

Welcome Class of 2019!



NSU
NOVA SOUTHEASTERN
UNIVERSITY

Tampa

OTD News
Volume VII, Issue 2



By: Laurene Bowe, Fieldwork Support Coordinator

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The Department of Occupational Therapy in Tampa held it's 2016 Entrance Colloquium for the class of 2019 from May 24 – 25, 2016. It was a very exciting and educational experience for faculty, staff and students. The students learned how to work as a team and rely on their own creativity to resolve the assigned project, which was to prepare and setup their lunch for the day. Faculty and Staff were included in the setup for eating and learned a few things also, such as how to peel a boiled egg with a spoon. This was the first time OTD staff attended the entrance colloquium. They were able to meet the students, learn some interesting facts about them, and also see what happens during this fun-filled event.



96th Annual AOTA Conference April 6-10

By: Marianna D'Amico, Ed.D., OTR/L, BCP, FAOTA

The primary goals of the AOTA Conference are to provide personal and professional networking, professional development, and dissemination of evidence based-information. The theme of conference in Chicago this year was “Evidence and Outcomes: Empowering the Profession.” Professional socialization is an integral part of becoming an active professional. The Tampa OTD Program provides support and encouragement for students to attend professional development at state and national conferences. Six OTD students attended the national conference engaging in many opportunities for learning, networking and developing leadership skills. They engaged with many of the profession’s leaders and experts in the field and the association. The students returned feeling powerful and fortified with more evidence based practice and future opportunities.

Faculty were very active at conference presenting papers, workshops and posters. See list below:

Papers:

Baxter, M. F. & Longpré, S. M. (2016, April). Identifying Assessment Practices in Occupational Therapy in Oncology Care. Poster presented at the Annual Conference of the American Occupational Therapy Association, Chicago, IL.

Workshop:

Richards, L., Alvarez, L., Bendixen, R., Classen, S., D'Amico, M., Doucet, B., Jirikowic, T., Page, S., & Smith, D. (2016, April). AJOT and OTJR Editors Share Tips To Get Your Manuscript Published. Workshop presented at the Annual Conference of the American Occupational Therapy Association, Chicago, IL.

Poster Presentations:

Baxter, M. F. & Longpré, S. M. (2016, April). Identifying Assessment Practices in Occupational Therapy in Oncology Care.

D'Amico, M., Carrasco, R. C., Reinoso, G. A., & Whaley, M. M. 2016, April. Evidence & applications of mindfulness in occupational therapy. Poster session presented at the Annual Conference of the American Occupational Therapy Association, Chicago, IL.



96th Annual AOTA Conference April 6-10

By: Emil Methipara, Jordan Powers, and Amanda Unruh

From April 7-10, 2016, we attended the American Occupational Therapy Association's national conference in Chicago, IL. It was a great opportunity to network with students and occupational therapy practitioners across the United States of America. We attended numerous short courses that were pertinent to our areas of interest. Some of these included:

- ◊ The Sensational Hand: The Role of Neurorehabilitation in the Management of the Orthopedic Upper Extremity
- ◊ Service Dog Training: An Experiential Learning Treatment Modality for Patients with Post Traumatic Stress
- ◊ Engaging in Sexual Activity
- ◊ Intimacy Post-Polytrauma Combat Injury: An Occupational Therapy Perspective
- ◊ Focusing on Fathers within Family-Centered Care

We chose to attend these courses because we wanted to further understand the role of occupational therapy in these practice areas and the skills needed to work in these settings. The keynote speakers really stood out and gave us a newfound passion through their heartfelt appreciation for occupational therapy. The Presidential farewell speech, the inaugural Presidential address, and the Eleanor Clarke Slagle lecture were all eye opening, empowering, and motivating for us, this solidified our decision that we were pursuing the right profession. It was a great experience and way to acknowledge our profession and how important occupational therapy services are to our future clients. We advise any student who is interested in attending the centennial conference in Philadelphia, PA, to apply for the subsidy because it is a fantastic learning experience. Overall, this was a wonderful opportunity that we sincerely cherish.



Emil Methipara, OTD-S



Jordan Powers, OTD-S



Amanda Unruh, OTD-S



OTD program faculty and students at NSU alumni reception.

