

SPRING 2011

# PIXEL POWER

7 TROJANS  
LEADING  
THE WAY  
TO THE  
AOTA  
CENTENNIAL  
VISION

Division Events

New Grants and Publications

Woman of the Year

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HEALTH  
PROFESSIONS



Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy

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to make a gift to the Division's Annual Fund today!  
A gift of any amount makes a difference!

For more information, contact Julie Bissell at 323-442-2149

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Meet the Trojan  
Occupational Therapists  
Leading the Profession  
to 2017

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Cover Art by Michael McNulty



**DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL SCIENCE  
AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**

*at the*

Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry

*of the*

University of Southern California

Spring 2011 Newsletter

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The hallway of the Center for Health Professions was recently refreshed with new signage, an oversized framed timeline of Division history and honor rolls thanking past Division donors

*Photo by Carissa Villanueva*

**Q**UICKLY. YOU ONLY HAVE TWO,  
maybe three seconds.  
One. Two. Three.



In the three seconds it took you to read the words above, your brain has likely already formed its first impressions of USC Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, simply by glancing at this page. Even if you and I have never met face-to-face, your brain has probably already formed an impression of me, just by seeing my photograph. In fact, it probably already formed an impression of this redesigned Division Newsletter before you even reached out to flip open the cover.

The human brain's visual pathways and cortical associations are enormously powerful. For the typically developed adult, the vast majority of the information from the external environment that enters into, and is processed by, the brain is visually derived. Think of all the words, signs, nonverbal expressions, symbols, and objects you see in the span of any single, given day. The human visual-perceptual system is also extremely fast. Processing is measured in milliseconds. Because there is no escaping human neuroanatomy or neurophysiology, the influence and speed of these natural systems permanently undergirds the entire constructed experience of the everyday, human life.

In his 2005 bestselling book *Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking*, author Malcolm Gladwell examines our 'adaptive unconsciousness', the automatic and rapid cognitive-perceptual processes which consequently bias, for better or for worse, so many everyday human behaviors. Without even realizing, we all "think" in the time that, literally, it takes to blink. Gladwell claims these snap judgments are often made by culling from the thinnest "slices" of our past experiences in order to identify, sometimes successfully, other times tragically, patterns and expectations that can then be used to guide our present actions. With a visual system this powerful, each of us only has, at most, three seconds to make a first impression.

If indeed the visual processing system is as undeniably powerful and rapid in shaping our and others' beliefs and perceptions as we know it to be, then it is critical to also explicitly consider the ways in which we portray ourselves to communities outside occupational science and occupational therapy. Because occupational scientists and occupational therapy practitioners are genuinely modest people at their core, superficialities and honorifics usually do not make much of a difference to us. But knowing what we know about the speed of judgment- and decision-making, our outward appearances can either reinforce or undermine our tacit, internal qualities. In a world oversaturated with information and demanding real-time responsivity, style can be just as important as substance.

That principle is one of the prime reasons motivating this radically redesigned Division Newsletter. We hope that you too believe that this new format better communicates the strength and integrity of the University of Southern California, without compromising the substance of the expert, innovative, and world-class programs occurring here at the Division on a daily basis. All of the Division contact information can be found in the cardinal section to the left, so please let us know what you really think about this redesigned Newsletter, about anything else concerning the Division or USC, or to share your latest news with the Trojan Family.

But do so quickly. Because you really only have three seconds.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Florence A. Clark". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Florence Clark  
Associate Dean and Professor



## LEADERS HIT THE ROAD WITH ALUMNI

The USC Alumni Association's Trojan Family Reception Tour has brought newly inaugurated USC President C.L. Max Nikias to nine cities across the country to meet with the most important members of the Trojan Family, the alumni. Since his inauguration in October, President Nikias has been on a whirlwind tour meeting with as many Trojan Family constituencies as possible, and unveiling his grand visions for the future of the university. To see photos of his past stops along the Trojan Family Reception Tour, visit online at [alumni.usc.edu/meetnikias](http://alumni.usc.edu/meetnikias)

Division Associate Dean and Professor, and American Occupational Therapy Association President Florence Clark has also been busy meeting and greeting alumni members of the Trojan Family. At Pasadena's Dean On The Road alumni reception, Dr. Clark reconnected with many Trojan occupational therapists and reinforced President Nikias' vision for the central role of the health sciences in the coming decades at USC. All alumni and friends are invited to revisit with the Trojan Family at the next Dean On The Road reception, April 27th, at San Antonio Winery in Los Angeles. For more details, go to [ot.usc.edu/alumni/news-and-events/dean-on-the-road-receptions/](http://ot.usc.edu/alumni/news-and-events/dean-on-the-road-receptions/)



