

TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY

School of Occupational Therapy

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Looking Forward

From the School Director

We are pleased to share some 2016-17 highlights from Texas Woman's in Denton, Dallas, and Houston. This is an exciting time in the life of our university as we refresh our mission and claim a bold vision for the future. The OT faculty and staff enjoyed a 2-day retreat in January to set program goals and plan strategic initiatives for the next 5 years. We have the drive and the know-how, so be on the look out for excellence in our outcomes. We are celebrating 2 major milestones in 2017; The 100 year anniversary of the profession, and the 75 year anniversary of Occupational Therapy at TWU.

Our goal is to reach as many alumni and emeritus faculty as possible in 2017. We hope that you can join us at one of our signature events. Look for our booth at TOTA and AOTA conferences. Let us know if you would like to visit campus and speak to a class, or visit with an advisor about a post-professional degree.

We will embrace AOTA's Vision 2025 as we continue to prepare the next generation of occupational therapy practitioners and educators. We are certainly proud of all that have come from TWU so far!

Cheers—

Cynthia Evetts, for all of us in the School of Occupational Therapy

AOTA Vision 2025

Occupational therapy maximizes health, well-being, and quality of life for all people, populations, and communities through effective solutions that facilitate participation in everyday living.

TWU Vision

Texas Woman's will be known as the premier public university for a woman-focused education and leadership development, graduating thriving citizens who have a strong sense of community, health, prosperity, and a sense of purpose.

Signature Events

The Vanderkooi Endowed Lectureship Dallas Campus

February 17, 2017

As 2017's Endowed Lecturer, Dr. Anne Fisher gave a lecture on *Implementing Occupation-Focus and Occupation-Based Practice: Ensuring We Really Have the Evidence*.

In addition to the endowed lecture, the school offered community building workshops to showcase emerging and established areas of expertise to foster collaborations between professional resources and the regional occupational therapy community.



Cynthia Evetts, Anne Fisher, Reggie Campbell, Virginia Chandler-Dykes, Noralyn Pickens

Bridging the Gap Denton Campus

October 21, 2016

Bridging the Gap, facilitated by Pi Theta Epsilon Denton chapter, brings together researchers and practitioners through a common focus. This year Dr. Denise Park of UT Dallas presented "New thoughts about old minds: Can we predict who will age well?" An invited panel of clinical experts responded to audience comments and questions, translating information brought up in the research to everyday practice.



Panelists Dr. Diane Brown, Tiffany Long, Kindralyn Lott, and Michael Browne

Mary J. Newsom Award Houston Campus

April 27, 2016

Adele Brunson, the 2015 Mary J. Newsom Award recipient, delivered the annual lecture. Nominees for the 2016 award were presented and Rachel Campbell was the 2016 Mary J. Newsome Award recipient.

The criteria for the award are based on Mary J. Newsom's concept of the ideal occupational therapist. Specifically these include scholarship, professional/community service, and personal characteristics. This year's event will take place on May 3, 2017.

Rachel Campbell, the recipient of the Mary J. Newsom Award



OT - Alumni League of Leaders

In 2016 Virginia Chandler Dykes established the Occupational Therapy Alumni League of Leaders to serve as a catalyst to promote leadership development founded on commitment to build relationships that advance occupational therapy. The award is to honor and acknowledge TWU OT alumni united in common interest, who make a commitment to lead by example and work in the community to contribute to the vision of the Vanderkooi Endowed Lectureship. If you are interested in learning more about this award, please contact Regina Campbell, Associate Professor Emerita, at ReggieMCampbell@gmail.com.



Jared Gamble



Catherine Graves



Marie Garza

Inaugural Members of OT-ALL



Naxon Family Endowment for Faculty Development

The Naxon Endowment for Occupational Therapy Faculty Development is a permanently endowed fund created to support TWU Occupational Therapy faculty in their teaching and professional growth. Elya Naxon, the fund's donor, received her Master's of Occupational Therapy at TWU in 1975. She served as a professor in the School of OT from 1977 to 2004. Elya has been very active in the Dallas area, including service as a Board member of the Dallas Jewish Historical Society, the Warren Center for children with learning disabilities, and chairperson for the Friends of the Durable Medical Equipment Exchange. Elya's intent to support faculty development in teaching skills and professional growth came from the belief that OT faculty should be highly skilled and current on best practices in order to facilitate the thorough training and graduation of occupational therapy students.

