



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, DOMINGUEZ HILLS
COLLEGE OF HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES, & NURSING
DEPARTMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

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Occupational Therapy Department Newsletter



Class of 2014

Congratulations Cohort 8

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- Red Shirt Day



OT students meet and greet potential employers at 8th Annual Career Fair



Faculty and C9 welcome C10 at the Clinical Red Shirt Ceremony



Professor Paul Penoliar leads OT students at Next Fit Pasadena Triathlon



SOTAs First Annual Spring Fling Event

Contributors

Dr. Terry Peralta, Melissa Jazmines-Broersma, Paul Penoliar, Brandy Brosius, Justine Escobar, Samantha Itaya, Jacqueline. Sanchez, Lisa D. Langford, Samuel Castruita . Photographs from Patricia Suarez, Paul Penoliar, Samuel Castruita, Justine Escobar, Brandy Brosius, and Laura Cole.

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Welcome Cohort 10!



8th Annual Career Fair

HOSTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Lisa D. Langford, MA.Ed., Counseling

On April 23, the MSOT Program hosted the 8th Annual Career Fair. Attendance included over 25 partners, donors, and affiliates, the OT Students, and the campus community. Occupational Therapy students presented a certificate of appreciation to the partners, donors, and affiliates recognizing their continued contribution. In this 10th year of the MSOT Program, it is a celebration of mentoring and cultivating OT Students to become practitioners for the future. The experience students receive by networking with our partners, donors, and affiliates is priceless. We invite you to come and support our next Career Fair scheduled for April 2015. Please visit our website for updates and information.



OTAC Spring Symposium Continuing Education Conference 2014 and Alumni Event—in Anaheim, CA

Sammi Itaya, OTS

The 2014 OTAC Spring Symposium was held at the Disneyland Paradise Hotel in Anaheim, CA on March 15-16th. Students and practitioners from all over California were present at this event. Some students in attendance were: Samantha Itaya, Allyson Javier, Jessica Obenberger, Laura Cole, Jacqueline Koh, Katie Henderson, and Kristine Laird. Samantha

Itaya represented CSUDH as a moderator for the student track session entitled The Client’s Perspective: OTs Influence on Daily Life. This session was a panel-based presentation where the clients shared their occupational therapy experience through didactic discourse. There was also a legislative reception where students had the opportunity to meet and network with other professionals in the field.



Congratulations Research Day Winners

Cassandra Hudson, Rachel Jao, Meghan Moss, and Jacqueline Sanchez won First Place under the section of HEALTH, NUTRITION AND CLINICAL SCIENCE IV on Research Day. The title of their research: “Adaptation in Adolescents and Young Adults with Spinal Cord Injury: A Mechanism for Change.” Faculty Mentor: Claudia Peyton, Ph.D. OTR/L FAOTA, Occupational Therapy Associate Professor. The group will be representing the university at the [28th Annual CSU Student Research Competition](#) on May 2 and 3 at California State University, East Bay.

Cohort 10 Clinical Red Shirt Ceremony

Melissa Jazmines-Broersma, OTR/L

CSUDH MSOT welcomed C10 to fieldwork with the first annual Red Shirt Ceremony. The program began with the mandatory fieldwork meeting where Dr. Diane Mayfield explained the protocols and any necessary information before the start of their first clinical affiliation. While enjoying hors d'oeuvres, C10 students mingled while a video of C9 students played giving the new cohort pointers on how to be successful in fieldwork.

Tips from C9 ranged from “keeping a positive attitude” to “keep an open communication with your fieldwork educator.” Following the video, C10 students were called up to go through a barrage of welcome from the faculty and C9 students. At the end, the students received their fieldwork bag which included their fieldwork name tag, red shirts, a water bottle, goniometer, and measuring tape. Dr. Terry Peralta congratulated the class followed by tips and advice from the present faculty members. Congratulations C10! Enjoy your fieldwork affiliations!