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## Dean on the Road

**USC Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy** wants to see you again!

**Join us:**

**Thursday, March 24, 2011, 6pm–8pm**  
at Bistro45, 45 S. Mentor Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91106

**Wednesday, April 27, 2011, 6pm–8pm**  
at San Antonio Winery, 737 Lamar Street, Los Angeles, CA 90031



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1 President Nikias greets Board of Councilors member and OTAC President Shawn Phipps  
2 The crowd gathered at the JW Marriott in downtown Los Angeles listens intently  
3 President Nikias at the dais  
4 Jennifer Watson, Executive Director of Development for the USC School of Pharmacy, left, with Board of Councilors member and past AOTA President, Mary Foto, and Bill Watson, right, USC Vice President for Health Sciences Campus Development  
5 Associate Dean and AOTA President Florence Clark offers a toast to Trojan alumni at Pasadena's Dean on the Road social event  
6 Dean on the Road invitation—check your mailbox and find it online



## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY HOSTS VETERANS RECEPTION

Over 100 veterans and supporters gathered at the USC University Club on November 11, 2010, to celebrate Veterans Day and show their appreciation for both active duty and veteran service members of the Trojan Family.

The event was sponsored by the USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy in collaboration with Undergraduate Student Government, the Center for Academic Support, the Student Veterans Association and the Military Social Work Interest Group. Now in its third year, the event has grown significantly from its modest beginnings as a student project of a small group of occupational therapy Master's students in 2008.

University Professor Kevin Starr, a veteran himself, touched everyone with his words of military experience. A historian, Dr. Starr reflected on the way ancient Troy rose from defeat to become a stronger republic. Comparing USC Trojans to the warriors of Troy, he noted, "thus, when we mourn those of the cardinal and gold who are no longer with us, we remember not laws, not defeat, but continuity and renewal."

—Austen Taylor is a current M.A.-II student

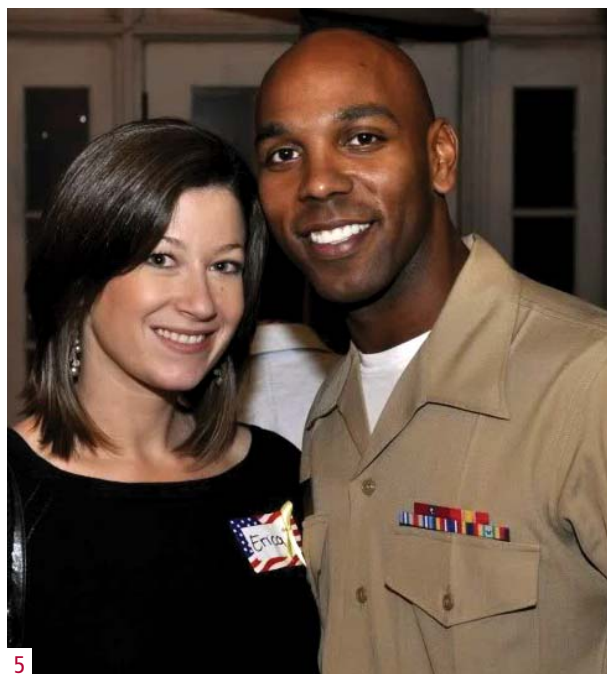
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**1** Festive decor at the entrance of the USC University Club **2** Current OTD student Myka Winder gathers around USC University Professor and California State Librarian Emeritus Kevin Starr **3** Annenberg School for Communication & Journalism student and proud veteran Michael McGhee **4** Assistant Professor of Clinical Occupational Therapy Karen McNulty introduces the evening's distinguished speakers **5** Sergeant Chris Bautista and friend **6** Karen McNulty, purple heart recipient and Division Senior Computer Consultant John Wolcott and Director of Recruitment Kim Kelton



# At the Division

## NEW T32 POSTDOCTORAL GRANT

Thanks to a newly awarded NIH T32 grant, funded by the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award, the USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy and Division of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy will partner over the next five years to train eight postdoctoral researchers in an intensive two-year training sequence which involves exposure to all phases of clinical trials research at the University of Southern California.

The T32 grant, entitled TREET: Training in Rehabilitation Efficacy and Effectiveness Trials (F. Clark, PI), will be funded by both the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health & Human Development and the National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research. The Kirschstein NRSA is named in memory of Dr. Ruth L. Kirschstein, who passed away on October 6, 2009. Aside from Dr. Kirschstein's scientific accomplishments in polio vaccine development, and becoming the first woman director of an NIH Institute, she was a champion of research training and a strong advocate for the inclusion of underrepresented individuals in the scientific workforce. The award is administered through the NIH Office of Extramural Research.

