



Welcome Class of 2017!



Class of 2017 from left to right (front row): *Jessica Lopez., Nicole Bellare, Sunayana Malavalli, Jordan Powers, Aesha Pandya, Bryce Carstone, Ashley Edberg, Tasha Henry, Tyler Lacertosa, Rajesh Malikayil, Anna McCastle, Elizabeth Schuster, Cheryl Mae Granada, Rachel Chernekkoff, Erica Rositano*

Class of 2017 from left to right (back row): *Sarah Weldon, Rachel Weber, Lydia Fritzsche, Chane Wray, Jonathan Pitts, Justin Jamison, Emil Methipara, Suzette Vega (withdrawn), Kelsea Rose Grampp, Rachel Imwalle, Shannon Hoffman, and Michelle Hayes*

The Department of Occupational Therapy welcomes Class of 2017 to the OTD program.



Pictured Left: Dr. Carrasco welcomes the Class of 2017 at the Opening Ceremony during Orientation Weekend

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OTDNews informs supporters and students of the Department of Occupational Therapy of Nova Southeastern University in Tampa about events related to its entry-level Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) program.

Our mission and vision are consistent with Nova Southeastern University, and through innovative curricular design and delivery model, the OTD program prepares qualified students to become successful occupational therapy practitioners, managers, and leaders as generalists with beginning specialization in a selected practice area.

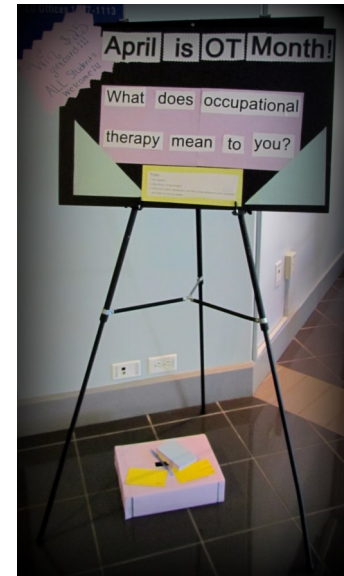
April was OT Month!

Occupational Therapy (OT) Month was established in 1980, and is celebrated every April to parallel AOTA's Annual Conference and Expo. To celebrate, NSU OT Tampa put up posters and banners up all around the Tampa Campus to increase awareness. The department raffled off OT Month product giveaways to the Classes of 2015 & 2016 during ChairChat.

By: Lauren Kellner, Fieldwork Support Coordinator



Students pictured from left to right are: Chelsea Bryant, Larry Holmes, Stephanie Sylvia, Ni "Annie" He-Strocchio, Hillarie Hough, Meghan Granata, and Kristin



Student created sign displayed at NSU Tampa



Chelsea Bryant from class of 2015 holds her new bag!



Students pictured from left to right are: Mara Rosen, Megan Dadez, Kelly Walsh, Jaslin Parhar, Yazmin Walker, Oluwaseyi Akapo, and Nikita Mathew

Chancellor's Scholarship



Kristin McMillen Class of 2015



Larry Holmes Class of 2015

Recipients

Class of 2015

- Larry Holmes
- Kristin McMillen

Class of 2016

- Megan Dadez
- Nikita Mathew



Nikita Mathew Class of 2016



Megan Dadez Class of 2016

Clinical & Community Relations



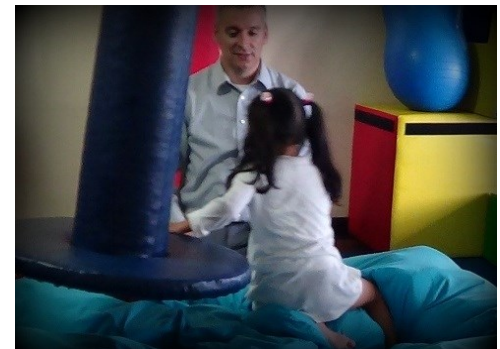
Pictured above: Dr. Reinoso teaching clinicians in Perú

Sensory Integration at NSU Tampa

Gustavo, Reinoso, PhD, OTR/L, Assistant Professor & Academic Coordinator

The impact of sensory processing disorders (SPD) on individuals with disabilities and their families continues to gain recognition worldwide. New diagnostic criteria for disorders such as autism now include sensory processing difficulties, a clinical reality that has been identified, researched and addressed by occupational therapists since the early 1960's. In the OTD-Tampa program several threads intersect in the curriculum to prepare students in the theory, assessment, intervention and scientific inquiry of SPD. Sensory processing difficulties are known to impact individuals' development, learning, behavior, well-being and participation in daily activities. These problems are oftentimes at the core of children's daily challenges and family stress, because when they do perform everyday tasks they are either unsuccessful or they perform them with significant difficulty and frustration. To best prepare students, the OTD-Tampa program takes a worldwide perspective rooted in faculty knowledge and experience related to teaching as well as seeking knowledge throughout the globe. Our OTD-Tampa program continues to shape the future generation of occupational therapists working with SPD.

