



**Alumni Connect Newsletter February 2025**




**A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN**

As I reflect on the new year, it's exciting to consider the many ways in which our college is serving our community and professions. In this issue, you'll see a slice of the great research being led by our faculty. This weekend, many of our students and faculty are participating in the annual Clewiston Health Fair to serve the underserved families in Hendry County. The following day is our annual Project SEED outreach hosted by our Physician Assistant, Ft Myers program. Our Occupational Therapy program just returned from a medical outreach trip in Jamaica, and we have multiple other medical outreach trips planned throughout the year.

It's an exciting time to be part of the Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences. If you are interested in getting involved in clinical applied research or joining us as we serve our communities locally and internationally, we'd love to get you connected. Feel free to email Dr. Aaron Hackman, Director of Student Affairs for the college at [ah1293@nova.edu](mailto:ah1293@nova.edu).

Carol Seavor, Ed D, MSN, RN





## Cheers to 30 Years!

### NSU Physical Therapy Celebrates its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Congratulations to the Physical Therapy program at NSU for celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The PT programs housed on the Fort Lauderdale and Tampa Bay Regional Campuses welcomed program alumni, faculty, staff, and current students to the Venue Fort Lauderdale on September 21 to reminisce and share in all that the program has accomplished.

To learn more about the Physical Therapy program, [click here](#).



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## Upcoming Events

### Thank you NSU College of Health Care Sciences Alumni, Faculty, and Students

In the College of Health Care Sciences, we cannot thank your alumni, faculty, staff, students, and friends enough for your generosity throughout 2024. Your commitment supported our students, resources, and important research to make ours a healthier world.

NSU just wrapped up our One NSU: 1964 Minutes of Giving Campaign, where we featured two initiatives:

1. In memory of Caitlin O'Neill- a student in our Physician Assistant Program on the Fort Lauderdale campus, who passed away this past February- a campaign was created with the goal of raising funds to support projects and opportunities at NSU that will honor her life.
2. Additionally, as we strive to expose our students to new cultures and new opportunities, our Community Outreach / Mission Trip Program continues to grow and expand to broaden our impact both locally and internationally.

Please use the links below to learn more about these campaigns and to support if interested:

- [Caitlin O'Neill Fund · GiveCampus](#)
- [PCHCS Community Outreach: Collective Impact · GiveCampus](#)

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**Faculty News**



**Akiva Turner, PhD, JD, MPH**



**Moya Alfonso, PhD, MSPH**

**[Testing the Psychometric Properties of the Readiness for Hospital Discharge Scale Among Residents in Skilled Nursing Facilities: A Pilot Study.](#)**

To learn more about this study, please [click here](#).

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**Jacqueline Hinckley, PhD, CCC-SLP**

**[A Multitasking Assessment for Aphasia: The Catalog Ordering Task.](#)**



To learn more about this study, please [click here](#).



**Sarah Ransdell, PhD**

**[Climate Change and Health Attitudes Show Increased Belief in Human-caused Climate Change from 2015 to 2023 in an American University Sample.](#)**

To learn more about this study, please [click here](#).

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**Nardia Aldridge, PhD, OTR/L, DTM**

**[“Belonging: A Phenomenological Study of Systemic Racism Experienced Among Black Students in Occupational Therapy Programs”](#)**



To learn more about this study, please [click here](#).

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**Melissa Morris, PhD, RN, CPN, CHSE**

[Feasibility of Holographic Team Training Simulation: An Information Technology \(IT\) Perspective for Healthcare and Educational Institutions](#)

[Development of Distance Simulation Educator Guidelines in Healthcare: A Delphi Method Application](#)

[Does Training with a Simulation Stethoscope Facilitate the Acquisition of Cardiopulmonary Knowledge and Confidence in Doctor of Physical Therapy Students?](#)

[Immersive Learning and Participatory Engagement: Connecting in the Online Classroom Through Virtual Reality](#)

To learn more about these studies, please [click here](#).

**Morey J. Kolber, PT, PhD**

[The effect of auto-generated corrective exercise programming on movement literacy among firefighters: a pilot study](#)



To learn more about this study, please [click here](#).

**Joanne Flanagan, ScD, OTR/L**

[Early Play Behaviors of Infants at Elevated Likelihood for Autism Spectrum Disorder.](#) To learn more about this study, please [click here](#).

**Ricardo C. Carrasco, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

**[Shedding light on hidden Filipino occupations as portrayed by mass media and scholarly resources: A critical interpretive synthesis.](#)**

**Dr. Alicia Fernandez-Fernandez, PT, DPT, PhD, CNT**

**Variability of referrals for physical / occupational therapy intervention in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.** To learn more about this study, please [click here](#).

**Samuel Cheng, PT, MS, ScD**

**Validity and Optimization of the OpenCAP Motion Analysis System in Functional Assessment** To learn more about this study, please [click here](#).



Once a Shark, Always a Shark... Even after you graduate, you're still a Shark and part of Nova Southeastern University's global community. Stay engaged with your alma mater and grow

your network with alumni resources such as career and networking opportunities. The NSU Connect portal brings together alumni, alumni clubs, and ways to stay connected with the university and each other. Wherever you are, you can still engage with your fellow Sharks through local and virtual events.

Stay connected with the Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences, others in your field, and ways to grow as a professional by joining our group in the NSU Connect portal.



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