Reflecting a strong interdisciplinary emphasis, faculty members from both Divisions at the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry as well as colleagues from the Keck School of Medicine, the Viterbi School of Engineering, and the School of Pharmacy, will oversee a coordinated fellowship experience that includes individualized mentorship plans, core coursework, participation in training seminars, immersion in externally funded projects, and writing of grant proposals and research publications.

Anticipated outcomes of the training grant include a greater capacity for trainees to independently conduct randomized clinical trials, including comparative effectiveness studies, and an increase in both the quantity and rigor of rehabilitation science publications. In the long term, the program aims to promote the development and testing of interventions that improve the effectiveness of rehabilitation services.

*Learn more about the Kirschstein NRSA at <http://grants.nih.gov/training/nrsa.htm>*



## DEPT OF LABOR TO "ADD US IN"

As a member of only one of the nation's four regional Consortia to recently be awarded a two-year, cooperative agreement from the U.S. Department of Labor Office of Disability Employment Policy intended to improve employment opportunities for people with disabilities, the USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy will be partnering with Integrated Recovery Network in Los Angeles.

The Los Angeles-area Consortium, which also includes The Measurement Group, the Black Los Angeles County Client Coalition, the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center, Homeboy Industries, the Los Angeles Business Federa-



tion, and the South Bay Workforce Investment Board, was awarded \$625,000 as part of ODEP's "Add Us In" initiative. The purpose of "Add Us In" is to identify and develop strategies to increase employment opportunities within the business community for individuals with disabilities.

As part of her work with the initiative, Division Associate Dean and AOTA President Florence Clark was invited to the "Add Us In" Expert Strategy Meeting in Washington, D.C. Also at this meeting, among other public service and private business leaders, were Kathleen Martinez, Assistant Secretary for the Department of Labor Disability Employment Policy, Seth Harris, Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Labor, Susan Au Allen, National President and CEO of the U.S. Pan Asian American Chamber of Commerce, Kelly Buckland, Executive Director of the National Council on Independent Living, Sarah Crawford, Director of Workplace Fairness at the National Partnership for Women and Families, Crosby Cromwell, Senior Manager of Corporate Affairs at Walmart, Deborah Dagit, Vice President of Diversity at Merck, Kareem Dale, Associate Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement and Special Assistant to the President for Disability Policy, Curtis Decker, Executive Director of the National Disability Rights Network, and Susan Mazrui, Director of Public Policy at AT&T.

The desired outcome from the Los Angeles area "Add Us In" Consortium will be to optimize the career trajectories of persons with disabilities by integrating disability and diversity into employers' workforce planning and addressing employment disparities.

*Read more about Dr. Clark's experience at the "Add Us In" meeting on her AOTA Presidential Blog at [http://otconnections.aota.org/blogs/aota\\_presidential\\_blog/default.aspx](http://otconnections.aota.org/blogs/aota_presidential_blog/default.aspx)*



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## ROSEANN SCHAAF VISITORSHIP BRINGS SYNERGY TO AUTISM GRANT PROPOSAL

The USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy and the Department of Occupational Therapy in the School of Health Professions at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia are collaborating to write an NIH research grant for an innovative intervention for autism. The project is anticipated to be lead by Associate Dean and Professor Florence Clark, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, as the Principal Investigator.

Roseann Schaaf, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, Vice Chairman and Professor of Occupational Therapy and a faculty member of the Farber Institute for Neurosciences, Thomas Jefferson University, is currently a visiting faculty member at USC. She has been in Los Angeles since January working with the USC grant team, which includes Associate Professor of Clinical Occupational Therapy Erna Blanche, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, and Assistant Professor of Research at the USC Zilkha Neurogenetic Institute, Barbara Thompson, Ph.D.

Dr. Schaaf brings her expertise in autism, sensory integration and neuroscience to the project. At Jefferson, Dr. Schaaf directs the Sensory Psychophysiology Laboratory and coordinates the Advanced Practice Certificate Program, which includes certificates in Autism and Neuroscience. She is the author of three books and numerous peer-reviewed publications.

If funded, the grant will be the first large-scale randomized controlled trial of an Enriched Environment Sensory motor-based intervention for young children with autism. Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is one of the most common childhood disabilities, with prevalence currently estimated to be 1 in 110 children.

“It has been my honor and pleasure to work with the USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy on this exciting project.”

Our combined efforts make this a strong proposal which, if funded, has the potential to make a positive impact on the lives of children with autism.”



