

Introducing Michelle Ayres

Since my graduation from Otago Polytechnic in 1998 I have worked in various settings. Initially I took up a position in a residential brain injury rehabilitation setting in Hamilton. Moving back to my home town of Wellington I started working in a small private practice setting conducting occupational therapy interventions under various ACC contracts. Later, I was employed to develop and manage a vocational rehabilitation service for a national company. For the past year, I have been in role of professional leader of occupational therapy at Capital & Coast District Health Board.

I am honoured to be invited onto the NZAOT Council. I have enjoyed being a part of the wider occupational therapy community and the supports the NZAOT has offered to me over the years. My membership has been integral and valuable to my practice in many ways; it has kept me in touch with all things relevant and unique to my profession, occupational therapy.

My vision for NZAOT is to support, inspire and commemorate occupational therapy practice in New Zealand. I have a strong personal commitment to NZAOT and the values, aims and objectives of the association. I look forward to being a positive and constructive contributor to the council and its strategic activities over the next year.

Sir Peter Blake: "Having vision is not enough. Change comes through realizing the vision and turning it into a reality. It is easy to espouse worthy goals, values and policies; the hard part is implementation."