USC OCCUPATIONAL SCIENCE AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

SPRING 2012

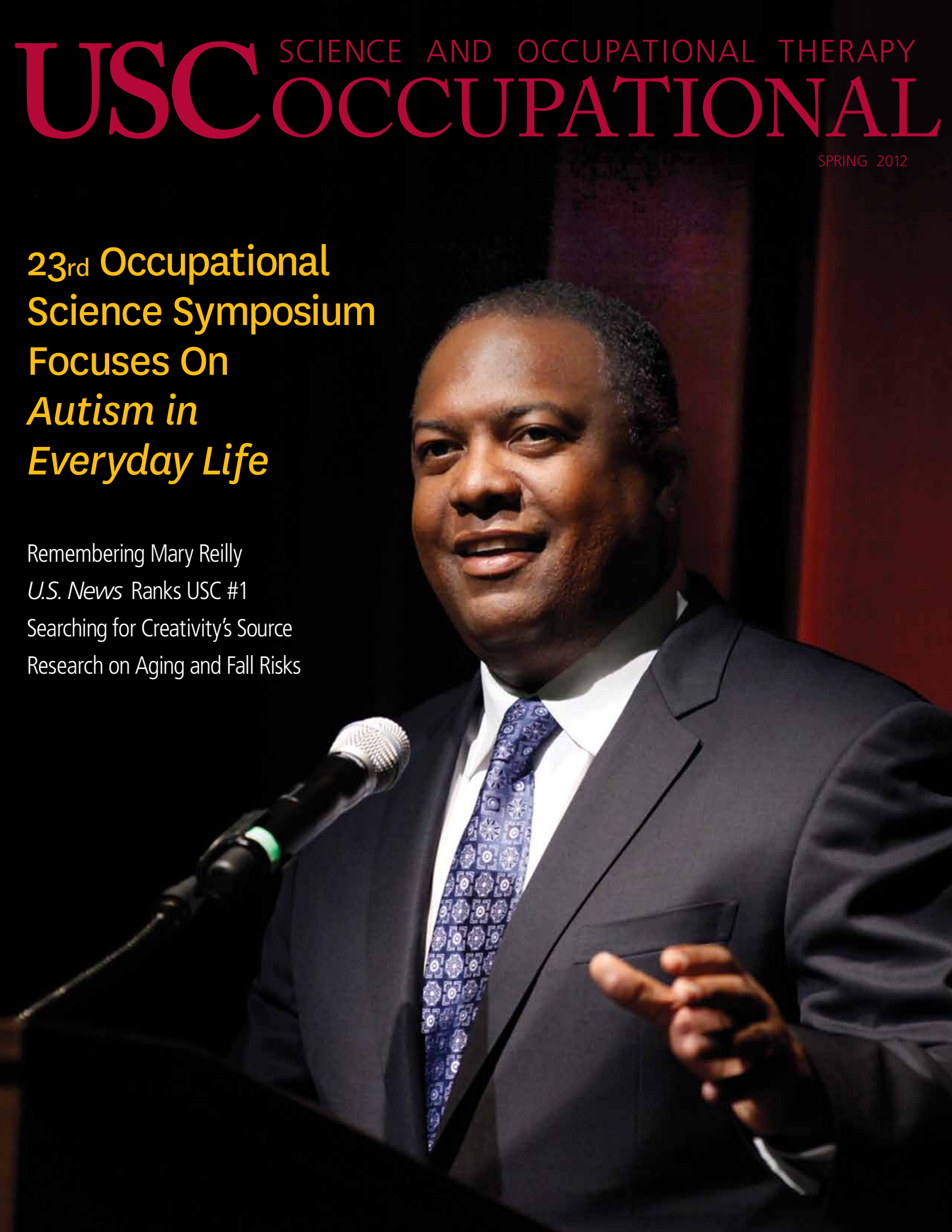
23rd Occupational Science Symposium Focuses On *Autism in Everyday Life*

Remembering Mary Reilly

U.S. News Ranks USC #1

Searching for Creativity's Source

Research on Aging and Fall Risks



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The life and legacy of an icon of occupational science and therapy

Photo courtesy of Division Archives

Cover photo and photo right by Steve Cohn

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Rodney Peete Headlines Occupational Science Symposium Focused on USC Autism Research

The former USC and NFL quarterback shares a father's perspective on raising a child with autism

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DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL SCIENCE AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
at the
Ostrow School of Dentistry
of the
University of Southern California

Spring 2012 Newsletter

USC University of Southern California

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A CAREER IN DEMAND
At the 2012 USC Occupational Therapy Career Fair on Friday, March 30, over fifty organizations recruited USC occupational therapy students and alumni along Trousdale Parkway on the University Park Campus. Master's students Jacquelyn Derian (L) and Lindsay Roberts (R) stop to chat and compare notes.
Photo by Floyd Tran

IF "FIGHT ON!" is the first phrase that one hears upon setting foot on campus, the second is likely to be the "Trojan Family." The term Trojan Family is typically used as shorthand for the vaunted network of influential USC alumni—leaders on every continent and in every line of work—who are quick to display their well-won pride of *alma mater*.

But I think this definition does not do justice to the entirety of its scope. That's because the Trojan Family is composed of not only our alumni but of all people connected with the University of Southern California: dedicated staff, world-class faculty, community partners, industry friends, passionate students and their supportive families.

I am humbled to report that this past March *U.S. News & World Report* released their 2012 ranking of graduate educational programs, and the University of Southern California was honored as the top-ranked occupational therapy graduate educational program in the entire country! What a tremendous honor for our Division! This high accolade validates the subjective qualities of what I am so privileged to witness every single day, here at USC: research, educational, and clinical programs run by consummate professionals; high-achieving students in constant pursuit of personal excellence; clinicians integrating a spirit of service with evidence-based best practices.

At the very heart of the Trojan Family, irrespective of the nature of their relationships to USC, are people. I hope that this issue of our Newsletter reflects the many talented people invested in the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy: driven students who have taken the initiative to organize the Occupational Extravaganza for five consecutive years; innovative faculty such as Lisa Aziz-Zadeh and William Morgan who are pushing the boundaries of occupational science; USC alumni like Rodney Peete who are leveraging their public stature for the benefit of those in need; professional icons, including Mary Reilly, who have left an indelible legacy of leadership upon our profession.

As we look forward to the seventieth anniversary celebration of USC occupational therapy this coming fall semester, we are reminded that people are at the heart of everything we do as occupational scientists and occupational therapists. I certainly hope you enjoy seeing all the great accomplishments of your Trojan Family, and I thank you for everything *you* do on behalf of our great professions, the Trojan Family, and the USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy.

Sincerely and "Fight On!,"

Florence A. Clark

Florence Clark, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA
Associate Dean and Professor

STUDENT-RUN EXTRAVAGANZA FOCUSES ON TECHNOLOGY IN ALL ITS FORMS

At the March 24 Occupational Extravaganza, students, faculty, and staff, along with medical professionals and students from the Keck School of Medicine of USC and the USC Viterbi School of Engineering, enjoyed learning from innovative speakers about the role of technologies in occupation-based projects. The annual event, now in its fifth year, was organized by the USC chapter of Pi Theta Epsilon, the national occupational therapy honor society, and was hosted at the Center for Occupation and Lifestyle Redesign®.

Kathy Gross, MA, OTR/L, Chief of Occupational Therapy at the Keck Hospital of USC and USC Norris Cancer Hospital, opened the event by speaking about the hospitals' ongoing transition to electronic medical records. Her presentation excited many in the audience.

Master's student David Willwerth commented that electronic medical records "will allow us to operate more efficiently and will put all health care providers on the same page when it comes to understanding how to provide the best care for our patients."

The second lecture featured Brian Prestwich, MD, Medical Director of the USC Family Medical Center, and Katie Jordan, OTD, OTR/L, Associate Chair of OT Clinical Services and Director of OT and Speech Therapy at Keck Hospital of USC and USC Norris Cancer Hospital. Prestwich and Jordan discussed the emerging role of occupational therapy in primary care settings accelerated by emerging trends in health care regulation and delivery.

