The pace of our lives seems faster than ever. People have felt the stress of keeping up with the demands created by rapid changes in workplace technology since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution, but in the era of fast food, multitasking, cell phones, and the omnipresence of the Internet, it seems that even our leisure time is spent moving and thinking at a breakneck speed. What impact does “keeping up” have on relationships with our loved ones, and on our emotional and physical health? Is the only path to success in the 21st Century one that requires us to travel too fast to enjoy the journey? These questions and others will be explored in Slowing Down in the Fast New World, a program initiated by the Division of OS/OT as part of USC’s Visions and Voices series. This unique event, which will consist of a panel discussion followed by an unhurried picnic lunch, will take place on the University Park Campus on November 9th.

Activities & Life in the Fast Lane
Occupational therapists have always been concerned not just with what we do as part of our daily activities, but the how and why as well. Occupational science explores this even further, focusing on the relationship of the activities with which we fill our time to health. “In occupational therapy, we understand that there is a relationship between slowness and savoring and remembering experiences,” commented Florence Clark, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, Associate Dean and Chair of the OS/OT Division. “But youth today are rushing about anchored to their technology, enslaved by hyperspeed. We want to help them to appreciate the beauty of slowness.”

Visions and Voices
Visions and Voices is an initiative begun by USC Provost C. L. Max Nikias to meet goals of the University’s strategic plan, including communicating USC’s core values to students and affirming the human spirit. Past programs have included conferences, lectures, films, live performances and combinations of events, such as this past spring’s Dancing with Shakti, a program incorporating a dance performance, dance workshop and film screening (see Fall 2006 Newsletter, available from www.usc.edu/ot/alumni/department_newsletter/index.html). “The Visions and Voices program is extremely important for the health and well-being of all USC undergraduates,” Dr. Clark noted.

Panelists for Slowing Down include Robert Gottlieb, professor and Director of Occidental College’s Urban & Environmental Policy Institute and the Center for Food & Justice; Evan Kleiman, host of NPR’s Good Food, author and chef/owner of Los Angeles’ Angeli Caffe (which will cater the picnic in the Slow Food style that celebrates traditions such as heirloom produce and artisanal cheeses); painter and photographer Paula Stoeke, Executive Director of The Sculpture Foundation; and Peter Whybrow, M.D., professor, author and Director of the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA. Panel moderator will be Gelya Frank, Ph.D., professor in the OS/OT Division and Department of Anthropology. The program is organized by Dr. Clark, Dr. Frank, Julie Bissell and Kiley Krekorian Hanish of the Division of OS/OT.

For more information, contact Ms. Hanish at kkrekori@usc.edu, or visit www.usc.edu/visionsandvoices.
Message from the Associate Dean and Chair

Fall is perennially an exciting time at the USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, not only because it is football season, but also because it is when we formalize planning for the coming year and present our vision for what we hope to achieve as long as five years from now. I love the task of producing the Fall Planning and Research Advancement documents, as it is an occasion to develop a game plan. It gives us an opportunity to organize our thinking. It helps us clarify our priorities. And all of this is needed to set a clear course to guide our actions. In this letter, I want to tell you about some of the highlights in these two documents.

First, in the Research Advancement Plan, we have identified the domains in which we will devote extra efforts to grow our research programs. The first is Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). As you probably know, ASD now affects 1 in 150 children. As of my writing of this letter, we have five proposals in various stages of development through which we hope to extend our ASD research activity. The possible studies range from documenting the differential effectiveness of occupational therapy and other interventions on children with various kinds of ASD and sensory processing profiles, to identifying family concerns in helping their children to flourish, to infusing animal-assisted therapy into play programs.

A second domain of research we plan to expand addresses the needs of our wounded soldiers returning from Iraq. This year, we have been laying the groundwork to extend our research portfolio in this area. As you know, the USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy takes pride in its venerable tradition of having been responsive to the needs of soldiers returning from war. In fact, our occupational therapy program’s early growth when it was first established at USC in the early 1940s was largely the result of Margaret Rood’s leadership in responding to a war emergency effort. This year, Division faculty have worked or are working on proposals that address community re-integration, family life, life design and rehabilitation concerns of redeployed soldiers with post-traumatic stress disorder or traumatic brain injury. One of the fascinating proposals we have submitted will, if funded, enable us to develop, in collaboration with our colleagues in engineering, game-based role-playing virtual environments to prepare families of soldiers to be supportive of their loved ones returning from Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

Finally, we plan to build our rehabilitation science strengths by demonstrating the ways in which occupational science can bolster this interdisciplinary field. Of course, we plan to continue our NIH longitudinal research program on the ways in which cultural boundaries impact the rehabilitation of children with disabilities and their families, as well as our studies on the effectiveness of Lifestyle Redesign® on aging outcomes (see related stories, page 9) and on trying to secure funding for a randomized clinical trial in the area of pressure ulcer prevention. These have been the largest research programs in our Division throughout the past decade, but in the next five years, we plan to address an ever-widening scope of rehabilitation issues. For example, one of our new tenure-track assistant professors, Dr. Lisa Aziz-Zadeh, a neuroscientist, has been studying mirror neurons (using functional MRI) and other neural mechanisms that could be targeted in interventions to address needs of populations ranging from those with ASD to diagnoses of brain trauma or stroke. We expect that in the next decade, the USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy will become the premier center for therapeutic innovation, for completing randomized clinical trials our profession is in so much need of, and for generating theory on occupation that will lead to more effective interventions.

Finally, I want to tell you about some of the other high priority areas in our Fall Planning Document. I am pleased to announce that, finally, we intend to move our post-professional degree programs, including the MA and OTD, into a distance education format. As a first step, we have already prepared a collection of lectures in this format. I am also delighted to tell you that the Division’s Continuing Education offerings will be expanding, in both distance and classroom formats. Keep your eyes on our announcements of when certificate of completion courses will be offered in various applications of Lifestyle Redesign®, such as in weight loss, pressure ulcer prevention, or working with elders.

If I am giving you the impression that we are busier than ever, I am accurately conveying the reality. It is all wonderfully exciting. Through our research, educational and service programs, I know we will continue to make you proud of being a member of our Trojan family.

[Signature]

Page 2

Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy
**Faculty Practice in Home and Community Health SIS**

Katie Salles-Jordan, OTD, OTR/L, Director of the USC Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice (OTFP), published an article about OTFP and using Lifestyle Redesign® as an intervention in the June 2007 issue of AOTA’s Home and Community Health Special Interest Section (HCHSIS). “I was honored that I was asked to write a piece for this publication,” commented Dr. Salles-Jordan. “There seems at times to be some mystery shrouding Lifestyle Redesign® and the OTFP. I was happy to unveil a bit of it, and, I am hopeful, make what we do understandable and accessible to other OTs.”

Dr. Salles-Jordan, who has presented nationally and internationally on her specialty of Lifestyle Redesign® for weight loss, has been a proponent of Lifestyle Redesign® even before she entered USC. “Learning about Lifestyle Redesign® was the most important factor in my decision about where to pursue my graduate degree in OT,” she explained. “My experience started in Dr. Clark’s Lifestyle Redesign® class and continued in fieldwork opportunities, finally culminating in my OTD residency. My first job as an OT was at the Faculty Practice, working in the Lifestyle Redesign® Weight Loss Program. Specializing in this area has given me the tools I need to practice successfully in the health and wellness arena.”

In the article, Dr. Salles-Jordan begins with a description of the development of Lifestyle Redesign® through the research and intervention carried out in the USC Well Elderly Study (see related story, page 9). Following a review of the findings of the study and how they were applied to practice, Dr. Salles-Jordan lists similarities between Lifestyle Redesign® and more traditional forms of occupational therapy, such as those seen in pediatric or rehabilitation settings. For example, many billing codes and services are just the same in both forms of practice, such as billing for initial evaluation, therapeutic group and ADL retraining. Many client diagnoses are the same as those seen by many OTs, such as chronic fatigue, joint pain, diabetes, hypertension, fibromyalgia, obesity, and depression. Just as in any other practice, the medium for intervention is occupation, and the clients themselves are the agent for change in their health and in their lives. And of course, standards of ethical conduct and safety are identical to those followed by any qualified OT practitioner.

There is some difference from more traditional OT practice in that many of the clients who take part in a Lifestyle Redesign® intervention are independent people who might not even have a diagnosed condition when they seek services, and rarely have an acute health problem. Those who are most appropriate for Lifestyle Redesign® are typically dealing with chronic conditions or life challenges, such as aging (as for the participants in the Well Elderly Study and New Well Elderly Study), chronic pain, obesity (including symptoms or signs such as weight gain or sedentary behavior), reduced energy, perceived occupational dysfunction or imbalance and health-threatening habits. These are issues that respond to an approach that involves creating lifestyle changes that are both sensible and sustainable. The measures of progress might include a sense of well-being or an improved quality of life in addition to quantifiable changes such as weight loss, lowered cholesterol, lowered blood pressure, increased levels of energy, a greater sense of success in balancing work and personal time, improved pain management, positive social interactions or a reduction in levels of cortisol (a marker of stress).

The OTFP currently offers six different programs or services for its clients: the USC Lifestyle Redesign® Weight Loss Program, USC Executive Health-Lifestyle Risk Assessment, Lifestyle Redesign® for the College Student, USC Student Wellness Groups, Occupational Therapy-Optimal Living with MS Team and Occupational Therapy-USC Pain Management Team. These interventions are reimbursable by some insurance plans.

One of the aspects of writing the HCHSIS article that Dr. Salles-Jordan appreciated was having the opportunity to share in detail about both the practice methods and the clinical setting that she finds extremely rewarding. “As Director of the Faculty Practice, I have the opportunity to oversee all of our Lifestyle Redesign® programs, and speak around the world about our programs and services,” she explained. “I also enjoy supervising the many students that come to learn and work at the Faculty Practice. Every year, we get fresh new OTD students wanting to do their residency at the Faculty Practice. Every year, we speak around the world about our Lifestyle Redesign® programs, and our clients: the USC Lifestyle Redesign® Weight Loss Program, USC Executive Health-Lifestyle Risk Assessment, Lifestyle Redesign® for the College Student, USC Student Wellness Groups, Occupational Therapy-Optimal Living with MS Team and Occupational Therapy-USC Pain Management Team. These interventions are reimbursable by some insurance plans.

Dr. Salles-Jordan was pleased with the reaction to the publication. “Since the publication, I’ve received several e-mails and phone calls in support of my article. Some ask when a certification course will be available.” She also noted that she is about to come “full circle” when it comes to Lifestyle Redesign® — next semester, she will be teaching the USC OS/OT course on that subject, “the class that set me on my path towards specialization in this innovative area.”

