

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- Ranked again by U.S. News & World Report as a Top Graduate Program in Occupational Therapy
- Offers OTRs with a master's degree two doctoral programs: OTD at EKU and PHD at UK
- EKU OT to host October 17—19, 2013 society of study of occupation meeting—**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

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EKU OT News

EASTERN KENTUCKY

WINTER 2013

New OTD Program—Spring 2013

New Online OTD Program – Spring 2013

The new, fully online Occupational Therapy Doctorate (OTD) was launched this spring, becoming the third doctoral program offered at EKU, joining the Educational Leadership Doctorate (EdD) and Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP). Dr. Christine Myers serves as the coordinator of this advanced, post-professional online program that has the mission to create occupation-based practitioners who are leaders in occupational therapy.

The curriculum is designed for part-time enrollment with two courses per term. Students complete 40 credits over seven semesters. The curriculum focuses on the themes of occupation-based practice, leadership, diversity,

and reasoning. All students complete a practicum and capstone project. Since the program is completely online, with no required visits to campus, it is flexible to the needs of working therapists from across the nation.

Through the OTD Program you will learn from nationally recognized faculty with expertise in a variety of clinical, research, and education-focused areas. You can tailor the program to meet your individual educational needs and career goals and prepare your career for the next level. Graduates will serve in leadership roles, affect educational and health care policy, and act as catalysts for excellence in intervention settings in order to better meet the needs of occupational therapy consumers.

Occupational therapists must hold certification as an OTR and a master's degree in occupational therapy or another field prior to enrollment. Rolling admissions allow students to begin in the spring, summer or fall semesters. Applications for summer are now being accepted. Visit the website at www.onlineoccupationaltherapyprograms.eku.edu or contact Assistant Online Coordinator, Brandi Stocker at brandi.stocker@eku.edu for more information.



Horses, Humans, and Health Minor

A new interdisciplinary minor starts at EKU. OTS 205 Horse and Human Co-occupation and OTS 479S Equine-Assisted Activity in occupational therapy are required courses. In addition to these required occupational science courses, students take courses in therapeutic recreation, animal studies, and agricul-

ture. Electives from other programs round out the minor. Kathy Splinter-Watkins serves as advisor to these students.

This minor builds on the popular elective OTS 479S course that explores equine-assisted activity, therapeutic horseback riding, equine facilitated mental health,

and hippotherapy.

This adds to the interdisciplinary efforts of the department that already participates in the autism spectrum disorder certificate program at EKU .

Mark your calendar for November 2013 Research Day at EKU— for evidence-based continuing education

Annual Research Day at EKU

The annual Research Day in Occupational Therapy at EKU was held Friday November 9th at the Perkins Center. Contact Dr. Anne Shordike at Anne.Shordike@eku.edu for more information about next year's Research Day.

The low-cost conference includes lunch. Six continuing education credits can be earned at the conference.

Presentations include panel discussions, classroom style presentations, and poster ses-

sions. Participants can discuss a variety of topics with presenters. This year's conference included presentations on a variety of topics.

Presenters usually include EKU faculty who have recently completed their doctoral degrees at UK. This year Dr. Camille Skubik-Peplaski and Dr. Melba Custer presented.

The graduate students in the M.S. program and their faculty mentors present their thesis and research contribution

findings each year. Faculty mentors include: Dr. Colleen Schneck, Dr. Lynnnda Emery, Dr. Dana Howell, Dr. Christine Myers, Dr. Shirley Obrien, Dr. Anne Shordike, Dr. MaryEllen Thompson, and Dr. Peggy Wittman.

B.S. occupational science mentors included: Ms. Kathy Splinter-Watkins, Ms. Julya Westfall, Ms. Amy Marshall, and Dr. Christine Privott.

EKU OT CHT Dr. Cindy Hayden Looks forward to 10 more years



Certified Hand Therapist at EKU

The popular Certified Hand Therapist (CHT) designation is a career goal of many therapists. Associate Professor Dr. Cindy Hayden recently completed the CHT exam. She becomes the first CHT on the faculty at EKU. Dr. Hayden will join Dr. Melba Custer in Spring 2013 to teach a graduate elective on Physical Agent Modalities.

This elective includes online didactic materials and preparation for onsite laboratory experience in the modality use. The course is designed to prepare therapists with knowledge and skills needed in patient care and for licensure requirements on PAMs required by some states.

Dr. Hayden is a graduate of one of the first classes of occu-

pational therapy at EKU. She has extensive clinical and educational experience in physical disabilities.

If you share interest in hand therapy or physical agent modalities, contact Dr. Hayden at Cindy.Hayden@eku.edu

If you are interested in this direction in the new OTD program please also contact Christine.Myers@eku.edu

ACOTE Accredited 10 More Years

Thanks to our many supporters. The ten-year ACOTE specialty accreditation for the occupational therapy program has been renewed. The 2010-2012 self-study was completed with the onsite evaluation team at EKU October 22-24, 2012. The report delivered at EKU was positive and de-

scribed the strengths of the program. There were no non-compliance items listed. This excellent report was finalized by ACOTE. Again, thanks to our many fieldwork partners, alumni, administrators, students, and community members who took time from their busy schedules to talk with the

onsite team.