Community clinicians also shared their expertise. Kathleen Shanfield, MS, OTR/L, CVE, ATP, occupational therapist at the Center for Applied Rehabilitation Technology at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, highlighted the potential of tablet computing technologies to extend the capabilities of a person with limited motor control or communication skills. Julia Maclay, OTR/L, occupational therapist at the Veterans Affairs Long Beach Healthcare System, inspired the audience with videos and stories of military veterans participating in adapted sports. Her husband also shared his firsthand experience with adapted scuba diving.

Between presentations attendees examined entries in this year's Adaptive Equipment Contest. The contest paired teams of biomedical engineering students from the USC Viterbi School of Engineering with occupational therapy students to develop prototypes of adaptive equipment. Prototypes were judged according to their originality, creativity, functionality, applicability, usability, and efficiency.

A chin-controlled surfboard steering mechanism was designed by occupational therapy student Erin O'Donnell and biomedical engineering student Ashley McNutt to help people with varying levels of paralysis and muscle spasticity better maneuver surfboards in the water and on waves. Occupational therapy student Deborah Graves and biomedical engineering student Eric Diaz demonstrated their sensory library biofeedback apps program for children with communication, self-regulatory, cognitive, and sensory needs. Eventual contest winners occupational therapy student Heather Lander and biomedical engineering student Monica Stern showcased an adaptive nail polish applicator that enables anyone to paint their fingernails using only one hand.

"I'm thrilled with the success of the event," stated Pi Theta Epsilon co-president Monique Wolkoff. "It truly showcased the emerging avenues of growth that technology and OT's innovative spirit have opened for our profession. I'm excited to see how this event expands in years to come and I hope that the new collaboration between our Division and the Viterbi School of Engineering becomes a yearly tradition!"

—Kimberly Perring and Chelsea Robinson are current MA students

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1 Occupational therapy graduate student Heather How (L) watches the monitor as division assistant professor Shawn Roll (R) demonstrates diagnostic ultrasonography **2** Adjunct assistant professor of clinical occupational therapy Rachel Proffitt, who is appointed at the USC Institute for Creative Technologies, exhibits a rehabilitation-based interactive gaming tool **3** Chief of Occupational Therapy at the Keck Hospital of USC and USC Norris Cancer Hospital, Kathy Gross, offers her perspective on the hospitals' ongoing transition to electronic medical records **4** Medical Director of the USC Family Medical Center, Brian Prestwich, answers audience questions about occupational therapy in primary care settings **5** Occupational therapy graduate student Erin O'Donnell explains how her adapted surfboard steering mechanism works

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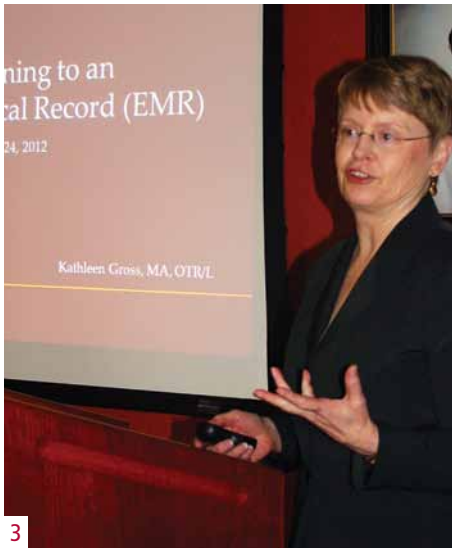

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Photos by Chelsea Robinson

DIVISION HOSTS MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT AT "WOUNDED WARRIOR" COLLOQUIUM

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1 On Wednesday, November 2, the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, along with the USC Center for Innovation and Research on Veterans & Military Families, hosted "A Wounded Warrior's Experience and Physical Rehabilitation," a colloquium with Medal of Honor recipient U.S. Army Sergeant First Class (SFC) Leroy A. Petry (left) and surgeon Colonel (COL) James Ficke, MD, Chairman of the Department of Orthopedics and Rehabilitation at Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas (right) **2** Event VIPs pose for a group picture at the conclusion of the colloquium. Of the event, division associate dean Florence Clark said, "Students need to get a sense of what soldiers go through, and treat them with the utmost respect at all times." **3** SFC Petry recalls, during the 2008 enemy engagement in Afghanistan for which he would earn the Medal of Honor, how he moved toward a live grenade which detonated in his right hand.

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Photos by Chelsea Robinson

LISA AZIZ-ZADEH, PHD, assistant professor, and SOOK LEI-LIEW, MA ('08), OTR/L, a current occupational science PhD candidate, along with USC undergraduate Francesco Dandekar, published "Exploring the Neural Correlates of Visual Creativity" in *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*. Read more about the article and its implications on page 13 of this issue.
http://scan.oxfordjournals.org/

"Manualization of Occupational Therapy Interventions: Illustrations from the Pressure Ulcer Prevention Research Program," was published in the *American Journal of Occupational Therapy* by ERNA BLANCHE, PHD ('98), MA ('88), OTR/L, FAOTA, associate professor of clinical occupational therapy; DONALD FOGELBERG, PHD ('08); MICHAEL CARLSON, research professor of occupational therapy; JESUS DIAZ, OTD ('09), MA ('08), OTR/L, adjunct research assistant professor; and FLORENCE CLARK, PHD ('82), OTR/L, FAOTA, associate dean, chair, and professor. The article reviews literature concerning the process of intervention manualization for use in randomized controlled trial research studies. The steps of manualization are illustrated through the University of Southern California/Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center's collaborative Pressure Ulcer Prevention Project, in which a multifaceted, community-based occupational therapy intervention aiming to reduce the incidence of pressure ulcers in people with spinal cord injury was manualized.
http://ajot.aotapress.net

The 2011 AOTA Presidential Address by FLORENCE CLARK, PHD ('82), OTR/L, FAOTA, associate dean, chair, and professor, was published in the November/December 2011 issue of the *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*. "High-Definition Occupational Therapy's Competitive Edge: Personal Excellence is the Key," discusses the ways in which a healthy spirit of competition in pursuit of personal excellence will help the profession secure the requisite power for realizing the AOTA Centennial Vision.
http://ajot.aotapress.net

MICHELLE ELLIOT, a current occupational science PhD student, published "Being Mindful About Mindfulness: An Invitation to Extend Occupational Engagement Into the Growing Mindfulness Discourse" in the *Journal of Occupational Science*. The article aims to provide a rationale for recognizing mindfulness literature in occupational science discourses, and its contribution to improving quality of life and personal well-being.
www.tandfonline.com/loi/rocc20

GELYA FRANK, PHD, professor, was the recipient of the 2010 Ruth Zemke Lecture in Occupational Science. Her lecture, entitled "Occupational Therapy/Occupational Science/Occupational Justice: Moral Commitments and Global Assemblages," was published in the *Journal of Occupational Science* in early 2012. Frank examines occupational science and occupational therapy in relation to the phenomena of globalization, internationalization, and neoliberalism in hopes of reconnecting the professions with their shared moral philosophy of social hope.
www.tandfonline.com/loi/rocc20

NATALIE LELAND, PHD, assistant professor, was the lead author of "Occupational Therapy in Fall Prevention: Current Evidence and Future Directions" published in the latest issue of the *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*. Leland was also a member of a team of scientists to publish "Feasibility of Interdisciplinary Community-Based Fall Risk Screening" in the same issue. Read more about Dr. Leland and these research articles on page 12 of this newsletter.
http://ajot.aotapress.net

SHAWN ROLL, PHD, OTR/L, assistant professor, was among a team of researchers who published "Relationship Between Intraneural Vascular Flow Measured With Sonography and Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Diagnosis Based On Electrodiagnostic Testing" in the *Journal of Ultrasound in Medicine*. The study used power and spectral Doppler sonography to document and analyze intraneural vascular flow within the median nerve, and aimed to determine the relationship of the vascular flow with carpal tunnel syndrome diagnosis based on electrodiagnostic testing. The authors conclude that further randomized controlled trials are needed to determine whether spectral Doppler sonography can provide an additive benefit for diagnosing the severity of carpal tunnel syndrome.
http://www.jultrasoundmed.org

SHAWN ROLL, PHD, OTR/L, assistant professor, was among a team who published "Morphologic Characterization of Intraneural Flow Associated With Median Nerve Pathology" published in the *Journal of Diagnostic Medical Sonography*. The researchers used handheld sonographic equipment to conduct Doppler studies of the median nerve. The researchers conclude that using multiple provocative tests as an indirect comparative measure may find mean peak spectral velocity at the carpal tunnel inlet a helpful direct measure in identifying patients with carpal tunnel syndrome.
http://jdm.sagepub.com/

At the Division

U.S. NEWS RANKS USC #1 PROGRAM IN NATION

U.S. News & World Report, the industry leader in ranking educational programs, released updated 2013 graduate school rankings in March 2012. The University of Southern California occupational therapy educational program was ranked the number one program in the nation! USC has now been ranked by *U.S. News* as the top occupational therapy educational program in the country more times than any other university or college. Fight On!