For more information on the USC Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice, please visit www.usc.edu/otfp. For more on the HCHSIS, please visit www.aota.org.
In the USC Office of Planned Giving, you can
RATES THAT INCREASE BERO N YOUR AGE.
GETTING OLDER, WITH
J
to learn more about the specific benefits to
EXPERIENCE YOUR RETIREMENT ALREADY.
BESIDE COPYING THE BENEFITS OF GETTING OLDER, WITH
FOR LIFE — OFFER WITH MOUNT VIELO THAN THOSE

Higher Returns for Higher Education
Combine Your Love Of

But you can also receive steady, secured payments.
Not only are there no divities or tax benefits.
Make your support even with a gift annuity.
OF EXCELLENCE, ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR WAYS TO
USC HAS ALWAYS RELIED ON THE GENEROSITY

W
Canadian OT Offers Students Perspectives on Practice

Continuing to play host to OT practitioners and occupational scientists from around the world (see Spring 2007 Newsletter, available from www.usc.edu/ot/alumni/department_newsletter/index.html), USC OS/OT was recently visited by Terry Krupa, BSc (OT), M.Ed., Ph.D., Acting Chair of the Occupational Therapy Program at Queen's University School of Rehabilitation Therapy in Kingston, Ontario. Dr. Krupa spoke to OTD and Ph.D. students on wellness issues. She also addressed Master’s degree students on trends in mental health practice in Canada, where success is being experienced by intervening with clients very early in the course of their illnesses, helping them to achieve personal educational and occupational goals. Both talks were also attended by faculty and USC alumni interested in hearing Dr. Krupa’s perspective.

“I was looking forward to the visit, hoping it would provide me with the opportunity to learn about the occupational science and OT education programs,” Dr. Krupa said. “USC has such a strong history with the development of the OT profession and the faculty continues to be leaders in the profession. I wanted to see how this was expressed in the education programs. I was also interested in learning about the OT services offered through USC. We have been exploring the development of OT clinics within my own university program. As an occupational therapist specializing in the field of mental health, I was also looking forward to discussing how mental health is integrated into OT curricula, and to meeting with USC’s experts in mental health, including Deborah Pitts, John Brekke and John Bola.”

Dr. Krupa was intrigued by USC’s OTD program. “We don’t have [a clinical doctorate program] in Canada, so it was interesting to learn how the curriculum has been constructed, and how research is built into the program,” she described. “I was also fascinated by the Lifestyle Redesign® work that has been developed and how these ideas are translated into clinical practice. The Canadian health care system is quite different from the U.S., but I believe that ideas foundational to the Lifestyle Redesign® approach could be translated into the Canadian scene, perhaps providing occupational therapists with an opportunity to become more integrated into primary health care settings. I was also pleased to see the attention to community development at USC. We have implemented a community development stream in our curriculum at Queen’s, and it was reaffirming to see similar efforts at USC.”

“My visit to USC has had quite an impact on me,” Dr. Krupa added. “I have been speaking nonstop about it to my colleagues at Queen’s University. The visit has connected me to many new people with whom I have shared interests. I’m hoping that I can keep up these contacts so that we can continue to develop our interests.”

ENOTHE Explores Lifestyle Redesign® at Conference

The recent conference of the European Network of Occupational Therapy in Higher Education (ENOTHE), held in Cork, Ireland, at University College Cork, recognized as one of its four themes “The European Year of Equal Opportunities for All” and its goal, consistent with occupational justice, of “raising awareness of the advantages of a just and solidarity-based society.” In choosing a theme specifically relevant to OT practice, ENOTHE reflected the growing interest in Lifestyle Redesign® that is currently taking place internationally by inviting Florence Clark, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, and Jeanne Jackson, Ph.D., OTR, FAOTA, from USC OS/OT to present on use of Lifestyle Redesign® in the original Well Elderly Study and the current New Well Elderly Study (see related story, page 9). Their plenary session, titled Well Elderly Study (Methodology), was paired with a presentation by the ENOTHE project group titled Occupation and Older Age Studies in Europe, which reported on their progress in a study begun in 2005 which constructed and delivered a Lifestyle Redesign® intervention, based upon the USC Well Elderly Study findings, that was adapted to address the cultural differences found among the European countries which are participating in the study. This transcontinental effort is supported by the European Union (E.U.). Together, these sessions supported the conference’s theme of “Well Elderly Studies in USA and Europe.”

Commenting on ENOTHE and its members, Dr. Clark stated, “I think it is extremely rewarding to see that our work is appreciated by our European colleagues. At first, I could hardly believe that so many countries were involved in the application of our work and that this whole effort was being sponsored by the E.U. I think it is terrific that our initial research on Lifestyle Redesign® has the potential, through the effort and imagination of our European colleagues, to benefit elders throughout Europe to live healthier and happier lives.”

“It is exciting to be part of the European movement, and exciting to see OTs worldwide take on the task of translating Lifestyle Redesign® for their respective cultures,” Dr. Jackson noted. “Ultimately, this will help millions of elders.”

For more information, please visit www.enothe.hva.nl.
New Faculty, Staff Members Join USC OS/OT Division

The USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy is pleased to announce two new faculty appointments and a new staff member.

Kevin Groark, Ph.D., who has been a Research Associate/Research Assistant Professor with the Division’s NIH-funded Boundary Crossings: Resituating Cultural Competence research project (see related story, page 9), has been named Assistant Professor. Dr. Groark earned his BA in Anthropology with a specialization in Archaeology from UC Berkeley in 1992, an MA in Anthropology from UCLA in 1996 and a Ph.D. in Anthropology at UCLA in 2005.

“Dr. Groark’s research trajectory provides a ‘goodness-of-fit’ with several key research foci in occupational science,” observed Florence Clark, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, in announcing the appointment. “For example, through his long-term research experience in both Latin American indigenous communities and U.S.-based clinical settings, Dr. Groark is uniquely positioned to contribute to the Division’s developing strength in longitudinal medical ethnography, supplementing its well-established U.S.-based research trajectory with expertise in transcultural research and expanded international research opportunities. Additionally, his research on the psychological and emotional processes that underpin and motivate everyday experience and activity, particularly illness and disability, has great potential for building theory on the interrelationships of psychology, emotion and health. Finally, his interest in ethnic, racial, and economic health disparities also shows promise for contributing to Division-based research on cross-cultural health care encounters. I believe Dr. Groark will be a key player in our Division’s goals of furthering research on the cultural and emotional underpinnings of health and of addressing societal and public health needs.”