Florida Occupational Therapy Association 2016

By: Ricardo C. Carrasco, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA

Gustavo Reinoso, Ph.D., OTR/L

NSU-Tampa Occupational Therapy Program and Leadership

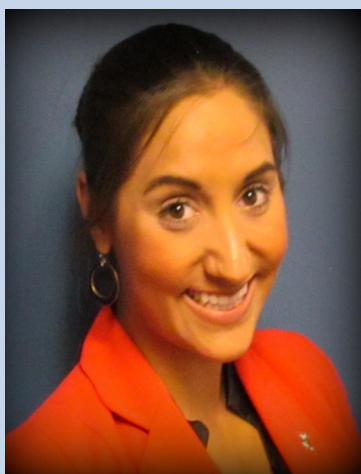
It seems like we hear the word leadership and the need and call for leaders more often. At times, we wonder if the engine for this call is a societal need for reputable and authentic leaders. Leaders who are ready and willing to tackle the many problems that we face today. The concept of leadership has significantly evolved over time and so has our professional view of it. Thus, both the discipline of occupational therapy and its practitioners recognize the importance of leadership as we approach our centennial anniversary.

The OTD-Tampa program looks at the multiple opportunities for our students to discover and reflect upon leadership narratives within themselves, their families, their course professors, their advisers and the larger community. By carefully designing educational experiences, our curriculum makes a significant effort to develop and make tangible the many and different competencies in leadership within the profession. These explicit and implicit opportunities are threads embedded in all of our didactic and experiential components.

It is with great enthusiasm that we see our students Jonathan Pitts OTD-S, Jordan Powers, OTD-S and Cheryl Mae Granada OTD-S joining the Florida Occupational Therapy Association as Student Resource Writers. Congratulations!



Jonathan Pitts, OTD-S



Jordan Powers, OTD-S



Cheryl Mae Granada, OTD-S

2016 Student Life Achievement Awards

By: Mirtha Whaley, Ph.D., OTR/L

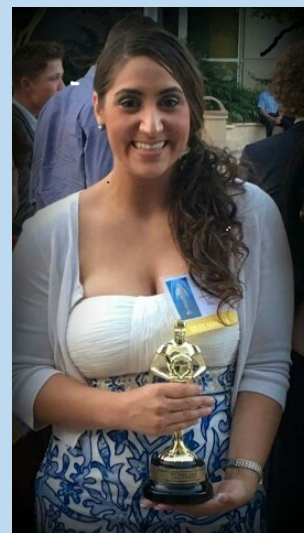
Our Entry Level Doctor of Occupational Therapy Program in Tampa was well represented at the Seventeenth Annual Student Life Achievement Awards (STUEYs) on April 12, at the Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center in Fort Lauderdale, with a finalist in each of four categories as follows: Dr. Ricardo Carrasco, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, Professor and Program Director, nominated for Administrator of the Year; Mirtha M. Whaley, Ph.D., MPH, OTR/L, Assistant Professor, nominated for Professor of the Year; Karla Quiñones, Program Support Coordinator, nominated for Staff Person of the Year; and Jordan Powers, third year OTD student, finalist and winner in the category of Regional Campus Student of the Year.

All NSU faculty, staff, and students are eligible for nomination. Finalists are selected by the Nominating Committee comprised of professionals across all NSU campuses representing our various colleges, centers, schools, and departments. Finalists represent the embodiment of NSU's core values of Academic Excellence, Student Centeredness, Integrity, Innovation, Opportunity, Scholarship/Research, Diversity, and Community

Award finalists and their guests enjoyed an evening of festivities, beginning with a reception honoring all finalists, who were presented with a beautiful crystal trophy in the form of a shark fin, fashioned after the NSU mascot. At the award presentation honorees and their guests were treated to skits, musical, and dance performances, showcasing NSU talent. For those of us representing the regional campuses, our evening culminated with a dinner at Buca di Beppo hosted by the Division of Student Affairs. Our thanks to Brittany Matthews, Assistant Director of Student Affairs in the Tampa Campus for her assistance with travel and accommodations, and to all Regional Campus Student Affairs personnel for a wonderful celebration.



Dr. Mirtha M. Whaley, Dr. Ricardo C. Carrasco, Dr. George L. Hanbury II, NSU President, Karla M. Quinoñes



Jordan Powers, OTD-S

Publications & Research



By: Professor Sheila Longpré, M.O.T., OTR/L

The May edition of the SIS Practice Connection Quarterly published by the American Occupational Therapy Association featured one Nova Southeastern University OTD alumni and two members of the faculty.

Ni “Annie” He-Strocchio and Professor Sheila M. Longpré wrote an article for the Physical Disabilities Special Interest Section which was titled: The Impact of Occupational Therapy Services for Individuals Transitioning through Neuro-Oncology Care.