AOTA Annual Conference & Alumni Reception Hosted at Baltimore, MD

Justine Escobar, OTS

SOTA members Justine Escobar, Brandy Brosius, Ashok Sadasivaiah, and Angela Otterbein attended the 2014 annual AOTA conference in Baltimore, Maryland. Highlights of the conference included networking with other students from across the nation at the "Students Unleashed" event, networking with practitioners at educational sessions, attending the town hall meeting to discuss the centennial vision, and exploring OT tools at the Expo hall. Even our very own Ashok Sada and Brandy Brosius made it into the OT Practice with their AOTA selfie!!! Those students who attended on scholarship would like to thank SOTA and the OT department for their contribution. We are hoping to attend the 2015 conference in Nashville, Tennessee next year and to see more of our fellow CSUDH students and alumni.



SOTA @ Toro Days



SOTA in the Chelsea Handler Show

Brandy Brosius, OTS

SOTA promoted a fundraising event by attending a TV taping of the Chelsea Handler show. MSOT students: Timothy Arnold, Brandy Brosius, Cassie Hudson, Sammi Itaya, Lisa Nguyen, Ashley Penaloza, Jacqui Sanchez, Stacey Seldman, Jane Nelson, met at Universal Studios to see Chelsea and her guests blitz through a series of comedic news stories and conversations, encouraged by audience's hearty laughter. Students thoroughly enjoyed spending time together to experience a live TV taping, and as an added bonus, SOTA was paid \$135 for attending the show.



OT Students participation @ the Pasadena Triathlon

Paul Penoliar, OTR/L, C/NDT

Next Step Fitness, a nationally recognized non-profit organization, which provides the opportunity for life-long health and recovery for people living with paralysis and mobility impairments in communities nationwide held its annual fundraising event on March 15, 2014 along with the EIGHTH annual Pasadena Triathlon, Duathlon and Rock-in Reggae 5K. In collaboration with Next Step Fitness, the CSUDH Department of OT was represented by both Cohort 9 and 10 at the event. The organization of Cohort 9 is credited to our SOTA board with special thanks to Justine Escobar, OTS and Brandy Brosius, OTS under the supervision of Adjunct Faculty and Clinical Instructor Paul Penoliar. The presence of Cohort 9 was instrumental in facilitating the participation for those individuals with physical disabilities in all the events.



SOTA's First Annual Spring Fling Fundraiser

Brandy Brosius, OTS

The Student Occupational Therapy Association of Cal State Dominguez Hills hosted its first annual Spring Fling fundraiser to raise money to send students to OTAC conference in Pasadena this year to promote professionalism and school recognition. Dinner, dancing, and silent auction drew in students, faculty, and their guests to celebrate the evening. A special thanks goes out to The Spring Fling team: Timothy Arnold, Annie Bravo, Brandy



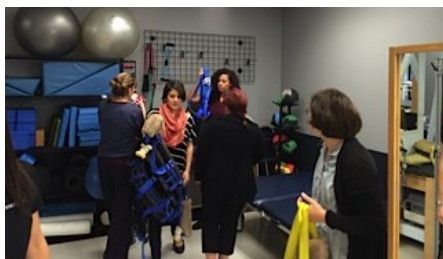
Brosius, Heidi Choi, Justine Escobar, Stephanie Pegan, Daniel Polster, Stephanie Wagner; to our sponsors, NextStep and to the faculty and students who graciously contributed donations and time to make this worthwhile event a success!



