

School-based Grant Funding Focuses on Evidence-based Approach

The U.S. Department of Education has funded a \$795,510 grant to train USC entry-level graduate students to use an evidence-based approach when working in school settings. The project was awarded to Dr. Diane Hammon Kellegrew, Associate Professor of Clinical Occupational Therapy at USC. The four-year project will provide scholarships to 17 entry-level OT students per year. Dr. Kellegrew reports, "It is so competitive and difficult to get these wonderful training grants so I am thrilled for our students. The project will strengthen the use of an evidence-based approach throughout the USC OT curriculum. In addition, those OT students interested in specializing in work with children in schools will have several exciting new courses and additional mentored practice in real classrooms. I am particularly pleased to have the support and cooperation of over 18 grant partners who will provide training experiences for our students." The project design integrates dynamic coursework offered concurrently with mentored and individualized field experiences in schools. Each trainee will be given opportunities to experience the many facets of school-based practice through field trips to model sites such as

the transition programs at Santa Monica College, pre-school programs at Pediatric Therapy Network, assistive technology services at California Children's Services and classroom based occupational therapy at Los Angeles Unified School District. Services for children with disabilities across a wide age range will be incorporated. For example, course content and field experiences will include the transition from early intervention services to school-based preschools, beginning computer and assistive technology needs of elementary school, social and emotional programs to aid the social integration of the middle school child with disabilities, and transition to independent or supported living for older adolescents. All fieldwork and field experiences will be used as real-world examples to illustrate the use of an evidence-based approach to practice. The trainees will learn to find and apply high quality evidence to support their occupational therapy services using their hands-on experiences in these school environments. They will also be individually mentored in the best ways to evaluate the impact of their occupational therapy services using data-driven decision making. One

highlight of the project is the opportunity for mentoring in the cultural competence needed to work in diverse California classrooms. This is essential as school-based practice includes the most challenging schools in Southern California, those in rural, urban, and high poverty settings. In addition to the field experiences and expansion of the evidence-based content, several new courses will be added to the USC OT curriculum. School-based content will include training in areas that would most benefit the child with learning disabilities and ADHD and in

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Message from the Chair

On the morning I learned that Christopher Reeve passed away from complications resulting from a pressure sore that led to sepsis and in turn to cardiac failure, I immediately wondered what complexity of daily life factors could have led to this unfortunate circumstance? In so many ways it seemed Christopher Reeve had the resources, the personality, the support and the knowledge to prevent the life-threatening complications associated with pressure sores.



As many of you know, for the past four years Professor Jeanne Jackson and I have been leading a study on the contextual factors that lead to recurrent pressure sores in people with spinal cord injury, and we will be submitting the first draft of our findings to the study's funding agency, The National Institute of Disability and Rehabilitation Research, this November. The study, which was made possible through the collaboration of Dr. Salah Rabayi; Dr. Michael Scott; Kathy Gross, MA, OTR; and Michal Atkins, OTR, of Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, has helped us to better understand how Mr. Reeve's tragic situation might have been prevented. Our expectation is that the results will equip occupational therapists with lifestyle redesign programs to help consumers with spinal cord injury avoid getting pressure sores and care for them more effectively if one should appear. The study has also resulted in a soon-to-be-produced online consumer manual with new information on pressure sore prevention. And lastly, a comprehensive manual for all rehabilitation professionals that details the contextual factors that seem to lead to pressure sore occurrence and complications is now in draft form. We believe these publications and products will help to carve out occupational therapy's unique role in the furthering of rehabilitation science.

As Christopher Reeve embarked on his mission of promoting hope for recovery in people with spinal cord injury, our team worked in parallel to discover how to prevent the pressure sores that in some cases take lives. His noble life and beautiful spirit will be with us as we labor to finish our study and its products.