Student Leadership

Rice University Design-A-Thon

TWU OT team won Best Presentation at the Rice University Design-A-Thon. Each team had 48 hours to decide on a design, fabricate and present a prototype. Participants were : Laureen Paglicawan, Brittney Burton, Melissa Salazar, Kristen McManus, Linde Brewer, Samantha Nutter, Katie Whitmer, and Samantha Fulp. Alicia Lohmann and Josephine Chan served as mentors.



AOTF St. Catherine Challenge

The Denton, Dallas, and Houston cohorts of Texas Woman's University School of Occupational Therapy came together to support the AOTF St. Catherine Challenge. The St. Catherine Challenge is a student-led initiative to support the research grants provided by the American Occupational Therapy Foundation. Texas Woman's University was selected as the recipient of the "Rush to the Top" Award, which is given to the first-time participating school that raises the largest amount of money.



Noralyn Pickens, Cynthia Evetts, Francie Baxter, and Jennifer Burns.

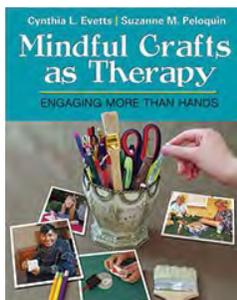
Featured Research and Grants

Cynthia Evetts– New Book!

***Mindful Crafts in Therapy: Engaging More than Hands* published by F.A. Davis**

Dr. Evetts co-authored a book with Dr. Suzanne Peloquin entitled “Mindful Crafts as Therapy: Engaging More Than Hands” (2017, F.A Davis). They describe a holistic intervention model grounded in theory and based on occupation-based principles that is applicable across the domain of occupational therapy.

This text offers a personalized and strategic approach to therapy for individuals with both mentally and physically challenging illnesses and disabling conditions. .



Noralyn Pickens \$215,126

The Access Ratings NextGen App: Funded by National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR)

Dr. Pickens, along with Co– PI Dr. Roger Smith (Univ Wisconsin-Milwaukee, R2D2 Center), has a 3 year NIDILRR award for the development of a Multi-faceted Software Evaluation for Home Reintegration. Along with Dr. Rochelle Mendonca of Temple University, they are in development of a new technology-based assessment and documentation system, called HESTIA.

HESTIA will provide an in-depth multi-faceted assessment to identify problems in the home environment that hamper a person's ability to successfully live as independently as possible.

The purpose of this system is to get a user friendly, thorough, yet efficient home environment assessment and outcomes tool.

Asha Vas- \$10,000

SMART program in Adults with Chronic Stroke– Woodcock Institute

The Woodcock Johnson grant supports Dr. Vas's goal to compare benefits of a brain training program called Strategic Memory Advanced Reasoning Training (SMART) in right hemisphere vs. left hemisphere stroke survivors. The SMART program, developed by scientists at center for BrainHealth, UT Dallas, teaches strategies to improve critical thinking skills including reasoning, abstraction, problem-solving, and memory.

Findings from the current study will highlight the effect of SMART on critical thinking skills; unique and common gains between right and left stroke survivors. Furthermore, the study aims to examine the generalizable gains of SMART on daily life activities.

Tina Fletcher and Leon Washington- \$10,000

Teaching and Research Grant for Equipment and Technology (TARGET)

Dr. Fletcher and Dr. Washington. received TARGET funds for a portable multi-sensory environment, known as a Snoezelen room, to promote emotional wellness, enhance communication skills, and enable relaxation. In the spring, the Dallas campus will use the room for training community partners who host autism events, and in the fall, the Denton campus will house the sensory room to collaborate with speech and language therapists when treating children with autism.

New Faculty Members



Asha Vas, OT, PhD
Assistant Professor– Dallas

Dr. Vas came to TWU from the Center for BrainHealth, University of Texas at Dallas as a Research Scientist.