Ni “Annie” He-Strocchio, OTD
OTR/L



Sheila M. Longpré, Ph.D.(c),
MOT, OTR/L

Dr. Mariana D’Amico, along with her colleagues, Drs. Elizabeth G. Hunter and Robert Gibson wrote: AOTA Critically Appraised Topic Series: Cancer.



Mariana D’Amico, EdD,
OTR/L, BCP, FAOTA

By: Ricardo C. Carrasco, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA

Bryce Carsone, OTD-S, Class of 2017 has been selected from a national pool of occupational therapy students to be one of 20 scholars during the first annual Summer Institute of Future Scientists in Occupational Therapy. The one-day program will match the scholars with leading occupational therapy scientist mentors to address topics such as possibilities within occupational therapy science, considerations when evaluating potential doctoral programs, and career opportunities as scientist. The summer scholarship includes a one-day institute and a 2-day summit on May 20 and 21-22, 2016 respectively.



Bryce Carsone, OTD-S

Community Presentation



By: Mirtha Whaley, Ph.D., OTR/L

“Empowering Women Around the World”



On March 23, 2016, and as part of several events in observation of National Women’s Month, Dr. Whaley was invited to present to faculty, staff, and students in our Tampa Campus on the topic of women and empowerment. Dr. Whaley’s presentation, *Empowering Women Around the World*, was both timely and consistent with her views on social and occupational justice as an occupational therapist and an individual.

Empowerment speaks of strength, of self-confidence, especially around issues related to the amount of control we have over our lives, and how capable claiming our rights we feel. For women, lack of empowerment is a kind of global epidemic, and one that creates and supports disparities in education, health, personal safety, and economic opportunities. Factors such as lack of parity in education and employment, cultural beliefs, and moral judgments, affect women’s health, reproductive choices, and protection from victimization. These factors range in intensity and risk from those we experience in the United States, to more severe forms of restrictions and abuse which actually endanger women’s lives around the world.

Dr. Whaley shared some sobering facts about young girls and women worldwide. For instance: One in three women worldwide are victims of gender violence in their lifetime (USAID, 2015).

Over one quarter of a million women worldwide die from complications of pregnancy and childbirth; 15 to 20 million experience impairments related to their pregnancies; approximately 225 million who would like to postpone pregnancy lack access to contraceptives (World Health Organization, 2015)
50% of individuals infected with HIV are young girls and women between 15 and 49 years of age (United States Agency for International Development, 2012).

In developing countries, 25% of girls are unable to obtain an education. Among those girls and young women able to attend school, there is an increase of 10 to 20% in their earning power for every year of secondary education they are able to complete (Rodriguez-Perez, 2016).

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Community Presentation “Continued”



By: Mirtha Whaley, Ph.D., OTR/L

“Empowering Women Around the World”

Women’s earnings are associated with sustainability, as they use their earnings to purchase goods and invest in their communities, and thus have an impact on community development (United States Agency for International Development, 2015).

Estimates of the effect of women’s participation in formal labor markets indicate the gross domestic product (GDP) would increase by as much as 26% if women could achieve parity (The Clinton Foundation, n.d; United States Agency for International Development, 2015).

Education allows young women to postpone marriage, have smaller families, ensure their children also receive an education, experience improvements in health and living conditions, and decrease their risk of HIV infection (Chaudhary, Chani, & Pervaiz, 2012; McCleary-Sills, Douglas, Rwehumbiza, Hamisi, Mabala, 2011).

There are several modifiable factors that can serve as entry points to empowering women worldwide (Chaudhary, Chani, & Pervaiz, 2012).

- Education

- Improved nutrition

- Access to and improved health care in general, but very importantly, access to maternal care

- Opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship

- Opportunities for political engagement

Ultimately, empowering women and achieving gender equality is not just about social and occupational justice. Empowerment helps women create stable homes, promotes sustainable development of cities and communities, and facilitates economic stability (Chaudhary, Chani, & Pervaiz, 2012).

Welcome New OTD Staff



By: *Laurene Bowe, CAP, MBA*

The Department of Occupational Therapy at the Nova Southeastern University Tampa Campus welcomes Laurene Bowe as the new Fieldwork Support Coordinator. Laurene has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Central Florida (1996) in Business Administration and an M.B.A. from Nova Southeastern University (2003).