FACULTY LEADERS CO-CHAIR OCC. SCI. SUMMIT

On March 11, nearly 80 scientists and researchers attended the first occupational science summit in St. Louis, Missouri, which was co-sponsored by the University of Southern California.

Florence Clark, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, associate dean and professor, and current president of the American Occupational Therapy Association, chaired the summit's neurorehabilitation and neuroscience group, while Mary Lawlor, ScD, OTR/L, FAOTA, professor and director of research, led the pediatrics working group.

2012 DENTISTRY RESEARCH DAY SUCCESS

The 2012 Dentistry Research Day on February 15th honored the research accomplishments of the faculty, staff, and students of the Ostrow School of Dentistry, which includes the Divisions of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, and Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy.

This year the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy acknowledged current Occupational Science PhD students Sook-Lei Liew (MA '08) and Leah Stein (MA '06) with the top two awards for research related to occupation. Liew and Stein proudly took the stage to receive their awards from Ostrow School of Dentistry Dean Avishai Sadan. Their projects titled "Structural Neuroanatomy Correlates With Functional Motor-Related Networks in Stroke Patients," and "Coding Children's Behavior during Oral Care: A Reliability and Validity Study," respectively, represent cutting-edge interdisciplinary occupational science research.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY A PART OF CALIFORNIA'S AUTISM ADVISORY TASK FORCE

In October 2011, California became the 28th state to enact autism insurance reform legislation when Governor Jerry Brown signed Senate Bill 946 into law (New York became the 29th in November). The law will go into effect on July 1, 2012, and health insurers will be required to cover behavioral health treatments for children with autism and pervasive developmental disorder.

To assist with implementation of the law and to address other issues, the state of California is convening an Autism Advisory Task Force which began work on February 1. Among other duties, the task force will review evidence-based interventions and determine the necessary qualifications, training, and supervision of providers.

The American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) and the Occupational Therapy Association of California (OTAC) nominated AOTA President Florence Clark, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, to the task force, and the nomination was accepted.

"Dr. Clark is the ideal occupational therapy representative for the Autism Advisory Task Force with her wealth of clinical, research, and advocacy experience serving children with autism spectrum disorders," says OTAC President Shawn Phipps, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA.

Clark's participation on the task force allows occupational therapy to have a strong voice in discussions that will determine effective interventions for children with autism.

"I was honored to have been selected, and after participating in an orientation, I could see that my involvement will have real benefits for assuring that children on the autism spectrum have access to the mix of services they need, including occupational therapy," says Clark. "My participation will also enable me to network with outstanding colleagues with a wide range of expertise and to influence the decision-making process of policymakers in ways that will be beneficial to stakeholders."

Some critics of the new law, many in the health insurance industry, say that the price of covering the interventions will raise the cost of health insurance premiums. Gov. Brown wants the task force to determine the effectiveness of treatments and the appropriate duration and cost.

"Dr. Clark will help to ensure that occupational therapy is front and center with policymakers to ensure that patients and families have viable access to fully funded occupational therapy services, including sensory integration and behavioral interventions," says Phipps.

The task force will meet monthly until the end of 2012 and submit a report to the governor of their findings and recommendations.

—Stephanie Yamkovenko is Staff Writer at the American Occupational Therapy Association.

NIH FELLOWSHIP AWARDED TO OCCUPATIONAL SCIENCE PHD STUDENT

USC doctoral candidate Sook-Lei Liew (MA '08) was recently awarded a prestigious postdoctoral fellowship at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS).

Liew is a current PhD candidate in occupational science at the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy at the Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC. She is a member of the social cognitive neuroscience research laboratory directed by Lisa Aziz-Zadeh, PhD, assistant professor co-appointed to the USC Brain and Creativity Institute and the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy.

As a USC PhD student, Liew has been exploring the human brain's ability to understand the actions and intentions of others, and how experience and disease might modulate activity in neural networks. Specifically, she has been studying how different regions of the brain are affected after neurological injury such as stroke, and how they may be engaged through alternative means during post-injury rehabilitation to enhance social and motor abilities. For instance, one promising technique is to have patients with muscle weakness caused by neurological injury to simply observe actions of other people in order to stimulate damaged motor regions.

Beginning in August, Liew will conduct research at the NINDS under the direction of senior investigator Leonardo Cohen. Cohen, a neurologist, uses advanced imaging techniques such as magnetic resonance imaging and positron emission tomography scans to study the mechanisms underlying the human central nervous system's ability to change as a result of environmental input, known as neuroplasticity. Cohen's work also explores how those mechanisms might be applied to therapeutic approaches.

Selected as a postdoctoral fellow through the NIH's Intramural Research Training Award Program, Liew, who also earned her master's degree in occupational therapy at USC and is a practicing occupational therapist, will research neuroplasticity and motor skill learning in healthy subjects, as well as ways of promoting adaptive cortical reorganization in patients who have sustained a stroke or traumatic brain injury.

This work will build upon her research experience at USC, where she has been studying the ways that the human brain supports the ability to understand and make sense of other peoples' actions and intentions.

Ultimately, Liew is optimistic that discoveries from her research will be translated into clinical therapy interventions that improve the quality of people's everyday life.

"I believe occupational therapy is one of the most privileged health professions because we can focus on knowing our clients in a dynamic, one-on-one setting, and creating a rehabilitation program with them to achieve their own goals. I think that working with a person in this way has the potential to harness neural mechanisms associated with motivation and attention, which may enhance motor plasticity and rehabilitation in ways that have not been tapped into yet."

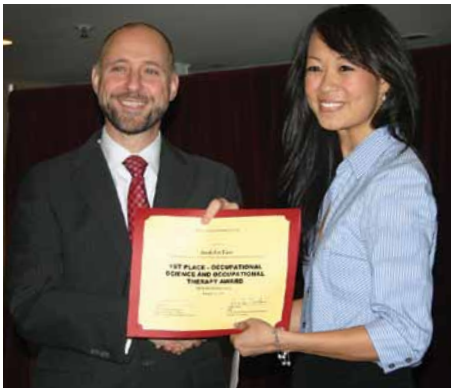

Photo by Chelsea Robinson

Sook-Lei Liew (R) receives the first place Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy Award from Avishai Sadan (L), Dean of the Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC, at the 2012 Dentistry Research Day

DIVISION, ZILKHA, CO-HOST EXPERT LECTURE ON MULTISENSORY INTEGRATION

The USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy and the university's Zilkha Neurogenetic Institute (ZNI) co-hosted Mark T. Wallace, director of the Vanderbilt Brain Institute, at a Jan. 13 seminar focusing on his most recent research on sensory and multisensory integration in autism.

"There is a constant interaction taking place between the senses," Wallace began his lecture, explaining, for example, how "what we see influences what we taste."

His presentation on the Health Sciences Campus led the audience of faculty and students through examples to illustrate the phenomena of sensory processing and recent research in the field. At one juncture, he even enlisted the audience as "experimental subjects" to demonstrate his points.

Wallace's original research at Vanderbilt University focused on the development of sensory processing, particularly the development and plasticity of multisensory processing systems. While his laboratory initially used neurophysiological approaches to research these systems in animal subjects, as the results progressed, he recognized a need to translate his research into more practical uses.

"Because of the large population of children with autism spectrum disorder in the community around Vanderbilt, it was a natural place to move and begin this research."

Since receiving his appointment at the institute, Wallace and a team of researchers have started delving into the complex domain of autism etiology. Specifically, they are examining an individual's multisensory temporal binding window, which in essence is the perception of two separate stimuli occurring together.

(continued on page 23)

RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS AT LOS ANGELES TIMES FESTIVAL OF BOOKS

April is occupational therapy month—a time to advocate for, and raise awareness of, the profession of occupational therapy. Over the weekend of April 21-22 at the USC University Park Campus, the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy was able to reach the public through a non-traditional venue: the *Los Angeles Times* Festival of Books.

The Division's booth showcased 18 books published by USC occupational therapy faculty, and hundreds of attendees stopped by to browse the literature. Popular titles included *Why Sports Morally Matter* by professor William Morgan, PhD, and *Developing Occupation-Centered Programs for the Community* by professor of clinical occupational therapy Linda Fazio, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA.

Keeping with the focus of the festival, student ambassadors gave away bookmarks to the crowd, and children and adults alike were excited to wear USC occupational therapy buttons with slogans such as "OTs Fight On!" Festival-goers also learned about the dynamic health profession of occupational therapy and the many academic and clinical programs at USC.

On Sunday, April 22, the USC Health Pavilion showcased four different types of occupational therapy. At the Sensory Integration station, parents learned about equipment used to treat children with sensory dysfunction, while kids had a chance to enjoy their favorite occupation—play—as they bounced on, crawled through, and swung on sample equipment.

The Stress Management station helped people discover ways to de-stress by providing complimentary materials to construct stress "balls" and heat wraps.

The Weight Management station, which demonstrated a Lifestyle Redesign® intervention from the USC Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice, offered brief consultations on strategies to lead a healthier lifestyle, and attendees also had an opportunity to use the body composition scale.

For festival-goers interested in low vision services to optimize their ability to read, occupational therapists from the Keck Hospital of USC demonstrated specialized reading glasses with high contrast or extreme magnification, and reading aids that illuminate and magnify text.

While the *Los Angeles Times* Festival of Books may not be a conventional venue for occupational therapy information and publicity, it was an effective way to engage the community in celebrating Occupational Therapy Month.

—Chelsea Robinson is a current MA student

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1 MA student Marilyn Chiu (L), USC hospitals' occupational therapist Linda Liang, OTR/L (C), and MA student Amy Danielson (R) explain the value of adaptive reading devices **2** MA student Jessica Tang (R) helps children weigh themselves to emphasize the importance of physical activity **3** MA student Kristen Yee (L) advises how to make stress "balls" at the stress management station **4** MA student Floyd Tran (L) educates festival attendees about occupational therapy and programming available at USC **5** MA student Kristen McLaughlin (R) facilitates play on a padded bolster **6** MA students Jacquelyn Derian (L) and Chris Thompson (R) display two of many faculty book publications **7** A future USC occupational therapist successfully finds a tiny plastic toy animal hidden in a tub of beans

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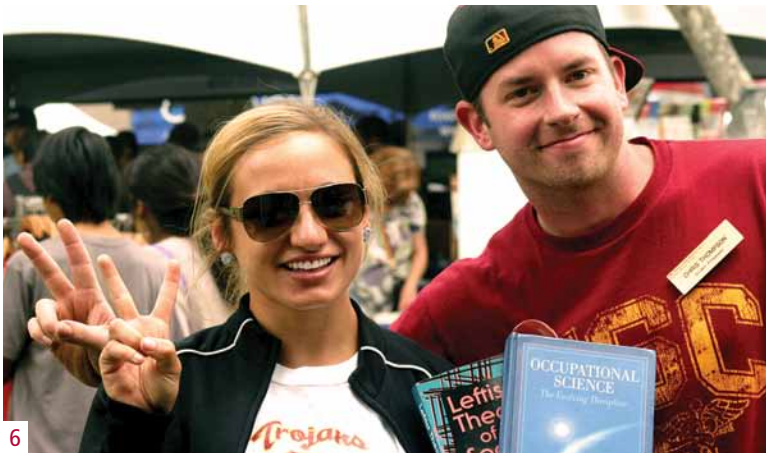

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Photos by Chelsea Robinson

LELAND'S RESEARCH EXPERTISE ON FALL PREVENTION VALUABLE TO PROFESSION

Natalie Leland, PhD, OTR/L, BCG, assistant professor at the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, published two articles in the March/April issue of the *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*.

In the first article, Leland, the lead author, reviewed the role of occupational therapy in fall prevention interventions among community-dwelling older adults in the current literature. The purpose of the review was not to evaluate the quality of the literature but to inform future research. The study concluded that there is little or no research examining occupational therapy interventions to modify behaviors, manage postural hypotension, recommend appropriate foot ware, or manage medications in order to prevent falls.

The second article described a pilot study examining the feasibility of conducting interdisciplinary fall risk screens at a community fall prevention event for older adults. The study found that conducting such screens is feasible and can facilitate environmental and behavior changes to reduce fall risk.

When asked about how she developed an interest in fall prevention research, Leland responded by describing how it came from her work as an occupational therapist in a nursing home as well as personal experience.

"I had been working in a nursing home for a long time. Patients I was seeing with hip fractures were telling me how they'd been falling frequently prior to the hip fracture related fall. Emergency medical services would come to their homes, pick them off the floor, and take them to the emergency room, and then they were sent home without being admitted to the hospital or referred for further services to address the falls. Often it was a cycle of falls, 9-1-1 calls, and visits to the ER with no break in the cycle until they were eventually hospitalized with a fracture or other serious injury."

Leland continues, "there was nothing in place in the community to identify community-dwelling older adults at risk, provide fall prevention interventions, and prevent these older adults from experiencing subsequent, more dangerous falls. I was interested at that point in understanding what was going on with our health care system and how we can support older adults in the community. Through prevention, I thought we could support these individuals in the community which is where they wanted to be. This, along with being a caregiver for two older adults, facilitated my decision to go back to school.

My dual roles as clinician and caregiver gave me insight into the struggles experienced by caregivers and older adults when it comes to navigating the health care system and trying to support a loved one in the community before they get hurt. As an occupational therapist I realized there was a lot we can do in this area."

As a research professor at USC, Leland, who is also appointed to the USC Davis School of Gerontology, is currently examining older adults after sustaining a fall, the rehabilitation services they can access, and the quality of care received, as well as defining the quality of that care. She hopes that her previous work in fall prevention will inform this research.

When asked about the implications of her research, Leland responded, "I think for all occupational therapists working with older adults, regardless of the setting you're working in, being aware of an individual's fall risk is very important. The international fall guidelines say that individuals 65 and older should be asked on an annual basis about the occurrence of falls, the frequency of those falls, and any difficulties with mobility or balance. A *yes* response should result in further assessment and potential referrals for intervention. Current research shows that these questions aren't even being asked. As OT's, we can take the initiative and ask these two simple yet important questions."

—Vivian Tang is a current MA student

Photo by Kimberly Kelton

Assistant professor Natalie Leland

Published by Leland in the March/April 2012 issue of AJOT

Leland, N. E., Elliott, S. J., O'Malley, L., & Murphy, S. L. (2012). Occupational therapy in fall prevention: Current evidence and future directions. *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, *66*, 149-160. http://dx.doi.org/10.5014/ajot.2012.002733

Elliott, S. J., Ivanescu, A., Leland, N. E., Fogo, J., Painter, J. A., & Trujillo, L. G. (2012). Feasibility of interdisciplinary community-based fall risk screening. *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, *66*, 161-168. http://dx.doi.org/10.5014/ajot.2012.002444

SCIENTISTS SEARCH FOR SOURCE OF CREATIVITY

It takes two to tango. Two hemispheres of your brain, that is.

USC researchers are working to pin down the exact source of creativity in the brain and have found that the left hemisphere of your brain, thought to be the logic and math portion, actually plays a critical role in creative thinking.

"We want to know how does creativity work in the brain?" said Lisa Aziz-Zadeh, PhD, assistant professor of neuroscience in USC Dana and David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, and the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy.

If you paint or sculpt, you may think of yourself as right-brained. The right hemisphere of your brain often is thought to be the creative half, while the left is thought to be the rational, logical side.