William Morgan, Ph.D., has been named Professor. His specialty is the philosophy and ethics of sport. Dr. Morgan earned his BS in Education from Lock Haven State College in 1969, MA in Sports Studies from the University of Massachusetts in 1971, and interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Philosophy, Social Ethics, and the Philosophy of Sport at the University of Minnesota in 1976. Previously, he was a Professor of Sport Studies at Ohio State University and the Interim Director of the Center for Sport, Citizenship and Society Initiative at the John Glenn School of Public Policy at Ohio State University. Dr. Morgan is very widely published and has presented internationally on the topics of sports, ethics and philosophy. Among his publications are the books Why Sports Morally Matter (2006) and Leftist Theories of Sport: A Critique and Reconstruction (1994). A former president of the International Association of the Philosophy of Sport, Dr. Morgan served as editor of the Journal of the Philosophy of Sport. In 1994, he received the Association’s Distinguished Scholar Award. In the same year, he was elected an active fellow of the American Academy of Kinesiology.

“Dr. William Morgan is arguably the foremost philosopher of sport in the world,” Dr. Clark commended. “In accepting this appointment, Bill is eager to apply his scholarship to the broader concept of occupation (which in occupational science subsumes sport) in an effort to consider how work and leisure contribute to quality of life. Our Division faculty is most excited about the future possibilities this appointment enables.”

“What I’m going to be working on this year is integrating my work in sports, particularly ethics, critical theory, and political theory, with work on the nature of occupations,” Dr. Morgan explained. “I’m especially interested in exploring how different occupations require and/or encourage people to play certain ethical roles. I’m also interested in why it is that people find certain occupations more captivating and compelling than others. Finally, I’m interested in examining how markets intrude in various ways on occupations and change their ethical outlook and character, usually in ways that are problematic.” Dr. Morgan will also teach a special topics course in Sports and Ethics this Spring.

Kimberly Kelton, who graduated USC with a BS in business administration in June, has been named Director of Recruitment for the OS/OT Division. Her duties include developing and implementing new recruiting strategies, developing marketing materials, event planning for new students and overseeing development of the Division’s website. Ms. Kelton, who was a freshman in North Residential College where Dr. Clark is Faculty Master, enthused that “I am extremely excited to have been offered the opportunity to be a part of such a dynamic division in an ever-expanding field. Working in an academic setting, surrounded by high caliber faculty, allows me to learn continually. I have the ability to constantly recreate my position as our Division and field continue to redefine themselves. One of my career goals has always been to work in an area in which I feel that I am improving the community around me and effecting a positive change in the world. Occupational science and OT strive to help people to build better lives. Telling people about this field and about our programs isn’t work; it’s explaining your passion to others and, in doing so, giving them permission to find theirs.”

Congratulations to Dr. Groark, Dr. Morgan and Ms. Kelton on their new positions at USC OS/OT!
Among the learning goals of a Ph.D. student is to master the art of teaching at the higher level appropriate for undergraduate and graduate students. A key method to achieve this goal is mentoring in pedagogical techniques by a professor. USC OS/OT has a rich history of bringing talented Ph.D. students and candidates into classrooms as teachers, with support from senior faculty. This semester, one person following in that tradition is Cristine Carrier, a Ph.D. candidate, who is co-teaching OT507, Ethical Dilemmas for the Reflexive Practitioner, with Dr. Donald Polkinghorne, Adjunct Professor of Clinical Occupational Therapy, who is also mentoring Ms. Carrier.

Ms. Carrier reports that the focus of OT507 is to help students to think critically about the nature of OT practice and its situatedness within institutions, the health care system and society as a whole. "We introduced the students to techno-rational thinking versus narrative reasoning in practice, and how conflict between these types of thinking (e.g., insurance companies wanting the sure thing for their dollar based upon statistics versus an OT practitioner with an intimate understanding of the specific, individual needs and potentials for a particular client, based upon the wealth of that particular practitioner’s experience) shapes practice. We are also working with the students to recognize that cultural competence is not a checklist of things to know about someone else’s culture, but a particular stance, flexibility and openness in personal and clinical interactions that allow us to make connections with our clients and learn about their culture as they simultaneously learn about the culture of medicine and OT from us."

To explore the ethics portion of the course, students have been given an innovative assignment by Ms. Carrier and Dr. Polkinghorne to gain a basic understanding of what types of ethical and moral orientations exist, and how the occupational justice movement might sometimes conflict with a more traditional view of "ethics of duty." Students have been asked to interview practitioners from different areas of practice, levels of experience and cultural and geographical locations, then present to the class on the interview and incorporate what they have learned into their final papers. The interviews are to help students understand the daily dilemmas of practice first-hand by exploring the gap between what is deemed “an ethical and moral choice” by diverse stakeholders, such as a hospital, insurance company, profession, practitioner and client, and how the OTs being interviewed resolve these dilemmas. Among the OTs taking part are USC alums Keali’i Lum, Byoung Oh and Lora Woo, and well-known international occupational justice proponents Enrique Henny, Elelwani Ramugondo, Kerry Thomas, Rachel Thibeault and Gail Whiteford.
OTD Program Update

by Courtney Daniels, MA, OTR/L

An OTD program can allow students to learn to create and administer programs that benefit health care consumers, health care organizations and/or the entire community, based on principles of occupational science and occupational therapy. I am taking the concepts and ways of thinking I am acquiring in my OTD coursework and applying them to a grant-funded, school-based Lifestyle Redesign® program I have developed under the supervision of Katie Salles-Jordan, OTD, OTR/L, Director of the USC Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice (OTFP). What might be unique about this is that, with Dr. Salles-Jordan’s collaboration, I also wrote the grant proposal that resulted in the finances for the program. The result is Healthy Eating Living and Playing (H.E.L.P.) Kids Program, an intervention designed to help elementary school children learn about making good lifestyle choices to prevent obesity and optimize their health.

