Dr. Pollie Price, co-developer of the Disability Studies Graduate Certificate at the University of Utah, assisted in presenting the 2nd annual Disability Studies Forum, March 11-12, 2009.

On the evening of March 11, the film “Born Freaks” was screened followed by a panel discussion about issues raised by the documentary.

On March 12, Anita Silvers, professor and chair of Philosophy at San Francisco State University and the author of numerous books and articles on disability rights, law, and ethics, provided a seminar: “Discarding Disability Identity: Beyond Identity Politics to an Integrated Approach for Disability Studies”. This presentation was followed by a poster session where a variety of disciplines presented their respective research related to disability.

Occupational therapists who want to find a niche in public policy, advocacy, or disability studies scholarship should visit:

http://www.disabilitystudies.utah.edu

Disability Studies Forum

The Lowell Bennion Center for Community Service has honored Rebecca Good, class of 2009, for her community project serving the refugee women at University Neighborhood Partners’ Hartford Partnership Center for Refugees (UNP).

During her level I fieldwork experience, Rebecca developed a community kitchen concept in collaboration with some of the women who live in the complex. The idea is to create a business where the refugees can sell the food that they cook; food that is a part of their culture and heritage.

Rebecca has now graduated from the OT program but plans to continue to be involved as needed in the Community Kitchen project. There will also be level I and level II students participating in FW at UNP who can assist as the project moves forward. Rebecca has also connected the project with outside agencies such as Women’s Business Center and Slow Foods.

Above: Dr. Pollie Price (Far right) and her Graduate Assistants: Stephanie Stephenson (Left) & Lesha Krantz (Middle)
The Division of Occupational Therapy is very grateful for our diverse and dedicated adjunct and auxiliary faculty. The clinicians who dedicate their time to their patients but also their future colleagues are invaluable to our department.

During their stay in Chernivtsi, volunteers visited children in their homes and a local orphanage, providing education and intervention for the children and their families. Vera Kushner, a local translator, will continue to use our recommendations in order to promote further growth and development, independence and enhanced quality of life for these children.

**ADJUNCT FACULTY SPOTLIGHT**

The Division of Occupational Therapy is very grateful for our diverse and dedicated adjunct and auxiliary faculty. The clinicians who dedicate their time to their patients, but also their future colleagues are invaluable to our department. Those teaching with us this fall include the following:

- Trent Brown, OT, Intro to OT
- Catherine Chambliss, PhD, Disability Studies
- Krisanne Lewis, OT, Pediatric evaluations
- Lorinda Lynn, OT, Body as a Component of Occupation
- Trinh Mai, SW, Immigration and Resettlement
- Rob Marshall, OT, Seminar III
- Sarah Meyer, OT, Pediatric Skills
- Kasey Mitchell, OT, Body as a Component of Occupation
- Brooke Mullin, OT, NDT
- Christopher Noren, OT, Leadership and Management
- Wendy Oberg, OT, Pediatric Skills Lab
- Robin Thompson, OT, Pediatric Skills Lab.

Thanks to each of you for your contributions to the education of our students.

**UKRAINE SERVICE TRIP**

Members of The University of Utah Occupational Therapy Program were given the opportunity to participate in a humanitarian project involving individuals in Chernivtsi, Ukraine in May 2009. One faculty member and five students from the University of Utah partnered with a group of OT’s and OT students from The University of Indianapolis, Governors State University, and members of RESOURCE Foundation, a non-profit organization. They provided occupational therapy services to children with various disabilities, including cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury, autism and mental health.

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**EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE RESOURCES**

Are you searching for evidence to support your practice but don’t know where to look? Is your practice in need of some supportive research? The use of evidence is essential to the practice of Occupational Therapy, and is part of the AOTA Centennial Vision statement: “We envision that occupational therapy is a powerful, widely recognized, science-driven, and EVIDENCE-BASED profession with a globally connected and diverse workforce meeting society’s occupational needs.” (AOTA, 2008) There are many resources available to obtain this evidence. We collected a few of these resources and have listed them below.

- Ageline/AgeSource Worldwide: www.aarp.org/research/agesource
- Campbell Collaboration: www.campbellcollaboration.org
- Cochrane Collaboration: www.cochrane.org
- Education Resources Information Center: www.eric.ed.gov
- Google Scholar: http://scholar.google.com
- National Center for the Dissemination of Disability Research: www.nddr.org/cochrane/
- Open Access Review: www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/overview.htm
- OT Critically Appraised Topics: www.otcats.com
- OT Seeker: www.otseeker.com
- Psychological Database for Brain Impairment Treatment Efficacy: www.psychbite.com/