But a new study from a team led by Aziz-Zadeh demonstrated that while the right half of your brain performs the bulk of the heavy lifting when you're being creative, it does call for help from the left half of your noggin.

The study, which focuses on how the brain tackles visual creative tasks, supports previous findings about how the brain handles musical improvisation.

Co-authored by occupational science graduate student Sook-Lei Liew (MA '08) and undergraduate Francesco Dandekar, the study was posted online last month in *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*.

"We need both hemispheres for creative processing," Aziz-Zadeh said.

The USC scholar and her team used functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to scan the brains of architecture students, who tend to be visually creative.

While being scanned, the subjects were shown three shapes: a circle, a C and an 8. They then were asked to visualize images that could be made by rearranging those shapes—for example, a face (with the 8 on its side to become the eyes, the C on its side to become the smiling mouth and the circle in the center as the nose).

The students also were asked to simply try to piece three geometric shapes together with their minds and see if they formed a square or a rectangle—a task that requires similar spatial processing but not necessarily creativity.

Even though it mainly was handled by the right hemisphere, the creative task actually lit up the left hemisphere more than the non-creative task. The results indicated that the left brain potentially is a crucial supporter of creativity in the brain.

Aziz-Zadeh said she plans to explore more of how different types of creativity (painting, acting, singing) are created by the brain, what they have in common and what makes them different.

Support for the research came from the Brain and Creativity Institute housed in USC Dornsife, the USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, the National Science Foundation and the USC Provost's PhD Fellowship program.

—Robert Perkins is a USC Media Relations Specialist

MORGAN MODERATES PANEL AT USC ANNENBERG CONFERENCE ON OLYMPICS

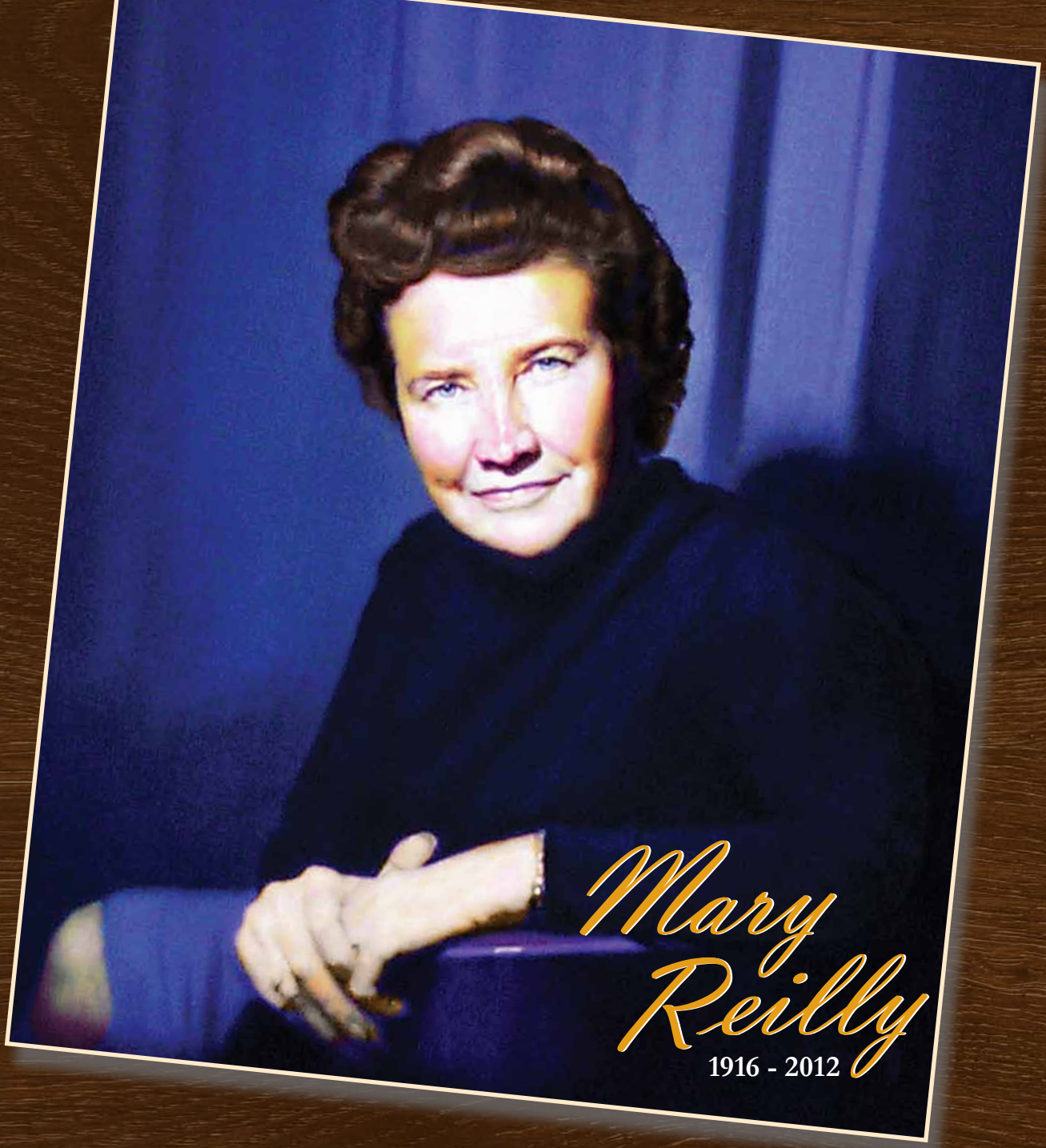
Professor William Morgan, PhD, moderated a discussion panel at February's USC Conference on Sports: The Olympics, hosted by the USC Annenberg Institute of Sports, Media & Society at the USC Annenberg School for Communication & Journalism.

The discussion, entitled "Perspectives on Communication Strategies of the International Olympic Committee," featured Françoise Papa from the Université Stendhal - Grenoble 3 (France) and Emilio Peña, from the Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain).

Morgan, a philosopher who studies sport and society, is co-appointed to the Division and USC Annenberg.

The conference was capped off by a discussion with Jacques Rogge, president of the International Olympic Committee, at USC's Town and Gown ballroom.

Morgan's panel discussion, among others, can be viewed in its entirety online at:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tr5Tadw2QfY



Mary Reilly

1916 - 2012

Remembering an iconoclast, visionary, and friend.

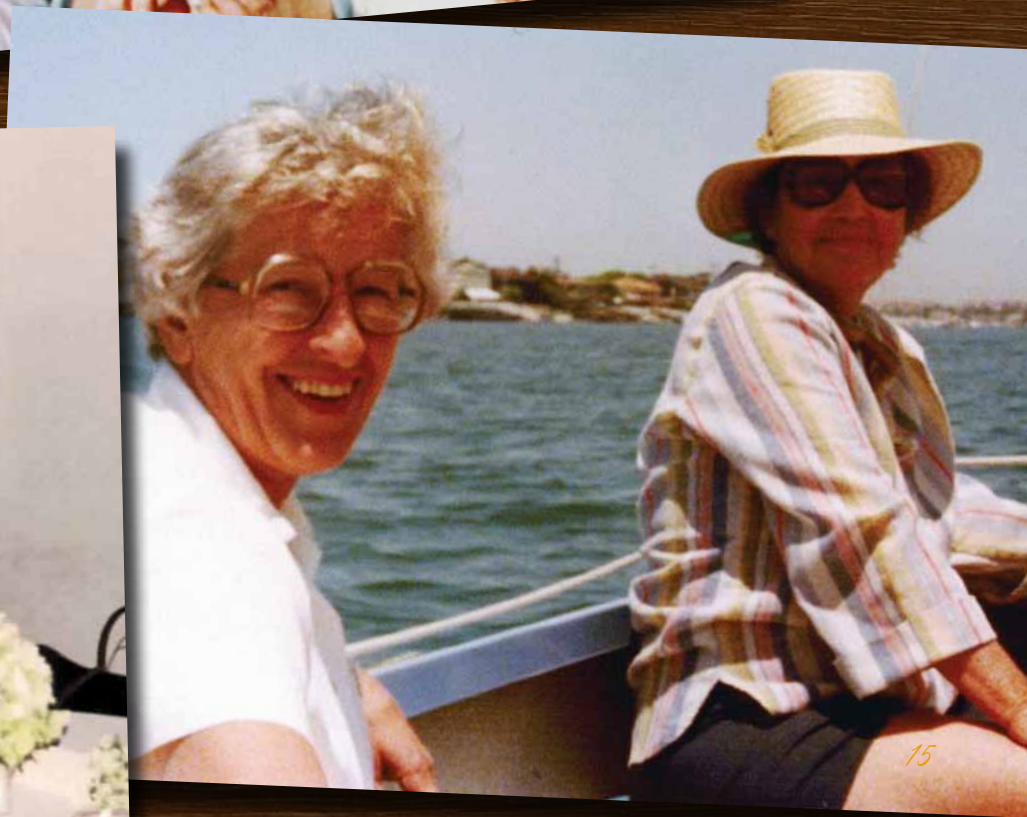
By Florence Clark
Photographs Courtesy of Linda Florey

Mary Reilly passed away on February 28 at the age of 95. Her life was as productive as it was long.

