

Elizabethtown College
Occupational Therapy Department
Occupational Therapy Graduate Research Symposium
2021



**The Continuous Journey of Inquiry: Grounding
Occupational Therapy in Research**

April 19, 2021
Sponsored by
Pi Theta Epsilon
Upsilon Chapter

**The Occupational Therapy Faculty and Graduate Students
welcome you to**

***The Occupational Therapy Graduate
Research Symposium 2021***

**Elizabethtown College
April 19, 2021**

5:00-5:40 Opening Remarks
Nancy Ann Carlson, Ph.D, OTR/L
Associate Professor, Occupational Therapy

Keynote Speaker:
Lorie Gage Richards, Ph.D, OTR/L

**Masters Project Presentations will be held
concurrently in virtual format via the Zoom links
listed in each Graduate Project**

**Recording, downloading and/or photographing
of the OT Graduate Research Symposium
events is strictly prohibited.**

***SPECIAL NOTE:* CEU's will be awarded to attending clinicians
who have registered for this Graduate Symposium
on the evening of April 19, 2021, only.**

Time		PDU
5:00-5:40	Welcome and Opening Remarks; Keynote Address Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/92543712709	.75
Time	MASTERS PROJECT PRESENTATIONS	PDU
5:50–6:20	<p><i>A Portrayal of Occupational Therapy in Media from 2019: A Content Analysis</i> Graduate Students: Sarah Hawkins, Leanna Miller, Christiana Onimus, Lauren Scheib Faculty Mentor: Judy Beck Ericksen, Ph.D, OTR/L Purpose: The purpose of this study was to explore the portrayal of the profession in the media and to analyze it in relation to published definitions of occupational therapy as disseminated by the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA). A sample of articles collected by AOTA’s Media Relations Office and posted on their website was utilized. Research Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify/describe how the media on the <i>OT in the News</i> section portrays OT. • Compare and contrast the portrayal of OT through the <i>OT in the News</i> compilation with the image of OT in mainstream media. • Compare and contrast the image of OT on the <i>OT in the News</i> with the definition of OT AOTA provides. Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/93208415673	.50
5:50–6:20	<p><i>Community Reentry Programs and Their Impacts on Reentrants’ Daily Occupations</i> Graduate Students: Tajanae Baker, Hali Eckenrode, Sarah Guttman, Hannah Leibensperger Faculty Mentor: Tamera Keiter Humbert, D.Ed., OTR/L Purpose: The purpose of this phenomenological analysis is to contribute to a community-wide needs assessment to further understand the voids in services provided to reentry programs. Research Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlight the perspectives of both reentry program service providers and service recipients. • Understand the need for and extent of services provided. • Provide insights to reentry programs’ impact on the occupational performance of reentrants. Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/95494720304	.50
5:50–6:20	<p><i>To Splint or Not to Splint?: Initial Therapist Perspectives of a Decision Tree for Upper Extremity Splinting after Acquired Brain Injury</i> Graduate Students: Hailey Alger, Natalie Capone, Emily Fishkind, Ian McDowell Faculty Mentor: Gina Fox, OTD, OTR/L Purpose: The purpose of this study was to develop a decision tree to guide clinical reasoning of occupational therapy practitioners working in inpatient rehabilitation when considering the use of upper extremity splints with the acquired brain injury population. Following the development of a decision tree, we sought to understand clinicians’ perspectives of the utility of our decision tree, and we used their feedback to further improve the tool. Research Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the most prominent factors inpatient rehabilitation occupational therapists consider when splinting clients after an acquired brain injury. • Discuss how the components of the decision tree impact clinical decision making related to splinting after acquired brain injury. • Describe how a decision tree for splinting after acquired brain injury may be applied within practice. Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/91313948051	.50

