



# Welcome Class of 2016!



The incoming student orientation took place on May 17-19, 2013 and offered an opportunity for family, friends, and significant others to be with Class 2016, faculty and staff and to learn about NSU and the OTD students' 3 ½ years of course study. The 3-day orientation was a full schedule of activities, starting with an opening ceremony led by the College of Health Care Sciences Dean Richard Davis and Assistant Dean for Student Affairs Terry Morrow. The rest of the weekend provided information about classes, APA guidelines, FERPA for families and students, distance learning strategies, BlackBoard for learning, policies and procedures fieldwork, study techniques, time management, student government, student resources, and curriculum overview. Students ordered their lab coats and scrubs, and met with their academic advisors, academic siblings, enrolment and financial aid services. They recited the CHCS creed and received their Shark pins.

*"Join me in supporting the Sharks in their lives, fields of study, and resulting careers. Go Sharks!"*

NSU President George L. Hanbury II, PhD.



*Crystal Key, Class of 2016*



*Lillian Freeman, Inaugural Class of 2015*

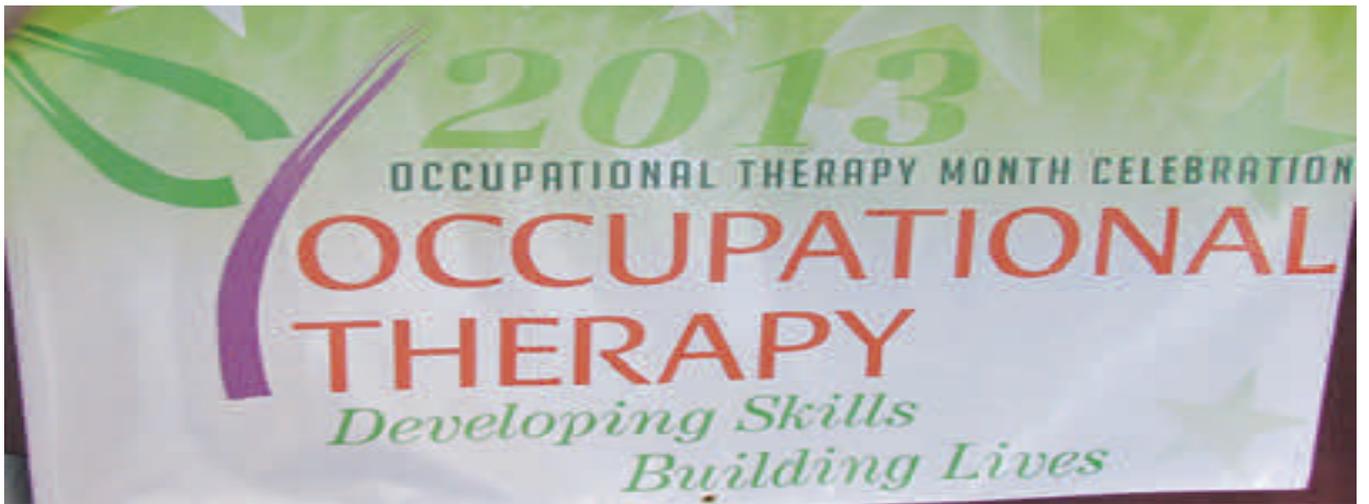
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OTDNews informs supporters and students of the Department of Occupational Therapy of Nova Southeastern University in Tampa about events related to its entry-level Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) program.

*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.*



## NSU Tampa Celebrates OT Month!

April is Occupational Therapy month all over the United States. To celebrate, the OTD program faculty, staff, Tampa site administration and OTD students contributed their part in preparing for the month long event. The department purchased promotional items to distribute as awards for occupational therapy related contests, and created displays on each floor of the Tampa site. During the April ChairChat, SOTA hosted a recognition lunch for OTD faculty and staff serving sumptuous Jamaican food. See photos and more information on this and other pages of the newsletter.



*NSU Tampa celebrated OT Month with displays on every floor and a scavenger hunt/occupational therapy trivia contest for amazing prizes! Continued on the next page.*

NSU Tampa OT Month Celebration, continued.....

The Department of Occupational Therapy suite and every floor of the NSU Tampa site received a special OT month display featuring collages of student pictures during class, ChairChats, and events. Ikebana flower arrangements provided by Dr. Carrasco, banners and posters completed the festive decorations throughout the building.