In January and April 2014, Dr. Reinoso, from the OTD-Tampa program, visited Spain and Perú to teach clinicians the impact of SPD on children and how to implement evidenced-based intervention strategies.



Above image shows Dr. Reinoso with clinicians in Spain.

Above three images show Dr. Reinoso demonstrating occupational therapy intervention using sensory integration procedures on children in a clinic in Peru.

AOTA 93rd Annual Conference & Exposition



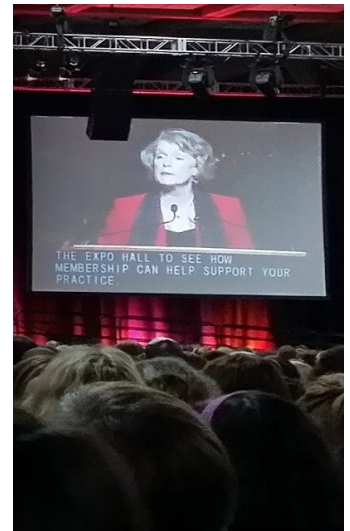
Pictured above from Left to Right: Dr. Ricardo Carrasco, Dr. Mirtha Whaley, Dr. Gustavo Reinoso, and Professor Sheila Longpré

AOTA Annual Conference & Expo

Kristin McMillen, OTD Student, Class of 2015

Students and faculty recently attended the 94th Annual American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) Conference & Expo, held in Baltimore, Maryland from April 3-6, 2014. While there, Dr. Ricardo Carrasco, Professor Sheila Longpré, Dr. Mirtha Whaley, and Dr. Gustavo Reinoso presented a short course about Nova's OTD program, entitled "Vision to Fruition: Reflections on Applying the OT Model Curriculum to an Entry-Level Doctoral Program."

Students attended educational and research sessions; explored career interests; networked with other students, professionals, and NSU alumni; spoke (and danced!) with AOTA President Dr. Ginny Stoffel; and enjoyed the beautiful scenery of Baltimore. The students would like to thank the Student Occupational Therapy Association (SOTA) for helping to subsidize the cost of airfare and hotel, and thus making the trip to AOTA Conference possible.



Pictured from left to right: Nikita Mathew, Amanda Skillen, Kim Yetman, and Kristin McMillen



Pictured from left to right: Nikita Mathew, Amanda Skillen, Kim Yetman, Kristin McMillen, Dr. Gustavo Reinoso, and Dr. Mirtha Whaley

OTD Events

NSU OTD Tampa Attends AOTA Student Conclave

Dr. Ricardo C. Carrasco, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, Chair & Professor

Annie “Ni” He-Strocchio, Kristin McMillen, and Kim Yetman, students from the NSU OTD program attended the 2013 AOTA/NBCOT national student conclave held in Jacksonville, FL November 15 – 16, 2013. During the conference they networked and attended workshops with students from all over the United States. The students reported that one of the distinct conclave activities were mock interviews and resume critiques, which are helpful for those getting ready to go out to the world of work.



Students pictured above: Kim Yetman, Kristin McMillen, and Ni “Annie” He-Strocchio

SOTA Goes to St. Leo University Spring Fling

Lauren Kellner, Fieldwork Support Coordinator

Representatives from SOTA set up a table at the Spring Fling event at St. Leo University. The SOTA representatives were able to spread awareness about the Entry-Level Doctor of Occupational Therapy Program at Nova Southeastern University’s Tampa Regional Campus. They were also there to promote the upcoming OT month as well with the many St. Leo University undergraduate students that attended.



Pictured above: Amanda Skillen from class of 2016



SOTA officers pictured above: Kim Yetman, Megan Dadez, Jaslin Parhar, and Amanda Skillen

Faculty Announcements



Abstracts of Dr. McCarthy's Presented Articles

Dennis P McCarthy, PhD, OTR/L, Associate Professor & Director of Student Affairs and Marketing

Cevallos, F., Skinner, J., **McCarthy, D.P.**, & Gan, A. (2014, January). *Marketing fixed-route transit to seniors: Challenges and recommendations*. Transportation Research Board of the National Academies' 93rd Annual Meeting, Washington, DC. Retrieved from <http://trid.trb.org/view.aspx?id+1288718>

Attracting seniors to fixed-route transit is an important issue for several reasons. Public transportation enables non-driving seniors to remain independent in the community, provides an alternative travel mode for driving seniors, and makes driving cessation feasible for seniors who no longer possess the skills necessary for safe driving. Fixed-route transit, in particular, is the most sustainable, convenient, and affordable service. Most transit agencies now recognize the important societal role they play in providing services to the senior population and have put forth significant efforts to market transit programs and services. This task, however, is far from easy. With the sensory, physical, cognitive, and behavioral variations among seniors, many agencies struggle to develop effective strategies to attract more senior citizens to public transportation. To learn more about fixed-route transit services specific to seniors, a series of in-depth interviews were conducted with transit planners, marketing staff, and upper level administrators at five transit agencies. Interviewees shared their experiences related to attracting senior citizens to public transportation. A variety of programs and marketing strategies utilized by agencies, along with associated benefits and challenges are described and discussed. This research then identified four promising strategies that can help transit agencies successfully develop and market programs capable of attracting senior riders. Based upon a review of the literature, interviews, and examination of the agencies' web sites, the identified strategies may prove to be effective in attracting senior riders. The strategies and findings of this research are presented in detail.

