

TO: Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education Officers and Members
American Occupational Therapy Association Board of Directors

RE: Hold the OTD Mandate Decision in Abeyance

I respectfully ask that the OTD mandate be reconsidered and to hold the OTD mandate decision in abeyance. Several factors have prompted me to reach out to you. These include:

- A lack of transparency regarding this decision including lack of access or knowledge regarding the data that was accrued to come to this critical decision.
- Lack of consideration and presentation of data on the financial implications to students. This includes the extra year of tuition/loans and an approximate \$70,000.00 lost opportunity cost due to entering the work force a year later. Will salaries increase? They have not for our colleagues in PT.
- Lack of discussion and presentation of data regarding the impact on the diversity of our profession.
- Lack of consideration and presentation of data on the impact on the numbers of those pursuing research doctorates. How will this impact the profession's ability to generate high quality evidence based research.
- Consider the potential for multiple entry points.
- What is the data to support that outcomes from an OTD prepared students are superior to those of an MS student?
- Lack of consideration and presentation of data regarding the burden of the University granting the degrees (scholarship budget, space, faculty salary/fringe, classroom space, etc.).
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As a stakeholder, it is my hope that the correct decision will be made.

Sincerely,

Name:

Date:

Affiliation:

Credentials:

Address: