

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

EUGENE APPLEBAUM COLLEGE OF PHARMACY AND HEALTH SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
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OT Matters

fall 2004

occupational therapy

“Occupation” in occupational therapy means more than the word implies. It goes beyond work and work training.

Occupational therapy helps people enhance health, safety and well-being at any stage in life. It helps them engage in work, self-care and leisure

activities that are important to them. With the assistance of a qualified therapist, patients learn how to prevent, overcome, or manage, physical and/or psychological impairments,

disabilities, handicaps or other health-related conditions.

Using a variety of productive or creative activities, occupational therapists show patients how to live life to its fullest potential.

change someone's world today

Carolyn Baum Visit to WSU

In honor of the Occupational Therapy Program's 60th anniversary, Dr. Carolyn Baum, Elias Michael Director and Professor of Occupational Therapy and Neurology at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, was invited to give a keynote address at the Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Auditorium on April 6, 2004.

Dr. Baum currently serves as President of the American Occupational Therapy Association and served as past President of the American Occupational Therapy Association and the American Occupational Therapy Certification Board (now known as NBCOT). Dr. Baum's research is on the relationship of activity and function in persons with cognitive impairment and chronic disease. Currently she is the principal investigator of a project funded by The James S. McDonnell Foundation to build an integrated model of cognitive rehabilitation. The project involves neuroscientists, neurologists, and occupational therapists working together to understand the brain and cognitive mechanisms that support every day life. *(continued on next page)*



Above: Dr. Carolyn Baum visiting with Dr. Cathy Lysack far right, Dr. Jenny Mendez far left, and students of Pi Theta Epsilon. Right: Last graduating Baccalaureate class at Pi Theta reception held for Dr. Baum.

Happy 60th Birthday WSU OT Program!

The Occupational Therapy Program at Wayne State University turns 60 years old this year!

In celebration of this momentous occasion, Dr. Barbara Kornblau, Immediate Past President of the American Occupational Therapy Association, will deliver our 12th Annual Ellen Garms Lecture, "A Glimpse of the Past, A View Toward the Future." Alumnae and visitors from all over the nation will come together to reminisce about the past and share ideas about the future of occupational therapy.

A reception will be held immediately following the lecture with a silent auction, building tours, hors d'oeuvres, and refreshments with live musical entertainment.

All clinicians, please feel free to come as you are. We look forward to celebrating with you!

Date Friday, November 5, 2004

Time 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Place The Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences, 259 Mack Avenue, Detroit, Lower Level



The primary goal of this three year practice-focused study (n=72) is to identify individual and environmental level barriers and resources to community independence and re-integration among teenagers and younger adults in the early years post spinal cord injury. This study also seeks to shed light on the ways persons with spinal cord injury envision their sense of community and identify the modes of community engagement over time as they move from the acute post-injury phase to long term adjustment. A substantial body of literature documents that the absence of meaningful community participation is a risk factor for poor long-term medical and psychosocial outcomes in persons

Mark R. Luborsky, Ph.D., Co-PI
Cathy Lysack, Ph.D., OT(C), Principal Investigator
Community Participation After Spinal Cord Injury: Idioms of Belief

The primary goal of this one year practice-focused study (n=18) is to identify characteristics of bilateral grasp force before, during, and following a six-week intensive intervention program in elderly women who have hand dysfunction due to spasticity. Improvement in arm function in healthy adults has been demonstrated with increased usage and repetition, and has been shown to result from changes in cortical representation within the brain. As cortical plasticity has been demonstrated in healthy elderly adults, it is hypothesized that elderly adults with hand spasticity and dysfunction may also show improvement in grasp characteristics and hand function following an intensive training program.