Prior to working for the OTD program, Laurene worked as a program coordinator at University of South Florida – Center for Advance Medical Learning and Simulation (CAMLs), a marketing coordinator at Strang Communications a publishing firm, as the director of the Small Business Development Center at Daytona State College, and various other positions. Laurene has three daughters and three grandchildren that keep her extremely busy. She was born and raised in Pittsburgh, Pa., and has lived in the Central Florida area since 1985.



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Student Occupational Therapy Association (SOTA)

By: Melissa Harden, OTD-S

The Student Occupational Therapy Association (SOTA) at NSU's Tampa campus has continued to be involved on campus as well as in the community. Members are encouraged to participate in service learning opportunities in order to advocate for occupational therapy and support those who are in need.

This year, SOTA students completed a total of 613 service hours. These hours were completed nationwide with organizations such as: the Alzheimer's Association, American Cancer Society, American Red Cross, Autism Speaks, Merrill Animal Clinic, USF-Byrd Alzheimer's Institute, Florida Occupational Therapy Association (FOTA), CarFit, Pacific Beach Farmer's Market, Central Park Nursing and Rehabilitation, Florida Occupational Therapy Education Consortium (FLOTEC), churches, public schools, triathlons, NSU-Tampa Open House events, NSU OTD new student orientation, and many other amazing outreach opportunities. This year, SOTA recognized members who completed the most service learning hours. First place was Tara Johnson (Class of 2016) who completed 106 hours. Tyler Lacertosa (Class of 2017) came in second place with 84 hours. Third place was Cheryl Mae Granada (Class of 2017) for completing 45 hours. SOTA would like to congratulate Tara, Tyler, Cheryl Mae, and all of our members for the outstanding job they did to make NSU and the community a better place.

If you are an OTD student and would like more information on SOTA and the many things that we do to add to the NSU experience for our members, please feel free to attend one of our meetings and consider joining our organization. Meetings are held at 1pm on the first day of institute. Dues are \$25 per year or \$15 per semester.



Pi Theta Epsilon Beta Delta -Tampa

By: Cheryl Mae Granada, OTD-S

Pi Theta Epsilon Beta Delta (PTE) Tampa members elected a new executive board for the 2016-2017 term. The PTE members voted during the February chapter meeting after all candidate speeches. The elected officers are as follows:

President: Kerri Easterling
Vice President: Kelsea Rose Grampp
Treasurer: Lydia Fritzsche
Secretary: Cheryl Mae Granada

The new executive board revised the PTE Executive Board Position Roles, implemented new membership requirements, and created a tentative calendar for campus and community events that encompass the following: mental health, children and youth, and physical disability settings. The most recent events organized by PTE to uphold scholastic excellence and service contributions include the campus and community event, Evening with a Scholar Lecture Series and the Boy Scout Disability Awareness event.

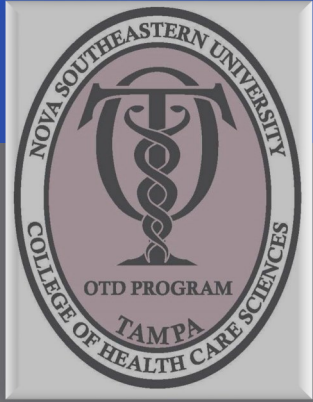
The first annual Evening with A Scholar Lecture Series held on March 24, 2016, featured Dr. Christine Helfrich PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA. Dr. Helfrich was invited due to her extensive work with populations who are vulnerable including: individuals who are/have been homeless, survivors of domestic violence and their children, and individuals with mental illness. After dinner Dr. Helfrich's presented *Occupational therapy's role with underserved populations: Why are jigsaw puzzles and playing dominoes so important?* She covered many lived experiences of people who were homeless and emphasized the role of occupational therapy with this population. Conversation followed after the presentation covering this emerging practice area and how students can help in the effort of enhancing participation and well-being in this setting.

The first community event of the 2016-2017 term took place at Saint Leo University on May 7, 2016. PTE members taught classes to Boy Scouts aged 9-12, on people-first language, durable medical equipment (DME), assistive devices, adaptive sports, and advocacy. The purpose was to educate the Boy Scouts on people with disabilities in order for eligibility for their Disability Awareness Merit Badge. After video presentations and an interactive discussion, the Boy Scouts were able to use some DME such as wheelchairs and crutches. At the end of the day the boys were engaged with the classes and were excited to get their Merit Badge. The current executive board of PTE looks forward to the upcoming academic year!



