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# Occupational Science Europe

*3. Newsletter, January 2022*

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## About this NEWSLETTER

We wish to keep you updated with Occupational Science Europe!

This newsletter answers:

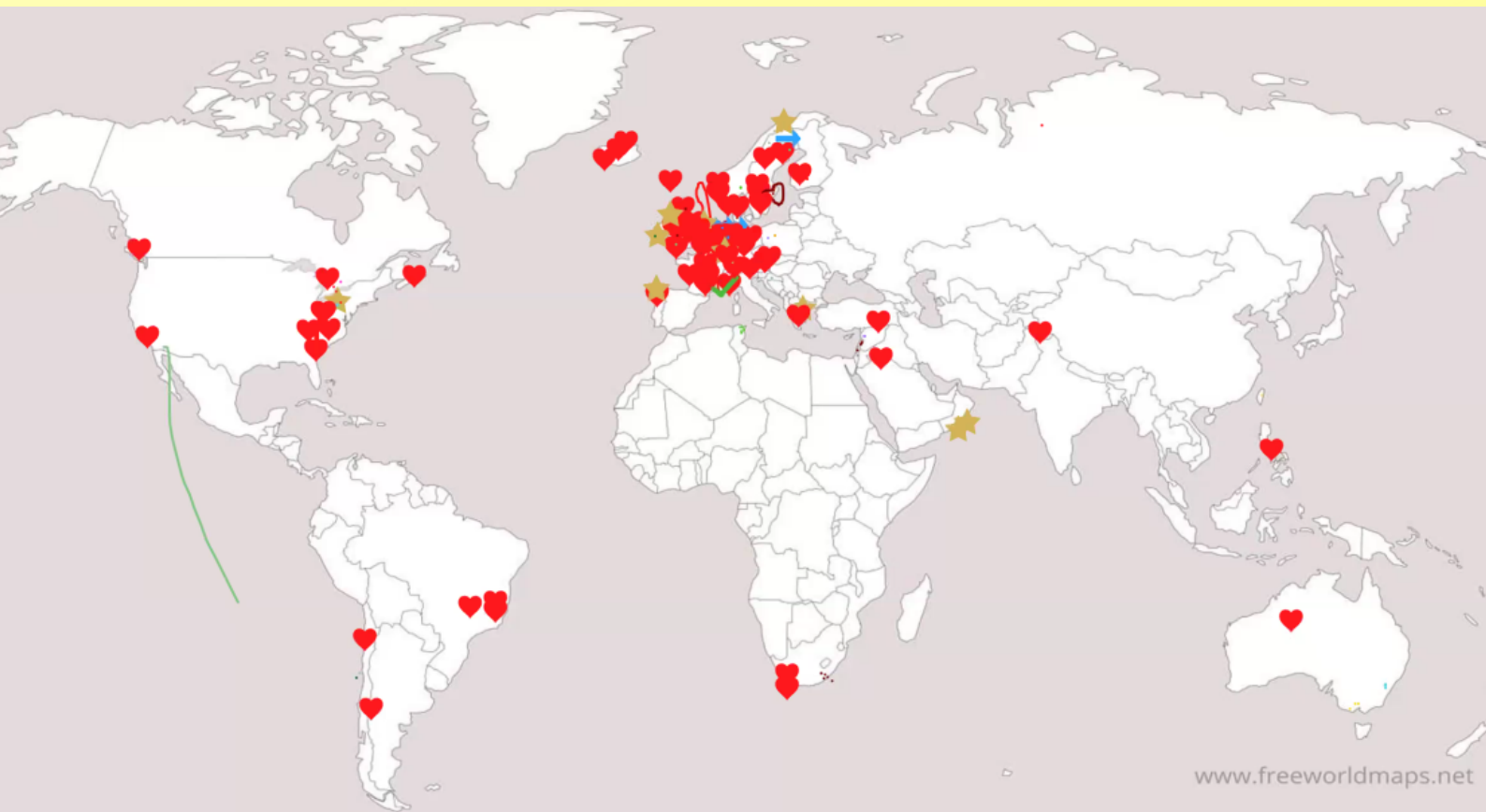
- how was the 1st OSE online conference?
- where and when is the next OSE conference?
- who is in the OSE board?
- are there any jobs in occupational science available?
- are there any study programs or courses for occupational science?
- are there any conference regarding OS we know about?

# 1st OSE online conference in November 2021

- 3 keynotes, 9 dialogues,  
5 language-group workshops (Español, Português,  
Français, Deutsch, English)

- more than 500 registered participants from 29 countries

We asked the participants where they are located during the conference:



Many thanks to all participants, facilitators and speakers!  
Your contribution made this conference possible.

