.
- Designing a strategic plan for developing the work and training methods at SOIR Day Centre.
- Producing a written report with the findings and results of the evaluation and recommendations for service development.

12th– 31st, May 2012 Consultant – Handicap International Palestine

- Conducting an evaluation of current practices in Documentation in Rehabilitation settings in Palestine.
- Reviewing and evaluating documentation style and content of 13 rehabilitation centers across the country.
- Reviewing and evaluating health care records, monthly, quarterly and annual reports, patients discharge reports etc.
- Providing written and verbal feedback on findings of evaluation.
- Training 18 therapists from the 13 rehabilitation centers visited on documentation guidelines and style in rehabilitation settings.
- Producing a written report with the findings and results of the evaluation and recommendations for standards of practice in documentation in rehabilitation settings.

2010 – 2012 National Rehabilitation Hospital Ireland

Senior Occupational Therapist – program coordinator

- Senior Occupational Therapist and Program Coordinator for Occupational Therapy Paediatric Family – Centred Program.
- Management of Occupational Therapy Paediatric program service and a team of basic grade Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapy Assistants.
- Ensuring the delivery of high quality and family centred services for all service users (children with Acquired Brain Injury, Spinal Cord Injury, Intellectual Disabilities, Developmental Delay, Amputation and Limb Absence).

Service Evaluation and Development Projects

- Developing and conducting an evaluation with a team of Senior Occupational Therapists of Occupational Therapy Paediatric program.
- Lead on and conducting a self – evaluation with a team of Senior Occupational Therapists on the Spinal Cord Systems of Care program in preparation for CARF accreditation.
- Developing a strategic plan for occupational therapy services under the program of Spinal Cord Systems of Care.
- Basic grade occupational therapy staff supervision and capacity development.
- Conducting in –service workshops and presentations for staff development.

Committees

- CPD committee , in-service training
- Spinal Cord Systems of Care Committee
- Paediatrics Program Committee

2008 – 2011 University of Limerick Ireland
Lecturer at the Occupational Therapy Department / Faculty of
Education and Health Sciences

Module Leadership/teaching

- Occupational Therapy Approaches to Problems in Human Performance
- Person – Occupation – Environment 1 (Psychosocial)
- Occupational Development Through the Lifespan
- Person – Occupation – Environment 2 (Neurology)

Teaching

- Anatomy and Physiology of Human Performance
- The Science of Occupation
- Practice Education
- Person – Occupation – Environment 3 (Complexity and Transition)

Year One Coordinator

- Year one students Induction program
- PAT
- Developing student handbook, policies and procedures related to the course

MSc Research Student Supervision

- A Comparison of Time-Use Between Fathers of Typically Developing Children and Fathers of Children with Cerebral Palsy
- An Evaluation of Parent's Perception of the Effectiveness of Sensory Integration Therapy with Children with Autism, in Ireland
- Redeveloping Self-awareness after Acquired Brain Injury: Clients' Experiences in Intervention Group and Day-to-day Life (submitted for publication IJOT)
- Irish Occupational Therapists' Experience of Referring Adults with Intellectual Disabilities to Supported Employment Services (submitted for publication BJOT)
- What is the Value and Meaning Occupational Therapists Place in their Role in Intensive Care?
- The Impact of Waiting Lists on Community Occupational Therapists

Committees

- ENOTH: European Network of Occupational Therapy in Higher Education – OT/UL rep.
- Faculty of Education and Health Sciences Board Committee
- Occupational Therapy Department Committee
- Occupational Therapy Course Committee

- Occupational Therapy Exam Board Committee
- Module coordinators
- Health and Safety Rep.