**MICHAEL T. BERTHELETTE**, M.S.M., OTR/L, is welcomed to the Division as the newest member of the Board of Councilors. Mr. Berthelette has over twenty four years of profitable experience as an education and health care executive, entrepreneur and occupational therapist. He is Senior Vice President of Progressus Therapy, LLC, a leading multidisciplinary education company serving schools across the nation. Mr. Berthelette is known as a goal-directed, results-oriented leader in the field. His contagious passion for excellence, talent for resourceful business solutions and a capacity for motivational leadership are much welcome. Fight On, Mr. Berthelette!

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## NEW FACULTY MEMBER COMBINES THERAPY AND GAMING

Rachel Proffitt, O.T.D., OTR/L, recently joined the Division as Adjunct Assistant Professor of Clinical Occupational Therapy. Through connections she made as an occupational therapy doctoral student, Dr. Proffitt completed a three month apprenticeship under Skip Rizzo, Ph.D., and Belinda Lange, Ph.D., of the USC Institute for Creative Technologies, a collaborative interdisciplinary laboratory exploring many real-world applications and uses for innovative, interactive digital media. At ICT, she worked on several projects, including research proposals, data collection and analysis, and video game design.

When the ICT team approached Associate Dean Florence Clark in the summer of 2010 to bridge virtual reality technology and clinical therapeutic applications, Dr. Proffitt seemed to be the natural choice. Her current projects include data collection and analysis on a project using the Nintendo Wii Balance Board, developing another project using the Microsoft Kinect 3D Motion controller, and developing how-to manuals for common off-the-shelf games and devices.

“Technology allows for a more objective measurement of client improvement and provides a fun and motivating arena for therapy,” Dr. Proffitt says. “Ultimately, if a client isn’t motivated to improve or cannot find meaning from therapy interventions, the therapist is going to have a tough time helping the client to achieve their own goals.”



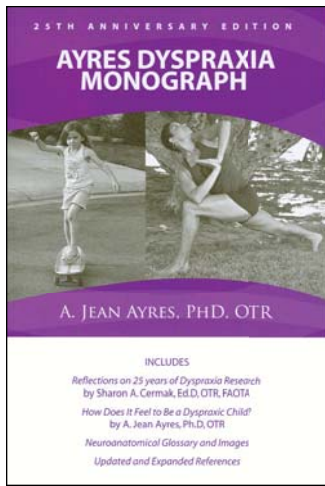
**LIFESTYLE REDESIGN®** for Pressure Ulcer Prevention in SCI, an NIH-funded research grant, recently celebrated its 100th research program participant.

At a brunch in the PUPS office at CHP, researchers, interveners and staffers gathered to reflect on the project’s development and consider the future ways it will make a difference. Congrats team!

# Published

PROFESSOR SHARON CERMAK, Ed.D., OTR, FAOTA, penned the foreword to the 25th anniversary edition of the Ayres Dyspraxia Monograph entitled “Reflections on 25 years of Dyspraxia Research”. In the foreword, Dr. Cermak reflects on past and current dyspraxia research and considers future research projects and their potential clinical implications.

[www.pediatrictherapynetwork.org/catalog](http://www.pediatrictherapynetwork.org/catalog)



PROFESSOR WILLIAM MORGAN, Ph.D., had his paper entitled “What, Exactly, is Occupational Satisfaction?” published in the October 2010 issue of *Journal of Occupational Science*. Dr. Morgan argues that an occupationally satisfying/fulfilling life is one in which a person’s engagement in occupational pursuits achieves the kind of depth, focus and dedicated commitment defining what philosopher Harry Frankfurt calls ‘wholehearted’ action.

[www.jos.edu.au](http://www.jos.edu.au)

JAYNEE TAGUCHI MEYER, O.T.D., OTR/L, Academic Coordinator of Fieldwork Education and Assistant Professor of Clinical Occupational Therapy, co-authored an article in the December 20, 2010, issue of *OT Practice* entitled “The AOTA Fieldwork Educator Certificate Program”. Dr. Taguchi Meyer also co-taught four AOTA Fieldwork Educator Certificate courses in California and Hawaii designed to prepare practitioners to become better fieldwork educators.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR TRUDY MALLINSON, Ph.D., OTR/L, NZROT, co-authored a paper published in the September 2010 issue of *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation* entitled “Measurement of Participation: Intersecting Person, Task, and Environment”. The article describes participation as a transaction and the issues involved in measuring and intervening using a transactional approach, describes ecologic and systems-based theoretic approaches for conceptualizing person–task–environment transactions, and illustrates examples of an exploratory strategy called *radar plots* as a potentially useful clinical tool for rehabilitation professionals.