Storace Clark

Student Spotlight

Beth Crall is a true Trojan. She first came to USC for an undergraduate education with the intent of studying Music. After looking at all options, she decided Psychology was what she wanted to do, and declared that as her major. As an undergraduate, she enjoyed the occupation of attending USC football games. Beth wasn't ready to relinquish that occupation of four years, so she began looking into graduate programs. She discovered occupational therapy and loved how practical and hands on it is. After studying psychology, Beth knew she wanted to help people with their problems and OT seemed like the best way for her to do it.

Beth is very interested in learning about all the different settings occupational therapists work in. She has already completed fieldwork experiences in hippotherapy, sensory integration, community mental health, and a pediatric unit at a hospital. She is also interested in learning more about the geriatric population and school-based therapy.



After completing the USC OT masters program in May 2004, Beth was encouraged by faculty to apply for a University Doctoral Fellowship. Beth received the prestigious award and plans to start the Ph.D. program in Spring 2005. She hopes to someday follow in the footsteps of her esteemed professors at USC by entering research and teaching. Beth is currently taking a break, spending time with her family in San Jose, and working at a bookstore. As an avid reader, Beth loves working at the bookstore, and having time to relax and spend time reading. While Beth is glad to be taking this time for herself, she misses everyone at USC and can't wait to be back. The Department wants to congratulate Beth for her scholarship, and is looking forward to Beth's return to USC in the Spring! ■

Welcome!

We are pleased that **Stephanie Mielke** and **Liz Carley** are heading up our recruitment efforts while pursuing graduate degrees. Stephanie, a graduate of our entry level master's program, is working on her Ph.D. in OS. Liz, a recent graduate of our bachelor's program, is now working on her master's in OT. We are pleased to have their talents, skills, and Trojan enthusiasm in this important departmental function!

We also welcome **Kris Dotto** as administrative assistant. Kris has been employed by USC for six years. In addition to her remarkable office talents, she brings a great sense of humor! ■

Occupational Science Symposium XVII

The 17th annual Occupational Science Symposium is scheduled for February 17, 2005. The theme for this year's symposium is the brain and emotions and the intimate connection to occupation. To continue the tradition of scholarly excellence, we are pleased this year to have as our key note speakers Dr. Antonio Damasio and Dr. Robert Sapolsky.

Dr. Damasio is Professor of Neurology and head of the Department at the University of Iowa College of Medicine and adjunct professor at the Salk Institute in San Diego. He is an internationally recognized researcher, author and lecturer in the field of neuroscience. His books, *Descartes' Error*, *The Feeling of What Happens*, and *Looking for Spinoza*, focus on emotions and the brains' basis for feelings. Dr. Damasio's work explores what causes emotions, what leads to feelings, how they affect our decisions, social behavior, and creativity. In the laboratory, Dr. Damasio has conducted pioneering studies of patients with focal brain damage. His work demonstrates how certain types of brain injuries destroy the link between reason and emotion resulting in difficulty participating in everyday social occupations.

Dr. Sapolsky is Professor of Biology and Neurology at Stanford University, a research associate with the Institute of Primate Research, National Museums of Kenya, and MacArthur "Genius" Fellow. Dr. Sapolsky's work has focused on stress, memory, and the aging brain. In *Why Zebras don't Get Ulcers: An Updated Guide to Stress, Stress-Related Diseases and Coping* and *The Trouble with Testosterone: And Other Essays on the Biology of the Human Predicament*, Dr. Sapolsky draws on the findings of psychiatry, animal behavioral science, neurobiology, and evolutionary biology to explore how stress, thoughts and emotions are intertwined. In his most recent book, *A Primate's Memoir*, Dr. Sapolsky recounts his coming of age as a field biologist as well as his fascinating account of primate behavior.

