Warm regards to all students, alumni, staff, faculty, and friends!

We are quickly progressing towards the end of another great semester. Hang in there for a strong finish! Here are some of this semester’s highlights:

**EKU OS & OT Research Day 2018 was a great success!**

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:**
Dr. Elizabeth R. Skidmore, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, FACRM
Chair and Professor, Department of Occupational Therapy, University of Pittsburgh

Dr. Skidmore’s federally funded research program addresses brain injury and neurocognitive decline and adults with cognitive impairments.

Thank you to all the practitioners who attended and continue to support the wonderful research happening in the Department of OS and OT. There are too many presentations and presenters to name, so we invite you to look at the EKU OS and OT Research Day 2018 program booklet by clicking on the link below. Feel free to contact faculty or students if you have questions about any of the presentations or if you would like to participate in research. We would love to collaborate with you!

The EKU Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy Department has a long history of community involvement through individual and small group placements of fieldwork students in a variety of settings. One of our most recent additions is Central Kentucky Riding for Hope (CKRH). CKRH is a PATH Premier Accredited Therapeutic Horsemanship center located on the grounds of the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington. CKRH provides approximately 14,000 hours of direct client services annually in a variety of avenues, including horsemanship lessons; counseling and mental health services; veterans programming; summer camps; and therapeutic intervention. EKU OS and OT students have been able to integrate into many of those programs. Currently, there are sections of all three focused fieldwork courses offered at CKRH in addition to a service learning course at the bachelor’s level that is tied to the Horses, Humans and Health minor. Each of these opportunities allows students to be involved in a facet of the program. For example, the OTS 831 course was able to research specialty clinical partnerships and help plan the logistical components of adding another clinical office to the facility. The OTS 871 course was able to provide feedback about potential sensory and behavioral supports to improve the educational experience at The Stables - Fayette County Public School that is housed onsite. Through these experiences, our master’s level students are able to see immediate impact from their interventions and assignments and can connect a real-world focus to their academic work. EKU OS and OT would like to extend a warm thank you to CKRH for welcoming our students and staff so warmly.
College of Health Science Living and Learning Community

The declared Pre-OS freshman met with Professors Gayle Spira and Cassie Ginn at Clay Hall. Clay Hall houses an interdisciplinary dorm of all College of Health Science majors. After a taco dinner for the Living and Learning Community residents, an Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy meeting was held, initiating the first OS/OT meeting in the LLC! A great time was had by all!

Community Partnership Highlight

The fieldwork department was busy this semester placing all of the first semester graduate level students into one of five faculty facilitated community programs. These programs included The Place to Be; A Matter of Balance; Neurorestorative; Central Kentucky Riding for Hope; and Cardinal Hill Rehabilitation Center. In addition, all 78 second-year graduate students were placed into individual placements across Fayette, Rockcastle, Clark, Lincoln, Woodford, and Bourbon County schools as well as right here on campus within the Model Laboratory School. These experiences are invaluable for our students, as they allow them to see occupational therapy in context. We would like to thank all of the educators and school-based therapists who provided opportunities for our students in their classrooms.

Faculty and students rocked service in the community at two recent events: Family Game Night at EKU Scholar House and the Low Sensory Santa event at Telford YMCA. Students from the EKU Departments of OS & OT, ESS, and CD were represented at the YMCA event.

We love our community partners.
KOTA Legislative Affairs Day
Join your OT, PT and SLP peers in the Capitol Rotunda, Frankfort, KY
8:30 am to 2:00 pm, February 7, 2019.

10th Annual Conference on Meeting the Therapy Needs of Infants, Toddlers and Children with Disabilities in the Community
Saturday, March 9, 2019 at UK; Registration information will be in the next newsletter

AOTA Annual Conference
New Orleans, Louisiana
April 4-7, 2019 (pre-conference institutes: April 3).

EKTU College of Health Sciences (CHS) Scholars Day
Tuesday, April 16, 2019
EKU Center for the Arts
link to submit abstract proposals:
http://health.eku.edu/webform-chs-scholars-day-presentations
(open until Friday, February 15, 2019).

2019 Pedagogicon
“Transparency in Teaching and Learning”
Friday, May 17, 2019 at EKU.
All members of the campus community are invited to submit proposals at:

UK Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Resident Research Day 2019
May date and link to follow in the next newsletter.
The Department of OS and OT have several scholarships available to assist students in paying for their education. In order to keep these funding sources available to students, we need your help. Please consider making a donation in support of our students and the OT profession. And remember, donations made by December 31, 2018 are tax deductible. You can make your donations online at https://securelb.imodules.com/s/1763/index.aspx?sid=1763&gid=2&pgid=524&cid=1360, or mail to: EKU Office of Development, CPO 19A, 521 Lancaster Ave., Richmond, KY 40475. **Make sure to write the name of the scholarship on the memo line of the check.

Click on scholarships for more information on the following:

- Nancy Gillespie Occupational Therapy Scholarship
- Jean Steffan Smith Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Rebecca B. Pelfrey Endowed Memorial Scholarship
- The Joy Anderson Scholarship
- Occupational Therapy Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- Occupational Therapy Faculty Endowed Scholarship
- Gladys Nobuko Masagatani Scholarship

We hope you are enjoying our newsletter. If you would like to make suggestions, share a story, or brag about something wonderful you are doing in your community or in practice, please contact Dr. Hardman at leslie.hardman@eku.edu.