[www.archives-pmr.org](http://www.archives-pmr.org)

Andrena’s nightmare seeped through the whole of her life, and, as she gradually discovered, there was nothing to do but learn how to navigate in it, even learn to make it a new kind of home, a home where she struggled to hope. Hope offered another sort of dream, an intimation of possibility for a better life even in these grim circumstances.”

—Cheryl Mattingly,  
*The Paradox of Hope*

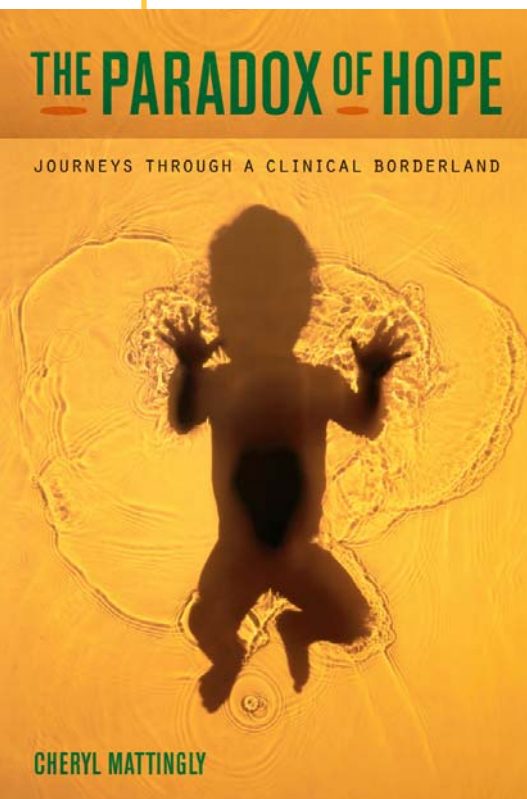
PROFESSOR CHERYL MATTINGLY, Ph.D., who shares a joint appointment with the USC Department of Anthropology, released a book in 2010 entitled “The Paradox of Hope: Journeys Through a Clinical Borderland”. Grounded in intimate moments of the lives of a group of African-American families in a multicultural urban environment, a border zone where race, class and chronic disease intersect, Dr. Mattingly’s book explores the hope that inspires people to create lives worth living, even when no cure is in sight.

[www.ucpress.edu](http://www.ucpress.edu)



USC TROJANS CO-AUTHORED THREE ARTICLES IN THE MARCH/APRIL 2011 ISSUE OF *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*. L. Diane Parham (M.A. '81), Susanne Smith Roley (current clinical doctorate student), Janice P. Burke (M.A. '75) and Zoe Mailloux (M.A. '81, B.S. '77, current clinical doctorate student) co-authored "Development of a Fidelity Measure for Research on the Effectiveness of the Ayres Sensory Integration® Intervention". Zoe Mailloux, Susanne Smith Roley, Associate Professor of Clinical Occupational Therapy Erna Blanche (Ph.D. '98, M.A. '88), Professor Sharon Cermak, Gina Geppert Coleman (M.A. '85) and Adjunct Instructor of Clinical Occupational Therapy Stefanie Bodison (O.T.D. '10, M.A. '94, B.S. '92) co-authored "Verification and Clarification of Patterns of Sensory Integrative Dysfunction". "Psychometric Study of the Occupational Self Assessment With Adolescents After Infectious Mononucleosis" was co-authored by the late Gary Kielhofner (M.A. '75).

[www.aota.org/Pubs/AJOT](http://www.aota.org/Pubs/AJOT)



RESEARCH ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OLGA SOLOMON, Ph.D., authored the article "Sense and the Senses: Anthropology and the Study of Autism", published in the October 2010, issue of the *Annual Review of Anthropology*. Her review examines the field of autism research relevant to anthropology of the senses, and also highlights the contributions that occupational science continues making to the social sciences' empirical construction and understanding of autism.