The Symposium will take place on the University Park Campus from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. The day will include the annual Wilma West Lecture, a panel discussion, and time to talk informally with the speakers. We are honored to announce Dr. Ruth Zemke as this year's Wilma West lecturer. For more information, please contact Peter Wittrock at (323) 442-1861 or wittrock@usc.edu. ■

Fieldwork Corner

The fieldwork coordination team has undergone some changes in the last few months. David Leary returned to Cedars Sinai Medical Center, where he hired on as their new Quality Specialist/Therapy Coordinator. Joining Jaynee Meyer is Jeremy Seip, MA, OTR/L, CHT, as Assistant Coordinator of Fieldwork Education. He joined the fieldwork coordination team half-time in August and hit the ground running with student advisement and contract management. Jeremy, an alumnus of our BS and MA programs in OT, supervised numerous Level I and Level II fieldwork students while working at White Memorial Medical Center for the past several years.

Jaynee and Jeremy continued nurturing the strong relationship with the clinical community at the latest Fieldwork Education Seminar on September 24, 2004. Approximately 25 OT practitioners attended the half-day seminar entitled "Beyond Clinical Skills: What Else Do Students Learn in Fieldwork?" A panel of experienced fieldwork educators including Lora Woo of California Children's Services Los Angeles, Tracy Rehfeld-Norton of Hallmark Rehabilitation, Jackie DeVries of Special Services for Groups, and Jeremy Seip shared their insights and facilitated a lively discussion. Special thanks to each of them for sharing their experiences and knowledge!

Jaynee and Jeremy will be placing approximately 130 first- and second-year MA and BS students in fieldwork in Summer 2005. If you have openings for our fieldwork students who are eager to learn, contact Jaynee or Jeremy at (323) 442-2857 (taguchi@usc.edu) or (323) 442-3430 (seip@usc.edu). ■

Time & Space: Kaleidoscopes of Occupation

If you visit Ruth and Wayne Zemke's home in Fullerton, Ruth will be glad to show you her collection of art kaleidoscopes. In fact, she'll probably offer you a glass of wine and a lawn chair in which to actively enjoy the colorful show of light and glass which each provides! Never seeing herself as a collector, she found herself drawn again and again to the purchase of one more artist's combination of the art and science that is the kaleidoscope. She says, "Each view provides a unique combination of the elements of the piece, one which will not be seen again. And yet, they are constantly changing, like the flow of time around us as we engage in occupations."

The kaleidoscopes of occupation, views from different times and places, was the theme of Dr. Zemke's Eleanor Clarke Slagle lecture, presented at the AOTA Conference in Minneapolis, MN in May. This theme was shared with the audience in several ways, including the big screen kaleidoscopic images projected as the audience gathered in the auditorium of the Minneapolis convention center. Dr. Zemke, joined numerous previous USC faculty and graduates in receiving this highest academic award from AOTA and the invitation to share her ideas with a general assembly of the association members and guests at conference. Previous Slagle awardees, including Dr. Florence Clark, were present and introduced to the audience prior to the lecture by Dr.

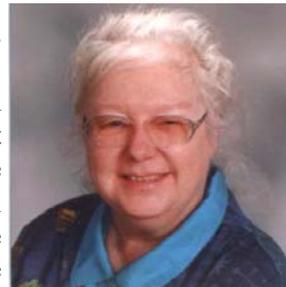
Carolyn Baum, the new President of AOTA.

Dr. Zemke noted how our daily round of occupations occurs within time and space. Like the varied bits of glass in the object case of an art kaleidoscope, the multiple elements of occupation interact. Reflected in the mirrors of our choices, as the kaleidoscopic glass bits are reflected in the polished mirrors of the barrel, they produce changing, complex patterns of daily occupation.

From the cosmic levels of time and space, beginning with the "big bang" and represented by human's philosophic questions about life ("Where do we come from? What are we? Where are we going?") human occupation has been shaped by time and space. But this external, environment, clock time and geographic location, is matched by a subjective internal time and place which is shaped BY our engagement in occupation.