This process began last fall when I first talked with Dr. Salles-Jordan at the OTFP about my interest in Lifestyle Redesign®, particularly as it might be used to address childhood obesity. To pursue such a program, Dr. Salles-Jordan encouraged me to apply for a USC Neighborhood Outreach Grant (UNO). UNO grants are open to University employees or units in partnership with community-based organizations or agencies and must meet one or more goals of USC’s Community Initiatives: namely, to improve the quality of life and education for children attending neighborhood schools and their families; improve public safety; boost neighborhood economic development; and/or foster opportunities for home ownership by low-income USC employees. UNO is financed by the annual USC Good Neighbors Campaign, which raised close to $1 million in contributions from USC faculty and staff during the 2006-2007 campaign; $911,000 of this has been awarded so far to fund 28 programs. H.E.L.P. is the first UNO grant given to the OTFP, receiving $11,285 to fund 1 year of operation.

H.E.L.P. is a 9-week intervention repeated in three different sessions throughout the school year. Once a week, I meet after school for 1 hour with 10 fifth-graders to discuss topics relating to nutrition, physical activity, habits, lifestyle and barriers to implementing optimal choices. We read labels of food the children bring in, visit Hispanic food markets to see which healthy foods $5 can buy and engage in a physical activity that the kids take turns leading. We are also exploring the role of the environment in preventing the maintenance of a healthy lifestyle. The school’s location in East Los Angeles presents unique challenges to the children, such as difficulty finding a park where they can play, safety concerns and an abundance of fast food restaurants. H.E.L.P. infuses aspects of occupational science into the weekly topics to address temporality, balance of occupations, routines and roles, adapted to be appropriate for a group of lively 10 year-olds from primarily Spanish-speaking cultural backgrounds. So far, the children have completed the Pediatric Quality of Life Inventory, and I am seeing them return consistently and retain information from previous sessions. Each week is a new adventure with many surprises!

My OTD coursework has greatly enhanced my skills in developing the H.E.L.P. intervention. For example, I added a strong emphasis on the exploration of the children’s environment based on concepts of the built environment I encountered in readings suggested for me by Erna Blanche, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, Director of the USC OTD Program.

I will complete my grant obligations by writing reports to UNO in January and June. As an OT currently employed by the Los Angeles Unified School District, it is my hope I can incorporate the H.E.L.P. practices (which meet California educational standards) into daily curriculum, whether facilitated by an OT or a teacher.

USC Alumni Win Offices in OTAC Elections

Heather J. Kitching, MA ‘02, OTR/L, was elected Director of Region 2 on the Occupational Therapy Association of California (OTAC) Board of Directors. In this post, she will represent OTAC members in Los Angeles County for the next two years. Ms. Kitching succeeds Shawn Phipps, BS ‘97, MS, OTR/L, who was voted President-Elect of OTAC.

Ms. Kitching’s priority as an OTAC officeholder is to bring practitioners and scholars within the Occupational Therapy and Occupational Science communities together to strengthen our position in society for the benefit of our clients. Members residing in Region 2 are welcome to contact her regarding any concerns or questions about OTAC’s support and promotion of occupational therapy in California at reg2dir@otaconline.org.

Congratulations to Ms. Kitching and Mr. Phipps!
New Well Elderly Study Investigates Lifestyle Redesign®

The New USC Well Elderly Study is nearing completion. Since 2004, 480 participants have been recruited from 21 sites in Woodland Hills, Culver City, Watts, Burbank, Inglewood, Long Beach, East Los Angeles and Downtown Los Angeles, including senior centers, subsidized senior residences and a retirement community.

Each older adult who enrolled in the study was able to take part in a 6-month-long Lifestyle Redesign® program. Like the first Well Elderly Study, this intervention included weekly group meetings and individual sessions with an OT. Once a month, each group took a community outing, creating opportunities to explore new activities and recapture a sense of play. The OTs noted that participants expanded their self-image to include being adventurers; for example, they developed confidence in using public transportation to visit places like the Aquarium of the Pacific, Chinatown, and the Farmers Market on Fairfax.

In each 6-month intervention period, all participants were brought together for a Healthy Pleasures Faire, held at the Center for Occupation and Lifestyle Redesign. A number of current OT students supported the fairs by volunteering to decorate, facilitate activities and clean up. Activities included high tea in the dining room, massage in the parlor, a sing-along in the classroom and various crafts in the parking lot. A favorite occupation was leather tooling. Participants toured the house, then attended a tutorial on the Victorian art of flirting with a fan.

Now that all group interventions have been completed, the study is focusing on the final testing and data analyses. Each participant is tested 4 or 5 times; so far, researchers have administered 1280 tests. The first results of the study will be available soon; the team feels strongly that, as in the first study, outcomes will demonstrate the power of occupation to influence health and well-being among older adults.