Alumni Corner

By: Sheila M. Longpré, MOT, OTR/L



Congratulations to the eleven students in the class of 2015 who have passed their NBCOT exam:

Hillary Whitacre Anderson

Chelsea Bryant

Lillian Freeman

Ni (“Annie”) He-Strocchio

Larry Holmes

Hillarie Hough

Kristin McMillen

Shree Patel

Ashley Stedman

Stephanie Sylvia

Jamie Williams

Congratulations to Ni “Annie” He-Strocchio for her first publication!

He-Strocchio, N. & Longpré, S. M. (May, 2016). The impact of occupational therapy services for individuals transitioning through neuro-oncology care. *SIS Quarterly: A supplement to OT Practice*, 1(2), 21-23.



Student Accomplishments

The Nova Southeastern University Tampa Regional Campus Entry-Level Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) Program congratulates OTD students for a job well done during the Winter semester.



Chancellor's List

3.8 G.P.A. or higher

Class of 2016

- ♦ Bartels, Kimberly
- ♦ Crabb, Tara
- ♦ Key, Crystal
- ♦ Mathew, Nikita
- ♦ Meach, Lee
- ♦ Parhar, Jaslin
- ♦ Pignon, Amanda
- ♦ Rosen, Mara
- ♦ Sargent, Brittaney
- ♦ Taylor, Shannon
- ♦ Walsh, Kelly
- ♦ Whitworth, Brittany

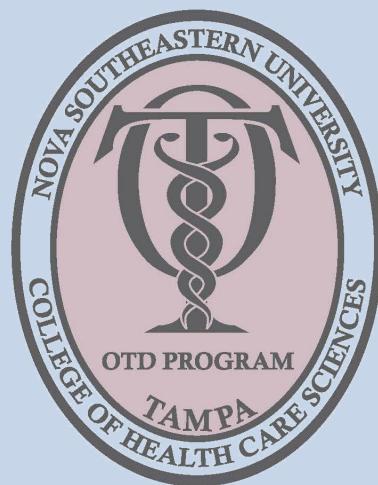
Class of 2017

- ♦ Bellare, Nicole
- ♦ Carsone, Bryce
- ♦ Chernekoff, Rachel
- ♦ Easterling, Kerri
- ♦ Edberg, Ashley
- ♦ Fritzsche, Lydia
- ♦ Granada, Cheryl Mae
- ♦ Henry, Tasha
- ♦ Imwalle, Rachel
- ♦ Jamison, Justin
- ♦ Kozee, Nicole

- ♦ Lacertosa, Tyler
- ♦ McCastle, Anna
- ♦ Pandya, Aesha
- ♦ Pitts, Jonathan
- ♦ Powers, Jordan
- ♦ Unruh, Amanda
- ♦ Weldon, Sarah
- ♦ Wray, Chane

Class of 2018

- ♦ Anderson, Dacoda
- ♦ Brussee, Alyssa
- ♦ Damitz, Kristin
- ♦ Deuman, Sarah
- ♦ Donohue, Kelsey
- ♦ Haxby, Summer
- ♦ Hughes, Reagan
- ♦ Hunnicutt, Carlnessia
- ♦ Isaacs, Michelle
- ♦ Lacina, Jessica
- ♦ Rose, Jaclyn
- ♦ Treadway, Lauren
- ♦ Wall, Rebecca
- ♦ Yavarone, Charlotte



Student Accomplishments *cont...*

The Nova Southeastern University Tampa Regional Campus Entry-Level Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) Program congratulates OTD students for a job well done during the Summer semester.



Dean's List

3.6 to 3.79 G.P.A

Class of 2016

- ♦ Cinco, Kristine
- ♦ Dadez, Megan
- ♦ Jackson, Korie
- ♦ Walker, Yazmin
- ♦ Yetman, Kim
- ♦ Zagoria, Molly

Class of 2017

- ♦ Grampp, Kelsea Rose
- ♦ Hayes, Michelle
- ♦ Lopez, Jessica
- ♦ Malavalli, Sunayana
- ♦ Malikayil, Rajesh
- ♦ Mathew, Nikita
- ♦ Methipara, Emil
- ♦ Pignon, Amanda
- ♦ Schuster, Elizabeth

- ♦ Weber, Rachel

Class of 2018

- ♦ Del Castillo, Stephanie
- ♦ Grullon, Emily
- ♦ Knight, Kimberly
- ♦ Lockhart, Olandria
- ♦ Morrison, Melisa
- ♦ Parker, Emilie
- ♦ Patterson, Blakeney
- ♦ Perez, Jessica
- ♦ Rasmussen, Kari
- ♦ Rilee Jessica
- ♦ Runyan, Kristina
- ♦ Varner, Catherine