[anthro.annualreviews.org](http://anthro.annualreviews.org)

USC TROJANS PLAYED KEY LEAD roles in developing the recently published second edition of "Guidelines for Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy in California Public Schools". Division Development Officer Julie Bissell (M.A. '79 and current clinical doctorate student), Zoe Mailloux and Lisa Test (O.T.D. '09, M.A. '89) co-edited the guidelines. Other Trojans involved in the collaborative effort include Valerie Adams (M.A. '90, B.S. '83), Annie Baltazar (O.T.D. '03, M.A. '00), Suzanne Baruch (O.T.D. '08, M.A. '06), Michael Berthelette (Board of Councilors Member), Anahita Daruwalla (M.A. '01), Esther Huecker (Ph.D. '05, M.A. '93), Gina Mirigliani (O.T.D. '05), Patricia Nagaishi (M.A. '80), Regina Tomasulo Ceja (M.A. '98), Brie Weinand (M.A. '02), Nancy Bagatell (Ph.D. '03, M.A. '94), USC Senior Lecturer James Brecher, Claudell Gapultos (M.A. '01), Alice Kibele (Ph.D. '06), Shawn Phipps (B.S. '97 and Board of Councilors Member) and Olivia Raynor (M.A. '83).

[www.cde.ca.gov/sp/sel/sr/documents/ot-ptgdlns.pdf](http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/sel/sr/documents/ot-ptgdlns.pdf)

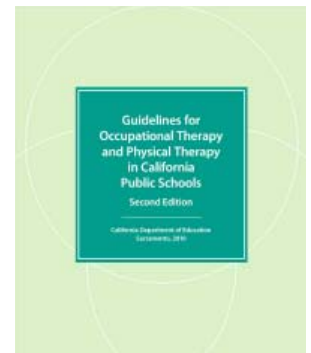


Photo ©Boone Fetter Clinic, CHLA

PROFESSOR SHARON CERMAK, Ph.D., OTR, FAOTA, offered her expert insight into "Food Selectivity and Sensory Sensitivity in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders" in the Winter 2011 *The Developing Mind*, the Newsletter of the Boone Fetter Clinic at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. In the article Dr. Cermak explains her review of research on 'picky eating' and children with autism spectrum disorders.

[www.chla.org](http://www.chla.org)







**HEN FLORENCE CLARK PICKS A METAPHOR TO DESCRIBE**  
today's state of occupational therapy, she means it.

In her 2010 Inaugural Address as the 28th President of the American Occupational Therapy Association, Dr. Clark, Associate Dean and Professor at the USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, unveiled what she has since been calling Occupational Therapy in High Definition—'OT in HD'. It is a metaphor for a vision of the future of occupational therapy that, like a high-definition television screen, is contrasting and vibrant enough to form a cohesive wide-screen picture, but clear and sharp enough to zoom in to appreciate the individual details. Just as the resolution of an HDTV increases as many pixels move together in unison, so too, she believes, will the power and visibility of occupational therapy grow as individual occupational therapy practitioners begin embracing their own 'pixel power'.

The metaphor of OT in HD, and the concept of occupational therapists exercising their own 'pixel power', has taken the occupational therapy profession by storm during the past year. This includes the many unique ways in which USC Trojan occupational therapists—innovative professionals, inspiring leaders, expert professors and driven students alike—are using their own pixel power to push the profession toward the 2017 Centennial Vision.

Meet these following seven powerful Trojan pixels, hear their own stories in their own words, and consider how you too can unleash the power.



## TERRI CHEW NISHIMURA

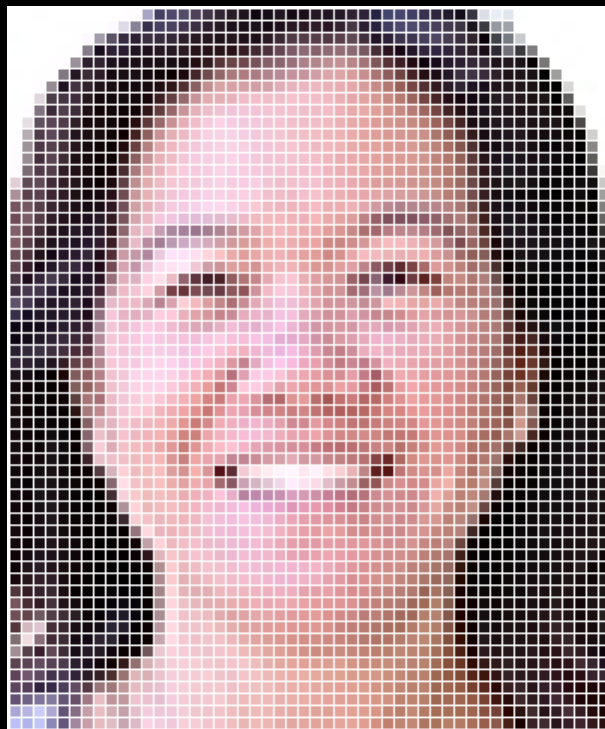
M.A.('85), OTR/L, is moving occupational therapy into high definition through her dedication to civic participation

I was a pre-med student at U.C. Davis and then was pre-Physical Therapy. My degree is in Human Development and I needed to do an internship for one of my courses, and because Easter Seals in Sacramento did not have any PT internships available, they offered me a spot in the OT department. I was desperate, so I took it. The OTs were using a sensory integration approach. My comment was "you get paid to play with kids? That's what I'm going to do!" After that, I changed my career choice to OT.