Beyond statistical outcomes, the New Well Elderly Study team has noted that group members expressed a sense of having grown and changed during the intervention. Each group ended with a graduation ceremony during which participants received a notebook with all materials they had covered in the 6 months, photos of their adventures and certificates of participation. For many participants, this was the only graduation they had ever experienced. One participant exclaimed, “I graduated from USC!”

Boundary Crossing Study Continues in USC Division of OS/OT

For the past decade the Boundary Crossings ethnographic project has followed a group of thirty African American children with chronic illnesses or disabilities and their families and health care providers. Our current National Institutes of Health funded study is titled “Re-situating Cultural Competence.” In this phase we are exploring the many ways in which caregivers and children must themselves gain cultural competence in the world of biomedicine as they attempt to “partner-up” with health care practitioners to secure appropriate care. Due to the longitudinal nature of the study new areas of research are also emerging as many of the children are now entering adolescence. Their entrance into young adulthood provides a new vantage point from which to consider the experience of living with illness or disability over time in an African American family. As we continue to follow these developments, we are pursuing our complementary study of the children’s practitioners, the institutional climates in which providers must care for these children, and the ways in which health care practitioners, children, and families work together.

Principal Investigators are Drs. Mary Lawlor, Cheryl Mattingly and Lanita Jacobs-Huey. Researchers are Kim Wilkinson, Dr. Kevin Groark and Dr. Olga Solomon. Dr. Cynthia Strathmann is Project Manager. This year, 16 students workers are employed by Boundary Crossing.
Are YOU looking toward the future?
Further your Occupational Therapy education at USC, the OT Program ranked #1 in the nation by *U.S. News and World Report* since 1998!

Expand your clinical skills and remain at the cutting edge!
Consider…

The Clinical Pathways to Excellence

- Assistive Technology
- Dysphagia Across the Lifespan
- Enhancing Motor Control for Occupation
- Ergonomics
- Hand Rehabilitation
- Lifestyle Redesign
- School-based Practice
- Seminar in Occupational Therapy
- Sensory Integration Theory
- Sensory Integrative Dysfunction & Practice

Take a step forward as the profession moves upward!
Consider…

The Post-Professional Master of Arts Degree (MA)

Become a professional leader!
Consider…

The Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD)

Contribute to a growing interdisciplinary science!
Consider…

The Doctor of Philosophy in Occupational Science (Ph.D.)

Qualified Ph.D. Applicants Are Eligible for Full-Tuition Scholarships from USC!

For more information, call toll-free: 866-385-4250, e-mail: otdept@usc.edu, or visit us on the web at: www.usc.edu/ot
Tea with a Scholar Honors USC Assistant Professor

The 6th Annual Afternoon Tea with a Scholar was held on behalf of OTAC at the Center for Occupation and Lifestyle Redesign on September 8, 2007. USC OS/OT Assistant Professor Julie McLaughlin Gray, Ph.D., OTR/L, presented aspects of her doctoral dissertation research entitled Sara’s Story: One Person’s Experience of Occupation and Emotion before, during and after a Stroke. Over 40 people attended the event, raising more than $700 for OTAC’s annual budget. Dr. Gray provided an in-depth description of the illness experience, as well as reflections on health care service delivery from the patient perspective. She described her work with Sara, a woman who survived a stroke, during Sara’s first year of rehabilitation and recovery, as well as the perspectives of Sara’s family, caregivers, rehabilitation team and friends. Those in attendance expressed anticipation that this research will contribute to needed changes in how health care systems perceive and treat consumers.

Alumni News

Gary Kielhofner, MA ’75, authored Respecting Both the “Occupation” and the “Therapy” in Our Field as the A Firm Persuasion in Our Work column in the July/August 2007 issue (Vol. 61, Number 4) of The American Journal of Occupational Therapy.

Linda Tickle-Degnen, MA ’80, co-authored the article Effects of Caregiver-Child Interactions on Play Occupations among Young Children Institutionalized in Eastern Europe in the July/August 2007 issue (Volume 61, Number 4) of The American Journal of Occupational Therapy.

Lora Woo, BS ’83 and current OTD student, was honored with the Fieldwork Educator Award by the Occupational Therapy Association of California (OTAC).

Wendy Wood, MA ’88, Ph.D. ’95, authored the article Associate Editor’s Note: The Sustaining Power of Ideas as the A Firm Persuasion in Our Work column in the September/October 2007 issue (Volume 61, Number 5) of The American Journal of Occupational Therapy.

Pollie Price, MA ’94, Ph.D. ’03, co-authored the article Occupation Emerges in the Process of Therapy in the July/August 2007 issue (Volume 61, Number 4) of The American Journal of Occupational Therapy.

Shawn Phipps, BS ’97, co-authored Occupational Therapy Outcomes for Clients with Traumatic Brain Injury and Stroke Using the Canadian Occupational Performance Measure in the May/June 2007 issue (Volume 61, Number 3) of The American Journal of Occupational Therapy.

Eric Asaba, Ph.D. ’05, co-authored the article The Lived Experience of Recapturing Self-Care in the May/June 2007 issue (Volume 61, Number 3) of The American Journal of Occupational Therapy.

Deaths

Grace Dickson Jacobson, BS ’43, passed away on January 7, 2006 from complications of a heart condition. She was predeceased by her husband 6 months earlier; Ms. Jacobson had supervised his care throughout his illness, using many occupational therapy techniques to modify their home and support his health needs. Survivors include her daughter Karen Jacobson, and her grandson Ryan Samuel Jacobson Vitali, who graduated from USC Medical School in 2007.

Trish Biggs Collins, MA ’02, gave birth to son Ian William Collins in August 2007. Ian weighed 6 lbs., 2 oz., and measured 19 inches tall.