Gerry E. Conti, MS, OTR, Principal Investigator
Bilateral Grasp Force Coordination with Stroke: Effects of Intervention

Dates of Award: 6/1/03 to 5/31/07
Research (NCMRR)

Funding Agency: National Institute Health/National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)/National Center for Medical Rehabilitation the WHO's International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health. Medicine by evaluating the community participation—a vital component in formation. This study addresses a priority area of NIH and the Institute of

spatial/geographical versus social/ecological elements of the roles of community The main emphasis in this study is on evaluating the relative importance of (n=160) across a range of age of onset and duration beyond 5 years post injury by comparing adult Caucasian and African Americans with spinal cord injury community (both desired forms of community and modes of valued participation) injury outcomes by evaluating competing social-ecological hypotheses about

Mark R. Luborsky, Ph.D., Co-PI
Cathy Lysack, Ph.D., OT(C), Principal Investigator
Community Living after Spinal Cord Injury: Models and Outcomes

Dates of Award: 10/1/02 to 9/30/05
(NIDRR)

Funding Agency: National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research SCI and persons with other disabilities as well.

with a wide range of disabilities. Thus, the project is anticipated to contribute new data on community re-integration with the potential to assist persons with

Chief Funded Research Projects

OTMatters

INSIDE

Curriculum Updates - Faculty Spotlight - Recent Program Gift



Baum Visit, cont.

Dr. Baum's lecture April 6th was entitled "Engagement in Everyday Activity: Linking Participation, Health and Well-being." The lecture reviewed research that confirms the positive impact of social participation on health. For example, social relationships and activities are now known to reduce risk for disabilities, are as protective against the risk of mortality as physical activities, and protect against cognitive decline and depressive symptoms. The lack of occupation also leads to physiological deterioration and the loss of ability to perform competently in daily life. Dr. Baum also talked about her own program of research that is examining how age, cognition, depression and vision impact the older adult's participation in instrumental, leisure, and social activities. The research results she shared clearly showed that depression and vision were the conditions that limited participation in her sample of community-dwelling older adults.

At the conclusion of her lecture, Dr. Baum joined faculty and students at a reception hosted by the Pi Theta students in occupational therapy. Dean Beverly Schmolli and several out-of-town occupational therapists stayed after the lecture and this was an enjoyable time of social exchange for all. Dr. Baum also met with a small group of especially interested occupational therapy students who expressed a wish to talk further with her about the activities of the American Occupational Therapy Association and the future direction of the profession. The event was not only an excellent opportunity for our young students to hear a top-notch scholarly presentation, but to personally interact with a prominent occupational therapy leader as well.

The occupational therapy program was delighted to host Dr. Baum's visit. The faculty found it a wonderful occasion to highlight the unique strengths of its program with the AOTA President.

OT Curriculum Updates

Master of Occupational Therapy (MOT)

The final group of baccalaureate students has successfully completed their course work and is venturing off across the country to complete their Level II fieldwork requirements. The initial group of Master in Occupational Therapy (MOT) students is near completion of their first professional year and will prepare for graduation in December of 2004 with a Bachelor of Science in Health Science. In the Winter of 2005 these students will begin the Masters level course work of the program while the second group of students has been accepted for the 2004 MOT program. The transition from the outgoing baccalaureate program to the MOT program has been smooth for students and faculty. Utilizing the OT Practice Framework as a foundation, exciting new courses have been developed to address client centered, evidence-based practice, research and technology and meet the demands of the ever changing health care environment. Students have commented that this state of the art educational facility provides the atmosphere necessary for students to excel. Please contact the department for more information and applications.

Master of Science (MS)

The MS (Post-Professional) Program in Occupational Therapy is designed for the occupational therapist seeking to better understand both theoretical and clinical bases of practice. Following completion of core courses, students may elect concentration studies in neurorehabilitation, assistive technology, gerontology, pediatrics, or ergonomics. An individualized area of concentration also may be possible for the student with more specialized interests.

A master's thesis is the culminating project for the MS degree. The MS degree may be completed on a full- or part-time basis. The degree may be completed by full-time students in approximately one and one-half years, while part-time students typically require between two and four years, depending on the number of courses taken per semester.

Persons with questions can contact Gerry Conti at 313-577-2188 or gconti@wayne.edu.

Recent OT Program Gift

Thanks to the generosity of an alumna of the Occupational Therapy program, the Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences is establishing the first two fellowships in its history. Kaye Jean Schlomer, a 1961 Occupational Therapy graduate, left her estate to the college to support scholarship in occupational therapy and physical therapy. The funds will be used to establish one Fellowship each in OT and PT as well as an Endowed Scholarship to support students in both programs. This is an excellent example of how our alumni can make a huge difference in the lives of tomorrow's professionals.

