

Occupations directly impact in various ways people from all walks of life, including occupational therapists, their clients, and indeed occupational science researchers. Framing occupation in this way implies the existence of a variety of perceptions on how occupations function in people's daily endeavors.

This in turn gives rise to the question how occupations should be understood or indeed interpreted. Critique exists that currently we mainly consider occupations as problems of occupational performance and participation. Instead, attention is called for understanding people's challenges of establishing meaning in life and enhancing their health and well-being through occupations.

Dewey's transactional theory and narrative approaches challenge us to think of occupations as socio-cultural undertakings embedded in time and place. In contrast to these interpretative approaches, there is also a strong argument for using participatory approaches to produce knowledge that is more relevant to the people it involves, including occupational therapists and their clients.

Put differently, given the various perspectives on occupations, the question then becomes, "who is impacted by occupational science and how?" Probing such a question tasks us, researchers and learners of occupational science, with reconciling a diversity of perspectives on occupation. This, I argue, requires participating and collaborating.

This 22<sup>nd</sup> OS Seminar will challenge us to grapple with this meaningful task by sharing the insights from presenters from occupational science, occupational therapy practice, and from persons with or without disabilities. Welcome.