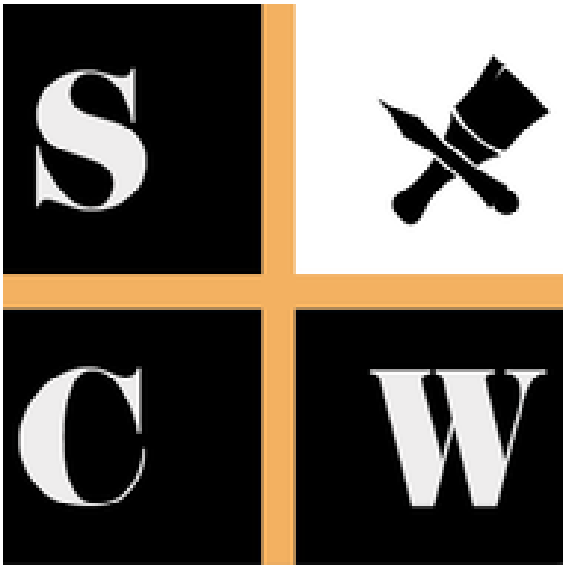


DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY of CALIFORNIA

Scholarly & Creative Works Conference

#10

Presenter: Ryan Oliver Yambao

Session & Time: Oral_I / 11:20 to 11:40am

Room: Guzman 104

Discipline: Occupational Therapy

Faculty Mentor: Kristin Jones

ZOO link:
https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71090937040?pwd=ZFaibWRoad9QwjPcu9qzuUaKCXG6ym.1

ZOOM Passcode: DUC

Digital Portfolio URL:

Title: Professional Identity of Occupational Therapist in Different Practice Settings

Abstract:

Background. Many occupational therapists struggle to achieve a strong professional identity. Professional identity is a complex composition of values, beliefs, skills, knowledge, and behavior that defines an occupational therapist's sense of self within the profession. It is often influenced by their occupational therapy education, personal practice philosophy, occupation-centeredness, and interactions with colleagues and mentors. Occupational therapists may experience weakened professional identity when practice settings' cultures, policies, resources, and interdisciplinary teams do not support occupational therapy's core philosophies and values. This lack of support can lead to conflicting expectations of what occupational therapists' contributions to care, which

may result in a blurring of roles and responsibilities with other professionals within their setting. Each practice environment (inpatient, outpatient, and community-based settings) has different workplace cultures and resources that support or inhibit an occupational therapist in providing quality service for their clients. Having low professional identity can negatively impact an occupational therapist's perception of their abilities to adhere to professional values, how they provide care for clients, and the facilitation of client-centered interventions that improve clients' quality of life. There is little known research focused on differences in professional identity within other practice settings. Purpose. The aim of this study is to explore the differences in professional identity between occupational therapists who work in different practice settings. Methods. This study will utilize combined secondary data from two previous survey studies. This study will conduct a one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) to determine the differences in the levels of professional identity between occupational therapists who practice in different practice settings. Results. The results will describe whether occupational therapists who work in different practice settings have different levels of professional identity. Conclusion. We hope to present preliminary results at the conference.