Tanawaja Bailey-Divinity, MA ’03, gave birth to daughter Lela Divinity in February 2006. Lela weighed 7 lbs., 11 oz., and measured 19½ inches tall.


Births

Jeanne-Marie Adams, MA ’00, who teaches students with disabilities (particularly acquired brain injuries) career planning, job search skills and independent living skills at Santa Monica College, gave birth to son Braeden Cole Adams in July 2007. Braeden weighed 5 lbs., 6 oz., and measured 19 inches tall.

Kim Eggleston, MA ’01, gave birth to daughter Danica Lynn Eggleston in May 2007. Danica weighed 6 lbs., 10 1/2 oz., and measured 20¼ inches tall.

Pollie Price, MA ’94, Ph.D. ’03, co-authored the article Occupation
Awards and Recognition

Congratulations to the following faculty and staff on their outstanding achievements!

Lisa Aziz-Zadeh, Ph.D., was awarded a Zumberge Fund Individual Grant to support her proposed study entitled Neural Basis for the Perception of Prosody.

Florence A. Clark, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, co-presented a plenary session on the methodology of the Well Elderly Study at the 13th meeting of the European Network of Occupational Therapy in Higher Education (ENOTHE). The effectiveness of Lifestyle Redesign® and its use in both the original study and the New Well Elderly Study were discussed. Dr. Clark is also scheduled to present on the AOTA Centennial Vision and co-present on Health and Wellness at the 1st Annual AOTA/NBCOT National Student Conclave in Pittsburgh, PA (see related stories, pages 5, 9 and 15).

Gelya Frank, Ph.D., is taking part in a number of panels, presentations and publications on topics relevant to occupation. She will give the keynote address at the annual Occupational Science Symposium at the University of Utah; deliver the 10th Mary Ann Epstein Memorial Lecture (titled “Occupational Therapy’s Commitment to Social Justice: New Readings of the Profession’s History and Mission”) at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Hospital; organize and moderate a panel and take part as a discussant at SSO:USA; moderate the Visions and Voices program Slowing Down in The Fast New World (see related story, page 1), present a paper and organize sessions for the American Anthropological Association; and participate in a panel (on occupational therapy, anthropology and chronic conditions) at the Society for Applied Anthropology. She recently organized two sessions at the Society for Psychological Anthropology, organized two sessions (on occupational science) at the Society for Applied Anthropology; presented a paper to the Department of Occupational Therapy at Colorado State University; and presented at the Native Nations Law & Policy Center at UCLA Law School. Dr. Frank is Founding President and Co-Chair of the Occupational Therapy and Occupational Science Interdisciplinary Interest Group of the National Association for the Practice of Anthropology (NAPA), a section of the American Anthropological Association, and is National Chair of the AOTF Habits Conference Planning Committee. Her recent and/or forthcoming publications include a chapter in the book Anthropology Put to Work; two chapters (one co-authored with Ruth Zemke and one co-authored with USC alumnae Heather Kitching, Allison Joe, Colleen Harvey, Amber Bertram, Rani Bechar, Jeanine Blanchard and faculty member Jaynee Taguchi-Meyer) in the book Political Perspectives in Occupational Therapy; and will be the co-editor (with Dr. Zemke and Pamela Block) of a special theme issue for the journal Practicing Anthropology.

Jeanne Jackson, Ph.D., OTR, FAOTA, received the 10th Annual John J. Bazyk Distinguished Speaker Award from the Cleveland State University Occupational Therapy Program. She spoke to alumni and students on occupational therapy, wellness and Lifestyle Redesign®. Dr. Jackson also co-presented on Lifestyle Redesign® and The New Well Elderly Study with Dr. Clark at the ENOTHE conference in Cork, Ireland (see related stories, pages 5 and 9).

Jackie Mardirossian, MA, COTA, ROH, was named to the Advisory Council of the Occupational Therapy Association of California (OTAC). The Council provides input to OTAC’s Regional Directors.

Julie McLaughlin-Gray, Ph.D., OTR/L, was promoted to Assistant Professor of Clinical Occupational Therapy in the OS/OT Division. She also presented findings from her doctoral dissertation, A Longitudinal Analysis of Occupation during Stroke Recovery: A Single Case History, at the 6th Annual Afternoon Tea with a Scholar (see related story, page 11).

Katie Salles-Jordan, OTD, OTR/L, was interviewed for an article that appeared on USC HealthNow, an online wellness publication written and maintained by the University. Dr. Salles-Jordan talked about the pervasive health challenge of obesity and the effectiveness of the Lifestyle Redesign® approach that has been used with clients of the USC Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice (www.usc.edu/otfp), of which she is the Director. The story can be found at http://www.usc.edu/hsc/healthnow/2007/04/09/weighing-the-options/. Dr. Salles-Jordan wrote about the Faculty Practice in an article published in the June 2007 issue of AOTA’s Home and Community Health Special Interest Section Newsletter (see related story, page 3).

Jaynee Taguchi-Meyer, OTD, OTR/L, was promoted to Assistant Professor of Clinical Occupational Therapy in the OS/OT Division. She also co-authored (with Dr. Frank and several USC alumnae) a chapter in the book, Political Perspectives in Occupational Therapy.

Ruth Zemke, Ph.D., OTR, FAOTA, co-authored a chapter in the book Political Perspectives in Occupational Therapy with Dr. Gelya Frank, and will co-edit with Dr. Frank and Pamela Block a special theme issue on occupational therapy, occupational science, disability studies and anthropology for the scholarly journal Practicing Anthropology.
Providing an opportunity for current graduate students, alumni and faculty members, and their friends and partners, to relax and enjoy a gourmet experience, the USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy has been sponsoring a series of wine tastings in the homes of alums throughout Southern California. These unhurried after-work events allowed those gathered to meet, socialize and talk about current issues in health care and their shared Trojan backgrounds alike.

