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A look back at Occupational Therapy's Contribution Improving life at Homewood since the early 1900s



Judith Friedland, PhD, Professor Emerita
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Judith Friedland holds a Social Sciences and Humanities Research grant for her research on the early development of occupational therapy in Canada (1890-1930.) She is the chair the Health Sciences Research Ethics Board for the University of Toronto and is a member of both the Advisory Committee on Human Subjects in Research and the Executive Committee on Human Subjects in Research. Judith is a Fellow of the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists and the author of numerous scholarly articles.

Occupational activities were introduced at Homewood as a treatment approach to mental illness just after the turn of the last century. The tenets of occupational therapy - to divert the mind during convalescence, to build morale and self-esteem, and to build skills for work and daily living - developed and evolved and led to the creation of a professional discipline in the 1920s. Judith Friedland reflects on Homewood's early use of occupations to shed light on the development of Occupational Therapy as a profession in Canada. She celebrates the contributions of Occupational Therapists then, and now, to patient recovery and successful return to daily living.

DATE: Wednesday, October 8, 2008

LOCATION: Homewood Lecture Theatre

TIME: Lunch - 11:30 a.m.

Presentation - noon to 1 p.m.

REGISTER: Cathy Barber,
519-824-1010, extension 2160

RSVP by: Friday, October 3

Lunch provided by Homewood.



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This event is an accredited group learning activity as defined by the Maintenance of Certification Program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons Canada. Twenty-five percent of the time for these rounds will be devoted to interactive learning.

Educational Objectives:

- 1) Learn about the history of the development of Occupational Therapy
- 2) Understand how Occupational Therapy improves the lives of patients