EKU OT Spring 2012

You’re Invited — EKU AOTA Reception

Ranked a second time at 24th by U.S. News and World Report as a top Graduate Program in Occupational Therapy, the department faculty will host a reception at AOTA.

Planned for Friday April 27, 2012, the evening reception will be held at the AOTA conference headquarters hotel — the JW Marriott Indianapolis.

The JW Marriott is located at 10 S. West Street and is connected via sky bridge to the Indiana Convention Center.

Appreciation is expressed to EKU public relations administration for their sponsorship. Thanks also goes to EKU President Dr. Doug Whitlock, Provost Dr. Janna Vice, and Interim Health Sciences Dean Dr. Deborah Whitehouse. Graduate School Dean Dr. Jerry Pogatshnik and Associate Dean Dr. Jaleh Rezaie have assisted the department.

The OT department faculty invite YOU to our reception to celebrate our accomplishments and thank our many supporters.

Faculty and administrators from other institutions, alumni and friends, students, retired colleagues and other supporters are welcome. Please come visit.

See You at AOTA Annual Conference

The EKU Occupational Therapy Department will host a booth in Exhibition Hall. Information about the B.S. in occupational science and M.S. in occupational therapy is available. The department participates in offering a collaborative Ph.D. in rehabilitation sciences at the University of Kentucky. Please stop to visit and dialog about our mutual interests.

If you know anyone considering future education, please encourage them to contact us: Donna.McDaniel2@eku.edu

Special points of interest:
EKU AOTA Reception
Friday April 27 — 8 PM
JW Marriott Indianapolis
Food provided. Cash bar.
No RSVP required.
Everyone is welcome — thanks for your support of EKU OT Department.

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The Annual EKU OT Research Day was held in November 2011 at the Perkins Center. This event features presentations by graduate students and undergraduate students affiliated with the department. Presentations include clinical updates, systematic literature reviews, and research reports from thesis and line of inquiry investigations.

This year there were over 50 presenters. The day-long conference includes lunch and a closing reception at nominal cost. Six hours of complimentary continuing education is provided to thank clinicians for their support of the department.

Dr. Anne Shordike chairs the Research Day Committee. This year’s keynote address was delivered by Dr. Virginia Stoffel who is the President-elect of AOTA.

Research presentations included children and youth studies, developmental disabilities, early intervention, gerontology, and physical disabilities.

The Place to Be is an intervention program offered two days per week on the EKU campus. Persons with Alzheimer’s Disease and other cognitive disorders receive services from supervised students in undergraduate and graduate courses.

Katherine Nicholas, MS, OTR/L, leads the program. An alumni of the University of Kentucky and Eastern Kentucky University, Ms. Nicholas holds an advanced certificate in gerontology.

The Place to Be, started by retired professor Penny Benzing, has provided services to the Richmond community for over 20 years. This community based program is an asset to EKU OT.
AOTA Conference — EKU Faculty Presenters

Can’t attend the reception Friday evening at JW Marriott? Please do plan to say hello to our faculty at the AOTA Annual Conference:

Ms. Kathryn Splinter-Watkins—service learning and hippotherapy
Dr. Christine Myers—school readiness in the transition to preschool program
Drs. Colleen Schneck and Sharon Brandenburger-Shasby (retired) - teacher perceptions of the handwriting without tears program
Ms. Amy Marshall—transitions of youth at risk in education
Dr. Doris Pierce, Ms. Karen Summers, et al.—school-based transitions
Dr. Doris Pierce and colleagues—drivers of change for OT
Dr. Lynnda Emery and colleague—fitness for persons with disabilities
Dr. Peggy Wittman, Ms. Emily Vaught—adult children of alcoholics study
Dr. Cynthia Hayden—science of treating individuals with chronic pain

EKU OT Retired Faculty —— Department Past 35 Years

The department started in 1976 and became the largest single-campus undergraduate occupational therapy program in the country. Retired faculty support student scholarships and participate in faculty dinners. Thanks to retirees:

Ms. Kathryn Allen, Ms. Joy Anderson, Dr. Onda Bennett, Ms. Lynne (Penny) Benzing, Dr. Anne Blakeney, Dr. Sharon Brandenberger-Shasby, Ms. Kate Clark, Dr. Lisette Kautzmann, and Ms. Gladys Masagatani.

If YOU wish to make a “donation to the EKU OT department,” please do. Call 859-622-3300 for assistance.

Thanks to these faculty for providing the foundation for growth. The department now admits 40-50 juniors to the B.S. in occupational science program and 60 graduate students to the M.S. in occupational therapy program. If YOU wish to donate, please mark your contribution for OT Department.

Institutional Review Board — OT Faculty Marken Chairs

The EKU Institutional Review Board provides a review and approval service to EKU affiliated researchers. Under the division of Sponsored Programs, the board was chaired by Dr. Dory Marken in occupational therapy.

Dr. Marken holds BS and MS degrees from North Dakota and a PhD from the University of Kentucky in gerontology. She teaches physical disabilities and gerontology. Her service learning elective provides expertise for OT students. Dr. Marken is the first OT faculty to chair this board.

Others with college human subjects chair review and IRB service include: Drs. Lynnda Emery, Colleen Schneck, and Margaret Wittman.
Please check our website for faculty email listings. Department faculty welcome dialog from interested collaborators.

Current faculty include:

Julie Baltisberger, Melba Custer, Lynda Emery, Elaine Fehringer, Cynthia Hayden, Dana Howell, Kelly Leigers, Dory Marken, Amy Marshall, Christine Myers, Catherine Nicholas, Shirley Obrien, Doris Pierce, Christine Privott, Gordon St. Michel, Colleen Schneck, Anne Shordike, Kathryn Splinter-Watkins, Mary Ellen Thompson, Julya Westfall, Peggy Wittman.

Information about the department programs can be obtained from the website. Email: Donna.McDaniel2@eku.edu for additional assistance.

Applications for the M.S. occupational therapy program are due February 1 annually. Applications for the junior year B.S. in occupational science program are due March 15 annually. Faculty have diverse professional interests.

Please contact individual faculty for additional information.