Life Skills Clinic Gets an Upgrade

The Division of Occupational Therapy Life Skills Clinic, est. 2011, under the management of Heidi Woolley, OTD, OTR/L, is considering a move to a shared space with the Speech Clinic in Research Park. The new space would allow for services to be interdisciplinary and student focused. Current programs offered at the clinic include pediatric one-on-one intervention, charter school service, and pediatric groups. Mastering Meaningful Movement groups and individual treatment for adult individuals with executive dysfunction are also offered. The Life Skills OT staff are also working with clients at the Neuro-behavioral HOME program.

The new clinic space would allow for greater OT student involvement as a part of course-work and work-study opportunities. An additional goal of the clinic will be to participate in interdisciplinary research projects such as a Tourette’s syndrome study with the Psychology department, an oral-sensitivity and sensory integration study with the dental school, and a study about the efficacy of adaptive equipment use and OT education in improving quality of life for people with ALS. It is an exciting time of change and expansion of OT services at the University of Utah.

Upcoming Events:
- MAY 18-AUG 07: Level II Summer
- JUN 22-26: Level I Summer
- AUG 24: Fall semester starts
- NOV 13-14: 2015 Fieldwork Educators Certificate Workshop

This Issue:
1. Life Skills Clinic Update
2. Awards and recognition
3. Scholarships
4. New faculty members
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6. Division of OT graduates
The University of Utah has awarded Kelly Brown the 2015 Outstanding Academic Advisor Award. Kelly has been an academic advisor since the inception of the Division of Occupational Therapy’s MOT program in 1999. She helps countless students understand and navigate the application process and does so with such caring and enthusiasm that students feel empowered to reach for their goals. She is an incredible person and a great asset to our program. Congratulations Kelly!

The College of Health presented Jeanette Koski the 2015 Distinguished Teaching Award in April. Jeanette has been a full time faculty member of the Division since April of 2008 and in addition to her teaching responsibilities she coordinates 7 fieldwork placements for each student throughout their 3 year program. Jeanette also offers training and resources for fieldwork educators who teach OT students on fieldwork. She is dedicated to creating student-centered learning activities, advising OT students while they are on fieldwork, and supporting and educating FW educators as an extension of the academic curriculum. Congratulations, Jeanette!

The Division of OT offers scholarships to students through generous benefactors. The following students won scholarships this year:

Alumni Scholarship: Dawn Yearsley (2017)
Eugene D. and Ann O. Wright Family Scholarship: Jessica Pratt (2016)
Ronald L. & Dona P. Call Endowed Scholarship: Debbie Stauffer (2017)
Anne Kirby will be joining our division as an assistant professor starting in the 2015 fall semester. Anne comes to us with clinical and research expertise in pediatric occupational therapy, and has a special interest in children and young adults with autism spectrum disorder. She is originally from New Jersey, earned her MS in Occupational Therapy from the University of New Hampshire, worked as an occupational therapist in Washington, DC, and most recently lived in Chapel Hill, NC, where she completed a PhD in Occupational Science at the University of North Carolina. She and her husband, David, enjoy traveling, cooking, and being active in the outdoors—they are looking forward to making Salt Lake City their home.

**Dr. Ann Kirby**

Dr. Terrill joined our faculty in August of 2014 and is a welcome addition to the Division Her background is in clinical psychology with specialized training in health and rehabilitation psychology. Her research encompasses three basic areas: (1) stress, coping/adjustment, and chronic health conditions; (2) positive psychology; and (3) aging or geropsychology and the application of behavioral medicine to older adult populations. She is currently collaborating with nursing on a Center on Aging grant. With Dr. Terrill is now teaching the research series in the MOT program. She brings to these classes her advanced training in statistical analysis and measurement outcomes.

**Dr. Alex Terrill**

As always, the U of U Division of Occupational Therapy committed to supporting our fieldwork (FW) educators; the quality of our MOT graduates is contingent upon the alignment and symbiotic relationship between the academic program and the FW programs.


**Fieldwork Educators Corner**

While you are in fieldwork mode, don’t forget to check out our website resources currently available to fieldwork educators: [www.health.utah.edu/ot/FieldworkEducators](http://www.health.utah.edu/ot/FieldworkEducators)

Finally, since this edition is focused on honors, I would like to congratulate the recipients of the 2014 FW educator of the year awards co-presented by the UofU and SLCC:

- OT: Krisanne Lewis
- OT/OTA: Shanon Goodpasture-Lehr
- OTA: Breck Croxford
Congratulations Class of 2015

The Division of OT graduated 32 MOT students and 3 OTD students this Spring! The first class of MOT students graduated in 2002 and since that time there have been a total of 306 graduates. The OTD program has had a total of 15 graduates since it’s first graduating class in 2013. The Division of OT is very proud of the outstanding OT’s who have met the requirements of our rigorous programs and who are now our colleagues in the field.