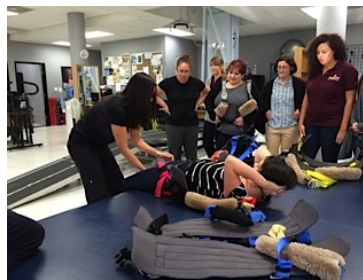
Cohort 9 Fieldwork Orientation at Next Step Fitness

Paul Penoliar, OTR/L, C/NDT

In November 2013, a collaborative effort between Next Step Fitness and the CSUDH Department of OT was instrumental in creating a wonderful addition to the field work sites for Cohort 9. Under the supervision and direction of Adjunct Faculty and Clinical Instructor Paul Penoliar along with the Director of Next Step Fitness Christel Mitrovich, the clients at Next Step Fitness receive much needed OT services. The pho-



tos illustrate Cohort 9 receiving general orientation and hands-on training for the operation of the Locomotor Training body weight support treadmill training machine utilized to improve locomotor skills for clients with neurological dysfunction.



Cohort 9 and Cohort 10 Mixer

Brandy Brosius, OTS

SOTA sponsored a mixer with cohort 9 and 10 at El Pescador's for Happy Hour and appetizers on February 21st. The event was intended to bring the two cohorts together to mingle and get to know each other in a fun social environment.



SOTA Participates at the 12th Annual Autism Speaks Walk 2014



Brandy Brosius, OTS

SOTA members participated in the 12th Annual Autism Speaks Walk 2014 in Pasadena at the Rose Bowl on Saturday, April 26th. Although the team was twelve, we had the manpower of 100 as we helped to deliver water to the designated stations, cheer and lead the walk participants, and eventually walk to the finish line! Our volunteer group included: Sarah Marrich, Angie Otterbein, Nasreen Jokhio, Marley Lisboa, Zoe Walp, Rebekka Manzella, Laura Perez, Vanessa Ladson, Stephanie Wagner, Chanmi Ha, Ariana Lebrun, and Leilua Satele. Autism Speaks raised over 1.6 million dollars that day! It was a great day to see all the smiling families supporting their loved ones who are affected by autism!

Technology Use in OTR 506 Course

Samuel Castruita

This year In Professor Marilyn Noriega's Activities Across the Lifespan course, the department was able to implement and execute an added bonus to her assistive technology session (not to be confused with the Application of Adaptive and Assistive Technology in OT course completed in the 5th didactic semester). The department acquired the latest edition of Xbox One to help demonstrate the possible applications of gesture command technology. The Xbox works in conjunction with the kinect's scanner that locks on to a user and physical gestures to control console functions and physically involved games. To further the interactive experience, projectors were utilized to increase the visual projection of the games on to the wall. Alumni Jason Tse and Katy Mackey (from Cohorts 2 and 3, respectively) have been returning regularly as guest lecturers to teach students about assistive/learning technology devices. Jason covered the applications of gaming technology to elicit various performance skills while engaging clients, and interactive apps on portable devices. Katy addressed adaptive learning and assistive devices utilized in elementary/high school programs. The students had a great time seeing how hi-tech tools can be used in OT sessions.



OT Students Use of Nursing Skills Lab @ CSUDH

Paul Penoliar, OTR/L, C/NDT

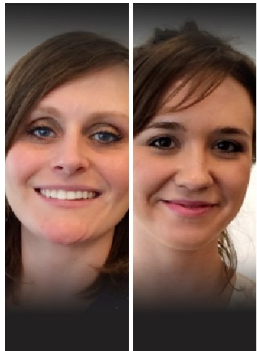
During the second Spring semester 2014, Cohort 9 focuses their efforts on research, theory, conditions and interventions associated with adults with physical disabilities. One of the areas of focus is the Acute Care Hospital context when developing treatment and interventions for adults. In collaboration with the Department of Nursing, the Nursing Skills Lab allows the students to familiarize themselves with the environmental contexts associated with acute care and intensive care units, operation of the hospital beds, blood pressure machines, wheelchairs, bed mobility and functional transfers.