Fieldwork Update

Fieldwork: Changing with the Times

Wayne State University's (WSU) Occupational Therapy fieldwork program is dynamic and forever changing. Most of these changes are in response to changes in health care delivery. Other changes have been mandated by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education. These mandates are in the form of new Standards that all academic programs must meet if they are to be re-accredited and Resolution J, which requires a post baccalaureate degree as the entry level degree for Professional level practice by 2007 (Walls, 1999). I will be discussing some of these changes in this and future issues of *OT Matters*.

Part I: Health care delivery and Fieldwork Programming

Changes in health finance and delivery have directly affected fieldwork education. Hospitals have merged, down sized and cross trained professional staff. Demands for higher levels of productivity has moved patient treatment to a faster pace. As a result, many therapists have opted for part time employment or have created more satisfying practices in emerging health care arenas. These events have directly affected this fieldwork program. On the down side, it has reduced hospital based training sites. On a much brighter side, new and exciting places for

fieldwork training have emerged in the community along with opportunities for research that will enhance fieldwork practice. For example, when students make placement choices, they have the option of being "on-the-line" at Daimler Chrysler learning and applying holistic and ergonomic principles with at-risk workers. They can fly to Arizona to live and train on a Native American reservation. They will soon be able to participate in an interdisciplinary fieldwork experience training side by side with physical therapy, physician assistant and pharmacy students who are working with Migrant workers and their families in Adrian, Michigan.

Community sites often employ fieldwork supervisors who are part time. The reality of part time or distance supervision prompted obtaining an American Occupational Therapy Foundation funded research grant to study the "Course and Description of Distance Supervised Fieldwork: A Qualitative Pilot Study." Mark Luborsky, Ph.D. and I were Co-Primary Investigators and the results of this research produced evidence that distance supervision is a viable practice if monitored appropriately. Some of the community sites selected for this project also fit what is called a "service-learning" model of practice. Basically, the site agrees to make its clients available to fieldwork students and the academic program agrees to provide their clients with supervised occupational therapy services.

To help our students adjust to the increasing pace of practice, they are required to access an electronic discussion board called Blackboard 5. It is similar to a virtual chat room but it is asynchronous. Everyone does not have to be on-line at the same time to converse. The flexible time frame is one of Bb's best features. The discussions provide peer support through problem solving and sharing of their successful and challenging experiences.

Before closing, I thought it appropriate to give you a little update. My position as academic fieldwork coordinator has been upgraded to Director of Fieldwork Education. I will continue to place Level II students and over see the placement of Level I students. Regina Parnell, MS, OTR is now full time and her responsibilities include scheduling level I placements. The entire faculty has great plans for the new Fieldwork Program.

If you would like to become a fieldwork supervisor (now called Fieldwork Educator) please contact us at:

Karmen (313) 577-7883, ab8068@wayne.edu
Regina (313) 577-6794

Future Fieldwork Updates

Part II: Fieldwork and the new Master of Occupational Therapy Program
Part III: The New ACOTE Standards - Fieldwork Requirements

Walls, B. S. (1999). What does resolution mean to the profession?. *OT Practice*, 4.

Faculty Spotlight

Rosanne DiZazzo-Miller,
OTD, OTR, the program's

newest faculty member, received her bachelor's degree from Adrian College, Michigan, her master's degree in Occupational Therapy from Eastern Michigan University, and her doctoral degree from Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Entering academia in 2003, she serves on the faculty as an Assistant Professor here at Wayne State University. There she serves on various committees throughout the college. Prior to her career in academia, she worked in clinical practice in traumatic

brain injury, treating clients from pediatrics through late adulthood. She is currently involved in assistive technology consultation for clients with spinal cord and brain injuries, in addition to working with the Alzheimer's Association of Michigan providing caregiver training. As a member of the Michigan Occupational Therapy Association, she also serves on the Political Action Committee. Her research interests include problem-based learning as it relates to transition from student to clinician, and distance learning.

Rosanne DiZazzo-Miller
Image to be provided

A publication of the Occupational Therapy Program of the Wayne State University Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

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