

EKU

Special points of interest:

- EKU Occupational Therapy—ranked in the top 25 Graduate Programs in OT in 2008 by U.S. News & World Report
- EKU OT Endowed Chair offers research support to graduate students in a Research Center
- State-of-the-art instruction includes web-enhanced, service-learning, and research advocacy methods

Inside this issue:

- EKU OT 2
- Faculty in Print 2
- Curriculum 3
- Grants 3
- Raising the Bar 4
- Presentations 4
- Clinical Services 4

EKU OT News

Occupational Therapy
Disney Building

Fall 2010

Occupational Therapy Curriculum— The Decade of Change

Hello to all of our alumni and academic/professional colleagues. In the past decade the curriculum has transitioned to the new undergraduate major in occupational science and the new occupational therapy master's degree in occupational therapy. Thanks to all of you who have helped.

The programs have been revised to provide an excellent educational experience and meet accreditation standards. The entry-level to the profession M.S. program offers two routes of entry: completion of the occupational science major or another major upon completion of prerequisite coursework during a transition year. The two-year M.S. program enrolls about 55 new graduate students each fall.

The occupational science major is one of only four in the nation. Students complete foundational coursework in social, behavioral, and physical sciences. You are our best recruiters. Please continue to send interested and qualified applicants to our website for more information. The neighbor who visited your clinic might become a colleague. See Curriculum page 3



Service-learning to benefit rural residents - part of regional stewardship.

PREPaRE for Rural Employment

PREPaRE: Preparing related services personnel for rural employment was funded for \$738,559. Dr. Christine Myers (OT-EKU) and Drs. Susan Effgen (PT) and Jane Kleinert (SLP) at the University of Kentucky serve as principal investigators.

Regional stewardship and providing exceptional educational opportunities for providers to serve in rural areas of the Commonwealth are included.

Internal grants to support service learning (\$9,600 and \$3,000) were awarded to Dr. Shirley O'Brien. An internal grant to support collaborative work for state agency See Grants page 3



EKU

Eastern Kentucky University

Occupational Therapy Dept.

103 Disney Building

Richmond, KY 40475

Phone: 859-622-3300

Email Lynnda.Emery@eku.edu

Newsletter produced by the EKU OT Outcomes Committee: Drs. Lynnda Emery, Colleen Schneck, Christine Myers, and Ms. Heather Foster & J. Hogg.

The EKU Occupational Therapy department offers the only public university programs in the Commonwealth. Founded in 1976, the department offers a B.S. in occupational science and M.S. in occupational therapy. In collaboration with the University of Kentucky, a Ph.D. in rehabilitation sciences is offered.

Named to the Top 25 Graduate Programs in occupational therapy in 2008 (2008-2012) by U.S. News & World Report, the faculty emphasize excellence in teaching, scholarship, and service.

Please visit the EKU occupational therapy website for more information.

Occupational Therapy at EKU



Scholarship: Faculty in Print

To support the top 25 ranking in U.S. News & World Report, the department efforts in scholarship and research have increased over the past decade. 2009 was highlighted by:

Blakeney, A. & Marshall, A. (2009). Water quality, health and human occupations. *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 63, 46-67.

Bundy, MB, Wittman, P, Meehan, MS, Stoneman, HM, Seale, SJ, Gore, J, & Clemens, R. (2009). Social effectiveness therapy for young adults with Asperger Syndrome. *Journal of Psychological Practice*, 15, 244-267.

Howell, DM. (2009). Occupational therapy students in the process of interprofessional collaborative learning: A grounded theory study. *Journal of Interprofessional Care*, 23(1), 67-80. LaForme

FA, Effgen, SK, Page J, & Shasby, S. (2009). Effects of sensorimotor groups on gross motor acquisition for young children with Down syndrome. *Pediatric Physical Therapy*, 21(2), 158-166.

Peranich, L, Reynolds, K, O'Brien, S, Bosch, J, & Cranfill, T. (2010). The roles of occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech/language pathology in pri-

mary care. *Journal for Nurse Practitioners*, 6(1), 36-43.

Pierce, D. (2009). Co-occupation: The challenges of defining concepts original to occupational science. *Journal of Occupational Science*, 16, 273-287.

Pierce, D, Munier, V, & Myers, CT. (2009). Informing early intervention through an occupational science description of infant-toddler interactions with home space. *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 63(3), 273-287.

Shordike, A. (2009). Spirit, action and health: Traditional relationship. Koln, Germany: Lambert Academic Publishing.

Webb, MA. & Emery, LJ. (2009) Self-identity in an adolescent a decade after spinal cord injury. *Occupational Therapy in Health Care*, 23(4), 267-287.