Gan, A., Dibakar, S., Haleem, K., Alluri, P., & **McCarthy, D.P.** (2014, January). *Evaluation of hybrid static-dynamic sign Designs: A focus group study*. Paper presented at the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies' 93rd Annual Meeting, Washington, DC. Retrieved from <http://trid.trb.org/view.aspx?id=1290047>

Traditionally, static signs are used to convey messages to the road users. The need to quickly communicate up-to-date messages to the road users has given rise to the increasing use of dynamic message signs (DMS). A typical DMS includes only dynamic messages. An alternative to DMS is hybrid signs, which display both static and dynamic messages on a single sign. A hybrid sign consists of a conventional retro-reflective static sign that is embedded with one or more relatively small, dynamic, usually light emitting diode (LED) message panels. Potential advantages of hybrid signs over DMS include better legibility, shorter reading time, smaller size, and lower costs of installation and maintenance. This paper evaluates six applications of hybrid sign designs, which include: comparative travel times for express lane facilities, drawbridge opening, destination travel times, bus/train arrival time at transit stations, parking availability, and automated speed control. A focus group study was conducted to assess drivers' understandings, preferences, and opinions toward the hybrid sign applications. A total of ten focus groups involving 150 participants of different age, gender, and ethnic groups were conducted. Participants' responses were found to vary widely on different aspects, particularly on usefulness, potential applicability, and shortcomings of hybrid signs. Participants provided important suggestions regarding the legend for a better understanding. The importance and amount of information on a sign, as well as correct interpretation of blank dynamic panels, were found by participants to be important in determining the usefulness and clarity of hybrid sign designs.

Faculty Announcements Continued...



Dr. Nelson Marquez, EdD, PT, Adjunct Professor

Nelson Marquez, EdD, PT joins NSU OTD program as an Adjunct Professor from Polk State College where he is currently Director of the Physical Therapist Assistant Program. As Program Director, Dr. Marquez is responsible for curricular and course design, development and implementation of program policies and procedures, and program accreditation compliance. His research interests include learning outcomes assessment, instructional technologies, distance education, program evaluation and strategic planning, and neurorehabilitation.

He graduated with a BS in Physical Therapy from the University of the Philippines-College of Allied Medical Professions; a MS in Education from Nova Southeastern University with concentration in Instructional Technology and Distance Education, and Doctor of Education from Nova Southeastern University with concentration in Instructional Technology and Distance Education.

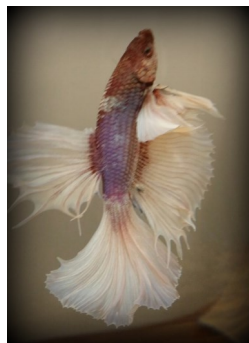
Prior to joining Polk State College, Dr. Marquez was Team Leader for the Mid-Florida Rehabilitation Center-Winter Haven Hospital, a CARF-accredited comprehensive inpatient rehabilitation center in Winter Haven, Florida. Dr. Marquez is currently an adjunct professor at the Fischler Graduate School-NSU in Ft. Lauderdale and at the University of St. Augustine's Doctor of Education program. He is also currently the Director of Instructional and Institutional Assessment at Polk State College.



Please Give a Warm Welcome to the New OTD Betas!



Chichi, Jr. pictured above



Murphy III pictured above



Class of 2017-yet to be named pictured above

Student Accomplishments

End of Fall Semester 2013

Chancellor's List <i>3.8 G.P.A. or higher</i>	Dean's List <i>3.6 G.P.A. or higher</i>
Kristin McMillen Kimberly Bartels Megan Dadez Brittaney Kinder Mara Rosen	Shree Patel Ashley Stedman Jamie Williams Molly Christian Kristine Cinco Lee Meach Shannon Taylor Kelly Walsh Kim Yetman

End of Winter Semester 2014

Chancellor's List <i>3.8 G.P.A. or higher</i>	Dean's List <i>3.6 G.P.A. or higher</i>
Chelsea Bryant Ricardo Demetrius Lillian Freeman Ni "Annie" He-Strocchio Larry Holmes Hillarie Hough Kristin McMillen Stephanie Sylvia My-Lynn Tran Hillary Whittacre Jamie Williams Kimberly Bartels Megan Dadez Lee Meach Mara Rosen Shannon Taylor	Meghan Granata Shree Patel Ashley Stedman Molly Christian Brittaney Kinder Nikita Mathew Jaslin Parhar Amanda Skillen Kelly Walsh Brittany Whitworth Kim Yetman

