

Elizabethtown College
Occupational Therapy Department
Occupational Therapy Graduate Research Symposium
2023



**“Forging Our Pathways:
Using Evidence as a Foundation for
Occupational Therapy Practice”**

April 24, 2023
Sponsored by
Pi Theta Epsilon
Upsilon Chapter

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

The Occupational Therapy Graduate Research Symposium 2023

**Elizabethtown College
April 24, 2023**

(Closed Captioning provided for all sessions.)

5:00-5:40

Opening Remarks

Debbie Waltermire, DrPH, OTR/L
Associate Professor
BS/MS Program Director,
Occupational Therapy

Keynote Speaker

Jessica Levy, MS, OTR/L
PP-OTD Candidate, Elizabethtown College

Ms. Levy graduated from Etown in 2006 with her masters degree in OT. This May she will graduate from Etown again, in our inaugural post professional doctoral cohort. Ms. Levy is in the Armed Forces, and is stationed at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany, where she works with school aged children; she is breaking ground on trauma informed care within the US military overseas.

**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:* Up to 2.70 Contact Hours will be awarded to attending clinicians
who have registered for this Graduate Symposium
on the evening of April 24, 2023 only.
Registration will be available at 4pm on the
evening of the Symposium at**

<https://www.etown.edu/depts/occupational-therapy/index.aspx>

Time		PDU
5:00-5:40	<p>Welcome and Opening Remarks; Keynote Address</p> <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/91493698052</p>	.70
Time	MASTERS PROJECT PRESENTATIONS	PDU
5:45–6:15	<p><i>Occupational Therapy Educational Splinting Tool (OTEST): A Decision Tree to Branch the Clinical Reasoning Gap in Novice Practitioners and Fieldwork II Students</i> Graduate Students: Jillian Benedetti, Morgan Gibau, Robin Hill, Natalie Shearer Faculty Mentor: Gina Fox, OTD, OTR/L</p> <p>Purpose: This research explored how the OTEST guided novice occupational therapy practitioners' clinical reasoning when recommending a splint for clients with upper extremity motor impairments after an acquired brain injury. The purpose was to gather a mentor-mentee pair's perspective of the OTEST's utility to examine the OTEST's impact on clinical reasoning.</p> <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/95710667323</p>	.50
5:45–6:15	<p><i>iNPH and Quality of Life: Stories of Thrivers and Survivors</i> Graduate Students: Emmie Brommer, Lila Brown, Sarah Hartinger, Chloe Lantz, Rachael Marino, Des'ree McCloud, Jess Principe Faculty Mentor: Nancy Carlson, PhD., OTR/L</p> <p>Purpose: The purpose of this study is to determine how idiopathic Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus (iNPH) compromised meaningful occupation and how subsequent shunt surgery improved engagement in those meaningful occupations in the lives of individuals with the condition.</p> <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/93278717399</p>	.50
5:45–6:15	<p><i>Utility of eTherapy as an Occupational Therapy Assessment and Intervention: A Case Study</i> Graduate Students: Lucy Conrey, Sofia Gonda, Allison Nardi, Emma Romeo Faculty Mentor: Daniel Panchik, D.Sc., OTR/L</p> <p>Purpose: The purpose of this study is to contribute to the instrument development of eTherapy and investigate the utility for use as an occupational therapy intervention and assessment. eTherapy is a smartphone application paired with motion capture Notch sensors that has potential utility in the clinic and as a home program.</p> <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/96188899784</p>	.50