Occupational temporality and occupational place are the experience of time and space within ourselves as we engage in occupation. They are the perception of sequence, simultaneity, and duration within each sensory system; the perception of time's movement as faster than clock time as "time flies when we're having fun" or drags as we wait in boredom for a delayed appointment. The experience of "flow" as described by Csikszentmihalyi occurs in some occupations producing a timeless

sensation and in extreme circumstances of intense impact. A video clip of Dr. Zemke's father, Lt. Colonel Vic Bast, speaking about his experience as a WWII fighter pilot at a recent Memorial Day remembrance, recalled one such instance in an air battle, when, for him, time stopped.



Dr. Zemke discussed our internal sense of space as well, focusing on our occupational place, the meaning accrued to a certain space by the occupations engaged in there. Our very identities may be shaped by the places in which we have lived our lives, interacting through our occupations. For example, she says "I identify myself, not just my geography, when I say 'I am American; a Californian transplanted at mid-life from Wisconsin'".

According to Dr. Zemke, "If our life is like a kaleidoscope, then its design is formed of our experience of time and space, formed through the patterns of our occupations." A purposeful, agentic occupational pattern resulting in feelings of temporal-spatial harmony in which one's varied activities fit together into a unified experience can produce a meaningful life.

These ideas are expanded in the November-December AJOT publication of the entire presentation, and Dr. Zemke has been invited to share more about them as a keynote speaker at the OT Association of Oregon state conference, at the St. Louis

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In Memoriam

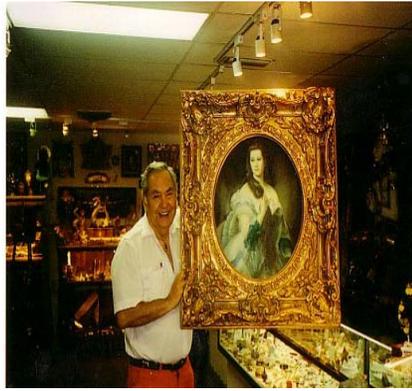
Clayton Brown, a dear friend of the Department, passed away on May 28, 2004 in his sleep. Dick McCauley (MA '53) wrote the following tribute to his long-time partner, and about their contributions to the Center for Occupation and Lifestyle Redesign.

Clayton, always the dreamer and the raconteur, found it to be a challenge for us to be a part of the preservation and restoration of a thing of beauty, charm, and with a story to tell. As a life partner, he had developed an interest and involvement in occupational therapy at both the Universities of Minnesota and Southern California. His attachment to Florence Clark and to Shanti Blanton became deep and lasting. The previous year we had purchased at auction an Historic mansion in Clayton's home town that we then donated to become the home of The Jersey County Historical Society. The Cheney House in Jerseyville, IL is from a similar architectural genre and can be viewed at www.jerseyusa.net.

As I talked about calling for a bulldozer, quietly seconded by

our friend John Wolcott, for the USC property, the visionaries and dreamers, Clayton and Florence, united with soaring thoughts of preservation, beauty, and what it could do

for the USC Occupational Therapy community of faculty and students as well as providing service to those in need in the community. We decided to put up the money that when matched by Carlotta Wells would ensure that the Cockin's House would become *The Center for Occupation and Lifestyle Redesign*. What a privilege, we thought, to be fortunately enough situated to be able to share our measure for the meaning of our worth. How grateful we were, and I now, to have made such friends as Florence Clark, John Wolcott, Ruth Zemke, Linda Fazio, Jeannie Jackson, David Leary, and to meet again with Lela Llorens, Carlotta Wells, Florence Cromwell, other members



Clayton discovering the great portrait of Madam Rimski Korsik now located in the Parlor at the Center.

of the advisory board, especially Linda Florey and Jan Matsutsuyu.

Some of the happiest times for Clayton during his last years were those spent in planning, designing, and acquiring things for

the furnishing and decorating of the first floor of the Center and the selections in the other areas. He spent long hours planning, sketching, and acquiring. Clayton and Shanti spent two weeks visiting and revisiting used furniture and antique stores in the area. The grand opening was **GRAND**. Of even greater significance was the party a few days later that Clayton, Carlotta Wells, and I hosted for the students where it was possible to mingle with and become acquainted with those who would be the recipient of the legacy.