See Faculty in Print on page 3



New computer technology enhances research and web-based instruction.

Curriculum—continued from page 1



Education toward excellence in clinical practice.

Did you know that 10 department faculty serve as editorial board members and reviewers for 14 professional journals?

Service to people of the Commonwealth is supported by grants and clinical research



The last decade also saw the ECU OT department collaborate to start a Rehabilitation Science Ph.D. program at the University of Kentucky. The program welcomes occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech-language pathologists, and athletic trainers.

The ECU OT Department and Dr. Colleen Schneck

have been given service awards.

ECU OT faculty represent the department at UK and participate in teaching and doctoral committees.

Alumni interested in advancing their careers in teaching, research, or specialized clinical services are encouraged to explore this program. Interdisciplinary collaboration is val-

ued. Graduate student interests can be developed at this research university.

As a regional comprehensive university, ECU offers the only public occupational therapy program in the Commonwealth. Service-learning, web-enhanced instruction, and advocacy in research support traditional teaching.

Faculty in Print—continued from page 2

Yancosek, KE. & Howell, DM. (2009). A narrative review of dexterity assessments. *Journal of Hand Therapy*, 22(3), 258-270.

Chapters in Case-Smith, J. & O'Brien, J. (Eds.), *Occupational Therapy for Children* (6th ed.), St. Louis: Elsevier:

Myers, CT, Stephens, LC, & Tauber, SK. (2009). Early intervention.

Schneck, C. (2009). Visual perception.

Schneck, C. (2009). Handwriting.

Schneck, C. (2009). Visual perception frame of refer-

ence. In Kramer & Hinojosa (Eds.). *Frames of Reference for Pediatric Occupational Therapy* (3rd ed.), Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins.

Presentations by ECU OT faculty totaled 41 in 2009.

Grants—continued from page 1

children (\$2,500).

Faculty completing grant-funded projects to support educational opportunities for graduate students and model treatment delivery programs in-

clude: Amy Marshall, Elaine Fehring, Drs. Lynnda Emery, Dory Marken, Shirley O'Brien, and Doris Pierce. Project completion supports the ECU special initiatives: (1) student success—teaching and learning as the prima-

ry mission of the institution, (2) teaching that emphasizes critical and creative thinking, and (3) regional stewardship — service to the people of the Commonwealth in the region.

Graduate Education: Raising the Bar



The EKU OT faculty are jumping higher. EKU, a SACS accredited institution, can now offer doctoral degrees. The

World-class education for students in Kentucky. Graduate School has raised the bar to credential faculty. Full graduate faculty with lifetime appointments include: Drs. Lynnda Emery, Doris Pierce, Colleen Schneck, and Peggy Wittman.

Dr. Doris Pierce, Endowed Chair in Occupational Therapy, has stimulated scholarship

development across campus via the GEARS program offered by the Graduate School.

New promotions to professor include Drs. Dana Howell, Shirley O'Brien, and Anne Shordike. New promotion to associate professor is Dr. Christine Myers. Faculty now "ABD" who are completing dissertations at UK include Julie Baltisberger, Melba Custer, Amy Marshall.

"Visit the EKU occupational therapy website for 2008 and 2009 scholarship and service highlights."

Presentations at Conferences

Conference presentations completed by department faculty in 2009 totaled 41. In addition to specialty conferences, faculty contributed to the World Federation of Occupational Therapists, American Occupational Therapy Association, and Kentucky Occupational Therapy Association

meetings. EKU faculty presenters include: Julie Baltisberger, Melba Custer, Lynnda Emery, Elaine Fehringer, Dana Howell, Amy Marshall, Christine Myers, Shirley O'Brien, Doris Pierce, Colleen Schneck, Anne Shordike, Kathy Splinter-Watkins, Julya Westfall, and Peggy Wittman.

Please visit the EKU occupational therapy website. 2008 and 2009 scholarship and professional service reports are in the alumni section.

If you need a guest speaker or are interested in research collaboration, please contact faculty directly.

Clinical Services

Provision of clinical services to clients is an important part of occupational therapy education. In addition to fieldwork experiences, undergraduate and graduate students enroll in service delivery courses.

An undergraduate elective in equine-assisted therapy intro-

duced students to the therapeutic option of hippotherapy. Kathy Splinter-Watkins offers on-farm sessions.

The Place To Be has moved to the Disney Building. Offering clinical services to persons with dementia, Katherine Nicholas provides clinical supervi-

sion for students.

Services for students in alternative schools and handwriting programs are included. Contact the department for information.



Students evaluate access for persons with disability.