Once I chose to pursue OT as a profession, the icing on the cake for me was being able to take USC OT610 and train under Dr. A. Jean Ayres. She was amazingly brilliant and would also go down the scooter board ramp with the kids up until she passed away. She was a researcher and therapist but she was also my role model and mentor.

We all have strengths and weaknesses, and my strength is meeting and connecting with people and creating fun and memorable experiences. 25 years ago, OT wasn't much of a recognizable or understandable profession. Dr. Ayres especially did not always receive the support and recognition for her pioneering work in sensory integration. I would say my individual pixel is to go out to groups that are unaware of occupational therapy and to infuse OT into what they are doing. These

## Terri Chew Nishimura



My pixel is to go out to groups that are unaware of occupational therapy and infuse OT into what they are doing."

unique worlds have included the business community (Chamber of Commerce), public policy community (in my role as Commissioner on L.A. County's Policy Roundtable for Child Care), and legislative community (by hosting meet-and-greets and fundraising for candidates, and approaching local elected officials to serve on our Honorary Advisory Board).

In 2017, occupational therapy will be a powerful and widely-recognized profession, through policy, advocacy and innovative, outside-the-box thinking. My love and passion are sensory integration, and thinking about ways to use these concepts in a variety of ways, including direct impact in early care and education, school furniture, toy design and even greater diffusion into public policy.

I was just appointed by the City of Torrance to serve on the city's Centennial committee to plan the yearlong celebration, and I have already seen how this can be an opportunity for therapists to work closely with city community leaders. In 2017, I see myself being even more involved in direct legislative activities. Occupational therapists need to know who the decision makers are, and make sure that we are sitting at the same table!

*Read more about Terri's recent award as a Los Angeles County Woman of the Year on page 24.*



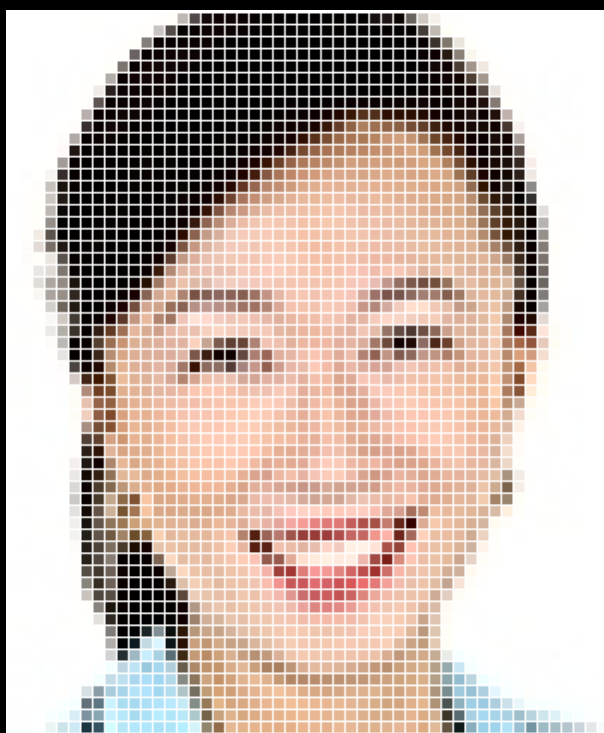
**GRACE HO** M.P.H., M.A.('82), B.S.('81), OTR/L, is pushing occupational therapy into high definition by encouraging practitioners to pursue and enter non-traditional power circles

In 1985, as a fresh graduate from the USC Occupational Therapy Master's program and the UCLA Master's of Public Health program, and a new occupational therapist practicing in the L.A. area, my father back in Japan was diagnosed with cancer. It was devastating. Of course, I needed to fly back to Japan ASAP to tend to him after surgery. But when I was denied a leave of absence from my hospital OT position, I quit my job right away and flew back to my native home. I spent many months in Japan with family, though when I finally returned to the states to re-enter OT practice, I had a difficult time finding an employer wanting to take a novice practitioner who had been out of practice for many months.

So I began exploring jobs outside of the health care world. Being bilingual in English and Japanese, I believed my language skills could be put to good use somewhere. Soon thereafter, I secured a position as an executive assistant to the President of a Fortune 500 Company! Ever since, I have always worked with C-level executives and government dignitaries. Not exactly my original vision for my career in hospital-based stroke rehabilitation!