**next OSE Conference**  
August, 2023 in Odense, Denmark

# Insights from the Conference

## Spanish language-group workshop

Que existiese un espacio para discutir en español, resultado de las inquietudes colectivas, nos apeló a construir colaborativamente. Por ello, gracias. Queremos transmitir la potencia, energía y disfrute de poder encontrarnos, pensar, y reflexionar sobre la CO, en nuestro idioma. En este grupo, conversamos personas de Argentina, Brasil, Chile, España, EEUU, Peru, Suecia, Suiza y Uruguay. Pensar y compartir en español nos permite transmitir sutilezas de nuestras cosmovisión(es) y colaborar en la (de)construcción situada del estudio de la ocupación. Para ello, fue clave problematizar el concepto idioma. El propio idioma, en este caso el castellano, es hablado por millones de personas con realidades históricas y socioculturales diversas, tanto individuales, como compartidas (comunidades, regiones, países). Pensamos que es fundamental no homogeneizar el estudio de la ocupación “en español” para no reproducir prácticas colonizadoras. Priorizamos reconocer aquellas historias silenciadas de colegas que, a lo largo del tiempo, han contribuido al estudio de la ocupación, sin denominarse necesariamente CO. Tender puentes con sus saberes y buscar fórmulas para visibilizar estas realidades son acciones claves con la que este grupo se compromete. Asimismo, nos pareció fundamental identificar otros grupos en los que reconocemos voluntad de diálogo y posibles alianzas. Por ejemplo, grupos feministas o colegas de la terapia ocupacional social. En este breve encuentro, fuimos capaces de re-conocernos como puentes entre distintas realidades y señalar acciones concretas de transformación en consonancia con las prioridades señaladas: divulgar en conversaciones cotidianas, visibilizar historias silenciadas o compartir recursos nos parecieron acciones “sencillas” y profundamente transformadoras.

We encourage to take part in the existing language groups. There is no group for your language?! We would be happy to have as many groups as there are languages in Europe. Found your OS interest group and let us know.

## Spanish language-group reflections in English

The existence of a space to discuss in Spanish, the result of collective concerns, appealed to us for building collaboratively. For that, we thank you. We want to communicate the power, energy, and enjoyment of being able to meet, think, and reflect on occupational science in our language. In this group, we talked with people from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Spain, Peru, the US, Sweden, Switzerland, and Uruguay. Thinking and sharing in Spanish allows us to communicate subtleties of our worldview(s) and collaborate in the situated (de)construction of the study of occupation. To do this, it was key to problematize the concept of language. The language itself, in this case Spanish, is spoken by millions of people with diverse historical and socio-cultural realities, both individual and shared (communities, regions, countries). We think that it is essential not to homogenize the study of occupation "in Spanish" so as not to reproduce colonizing practices. We prioritize recognizing those silenced stories from colleagues who, over time, have contributed to the study of occupation, without necessarily calling themselves occupational scientists. Building bridges with their knowledge and looking for methods to make these realities visible are key actions to which this group is committed. Likewise, it seemed essential to us to identify other groups in which we recognize both a willingness to dialogue and possible alliances. For example, feminist groups or colleagues in social occupational therapy. In this brief meeting, we were able to re-know ourselves as bridges between different realities and point out concrete actions of transformation in line with the following priorities: disseminating in daily conversations, making silenced stories visible, or sharing resources seemed to us "simple" and profoundly transformative actions.

## Reflections of facilitators

As part of the board of the Austrian Association of Occupational Science, AOS, we got the opportunity to present three panel-sessions and enjoyed exchanging with participants from all over Europe.

What we further enjoyed and appreciated:

- OSE has managed to really keep the focus on Occupational Science through the whole conference
- comprehensive program and a dedicated board
- technically professionally refurbished and great support
- appreciation of many different ideas
- everyone had the opportunity to contribute and to share their own perspective
- positive vibes in the community
- “personal touch”, although the conference was online
- space for questions and exchange
- everyone was willing to share papers, documents, studies, ...
- great discussions about OS-terms (AOS also published an explanation, available in German: <https://austrianoccupationalscience.com/begriffe-der-os-im-kontext-von-covid-19/>)
- nice positive trend: OS community grows in Europe, which shows the Keynote from Janice Jones & Steve Whitcombe
- desire for more exchange

Thank you for being part of this motivating afternoon.  
Miriam Berger and Karin Lettner-Hauser, on behalf of the AOS-board



# Who is in the OSE board?

3 new board members!

**Tanja Krizaj**

Lecturer in Occupational Therapy, University of Plymouth

**María Alonso-Ferreira**

Occupational Therapist

**Martin Fitzgerald**

Assistant Professor Occupational Therapy. Program Lead MSc in Occupational Science, University of Bradford

**We are happy to have you on board!**

...and

Silvia Veiga-Seijo

Margarita Mondaca

Kawthar El-Qasem

Georg Gappmayer

**Aileen Bergström, Anne-Le Morville and Miranda Cunningham** are leaving the board, because their elected period ended. We are really grateful for your contribution to the Board and to Occupational Science Europe. We will miss you!

## more Conferences

**1st World Occupational Science  
Conference**  
to August 18-20, 2022

Vancouver, Canada  
<https://wosc.osot.ubc.ca/>

## Job vacancies concerning OS

Tell us what you know! We will  
post it in the next newsletter.

## Courses and workshops in OS

Tell us what you know! We will  
post it in the next newsletter.

If you have anything that you want to share  
in the next newsletter in June 2022, or if you  
want to give us feedback - please contact us!

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