Born in Boston, MA, in 1916, as a child she dreamed of studying medicine or becoming a teacher. But in 1937 she decided to attend the Boston School of Occupational Therapy, now affiliated with Tufts University, and in 1940 received her certificate in occupational therapy. The profession would never be the same.

After a stint as director of occupational therapy at the Sigma Gamma Hospital School in Detroit, Mich., she enlisted as a civilian therapist within the United States Army Medical Specialists, was eventually promoted to the rank of captain, and even earned the Army Meritorious Service Award and the Letterman Army Certificate of Achievement.

In the late 1950's she headed west and began to divvy her energy between the University of Southern California, where she earned her bachelor's degree in occupational therapy, and the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), where she earned her PhD degree in education and became the first Chief of Rehabilitation *(continued on page 16)*



(continued from page 14) at UCLA's new Neuropsychiatric Institute. She would leave an indelible mark on both campuses.

In the 1960's Dr. Reilly redesigned USC's master's program in occupational therapy around core theoretical and philosophical knowledge rather than merely technical skills. Her influence can still be seen in the design of USC's master's degree program today.

She would become the head of USC's graduate program in occupational therapy and went on to direct over 90 master's theses in occupational therapy, which at the time was the terminal research degree for our profession. The intellectual seeds she sowed in her students would eventually be cast throughout the nation and world.

In her 1961 Eleanor Clarke Slagle Lecture, which is the highest academic award bestowed by the American Occupational Therapy Association, Mary stated that "Man, through the use of his hands, as they are energized by mind and will, can influence the state of his own health." That statement grew to become the most frequently quoted Slagle Lecture of all time, and even to this day is among the top 10 most frequently cited quotes in all of occupational therapy literature.

The quote encapsulates what Dr. Reilly became internationally renowned for during the 1960's and 1970's: developing a frame of reference for occupational behavior that described the biopsychosocial nature of man through the human occupations of work, play, and self-care. Along with Dr. Elizabeth Yerxa, Mary Reilly is universally regarded as a godmother of the philosophical base of occupational therapy that eventually became the academic discipline of occupational science.

Though she retired from USC in 1978, she was named an Emeritus Professor in what was then the USC Department of Occupational Therapy, which is now the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy.

An avid swimmer, sailor, and reader, she was an occupational being throughout her entire life and throughout her retirement she remained closely connected to the people and events of USC occupational therapy. The entire global community of occupational scientists and occupational therapists has lost a true legend, but her influence and legacy endures.

23rd Occupational Science Symposium

USC's scientific and advocacy community gathers to share research and insights into *Autism in Everyday Life*

Photography by Steve Cohn

2012 Symposium speakers (back row L-R) Pat Levitt, Olga Solomon, Mary Lawlor, Florence Clark, Mark J. Harris, Larry Yin (front row L-R) Catherine Lord, Marsha Kinder, Barbara Thompson, Sharon Cermak

On March 9, 2012, over three hundred faculty members, students, alumni and community partners gathered at the USC Ronald Tutor Campus Center for the 23rd Occupational Science Symposium, hosted by the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy at the Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC. The 2012 rendition of the symposium was entitled "Autism in Everyday Life: Interdisciplinary Research Perspectives at USC," and each of the day's speakers shared their innovative research, clinical practices, or personal perspectives on autism and its impact on everyday life experiences.

Florence Clark, associate dean of the division, opened the event with a moving tribute to the late Mary Reilly (BS '51), former director of the graduate program in occupational therapy at USC during the 1960's and '70s, who passed away on February 28 at the age of 95. Reilly was an iconoclastic leader who pushed the profession to explore and embrace philosophies of human behavior which ultimately laid the groundwork for establishing the academic discipline of occupational science. Clark also posthumously accepted the Pathways.org Pioneer Award on behalf of A. Jean Ayres (PhD '61, MA '54, BA '45), who was a renowned developmental psychologist and former USC faculty member.

Mary Lawlor, professor and director of research at the division, unveiled the division's new Sensory Integration, Engagement and Family Life Initiative. This initiative aims to capitalize on the division's research expertise in autism-related fields, relocate faculty offices and laboratories to leverage the value of physical proximity, and continue building a robust portfolio of NIH-funded research on projects related to autism and autism spectrum disorders (ASD).

Catherine Lord, this year's recipient of the division's Patricia Buehler Legacy Award for Clinical Innovation, delivered her keynote address entitled "Early Intervention in Autism Spectrum Disorders: Alternatives and Priorities." Lord is Director of the Center for Autism and the Developing Brain, a subsidiary of Weill Cornell Medical College and New York-Presbyterian Hospital. She is best known for developing gold-standard assessment tools used to diagnose autism and ASD, and emphasized the synergies between her work's objectives to more accurately diagnose children with autism and the clinical therapeutic interventions that typically follow diagnosis.

Pat Levitt, director of the Zilkha Neurogenetic Institute and chair of the Department of Cell and Neurobiology at the Keck School of Medicine of USC, presented his lecture entitled "Looking at Autism through a Neurobiological Lens." A neuroscientist, Levitt's human genetics and basic research studies focus on understanding the causes of neurodevelopmental and neuropsychiatric disorders such as autism. His clinical studies address autism heterogeneity by studying children with autism who also have co-occurring medical conditions, such as gastrointestinal disorders, with the goal to develop better diagnostic criteria and personalized treatments.

Clark returned to the stage to outline evidence demonstrating the effectiveness of sensory integration interventions for children with autism and ASD.

For many, the Symposium highlight was lunch guest speaker Rodney Peete (BA '89). Peete, a former USC and National Football League quarterback, is also father to a son with autism, Rodney Jackson "R.J." Peete. Since retiring from football, Peete has become an ardent advocate for autism awareness, education, and family support largely through the work of his non-profit HollyRod Foundation which he cofounded with wife, actress Holly Robinson Peete. In 2010 he released his first book, *Not My Boy! A Father, a Son, and One Family's Journey with Autism*, which chronicles his family's experience raising a child with autism.

Peete described R.J.'s birth and early childhood development with the beaming pride of a new father. But as R.J.'s developmental skills began to stall at approximately age two and a half, while his wife grew concerned Peete recalled his own denial and stubbornness to seek professional help, driven in part by his own competitive personality and athletics background. He then vividly recounted what he calls their

(continued on page 21)

Associate dean Florence Clark (L) greets Rodney Peete (C) and Buehler Award recipient Catherine Lord (R)

(Top) Rodney Peete; (Middle) Pat Levitt, Director of USC's Zilkha Neurogenetic Institute; (Bottom) Catherine Lord, Director of the Center for Autism and the Developing Brain and recipient of the Buehler Award for Innovation

Above: 2012 Occupational Science symposium speakers (back row standing L-R): **Mary Lawlor**, ScD, OTR/L, FAOTA, professor and director of research, Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy; **Mark J. Harris**, distinguished professor, USC School of Cinematic Arts; **Pat Levitt**, PhD, director, Zilkha Neurogenetic Institute, chair, department of cell and neurobiology, Keck School of Medicine of USC, provost professor of neuroscience, pediatrics, psychology, psychiatry and pharmacy; **Olga Solomon, PhD**, assistant professor, Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy; **Rodney Peete**, former USC and NFL quarterback, author; **Florence Clark**, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, associate dean, chair, and professor, Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy; **Shrikanth Narayanan**, PhD, professor, USC Viterbi School of Engineering; **Marsha Kinder**, PhD, university professor, USC School of Cinematic Arts; **Larry Yin**, MD, MSPH, assistant professor of clinical pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC, director of community services, USC University Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, medical director, Boone-Fetter Clinic, Children's Hospital Los Angeles; (front row seated L-R): **Susan Knox**, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, 2012 Wilma West lecturer; **Sharon Cermak**, EdD, OTR/L, FAOTA, professor, Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy; **Catherine Lord**, PhD, 2012 Patricia Buehler Legacy Award for Clinical Innovation, assistant professor of psychology in psychiatry, Weill Cornell Medical College, attending psychologist, New York-Presbyterian Hospital; **Barbara Thompson**, PhD, assistant professor, Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy

(continued from page 19)

family's "never day" in 2000, which was the day when R.J. was diagnosed with autism and the physician listed the "never's" erroneously assumed to accompany an autism diagnosis: never going to college, never getting married, and never saying 'I love you.'