Time		PDU
6:20-6:50	<p><i>Exploring Occupational Therapy's Role in Maternal Health: A Needs Assessment to Inform Education for Prevention of Musculoskeletal Disorders in Mothers</i> Graduate Students: Taylor Allen, Veronica Martonik, Jaime McNabb, Jillian Meitzler Faculty Mentor: Gina Fox, OTD, OTR/L</p> <p>Purpose: Musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) are significantly researched within the work environment; however, the impact childcare and parenting have on the development of MSDs is not currently described. The purpose of this study is to understand the perceived impacts of MSDs on mothers' occupational performance (OP) to develop future preventative programming.</p> <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/95710667323</p>	.50
6:20-6:50	<p><i>Holding Hands & Helping Hearts Amongst the Congenital Heart Disease Population</i> Graduate Students: Nichole Magnus, Clare Marchese, Christina Mercincavage, Kayla Wolf Faculty Mentor: Deborah Waltermire, DrPH, OTR/L</p> <p>Purpose: The purpose of this study is to explore potential gaps in services that are currently offered for adults with congenital heart disease (CHD) and to address the possible unmet needs of this population from the patient perspective through secondary data analysis of a recent survey completed amongst adults with CHD.</p> <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/93278717399</p>	.50
6:20-6:50	<p><i>Discovering the Role of School-Based Occupational Therapy Practitioners in Working with Bereaved Children</i> Graduate Students: Katlyn Harper, Sydney Leete, Zachary Petiet, Emma Sprado Faculty Mentor: Erica Wentzel, OTD, OTR/L</p> <p>Purpose: The aim of this study is to discover and understand the role and perceptions of school-based occupational therapy practitioners (SBOTPs) surrounding the phenomena of working with bereaved children in a school setting. This study utilized a qualitative phenomenological approach to understand how SBOTPs support bereaved children in a school setting. We utilized a survey and focus group in order to retrieve qualitative data from practicing SBOTPs.</p> <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/96188899784</p>	.50

Time		PDU
6:55-7:25	<p><i>Taking the Stress Out of Eating: A Case Study to Improve Occupational Performance</i> Graduate Students: Gracie Brubaker, Jillian Nichols, Hannah Smith Faculty Mentor: Kerri Hample, OTR/L, FMCHC, NBC-HWC</p> <p>Purpose: The purpose of our study is to determine the effectiveness of utilizing an OT coaching intervention in conjunction with Functional Medicine Health Coaching (FMHC) principles for a caregiver of a child with sensory processing challenges and selective eating.</p> <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/95710667323</p>	.50
6:55-7:25	<p><i>The Relationship Between Interoception and Anxiety in Autistic and Non-Autistic Adults</i> Graduate Students: Catherine Amos, Emily Martini, Madelyn Vingom Faculty Mentor: Kelly Mahler, OTD, OTR/L & Rachael Thompson, BSc, PGCE with QTS, PGCert Sensory Integration, MSc Occupational Therapy</p> <p>Purpose: The purpose of our research is to evaluate the interactions between autism, anxiety, and interoception through self-report measures to better understand how to occupationally support autistic individuals with persistent anxiety.</p> <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/93278717399</p>	.50

(continued next page)

Time		PDU
7:30-8:00	<p><i>The Pandemic and Play: A Mixed-Methods Study on the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Parent-Child Play</i> Graduate Students: Jenna Curtiss, Liz Heaney, Emily Pellicano, Katie Wilkes Faculty Mentor: Mikayla Kemmerly, OTD, OTR/L</p> <p>Purpose: The purpose of this study was to discover the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on parent-child play and parent perspectives of parent-child play and its quality.</p> <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/95710667323</p>	.50
7:30-8:00	<p><i>How Does Preschool Prepare Students for Kindergarten Readiness Regarding Fine Motor Development?</i> Graduate Students: Casey Nathan, Janelle Nolt, Cindy Tellez, Allison Velardi Faculty Mentor: Colette Hinton, OTD, OTR/L</p> <p>Purpose: The purpose of our research is to address the gap in research concerning how the perspectives of different preschool and kindergarten teachers may vary regarding fine motor development in their classrooms leading to a range of student abilities at the start of kindergarten.</p> <p>Join us via ZOOM LINK: https://etown.zoom.us/j/93278717399</p>	.50

*Thank you for attending the 2023 Elizabethtown College Occupational Therapy Graduate Research Symposium.
We look forward to seeing you again next year.*

*This is the nineteenth 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.

Faculty Committee Members

Debbie Waltermire, DrPH, OTR/L

Nancy Ann Carlson, PhD, OTR/L

Kerri Hample, OTD, OTR/L, FMCHC, NBC-HWC

Sue Friguglietti, DHA, MHA, OTR/L

Administrative Assistant

MaryAnn Sluzis, BSW

Student Committee Members

Carly Campbell, MS Student

Sarah Guber, MS Student

Jessica Principe, MS Student

Hannah Smith, MS Student, &

President, Pi Theta Epsilon

*A special thank you to all members of
Pi Theta Epsilon
for assisting this evening.*

For more information on the
Occupational Therapy Program
at Elizabethtown College
visit our website at:
www.etown.edu/ot

Elizabethtown College
Occupational Therapy Department
One Alpha Drive
Elizabethtown, PA 17022
717.361.1174