For more information about the occupational therapy department visit the website at www.ot.eku.edu

Save the Date— October 17-19, 2013—SSO:USA



Great classroom and research space at EKU

“Occupation and Education” and there will be presenters from around the country. The conference highlights the annual Ruth Zemke Lecture in

Occupational Science. The latest peer-reviewed research in occupational science is featured. Emphasis in the conference is on discussion, networking, and occupational balance. Special events to explore Kentucky culture, crafts, music and

enjoy the peak of the thoroughbred season are planned.

Researchers, faculty, practitioners, and students from across the nation and around the globe will meet to explore research on occupation, its relation to disability and social justice, and its use in occupational therapy practice.

The interest of the EKU faculty and the B.S. in occupational science bring EKU to a leadership position in this international association. For more information see www.sso-usa.org

Save the date — October 17—19th, 2013 at the Lexington Hilton in Lexington, Kentucky — will be the 12th Meeting of the Society for the Study of Occupation: USA. The conference theme is

Occupational science to support the practice of occupational therapy is highlighted at SSO:USA

New B.S. Program Coordinator



Amy Marshall, M.S., OTR/L has been named new undergraduate coordinator for B.S. in occupational science. She completed her B.S. in occupational therapy at Western Michigan University and M.S. at EKU. Ms. Marshall is ABD in the PhD program in rehabilitation sciences at UK.

The undergraduate major in occupational science (B.S.) has over 200

alumni. One of four undergraduate programs in the country, occupational science is developing a body of knowledge and support science to enhance the profession of occupational therapy. Ms. Marshall is a qualitative researcher and has served as research coordinator for the Endowed Chair and assistant professor at EKU.

Ms. Marshall’s appointment is effective

2013 following the retirement of Mr. Gordon St. Michael after 25 years service at EKU.

Our supporters are some of our best recruiters. Please visit www.ot.eku.edu to review the B.S. in occupational science curriculum.

Competitive admission to the junior year is now in effect. Applications are due March 15 each year.

Transition Year: Interdisciplinary Strength

The M.S. in occupational therapy has two routes of entry: the B.S. in occupational science and graduates from any major who complete required prerequisites and the one-year of transition coursework. Transition year students bring expertise from exercise and sport science, psychology, health informatics, biology, anthropology, business administration, human devel-

opment, family science, finance, philosophy, human nutrition, equine science, studio art, kinesiology, and sociology, among other majors. Many graduates from other majors have work experience related to these majors.

With master’s level credentialing now required, OT nationally is bringing a stronger interdisciplinary

flavor to the profession. The transition year at EKU includes courses in diagnostic conditions, advanced anatomy, neuroanatomy, human motion for occupation, intervention, among others. See www.ot.eku.edu



New Adaptations in the kitchen enhance student learning



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For more information about our programs: Contact
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Or visit www.ot.eku.edu

To donate to the Occupational
Therapy Scholarship fund, please make
check payable to EKU and please indicate
your donation wishes on memo line.

**Mail to: University Development
Eastern Kentucky University
521 Lancaster Ave, CPO 19A
Richmond, KY 40475**

Newsletter produced by the Outcomes Com-
mittee: Drs. Lynnda Emery, Colleen Schneck, and
Christine Myers; Ms. Heather Foster.

The EKU Occupational Therapy Faculty extend special
thanks to retiring President Dr. Doug Whitlock,
Provost Dr. Janna Vice, and new Dean Dr. Deborah
Whitehouse. Their support of the department is
appreciated.

EKU Graduates meet program outcomes in
occupation, professional identity, reasoning,
diversity, and communication.



Dr. Skubik-Peplaski Joins EKU

The EKU occupational therapy faculty
welcome Dr. Camille Skubik-Peplaski
to the faculty as an associate profes-
sor.

She has a B.S. in occupational therapy
from Eastern Michigan University, an
M.S. in occupational therapy from
Wayne State University and recently
completed the PhD in rehabilitation
sciences from the University of Ken-
tucky.

Dr. Skubik-Peplaski has presented and
published extensively related to appli-
cation of the occupational therapy
practice framework. Her clinical and
management experience at Cardinal
Hill Rehabilitation Hospital brings a
long-time clinical supporter of the
department to the faculty. Please join
us in welcoming Dr. Skubik-Peplaski.



SAVE the dates in 2013 —

February 16th —EKU Disney
Building, Room 100 — Autism
Spectrum Certificate Program
presents Dr. Robert Pennington

October 17-19, 2013 — EKU OT
hosts Occupational Science Re-
search Society at Lexington Hilton
SSO:USA comes to Kentucky

November 2013—Annual EKU OT
Research Day at the EKU Perkins
Center