*Thanks to the collaboration of NSU OTD program faculty, staff and federal work student interns, OT Month was informative, special and fun!*

*Left: Ikebana arrangements; Below, left from L to R: Professor Sheila Longpré, Karla Quinones, & Stacey Ann Payne.*

*Below, right, from L to R: Professor Sheila Longpré, Natalia Ospina, & Stacey Ann Payne.*



## NSU Seal and History

If you have been to the third floor of the NSU Tampa building, you probably have seen the framed NSU seal on the wall. The seal is significant in the history of Nova Southeastern University (NSU).

NSU had its beginnings with the Nova University of Advanced Technology on a former Naval Outlying Landing Field built during World War II. With the founding in 1981 of Southeastern College of the Health Sciences, and as Nova University of Advanced Technology merged with Southeastern College the merger formed what is now called Nova Southeastern University. Thanks to Ron Ryan, NSU Publications Director for information. More information available in : <http://www.nova.edu/about/history.html>.

Careful inspection of the NSU seal will reveal that the letters N and U are different fonts from the S, and this was to differentiate the two universities, Nova and Southeastern. The merger of the two universities marked the creation of the NSU seal. The seal is no longer used in most facilities, and is only for the President's office and Commencement.



# 2020 Legacy Scholarship



Designed to support student and build shark pride, the 2020 Legacy Scholars Program encourages students to donate money in November and March to a student organization of their choice. The organization has to raise a minimum of \$250 and a maximum of \$2500. NSU will match every dollar match at or above \$250. choice. For every dollar raised at or above \$250, NSU matches the amount up to a maximum of \$2,500 during which time, the organization can establish it own

2020 Legacy Scholarship. For more information, go to: <http://www.nova.edu/safspeialevents/legacy/>.



**Lillian Freeman** received this year's Legacy Scholarship Award. She is the Student Government Senator, and a member of the Student Occupational Therapy Association (SOTA). She grew up in Willard, Ohio and finished her bachelor's degree in Exercise Science from the University of Toledo. She currently lives in St. Petersburg, FL with her husband, Jeremy, and her puppy Wilma. "Receiving the 2020 Legacy Scholarship was a complete honor and humbling experience. I was notified right before Christmas, which made for a wonderful early Christmas surprise. Financially, the scholarship relieved some stress in paying for textbooks and school supplies for the new semester! It is an award that I will definitely hold close to me, such an honor!"

To learn more about Lillian's 2020 Legacy Scholarship award, click on [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DYTHhbg\\_OOw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DYTHhbg_OOw)

*Lillian Freeman, Class 2015*

## Clinical & Community Relations



Academic year 2012 has gone very quickly, and the Inaugural OTD Class of 2015 is already preparing for their first taste of clinical education at cooperating host facilities through their first Level I fieldwork of the intervention courses, which are:

- Psychosocial and Community Mental Health, July 20—August 14, 2013
- Children & Youth, November 18—December 10, 2013
- Adult Physical Disabilities & Rehab, April 7—24, 2014

Before going to their fieldwork rotations, OTD students submit required documentation to host facilities. As Nova Southeastern University fieldwork students, they follow facility guidelines and rules, and take advantage of all opportunities to learn and grow as occupational therapy professionals, but also to make NSU proud.

# AOTA 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference & Exposition

San Diego, a vibrant city known for its perfect climate, beautiful coastlines, and fabulous attractions was the site of this year's 93<sup>rd</sup> annual national conference of the American Occupational Therapy Association.

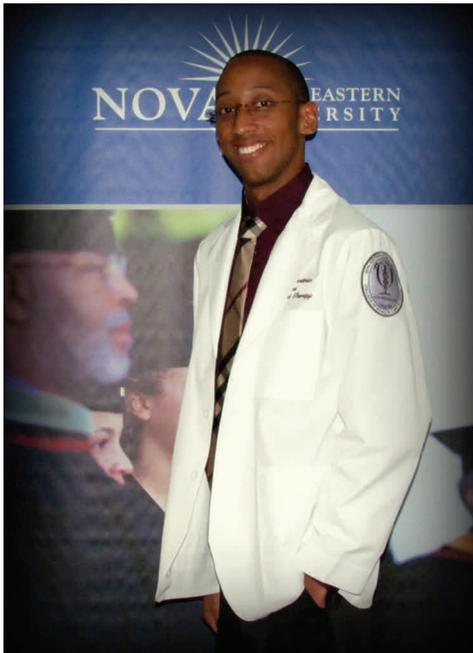
The AOTA Annual Conference & Expo features educational, research and networking offerings on a multitude of topics geared to various experience levels and presented in different degrees of depth.