2003 – 2008 **University of Jordan** **Amman**
Lecturer at the Occupational Therapy Department / Faculty of Rehabilitation Sciences

- Lecturer – Applied Occupational Therapy for Children
- Lecturer – Applied Occupational Therapy in Adult Neurology
- Lecturer – Applied Occupational Therapy in Physical Dysfunction
- Lecturer – Assessment II course (assessments of sensory – motor impairments)
- Lecturer – Strategies for Independent Living course
- Lecturer – Occupational Therapy Skills II (Splinting)
- Lecturer – Community Based Rehabilitation CBR
- Clinical work – Instructor in pediatric and adult neurology rehabilitation settings

2001 – 2002 **Al Basheer Hospital** **Amman**
Occupational Therapist at the Rehabilitation Center

Assessment and treatment of patients with physical dysfunction (neurological and orthopedic conditions) mainly children with cerebral palsy, brain injury, developmental delay, ADHD, Spina Bifida, musculoskeletal disorders. In-patient and out-patient services.
 Clinical instructor & supervisor for BSc OT students.

2001 – 2002 **University of Jordan** **Amman**
Lecturer (Introduction to Occupational Therapy course)
Lecturer (Strategies for Independent Living course)

Publications

Yazdani, F., Harb, A. et.al (2017) Occupational therapists' perception of the concept of occupational balance, Scandinavian Journal of Occupational Therapy.

Hynes, P. and Harb, A. (2017) Irish Occupational Therapists' Experience of Referring Adults with Intellectual Disabilities to Supported Employment Services, Irish Journal of Occupational Therapy.

Gallagher, M.B., Harb, A., Pettigrew, J., Robinson, K., Warren, A., McKay, E.A, Buckley, S., Cahill, M. (2010) Urban Renewal: A new house does not a

new life make (Poster) *15th World Federation of Occupational Therapists*, Santiago, Chile. 4-7 May.

Harb, A. 2008 (with F. Yazdani) MOHOST, screening tool manual. Translation into Arabic. Oxford Brookes University Press: London.

Conference Presentations

COTEC – ENOTHE (June 2016) conference in Ireland, poster presentation on research study “Occupational Therapists perception of Occupational Balance and its application in practice”.

Harb, A & Hynes P. (2012) Occupational therapy; supported employment; intellectual disability – the diverse Irish experience. Oral research paper presentation, 24-27 May 2012. 9th COTEC Congress of Occupational Therapy, Stockholm – Sweden.

Harb, A. (2011) Surviving Occupation through Occupation. International Conference on Occupational Therapy and Spirituality, 2nd June 2011 – Oxford Brookes University, Oxford - UK.

Hynes, P. and Harb, A. (2010) Irish Occupational Therapists’ Experience of Referring Adults with Intellectual Disabilities to Supported Employment Services – AOTI conference presentation 28th -29th May Dublin.

Presentation of MSc research Occupational therapy in Jordan: views and experiences of parents of disabled children, 18th June 2005 - Jordan University – 1st scientific day of Jordanian society of occupational therapists.

Qualifications

25th – 27th Nov 2011 **NRH – Dublin – Ireland**
Optimizing Movement Potential for the Patient with an Incomplete Spinal Cord Injury, The Bobath Concept. Mary Lynch-Ellerington FSCP BBTA

28th August 2011 **NRH – Dublin – Ireland**
Gait Analysis and Facilitation of Walking (ISCI) The Bobath Concept. Course tutor: Debbie Strang, British Bobath Tutors Association BBTA

24th – 25th Jun 2011 **NRH – Dublin – Ireland**
Insight and Awareness Workshop Brain Tree Training , Kit Malia Bed MPhil CPCRT and Anne Brannagan DipCOT MSc

17th – 18th June 2011 **NRH – Dublin – Ireland**
Cognitive Rehabilitation Workshop Brain Tree Training , Kit Malia Bed MPhil CPCRT and Anne Brannagan DipCOT MSc

7th – 11th July 2008 **University of Southern California**
Sensory Integration Intervention Course 4

30 contact hours

11th – 15th May 2007

University of Southern California

The Sensory Integration Perspectives Course 1

30 contact hours

1999 International Su Jok Acupuncture Association Moscow
SU JOK Acupuncture – Metaphysical I course

1998 International Su Jok Acupuncture Association Moscow
SU JOK Acupuncture – Basic course

Languages

Arabic: Mother Language
English: Fluent, writing and reading