May the dreamers live on in the works they leave behind and those of us who sometimes lack the vision continue to enable the dreamers. ■

“Thank You, Mr. McCauley!”

Richard (Dick) McCauley, a dear friend and OT alumnus, visited the Center for Occupation and Lifestyle Redesign on August 26, 2004. Mr. McCauley and his late partner, Clayton Brown, were instrumental in obtaining and refurbishing the Center and he has been an active supporter of the Department for many years.

Students, alumni, and faculty members joined Mr. McCauley in celebrating the Center's unique history during a reception held in his honor. Hors d'oeuvres and wine were served as Mr. McCauley spoke of his vision of the Center as a 'home-like' learning environment for students and as a center for community involvement. Many attendees, from Dr. Florence Clark to Don Fogelberg, Ph.D. student

and caretaker of the Center, then spoke of their personal relationship with Mr. McCauley and of the significance the Center has had in their lives. The Center is truly an exceptional place for research, education, and community outreach, and we sincerely thank Mr. McCauley and the late Clayton Brown for enabling our department to make this dream facility a reality. ■

Tule River Tribal History Project Launches “Direct Cultural Intervention”

Fueled by occupational science, USC is propelling occupational therapy into a new practice arena through a project with Native Americans to promote positive tribal identity.



Assistant Project Director Heather Kitching enjoys conversation with tribal elder Larry Garfield at end of summer barbecue event hosted by the project with music contributed by tribal elder Ray Flores, Sr.

Conceived and directed by Professor Gelya Frank, an occupational scientist and cultural anthropologist, a 12-week pilot program on the Tule River Indian Reservation in Central California was launched this summer with support from the Tule River Tribal Council and Owens Valley Tribal TANF.

The project uses everyday activities to bring together tribal members of diverse families and ages to preserve the history of their tribe on a reservation in the foothills of the Sierras, near Porterville, California. An experienced occupational therapist and doctoral student, Heather Kitching, MA, OTR/L, served as clinical supervisor, directing a staff of four master-level Fieldwork II interns.

Interns Rani Bechar, Amber Bertram, Colleen Harvey and Allison Joe facilitated tribal members' engagement in family tree making using computer genealogy software, creating a digital data bank and index of family photo collections, and participation in weekly video-taped open discussions on topics such as the traditional San Juan's Day rodeo, tribal musicians, the importance of the women's softball team and the impact of the tribe's casino on the community. Director

Gelya Frank conducted video-taped interviews with elders and worked with consultants to develop a tribal heritage website hosted by USC.

Frank calls this new kind of occupational therapy practice a “direct cultural intervention.” She explains: “These are interventions pitched at the cultural level. Just as occupational therapists use meaningful activities with individuals to help them regain their independence, we are working with a tribal community to support its reemergence as a native sovereign nation.” ■



Fieldwork II Interns Rani Bechar (L) and Colleen Harvey (R) assist Tule River Tribal Elder Jennie Garfield, age 87, to scan and index her family photo collection as part of a tribal archive.

Cross-cultural Sharing “Found in Translation”

An excited chatter filled the Center for Health Professions as a group of Japanese student visitors changed into their kimonos for a cross-cultural pizza lunch on the patio with USC OT students, September 23, 2004. Dr. Noburo Matsushita, previously of Sapporo Medical University and currently faculty at Tokyo College of Health & Welfare, teaches undergraduate occupational therapy students physical disabilities content and also shares his understanding of occupational science, since



Dr. Florence Clark with Japanese students

he acted as a translator for Dr. Zemke's first class at Sapporo in 1998. But he also gave his students a first hand chance to learn about occupational science and its relationship to occupational therapy in a study tour visit to Los Angeles. Forty-eight students and

two faculty visited the Department to learn from lectures by Drs. Clark and Zemke and to meet with American OT students.

