

# EKU OT December 2013

**Eastern  
Kentucky  
University**

## EKU OT Hosts SSO–USA

The Society for the Study of Occupation's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Meeting was held at the Hilton in Lexington, KY on October 17, 18, and 19, 2013. The theme for the conference was Occupation and Education. The conference was impressively successful with speakers and participants from Brazil, Canada, Japan, Ireland, and throughout the US.

The local planning committee guided by Dr. Pierce included Dr. Amy Marshall, Dr. MaryEllen Thompson, Dr. Cindy Hayden, Elaine Fehringer, and Julie Baltisberger. Student volunteers attending the conference included Kelsey Yarberry, Sara Walker, Emily Fintel, and Kim Steele from Pi Theta

Epsilon and Kenton Murphy, Anna Bowling, Sarah Wilkey, and Alyssa Waitzman from the Student Occupational Science Association. In addition to the research presentations, theoretical papers, and research posters, conference participants engaged in occupational balance opportunities such as attending the Keeneland horse races, making Kentucky bourbon balls and corn shuck angels.

December 2013  
Occupational Therapy

### Special points of interest:

- *B.S. Occupational Science*
- *M.S. Occupational Therapy*
- *OTD Occupational Therapy Doctorate (OTD)*
- *PhD Rehabilitation Services (UK)*

*Everyone is welcome— thanks for your support of EKU OT Department*

## AOTA Student Conclave

This years AOTA Student Conclave took place in Jacksonville, FL. The event was on November 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Sessions at this event included : Level II Fieldwork Panel, Mock-Interview, and topics from the AOTA Centennial Vision. EKU students participated in the event and had a positive experience.

## See You at AOTA Annual Conference in Baltimore, MD on April 3-6, 2014

The EKU Occupational Therapy Department will host a booth in The Exhibition Hall at the AOTA National Conference. Information about the B.S. in occupational science,

M.S. in occupational therapy, and new online OTD 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 educational opportunities in occupational therapy, please encourage them to contact us:

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## AOTA Conference— EKV Faculty Presenters

Please plan to say hello to our many faculty members attending the AOTA Annual Conference. We hope to see you in Baltimore in March 2014. The following faculty will be presenting:

Melba Custer	Shirley O'Brien
Lynnda Emery	Doris Pierce
Elaine Fehringer	Christine Privott
Cindy Hayden	Camille Skubik-Peplaski
Christine Myers	Peggy Wittman

## Applying for Junior Year Occupational Science

Applications are due : March 15th, 2014. Students are required to have 4 pre-requisites which include: Human Anatomy with Lab, Human Physiology, Statistics, and Psychology. A minimum of 60 hours and a 3.0 GPA is required to apply.

## Our New Neighbor

We are extremely excited about our new neighbor, the New Science Building. Adjacent to the health sciences complex, it houses the Departments of Chemistry, Physics, and Astronomy as well as science education classrooms and laboratories.



## Research Day— Annual November Event

The Annual EKV OT Research Day was held on November 15th, 2013 at the Perkins Center on EKV's campus. This event featured presentations by graduate and undergraduate students affiliated with the EKV OT department.

Presentations included clinical up-dates, systematic literature reviews, and research reports from thesis and line of inquiry investigations.

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

Dr. Anne Shordike chaired the Research Day Committee. A nationally known keynote speaker is invited each year. This year's keynote address was delivered by Michael Iwama, PhD, OT(c), Chair and Professor, Georgia Regents University.



## Basic Spanish for Healthcare Professionals

Eastern Kentucky University's Occupational Therapy Master's students paired with Bryan Station High School students to learn basic Spanish. The high school students have been a part of a Spanish Immersion Program since the age of four, and were able to assist the master's students with pronunciation, use of simple therapeutic phrases and medical/rehabilitation terminology. The class was an exciting two and a half hours of learning the Spanish words for the parts of

the body and phrases. It was a great collaborative interaction. The high school students readily demonstrated their expertise and background in Spanish. This course was sponsored by the OT honors society, Pi Theta Epsilon and was attended by 25 graduate level learners including 3 students from the communication disorders program. Another workshop is planned for Spring 2014.



## PREPaRE Grant

Eastern Kentucky University's occupational therapy program has received a 5-year \$1.2 million PREPaRE (Preparing Related Services Personnel for Rural Employment) grant in conjunction with ECU's Communication Disorders (CD) and University of Kentucky's physical therapy programs. Four Occupational Thera-

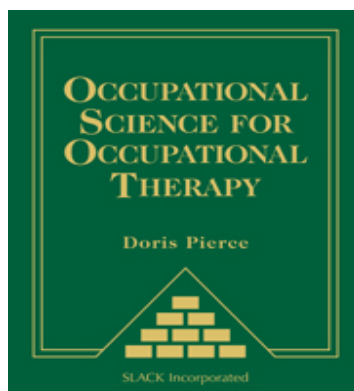
py students from ECU will join PREPaRE every year for the five year period. Graduate students in the PREPaRE program receive an annual stipend of \$12,500. Students also take extra courses upon receiving the grant. Mentoring services and collaboration opportunities with early childhood personnel and teachers are

also available. To participate, students commit to work two years in an early intervention or school-based occupational therapy program. Dr. Colleen Schneck, Chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy, Dr. Shirley O'Brien, and Dr. Christine Myers are project faculty for this grant.

## Occupational Science for Occupational Therapy

By: Dr. Doris Pierce

The book articulates how occupational science research produces unique insights into occupation and increase the effectiveness of occupational therapy interventions. The following faculty members provided chapter contributions: Doris Pierce, Anne Shordike, Amy Marshall, Elaine Fehringer, and Karen Summers.



## Eastern Kentucky University

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*Produced by Outcomes Committee Drs.  
Lynnda Emery, Colleen Schneck, Melba  
Custer, and Ms. Molly Johnson*



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*The EKU Department of Occupational Therapy started in 1976. It offers a BS in occupational science and MS in occupational therapy. The MS program admits graduates from the BS in OS program and graduates from other majors and institutions. An interdisciplinary autism certificate program is offered. The new all online OTD (Occupational Therapy Doctorate) is accepting applications. The EKU OT Department participates in a collaborative PhD program with the University of Kentucky. The department chair is Dr. Colleen Schneck, and the Graduate Coordinator is Dr. MaryEllen Thompson. Visit Dizney 103 or call 859-622-3300 for more information.*

## Department Faculty Listing— Collaborators Welcome

Please check our website for faculty email listings. Department faculty welcome dialog from interested collaborators.

Current faculty include:

Julie Baltisberger, Kristen Causey, Melba Custer, Lynnda Emery, Elaine Fehringer, Cynthia Hayden, Dana Howell, Kelly Leigers, Dory Marken, Amy Marshall, Christine Myers, Catherine Nicholas, Shirley O'Brien, Doris Pierce, Christine Privott, Colleen Schneck, Anne Shordike, Camille Skubik-Peplaski, Kathryn Splinter-Watkins, MaryEllen 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. Visit the Faculty Directory to learn more about our faculty. We welcome your interest in the department.