Neuroscience, Traumatic Brain Injury, and Translational Research are her specialty areas and research interests.



Leon Washington, OTR, PhD
Assistant Professor-Denton

Dr. Washington came to TWU from Louisiana State University Shreveport, Shreveport, LA as an Assistant Professor.

His special area of interest is family systems and the cultural context of pediatric therapy.

Post-Professional Programs

PhD—OTD

OTD Graduates

2016 marked the first year of graduating OTD students. Established in 2014, the OTD program has engaged practicing occupational therapists in leadership for advance roles as master practitioners, advocates for client populations, and occupational therapy health related educators. The following lists the 2016 graduates:

Kim Brussard	Keith McWilliams
Julie Herbert	Erika Morales
Hope McCarroll	Bridgette Richardson
Keegan McCay	Monica Starkovich



Doctoral students gather in Houston for Qualitative Research and OT Instrumentation course workshops

PhD Graduates

The PhD in Occupational Therapy is primarily a research degree that prepares occupational therapists for advanced scholarly careers in academia and practice. We have listed the 2016 graduates with the title of their final dissertation.

May and August:

Florence Kay Brown: "Integrating Health Literacy into Occupational Therapy"

Mary Jan Greer- "Assessment of the Client Component of Spirituality To Determine Meaningful Occupations for Occupational Therapy Practice"

Jessica Lampert: "Social Participation: Perspectives on the Lived Experiences of Adolescents Who Have Visual Impairments"

Veronica Rowe: "Task Oriented Training and Evaluation at Home (TOTE Home)"

December:

Suzanne Burns- "Psychometric Evaluation of Multiple Errands Test Home Version (MET-HOME) in Adults with Mild and Moderate Stroke"

Mack Ivy- "The Role of Occupational Therapy in Palliative Care: Is it Perceived to be Beneficial by the Patient and Family?"

Jessica McHugh- "Idiopathic Toe Walking and Postural Instability: The Next Step"

Aimee Piller- "The Reliability of the Sensory Environment and Participation Questionnaire-Teacher Version"

Katrina Serwe- "Promoting Caregiver Wellness Through Telehealth: A Feasibility Study"

Linda Struckmeyer- "Reliability and Validity of the Home Environmental Assessment Protocol-Revised"

If you are interested in applying to the OTD program, please contact Diane Brown, OTR, PhD at dbrown@twu.edu to receive more information. If you are interested in applying for the PhD program please contact Patricia Bowyer, OTR EdD at pbowyer@twu.edu.



*Diane Brown, OTR, PhD
Associate Clinical Professor*



*Patricia Bowyer, OTR, EdD
Professor & Senior Scientist*

Faculty Collaborations

Dr. Patricia Bowyer— Mexico City, Mexico

With her collaborator from MDACC, Mr. Lauro Munoz, Dr. Bowyer taught a workshop in Mexico City at the Instituto de Terapia Ocupacional in July. The course was a 5-day intensive with a focus on knowledge and skill development of occupational practitioners (and students) working in community, rehabilitation and clinical settings (pediatric to adult).

Emphasis was placed on gaining a good understanding of the concepts of the Model of Human Occupation (MOHO) and then using that knowledge during case applications and site specific program development. Over 60 individuals participated over the 5-day peri-

od from across the country of Mexico. A one day was dedicated training with pediatric practitioners on use of the Short Child Occupational Profile (SCOPE) in practice. Dr. Cristina Bolaños is working with Dr. Bowyer on a Spanish version of the SCOPE.



Dr. Bowyer with SCOPE trainees in Mexico City

Dr. Marsha Neville— Recruiting OTs for research project

Dr. Neville is recruiting occupational therapists interested in piloting the Discharge Planning Assessment Planning (DPAT). The tool has two domains – confidence and self-care and accessibility with 12 subscales. The DPAT is used throughout hospital stay to assess and re-assess the patient's preparedness to return home.

If interested in learning more and piloting this tool contact: Marsha Neville at mneville1@twu.edu



School of Occupational Therapy
P.O. Box 425648
Denton, TX 76204-5648



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