All NSU OTD program faculty and 6 students participated in this year's conference. Students met many OT celebrities and authors of the books they used in class. Among many of these celebrities and authors included Dr. Carolyn Baum, Elias Michael Executive Director & Professor, Washington University.



*Larry Holmes, My-Lynn Tran, Dr. Carolyn Baum, Shree Patel, Chelsea Bryant, Dr. Ricardo Carrasco, and Dr. Rick Davenport*

## 2013 NSU STUEY Award



Yearly, the Student Life Achievement Awards, also known as STUEYS, celebrates the best in demonstrating NSU's core values, namely academic excellence, student centered, integrity, innovation, opportunity, scholarship/research, diversity, and community. It started over ten years ago, as a vision of the former Vice President of Student Affairs, Brad Williams, Ed.D. For more information about the STUEYS, go to <http://www.nova.edu/safspeialevents/stueys/>

Congratulations to Ricardo Demetrius, Inaugural Class of 2015 (*photo, left*) for his nomination, by the Occupational Therapy department faculty and Ms. Sheena Zawacki, Assistant Director of Student Affairs, for a 2013 NSU STUEY award as Student Educational Center (SEC) student of the year.

*"Even though I was not selected as a finalist for the award, I am truly appreciative and humbled by the nomination from the OTD faculty and Ms. Sheena Zawacki. It is definitely an honor, and I hope that next year we can have more nominees from OTD for different categories." Regarding his role as a President of SOTA he said: "A strong foundation is necessary to keep our SOTA legacy going for years to come. I bring a sense of commitment and dedication to my role as President, and the experience has been rewarding. In the upcoming months I plan to work closely with the executive board to ensure a smooth transition to the new officers when elections are held. This is important and beneficial for the growth of the organization".*

**Ricardo Demetrius.**

# NSU Alumni Reception

Dr. George L. Hanbury II, NSU President held a town hall meeting at NSU Tampa on March 8, 2013. A reception followed at the Renaissance International Plaza Hotel attended by NSU alumni, administrators, faculty, staff, and both current and prospective students.

The first segment consisted of dining with the President and networking among attendees, followed by a presentation geared towards prospective students as well as the alumni of the institution. In addition, Dr. Hanbury spoke about his vision for NSU and goals as President.

SOTA President, Ricardo Demetrius and Vice-president Larry Holmes attended this event representing NSU OTD students.

*“The reception was a very nice, well organized event dedicated to alumni and future students. Of course faculty and current students were present, but the initial purpose was to display the university's newest innovations through a PowerPoint presentation to the alumni and prospective students. President Hanbury spoke to the audience about the NSU's core values, underlying mission, and vision statement.”*

**Larry Holmes**

*“Alumni were encouraged to make notable contributions, while faculty and current students were encouraged to speak with the prospective students that were present”.*

**Ricardo Demetrius**



*Ricardo Demetrius, Larry Holmes in the company of NSU alumni*



## Student Occupational Therapy Association



*In the spirit of Occupational Therapy month, SOTA hosted an OTD faculty and staff recognition lunch during the April 4 on-campus institute. Thank you Class of 2015! More photos on the next page.*

# OTD Events



## ChairChats

Every Thursday of each on-campus institute, Department Chair, Dr. Carrasco shares department updates, college events, and provide recognitions for accomplishments such as scholarships and honor awards. During the session OTD students also share information about classes, as well as provide positive feedback an concerns or suggestions about the program.