Time		PDU
5:50-6:20	<p><i>Interoceptive Awareness: Are you “feeling” the need to regulate?</i> Graduate Students: Claudia Jones, Joseph Sensenig, Amber Sheesley, Phoebe Thomasco Faculty Mentors: Kerri Hample OTD, OTR/L, FMCHC, and Kelly Mahler, OTD, OTR/L Purpose: The aim of this study was to determine the effectiveness of a 25-week school-based intervention based on The Interoception Curriculum: A Guide to Developing Mindful Self-Regulation (IC©) in improving interoception and emotional regulation in a pediatric population with ASD. Research Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine if an interoception-based intervention is an effective approach for improving emotional regulation in children with ASD. <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/95112960210</p>	.50
5:50-6:20	<p><i>The Brain-Body Center Sensory Scales: How Does it Fit into Traditional Sensory Processing Evaluation?</i> Graduate Students: Elizabeth Anderson, Courtney Gelb, Nameer Kazzaz Faculty Mentor: Nancy Carlson, Ph.D, OTR/L Purpose: The purpose of our research is to increase the validity of the BBC Sensory Scales by comparing it with another sensory assessment commonly used in occupational therapy, the Sensory Profile. Research Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the sensory patterns and preferences for the selected cases. • Describe how the information in the BBCSS complements existing OT sensory assessments. • Explain why the BBCSS can be used as an interdisciplinary tool by professionals outside of the discipline of occupational therapy. <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/97600319495</p>	.50
6:25-6:55	<p><i>Effectiveness of Sensory Based Interventions in School Settings: A Mixed Methods Research Synthesis</i> Graduate Students: Ashleigh Denault, Sara Lingo, Lenea Riehl, Zoe Spadaro Faculty Mentor: Judy Beck Ericksen, Ph.D, OTR/L Purpose: The purpose of this mixed methods research synthesis is to analyze the effectiveness of occupational therapy sensory based interventions (SBIs) within an academic setting in order to provide information which helps school based occupational therapists determine which interventions may be most effective given client characteristics and contexts. Research Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand components and examples of SBIs. • Differentiate between SBIs that have strong supporting evidence and those which have weaker supporting evidence. • Discuss contexts under which SBIs have been more effective. <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/93208415673</p>	.50

Time		PDU
6:25-6:55	<p><i>Traumatic Brain Injury and Grief: A Phenomenological Approach in Occupational Therapy</i> Graduate Students: Megan Delaney, Emily Frenz, Olivia Geiger, Katherine Krus Faculty Mentor: Tamera Keiter Humbert, D.Ed., OTR/L Purpose: This research seeks to fill the gap in knowledge and better understand OTPs perception of the grieving processes in individuals with a TBI and how they address it in practice. Research Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand how OTPs observe and address changes in occupational performance in individuals after a TBI. • Understand how OTPs observe individuals post-TBI experiencing grief. • Learn how OTPs perceive grief impacting an individual's recovery following a TBI. • Recognize how OTPs understand and address grief in the occupational therapy process and if it is effective. <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/95494720304</p>	.50
6:25-6:55	<p><i>The Effects of Mindfulness Apps on College Students' Stress and Occupational Performance</i> Graduate Students: Alyssa Ginder, Sarah Helt, Lianna Procida, Cameron Robbins Faculty Mentor: Terri Reichley Dennehy, D.Ed., OTR/L Purpose: The purpose of this qualitative inquiry is to examine the effects of mindfulness apps on emerging adult college students' stress and occupational performance. Research Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify pre and during COVID stressors of emerging adult college students. • Examine the impact of mindfulness apps on perceived stress. • Understand benefits of mindfulness apps for occupational performance. • Examine the preferences of scripted versus free app utility for learners. <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/97264527484</p>	.50
6:25-6:55	<p><i>Toileting Difficulty in Childhood Autism: Pilot Study using Interoception, Nutrition, and Pelvic Floor Interventions</i> Graduate Students: Isobelle Hughes, Jessica Kutteroff, Rebecca Leary Faculty Mentor: Kerri Hample, OTD, OTR/L, FMCHC, NBC-HWC Purpose: The purpose of this study is to find an occupational therapy intervention that helps decrease constipation in children with autism through the relationship of interoception, nutrition, and pelvic floor functioning. Research Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize the importance of interoception, nutrition, and pelvic floor functioning on toileting in children with autism. • Identify effective interventions for nutrition, pelvic floor, and interoception to address toileting in the pediatric autism population. • Expand your skillset to include evidence-based toileting assessment and interventions. <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/95112960210</p>	.50