After a weekend arrival and adjustment to the 17-hour time difference in Los Angeles, clinical visits comprised most of the study tour week as students learned about American occupational therapy taking place in a variety of settings.

Tokyo students thanked their hosts for the hospitality and for providing them with an expanded view of the field. Several students told Dr. Zemke as they said goodbye “We won't say Sayonara. We will see you soon at the Japanese Occupational Science Seminar in November near

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OTD Program Update

USC's OTD program continues to grow by leaps and bounds. Eleven students entered the USC OTD program in Fall 2004, the program's fourth year, with almost 50% of the incoming class having at least 5 years of practice experience prior to entering the clinical doctorate program in occupational therapy at USC. Students are currently beginning their residencies and developing their portfolio projects. ■

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the skills needed to meet the social, emotional, and behavioral needs of children disabilities in classrooms. The project trainees will work with the Autism Research Center at the University of California, Santa Barbara, a nationally recognized program in the use of positive behavioral support strategies for the classroom use. An exciting capstone project will involve the first collaborative venue between the USC OT department and the USC Rossier School of Education. The project trainees and students in the teacher credential program will work together to collaboration on a real case. This offers the unique opportunity for the occupational therapy students to practice effective classroom collaboration skills and promote occupational therapy. An inclusive Advisory Board will incorporate consumers at all levels to ensure that the project is of the highest caliber and responsive to changing needs in the field. Dr. Kellegrew comments, "There is great need for highly trained school-based occupational therapists and many individuals and agencies impacted by occupational therapy services were willing be a part of our Advisory Council. State-level administrators for the California Department of Education, administrators for many local school districts, parent groups such as United Parents and Family Resource Centers, classroom teachers and parents of children with disabilities will all contribute as part of the project 'think tank' and help keep the project connected to the community". The grant will begin recruiting the first cohort of trainees in spring 2005. In addition, all school-based occupational therapy sites interested in working with the project are welcome to connect Dr. Kellegrew at 323.442.2882 or email at kellegre@usc.edu (preferred). ■



Let's Keep in Touch!

We'd like to hear from you and share your news in an upcoming issue of *Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy*. Please mail this completed form to: USC Dept. of Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy, Attn: Jackie Mardirossian, 1540 Alcazar St., CHP-133, Los Angeles, CA 90089-9003; fax to 323-442-1540; or e-mail to jmardiro@usc.edu.

FULL NAME _____
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DEGREE/YEAR _____ TELEPHONE _____

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Check here if this is new information.

Here's my news (attach additional sheet if necessary): _____

I'd like to read about the following in an upcoming newsletter: _____

And the Winner is...

Janis Wise, Administrative Services Manager of the Department, received the **Staff Monthly Recognition Award** on October 7, 2004. Florence Clark introduced Janis during the monthly Staff Assembly Meeting.

In her introduction, Florence said that Janis had been working for the department for 19 years. Janis began in 1985 as a part-time employee assisting Florence with a Department of Education training grant. Since then Janis has held numerous positions within the department and Florence said that Janis was part of the reason that the department had been able to maintain its number one ranking. Dr. Clark specifically thanked Janis for her help with budget planning, grant proposal preparation and management, and for her overall loyalty, trustworthiness, and dedication to the department.

Janis was presented with a plaque by Connie Horak, President of the Staff Assembly, and a check for \$100 from Linda Lewis on behalf of the University Staff Club. ■

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University Gateway Occupational Therapy Education Council meeting and the Japanese Occupational Science Seminar Tsuyoshi Sato Memorial Lecture in Hiroshima this year, sensory integration's R2K research conference in Long Beach, CA and University of Western Ontario's Barbara Sexton lecture next year. She may even bring some of her kaleidoscopes along to share! ■

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Hiroshima. We want to learn more about occupational science and become good occupational therapists!"

The Department thanks the clinical sites—Rancho Los Amigos National Medical Center, UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute, and Pediatric Therapy Network—for their involvement in making the tour week a success! ■



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