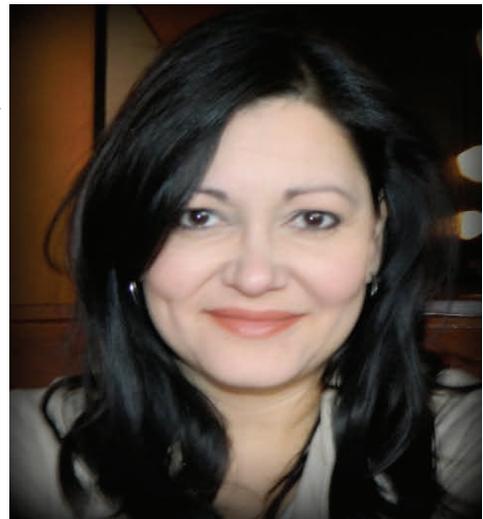
During recent ChairChats, Dr. Carrasco provided students with delicious and authentic Filipino food. In honor of the April OT month celebration, SOTA hosted a recognition lunch for faculty and staff with delicious Jamaican food. Fun activities and important information are always part of ChairChats.

Shown in photos on this page are photographs of students receiving their honor certificates as well as OT week prizes. Four students, Elham Edrissi, Ni He-Strocchio, Meghan Granata and Stephanie Sylvia won prizes such as t-shirts, bags, and squeeze stress balls.



# Faculty Announcements

**Betsy B. Burgos, PhD (c) EdS, MA, OTR/L, ATP** joined NSU Tampa OTD program Summer 2013 as Adjunct Assistant Professor. Currently, Professor Burgos works at Nemours Children's Hospital, Orlando FL as Assistive Technology Specialist. She pursued her Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy at the Medical Science Campus of the University of Puerto Rico and then completed an advanced Masters degree also in occupational therapy with a major in assistive technology from New York University (NYU). Her doctorate studies are in computing technology education from Nova Southeastern University. She is certified as an Assistive Technology Professional from the Rehabilitation Engineering & Assistive Technology Society of North America (RESNA). Other formal certifications obtained are in the areas of Education, Neurodevelopmental Treatment (NDT) and Early Intervention.



Professor Burgos' experience during the past 21 years has been as a practitioner, administrator and educator in different settings and facilities. As a clinician and administrator she has worked mostly in acute care hospitals, pediatric rehabilitative hospitals and outpatient pediatric clinics (including school based services). As an educator she has worked in several universities in the country.

She possesses solid experience presenting and delivering trainings and seminars to numerous audiences at different levels. Her areas of interest are in seating and positioning, mobility, computer access and instruction, and augmented reality.

She has served as officer for various professional associations, including the office of Vice President of the Florida Occupational



**Kurt K. Hubbard, PhD (c), OTD, OTR/L** joins NSU OTD program from Remington College where he is currently Dean of Occupational and Physical Therapy Studies. As Dean, Dr. Hubbard is responsible for course development, policies and procedure formulation, and accreditation compliance. His research interests include occupational performance, caregiver training, and anxiety components of human occupation.

He graduated with a BA and a MA in Psychology from the State University of New York and Fairleigh Dickinson University respectively; a MS in Occupational Therapy from Columbia University, and OTD from the University of St. Augustine (USA).

He is currently completing his PhD at North Central University in Behavioral Medicine / Health Psychology. Prior to joining Remington College, Dr. Hubbard was an assistant professor at USA and ran a consulting business treating psychosocial issues in neurologically impaired adults and children working with various agencies/hospitals in New York.

Dr. Hubbard is currently an adjunct professor at NSU in Ft. Lauderdale and at USA. He is currently President of the Florida Occupational Therapy Association.

*Anything that we have to learn to do we learn by the actual doing of it... We become just by doing just acts, temperate by doing temperate ones, brave by doing brave ones."*

Aristotle Nicomachean Ethics, Book II, p.9



# “Name the Betta Fish” Contest



**Congratulations to Ashley Stedman, Class of 2015** for winning the “Name the Betta Fish” contest. After a careful review of several names submitted by the OTD students, “Jaws” was the chosen one. Ashley won a one year membership to the Florida Occupational Therapy Association when her current membership expires.

*Above, Jaws, the Class of 2015 Betta Fish, Right, Ashley Stedman, Inaugural Class of 2015*



## Student Accomplishments

*End of Winter Semester 2013*

### Chancellor’s List

*3.8 G.P.A. or higher*

Kristin McMillen

### Dean’s List

*3.6 G.P.A. or higher*

Larry Holmes

Jamie Williams