

Awards for Learning, Development and Research

International Activity Award 2022 Sharon Davenport

Hello, my name is Sharon Davenport and in 2022 I was awarded the International Activity Award from the Royal College of Occupational Therapists (RCOT) which was worth £700. I used this to register for the World Federation of Occupational Therapists Congress in Paris 2022, which I attended in person.

I presented a poster at the congress, "An introduction to the Therapy Outcome Measure" with coauthor Professor Pam Enderby who is a speech and language therapist.

I think attendance at WFOT has been life changing for me and a real career highlight. I feel so inspired by the excellence of the global occupational therapy profession. I consider myself to be an ordinary occupational therapist! - but this opportunity has shown me to believe in myself. I have met dedicated occupational therapists from around the world and feel very connected now to the importance of occupational therapy in improving global health.

Key messages from WFOT congress are equality and the rise of social occupational therapy at a global level. I am very grateful to RCOT for enabling me to register and attend this congress and to my workplace (Wirral Community Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust) for supporting me. I am encouraged to continue to work hard for occupational therapy and to keep exploring learning and research opportunities to create change.