Peete also spoke about the day when he decided to pursue as much professional assistance and education as possible in order to help his son. "From that moment on, I started to see the world through R.J's eyes, not mine," Peete said. With years of direct clinical intervention—including occupational therapy—Peete reported that R.J., now fourteen years old, has made significant progress in his social, communicative, and functional skills. R.J. currently attends mainstream school classes, plays the piano, and most importantly to his parents, says "I love you."

The Peete family has become celebrated advocates for autism education and awareness, especially in the African American community. Peete thanked Olga Solomon, assistant professor, for her NIH-funded research study "Autism in Urban Context" which is examining health and service disparities in autism and ASD diagnoses of African American children in Los Angeles.

At the conclusion of his address, Peete received a standing ovation from the ballroom audience. "Rodney's story gave voice to an oft-unheard perspective in the everyday autism experience: the father's, and there was not a dry eye in the room," said associate dean Florence Clark.

Susan Knox (PhD '97, MA '68), the recipient of the division's 2012 Wilma West Award in recognition of career contributions to the discipline of occupational science, lectured on the themes of meaning, belonging, and play as related to persons with autism and ASD who are aging into retirement. Knox has a younger brother with autism, and she has authored a standardized tool assessing play styles in preschool children and lectured extensively on play styles and autism.

Two discussion panels followed, featuring faculty from the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, the Viterbi School of Engineering, the Keck School of Medicine of USC, and the School of Cinematic Arts.

More information about the USC Occupational Science Symposium and the full list of 2012 event speakers is available online at http://ot.usc.edu/research/symposium

All in the Family

Erna Blanche (PhD '98, MA '88 and associate professor of clinical occupational therapy) and the USC Pressure Ulcer Prevention in Spinal Cord Injury (PUPS) research was featured in the Research Update of a February issue of *OT Practice*. The update highlighted theit article "Manualization of Occupational Therapy Interventions: Illustrations From the Pressure Ulcer Prevention Research Program" published in the November/December 2011 of *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*.

Stefanie Bodison (OTD '10, MA '94, BS '92 and current T32 postdoctoral training fellow) was featured in a January issue of *OT Practice* answering reader questions about the Ayres Sensory Integration™ approach to treatment.

Aaron Bonsall (current PhD student), Alison Cogan (current MA student), and Anne Swart (current MA student) were each awarded a grant from the American Occupational Therapy Foundation.

Florence Clark (PhD '82 and associate dean, chair, and professor) was featured in the Professional Help section of *theAtlantic.com* sharing five tips for seniors on sustainable, successful aging derived from the USC Well Elderly 2 article published in 2011 in the *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*.

Aaron Eakman (PhD '07) published "Measurement Characteristics of the Engagement in Meaningful Activities Survey in an Age-Diverse Sample" in the March 2012 issue of the *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*.

Jeanne Jackson (PhD '95, MA '86) was appointed Chair of the Department of Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy at University College Cork, in Ireland. Jackson was also the keynote speaker at the 2012 annual conference of the Association of Occupational Therapists of Ireland (AOTI).

Cheryl Mattingly (professor) had her book "The Paradox of Hope: Journeys through a Clinical Borderland" reviewed by Gayle Sulik, research associate at the University at Albany, SUNY, in the March 2012 issue of *Contemporary Sociology: A Journal of Reviews*.

Karen McNulty (OTD '08, MA '04) was appointed to a faculty position in the Department of Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy at University College Cork, in Ireland. McNulty presented on her lifestyle-based program at the 2012 AOTI conference.

Shawn Phipps (BS '97) was elected Director to the Board of Directors of the American Occupational Therapy Association. Phipps was also recently hired as the Chief Strategic Development Officer at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, in Downey, CA.

Deborah Pitts (instructor of clinical occupational therapy) completed her PhD in Occupational Science from the USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy.

Heather Thomas (MA '98) authored the textbook *Occupation-Based Activity Analysis* published by Slack, Inc.

(Expert Lectures On Multisensory Integration continued from page 9)

"The most interesting piece of research he showed was that this temporal binding window can be impacted by simple feedback – did they respond correctly or not," said Barbara Thompson, assistant professor in the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy. "This impact is not only durable, but generalizable to other settings and stimuli."

The lecture was the latest example of concerted collaboration between the ZNI and the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, which aims to bridge the gap between basic neuroscience research and applications to therapeutic practices for individuals with autism spectrum disorder.

When Erna Blanche, associate professor of clinical occupational therapy, asked Wallace about the relationship between his research on multisensory stimulation and potential applications to clinical approaches to children with neurodevelopmental disabilities who have difficulty making eye contact with other people, Wallace responded with a chuckle, "That's for you to figure out."

—Kimberly Perring is a current MA student

Mother Samia Husam Rafeedie (OTD '06, MA '05, and assistant professor of clinical occupational therapy) and father Ramez Adly Ethnasios, are proud to announce the birth of their first child, son Dean. Dean Adly Ethnasios was born on Thursday, December 8, 2011, at 6:35 pm, weighing 8 lbs. 3 oz.; he was 20 ¾ inches long. Congrats and Fight On!

Photo courtesy of Samia Rafeedie

Photo by Steve Cohn

Assistant professor Shawn Roll (L) looks on as John Wolcott (Center), division senior computer consultant, is greeted by USC President C. L. Max Nikias and First Lady Niki Nikias (R) at the 2011 Good Neighbors Dinner

The Division sincerely thanks the following for becoming USC Educational Affiliates:

Gallagher Pediatric Therapy

Greater Anaheim SELPA

Kedren Acute Psychiatric Hospital & Community Mental Health Center

Miller Children's Hospital Long Beach

Therapy In Action

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Total Education Solutions

USC OTF Practice

USC Education Affiliates partner with the USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy in order to enhance clinical educational experiences for USC occupational therapy students and to bridge academic and clinical dimensions of occupational therapy care.

To learn how your site can become a USC Education Affiliate, and how it can benefit you, visit: ot.usc.edu/academics/fieldwork/education-affiliates or contact Jaynee Taguchi Meyer, OTD, OTR/L, Academic Coordinator of Fieldwork Education, at (323) 442-2857 or at taguchi@usc.edu

USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy

In Memoriam

MARY SILBERZAHN, 81

Mary Silberzahn, an occupational therapist who lived in South Pasadena since the mid-1990's, passed away on Christmas Day after a long illness. She was 81.

Silberzahn was born in Pontiac, IL, where her father was a judge. During World War II, Mary worked as a recreation director for troops in Germany and Okinawa, Japan.

She graduated from Mt. Mary College in Milwaukee, WI., in 1952 with a degree in occupational therapy and earned a Master of Arts degree at USC in 1967. She was also an assistant professor of occupational therapy at USC in the late 1960's.

In the early 1970's, she worked at Hollywood Presbyterian Hospital and then taught at Pasadena-based Sensory Integration International from 1973 to 1983. Later in her career, she worked in private practice and expanded into Healing Touch and energy work.

She was especially interested in helping children with sensory integration disorders and autism to improve their quality of life, and her work was published in the *American Journal of Occupational Therapy* and two textbooks.