One of these convivial events was hosted by Bonnie Nakasuji, BS ’74, MA ’94, and current OTD student, and her husband Paul. Another member of the Nakasuji family, daughter Dana, is a current MA student at USC. The Nakasujis cordially opened their lovely home in the West Los Angeles area to the extended OS/OT family.

Next, Half Century Trojan Marilyn Gould, BS ’50, and her husband Paul supplied the venue for a wine tasting. They graciously invited alums to their beautiful home in Orange County, which they decked out in Trojan cardinal and gold.

On November 16th, another wine tasting will be held, this time in the Pasadena/ Glendale/Burbank area. Nancy Hoffman, BS ’54, has kindly offered her home as a setting for this gathering.

For more information, please visit www.usc.edu/ot/alumni.
I f you take a few moments to walk through the University Park Campus in the next few weeks, or perhaps visit the Center for Occupation and Lifestyle Redesign, you might notice some people frozen in a moment in time while engaging in a variety of activities. But these are no people; they are the startlingly lifelike and life-sized cast bronze sculptures of J. Seward Johnson, an East Coast-based artist whose work celebrates the richness of ordinary moments in contemporary life. The work of Mr. Johnson, the founder of the 35-acre Grounds for Sculpture art park in Hamilton, New Jersey, has been displayed internationally. Through the efforts of the USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, three of the sculptor’s works — So, the Bishop Said to the Actress, Summer Thinking and Things to Do — will be on view on University Park Campus through December 31st.

In his fine arts book Celebrating the Familiar, Mr. Johnson explained of his work, “I want my people to be unheroic, and in so being, become universal. This is to suggest that we all have these moments of self-fulfillment. Perhaps we should take time to focus on them.”

Florence Clark, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, a long-time admirer of the work of Mr. Johnson, worked closely with Paula Stoeke, Director and Curator of The Sculpture Foundation, the organization which owns and manages the artist’s collection. Ms. Stoeke will take part in a Visions and Voices program organized by the USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, Slowing Down in the Fast New World, on November 9th (see related story, page 1).

In an interview with the Daily Trojan, Dr. Clark observed that Mr. Johnson’s work fits well with occupational therapy’s emphasis on the impact of daily activities on quality of life and the state of one’s health. “The sculptures remind us to take a moment to do things that make life worth living, if only for a moment,” Dr. Clark told the newspaper. “These mini-vacations connect us to the natural world.”

The sculptures are found in locations appropriate to their subjects. The wall painters of So, the Bishop Said to the Actress are on view “working” at Taper Hall, on Trousdale Parkway.

The contemplative student of Summer Thinking can be seen in Founders Park. The active woman of Things to Do is found at the Division’s own Center for Occupation and Lifestyle Redesign at 27th and Hoover, just off the main USC campus.

For more information about sculptor J. Seward Johnson and his body of work, please visit www.sewardjohnson.com. For more information about his tableaus at the Grounds for Sculpture, as well as more background on the Summer Thinking figure, please visit www.groundsforsculpture.org/c_jjohn.htm.
Students Win Leadership Awards

To support the participation of our students in the first ever AOTA/NBCOT National Student Conclave in Pittsburgh this November, the USC Division of OS/OT sponsored leadership awards for first- and second-year MA students. The awards cover expenses for these students to attend the Conclave. Those honored with the awards are Emilia Devi (first year) and Lauren Ferriera, Michelle Lee and Lyndsay Price (second year).

The purpose of the 2-day Conclave is to provide an opportunity for OT and OTA students to network, learn more about areas of practice, consider fieldwork education strategies, prepare for the NBCOT exam and acquire job search and interview skills. Among presenters will be Dr. Florence Clark, who will speak on Health and Wellness and on AOTA’s Centennial Vision. For more information, please visit www.aota.org/Students/StudentConclave.aspx.

Research Day 2008 — February 13th

Student and faculty researchers in the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy will have an opportunity to present their work to colleagues in Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy, Dentistry and Dental Hygiene at the USC School of Dentistry Research Day. In response to the success of last year’s event, the upcoming gathering will be held at the USC Galen Center to accommodate up to 100 posters that are anticipated to be entered in this judged competition.

The morning’s poster-judging session will be followed by a luncheon. The afternoon will feature viewing of the posters, then presentations by Steven Offenbacher of the University of South Carolina, who will speak on oral and systemic diseases, and by Nancy Byl of UCSF on neurological approaches to rehabilitation. Students will be recognized for their outstanding posters in 13 categories.

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 Division 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 ________________________________________________________________

first       middle    last                                          maiden (if applicable)

DEGREE/YEAR ___________________ TELEPHONE _________________________________

HOME ADDRESS ____________________________________________________________

CITY/STATE/ZIP ____________________________________________________________

E-MAIL ADDRESS ___________________________________________________________

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:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
Save the Date to Celebrate!
Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy

Wednesday, December 5, 2007
University Park Campus

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
Mary Foto, OTR/L FAOTA

A Call to Action!: Using and Generating Evidence in All Practice Areas
Early Intervention, School-Based, Hands, Rehabilitation, Mental Health, Wellness
USC OS and OT Research Update: Past, Present and Future
Doheny Library 1.5 Contact Hours

2:30 – 3:00 p.m.
J. Seward Johnson Sculpture Tour

3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
65 Year Celebration Holiday Tea
Town and Gown

$65 Friends and Alumni  $25 Students  (Includes All Three Events)

If you do not receive an invitation, please contact (323) 442-2850