Time	MASTERS PROJECT PRESENTATIONS / POSTERS	PDU
6:25-6:55	<p><i>The Effectiveness of Advanced Pneumatic Compression Devices in the Treatment of Lymphedema: A Systematic Review</i> Graduate Students: Delaney Klepper, Kaitlyn Knecht, Jessica Pron, Melanie Schuller Faculty Mentor: Daniel Panchik, D.Sc., OTR/L CLT/LANA Purpose: Advanced pneumatic compression devices (APCDs) contain multiple programmable sleeves and algorithms designed to mimic manual lymph drainage. Patients may utilize APCDs to manage symptoms at home. This study aimed to determine the effectiveness of APCDs in the treatment of lymphedema through completion of a systematic review. Research Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate the effectiveness of advanced pneumatic compression devices in the treatment of lymphedema. • Guide occupational therapy practitioners' decision-making in recommending advanced pneumatic compression devices for in-home use. • Analyze the impact of advanced pneumatic compression devices on quality of life. <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/97600319495</p>	.50
7:00-7:30	<p><i>Enhancing Child and Family Engagement in Social and Community Participation: Outcomes of an Early Intervention Sensory Motor Group</i> Graduate Students: Erin Doherty, Maria Giamba, Sarah Posey, Alexis Preston Faculty Mentor: Diane Martin, OTD, OTR/L Purpose: The purpose of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness of an EI sensory motor playgroup protocol. The protocol in question aims to enhance infant social participation in family and community engagement. Research Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the importance of parents' perspectives of their child's ability to successfully participate in social settings following the early intervention sensory motor play group. • Examine parents' level of comfort when engaging in community outing following participation in the early intervention sensory motor group. • Identify how participation in an early intervention sensory motor group improves parent confidence in engaging their children in their natural contexts. <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/93208415673</p>	.50
7:00-7:30	<p><i>Knowledge of Trauma Informed Care in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit</i> Graduate Students: Anajulia Blanch, Jessica Clark, Lydia Lawson, Jesse Sartor Faculty Mentor: Erica Wentzel, OTD, OTR/L Purpose: This research aims to explore the knowledge of NICU nursing staff about TIC, determine if a TIC educational intervention significantly changes nurses' TIC knowledge, and establish the importance of incorporating a TIC approach in treatment plans for all members of the interprofessional NICU team, including OTPs. Research Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the long-term implications of trauma. • Analyze the importance of adopting a TIC approach in the NICU setting. • Examine how professionals' knowledge can change after an educational intervention. <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/95494720304</p>	.50

Time	MASTERS PROJECT PRESENTATIONS / POSTERS	PDU
7:00-7:30	<p><i>Caring for Caregivers of Stroke: An Exploratory Study to Define Occupational Therapy's Role</i> Graduate Students: Hannah Paymer, Allison Plotts, Madison Tyrrell, Abigail Whitehead Faculty Mentor: Angela Salvadia, Ed.D, OTR/L Purpose: The purpose of this study is to understand how OTPs across the continuum of care perceive their role with caregivers of stroke. Research Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Become aware of key issues for caregivers of stroke. • Understand barriers and facilitators of treating caregivers of stroke. • Inform OTPs and other members of the stroke care team in meeting the needs of informal caregivers. <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/91313948051</p>	.50
7:00-7:30	<p><i>Perceptions of OTA/OT Students on Virtual Immersive Learning for Intraprofessional Collaboration</i> Graduate Students: Emily Buss, Scarlett Lehman, Jordan Sobolesky, Ceara Woelfel Faculty Mentor: Terri Reichley Dennehy, D.Ed., OTR/L Purpose: The purpose of this qualitative, online synchronous focus group inquiry is to understand the perceptions of occupational therapy and occupational therapy assistant students on virtual immersive intraprofessional collaborative learning and skill development. Research Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine how virtual forms of outreach impacted relational development. • Identify how specific skills were practiced during immersive educational experiences. • Detail specific educational activities that supported development of intraprofessional relationships. • Discuss virtual platforms for OTA/OT student collaboration. <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/97264527484</p>	.50
7:00-7:30	<p><i>Exploring the daily life of adults with congenital heart disease during the COVID-19 pandemic</i> Graduate Students: Julia Aleo, Samantha Bailey, Erin Dart, Meghan Matje Faculty Mentor: Deborah Waltermire, DrPH, OTR/L Purpose: This study aims to understand the impact of the current pandemic on the daily lives of adults with congenital heart defects (CHD). Research Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify how adults with CHD have experienced changes in daily routines and occupations, including leisure, self-care, work, school, and social participation. • Understand additional stressors and concerns present in this population during the pandemic. • Help occupational therapists and/or other health professions provide support and meet the needs of adults with CHD. <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/97600319495</p>	.50

*This is the seventeenth anniversary of the
Occupational Therapy Graduate
Research Symposium.*

No effort of this magnitude is possible as a solitary pursuit.
To that end, please thank the OT Graduate Research Symposium
Committee for their efforts in making this celebration of scholarship
and occupational therapy possible.

Committee Chair

Nancy Ann Carlson, Ph.D, OTR/L

Administrative Assistant

Jean Dietrich

Committee Members

Graduates:

Courtney Gelb

President, Pi Theta Epsilon

Emily Fishkind

Sarah Hawkins

Sara Lingo

Pi Theta Epsilon:

Hannah Dinsmore

Rebecca Kruse

Dana Morykan

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