In South Pasadena, Mary was well-known in her hilltop neighborhood for hosting annual Christmas and Fourth of July parties and for always lending a hand to anyone in need.

She is survived by her brother, John and his wife, of Apple Valley, CA, and her two dogs, Schatzie and Heidi Ho.

Photo courtesy of Dottie M. Ecker

MARY REILLY, 95

Dr. Mary Reilly died on February 28th, 2012, in Fairfield, CA, at the age of 95.

She was one of the most prominent scholars in occupational therapy and will always be remembered for the timeless and oft-quoted supposition from her 1961 Eleanor Clark Slagle lecture that "Man, through the use of his hands as energized by mind and will, can influence the state of his own health". Dr. Reilly framed this as an occupational therapy hypothesis passed on for proof by the founders of occupational therapy, stating further, "...it implies that man, through the use of his hands, can creatively deploy his thinking, feelings and purposes to make himself at home in the world and to make the world his home."

Dr. Mary Reilly was born and raised in Boston, MA. She received a certificate in occupational therapy from the Boston School of Occupational Therapy in 1940, and in her first job worked with children with cerebral palsy in Michigan.

She was then recruited to serve in the U.S. Army and worked in clinical and management positions from 1941-1955, receiving both the Army Meritorious Service Award and the Letterman Army Certificate of Achievement.

She completed her education from 1951-1966, earning a BS degree from USC, an MA degree from San Francisco State and an EdD from UCLA. During her doctoral studies she was recruited by the head of the newly founded Neuropsychiatric Institute at UCLA to become its first Chief of Rehabilitation. At the same time, she became head of the graduate program in occupational therapy at USC. She left UCLA to devote herself full-time to USC in 1968.

As we near the 100-year anniversary of occupational therapy in 2017, we must recall that Dr. Reilly was responsible for a major paradigm shift in occupational therapy thinking and practice. She felt the field was drifting from its founding principles and advocated a modernization of its original working paradigm. She championed a hypothesis drawn from an interdisciplinary, "not only, but also" knowledge base: Occupational therapy needed to know not only the complexity of medical conditions but also the complexity of competency and human achievement drawn from the behavioral sciences.

Dr. Reilly is responsible for the rich resources occupational therapy now possesses in the areas of play, occupation, work, and the work-play continuum otherwise known as "occupational behavior." She did not do all of the work herself but skillfully directed and influenced a cadre of over 90 occupational therapy students pursuing graduate degrees at the University of Southern California. These students moved around the country and seeded practice, education, and organizational leadership in their areas.

Many of us knew her as both a mentor and a friend. She gave us advice on anything and everything and, most often, it was right on the button. She had an irrepressible Irish wit and was full of fun. She loved all types of music, sailing and swimming and was an avid reader of novels—mysteries were favorites. She lived a rich and full life. We will miss her spirit and will strive to uphold her scholarly principles.

The University of Southern California Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy is establishing an Archive and an Endowed Doctoral Fellowship to honor her *(continued on page 25)*

All Hail

Photo courtesy of Division Archives

Though most often remembered as a leader and scholar, Mary Reilly was also a military veteran who, during her career in the U.S. Army, was promoted to the rank of Captain.

(continued from page 24) work in human behavior and Occupational Science. Donations can be made to:

The Dr. Mary Reilly Fellowship
USC OS/OT
Linda Florey, PhD, OTR/L
Chairman of the Board of Councilors
USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy
1540 Alcazar Street, CHP 133
Los Angeles, CA 90089-9003

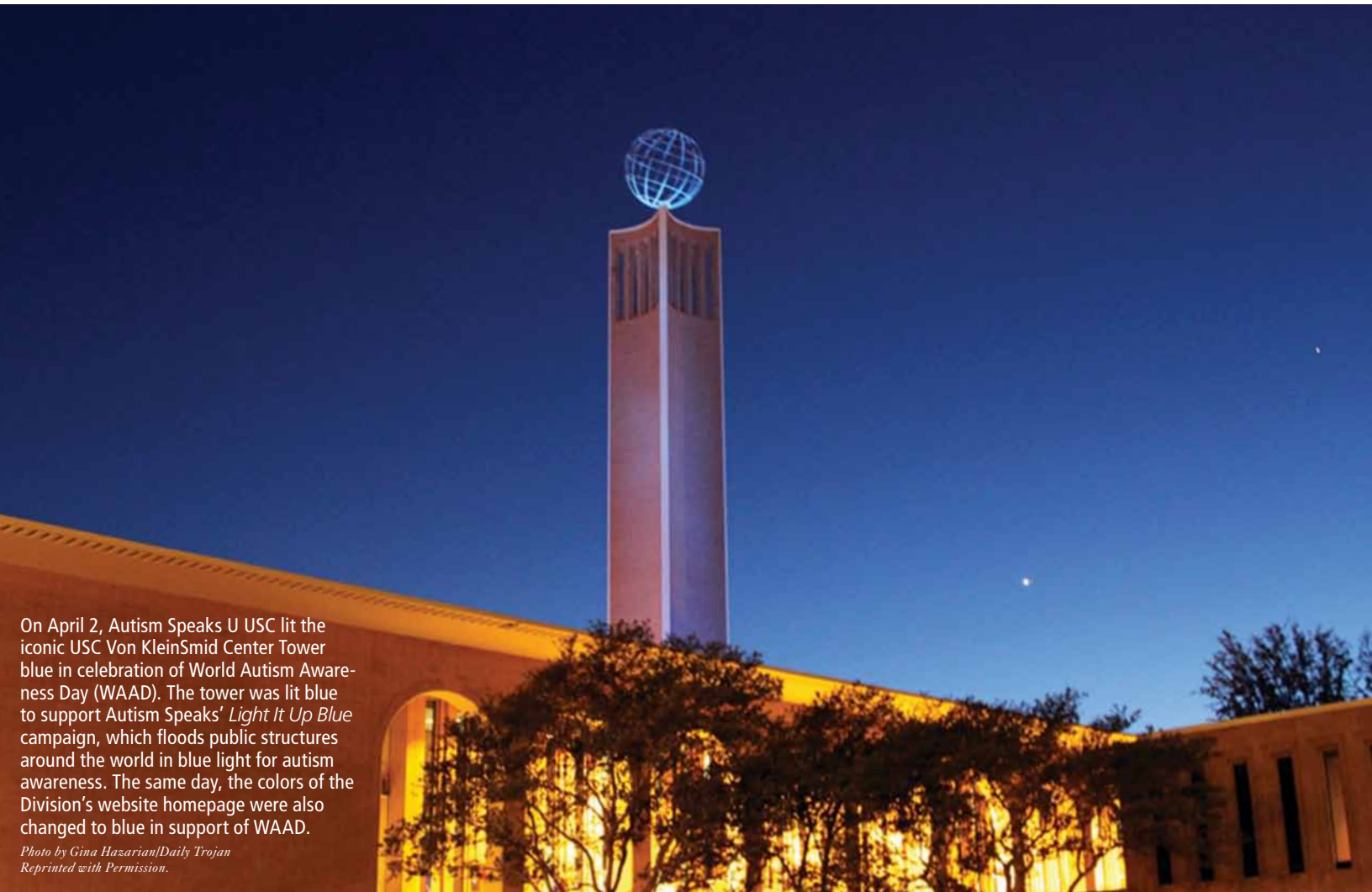
The California Foundation for Occupational Therapy (CFOT) is establishing a Dr. Mary Reilly Scholarship to honor her profound contributions to the occupational therapy community.

Donations may be made to CFOT and sent to:
Sue Knox, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA
Treasurer, CFOT
3458 La Sombra Drive
Hollywood, CA 90068

—Linda Florey is the Chairwoman of the Board of Councilors of the USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy

USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy

ot.usc.edu/alumni/newsletters



On April 2, Autism Speaks U USC lit the iconic USC Von KleinSmid Center Tower blue in celebration of World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD). The tower was lit blue to support Autism Speaks' *Light It Up Blue* campaign, which floods public structures around the world in blue light for autism awareness. The same day, the colors of the Division's website homepage were also changed to blue in support of WAAD.

Photo by Gina Hazarian|Daily Trojan
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