MSOT Student Accomplishments

Melissa Jazmines-Broersma, OTR/L

The OT department wishes to recognize and congratulate the scholarship winners from the University including Brittany Thompson, Jacqueline Sanchez, and Annie Bravo. Both Brittany Thompson and Jacqueline Sanchez received the [Leo F. and Margaret B. Cain Scholarship](#),



named after the late founding president of CSUDH. This scholarship is awarded to the students with high academic

achievement. Brittany Thompson and Jacqueline Sanchez were both recognized for their outstanding GPA (3.8 and 3.9, respectively) and their commitment to research and the profession. Brittany Thompson was recognized for her hard work and dedication to research, even as an undergrad at UCI. She is also the recipient of the CSU Dominguez Hills Alumni Association award. Jacqueline Sanchez is currently the Vice President of Pi Theta Epsilon CSUDH chapter, the National Honor Society for occupational therapy students. Jacqueline also won first place with her fellow research peers at CSUDH Student Re-

search Day Competition. Annie Bravo, was also recognized for her hard work and dedication and also received the [CSU Dominguez Hills Alumni Association award](#) along with Brittany Thompson. In addition to scholarships provided by the University, the OT program wishes to recognize Helen Tin, Katie MacCorkell, and Kiara John-Charles, recent graduates of the program for securing the LA Unified School District scholarships as incoming therapists. We are very proud of the work of these students.

Congratulations!

Phi Theta Epsilon Spring Event Dr. Frank Stein Visit

Sammi Itaya, OTS

Pi Theta Epsilon Hosted Dr. Stein is an experienced educator, researcher, and clinician in occupational therapy. He is author of the Stress Management Questionnaire and Psychosocial Occupational Therapy: A Holistic Approach 2nd edition and editor of Occupational Therapy International. For the Spring Event, Dr. Stein demonstrated how stress management techniques can be applied in occupational therapy practice. Stress can be a trigger to symptoms in individuals who are vulnerable to chronic illnesses. Psychoeducational methods that can be applied to a variety of diagnoses was presented as well. Lunch was provided after the lecture as well as a raffle for the students attendees.



Upcoming SOTA events

Brandy Brosius, OTS

SOTA is excited for the upcoming community volunteer event on May 17th in Santa Monica, CA with the non profit organization "Life Rolls On". We have a large number of volunteers from SOTA this year and it is a great opportunity to show our support and expertise with the spinal cord, and other neurologically impaired, population. Please look for pictures and specifics about this event in the next newsletter.

Upcoming Events and Calendar

Summer 2014		Reminders/Remarks:
May 19 – June 27, 2014	Summer Session 1	
May 22, 2014	Information Session	LSU Ballroom C 4:30-6:30pm
May 26, 2014	Memorial Day Holiday	Campus closed
June 5, 2014	Pi Theta Epsilon Application Due	Invitations sent out end of May Officer Interestee Due June 6
June 11, 2014	NEW PTE Members Meeting	6:30pm
June 26, 2014	MSOT Information Session	WH D165 10-12pm
June 28 - July 6, 2014	Summer Break	
July 4, 2014	Independence Day	Campus closed
July 10	Pi Theta Induction Ceremony	5:30pm
July 24, 2014	MSOT Information Session	WH D165 5:30-7:30pm
July 7 – August 15, 2014	Summer Session 2	
August 2014	Graduation Application	Due no later than end of August
August 1, 2014	Spring 2015 MSOT Accepting Applications	University – Open August 1 Program Applications- Due September 15
August 15, 2014	Annual Hand Therapy of Greater Los Angeles Scholarship	Deadline- August 15
August 15-23	Summer to Fall Break	

Phi Theta Epsilon Presidential Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement



Jaqueline Sanchez, OTS

On April 29, 2014, Pi Theta Epsilon was honored with the CSUDH Presidential Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement at the Annual President's Awards Ceremony. The organization was honored for having the highest GPA of any organization on campus with a cumulative GPA of 3.931 and for demonstration of professionalism. President Sammi Itaya, Vice President Jacqui Sanchez, Secretary Rachel Jao, and Treasurer Melanie Tang were present to receive this award on behalf of PTE.



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