In the decades since, I've built upon my different personal and career experiences, and have found exciting ways to bring occupational therapy

into the business world, and vice versa. I am a successful life coach and author, and am always looking for ways to incorporate OT concepts like balance and wellness with Eastern ideas, like Feng Shui. I am looking forward to helping fulfill the "globally connected and diverse profession" dimension of the Centennial Vision.



*Grace Ho has published 7 books in Japan, 1 book in Korea, and in January 2011, released her first book in English in the U.S. entitled "One Minute Feng Shui for Prosperity". The book has already reached the #2 spot on Amazon.com's Kindle Reader "Global Marketing" category bestseller list, and secured the #1 spots on Japanese Amazon.com.jp bestseller lists in the "Business/Investment" and "Nonfiction/Economy" categories.*

## Grace Ho



becoming an international best-selling Business/Self-help author and motivational speaker, I have found a unique way to bring OT to the business world."

**SHAWN PHIPPS** Ph.D. (Cand.), M.S., B.S.('97), OTR/L, FAOTA, is spearheading occupational therapy's presence in California's health care marketplace

## Shawn Phipps

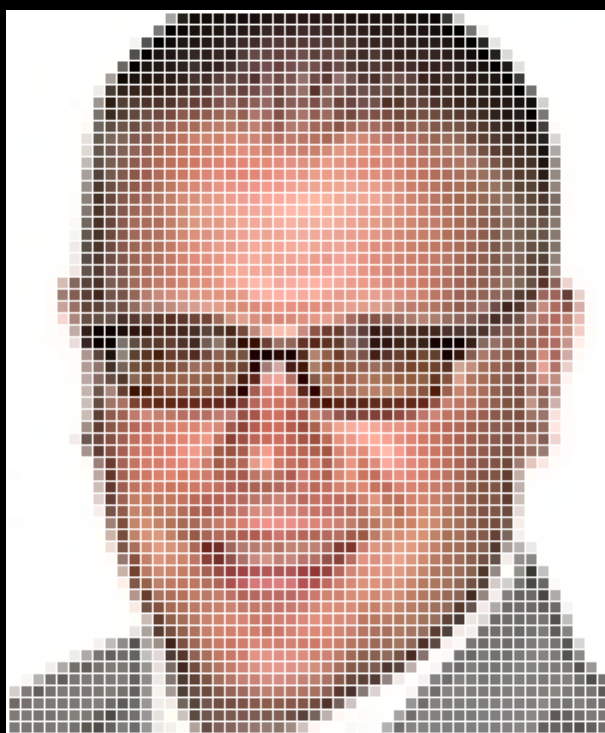
After graduating from USC with my Bachelor's degree, I had the pleasure of beginning my occupational therapy career at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center. There I had the unique opportunity to work with the most amazing patients, families and therapists, across the continuum of care, for over a decade. It was at Rancho that I learned to always strive for excellence in my clinical practice with survivors of traumatic brain injury, stroke, spinal cord injury and other neurological conditions.

I later had the opportunity to strive for excellence in my professional leadership skills in clinical and administrative supervision. These experiences and my own desire for continuous improvement prepared me for my current role as Regional Manager for California Children's Services Medical Therapy Program in the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.

It was early in my career at Rancho that I also discovered my passion for teaching and service to the profession. Experiences there inspired me to commit to serving on the Board of Directors of the Occupational Therapy Association of California for ten years, prior to serving as the

current President of OTAC, now in my second consecutive term of office, through 2012.

Being a powerful pixel, to me, means the bar for success is set very high. I have always pushed myself to the highest level of performance as possible, whether as a clinician or a leader. Realizing the AOTA Centennial Vision will depend on ensuring that occupational therapy secures a more powerful and widely recognized place in the health care marketplace. My OTAC presidency has primarily focused on creating opportunities for occupational therapists to achieve power in legislative arenas and ensure that the care we provide our clients gets its due recognition.



I cannot believe that we are only six years away from 2017 and the celebration of our profession's 100th birthday! I hope that my individual 'pixel' will contribute to our collective realization of this vision. I am looking forward to leading, inspiring and promoting the spirit of excellence that has been so important in my professional life. And then, in 2018, we can create an even bolder vision for the future of occupational therapy in the next 100 years!

## The

most important part of leadership is inspiring others to also be a part of the movement, so really, my 'pixel' is inseparable from the collective team I have surrounded myself with."

## JOHN MARGETIS

B.A.('10), OTS, has the personal investment and leadership skills necessary for building a high-definition profession

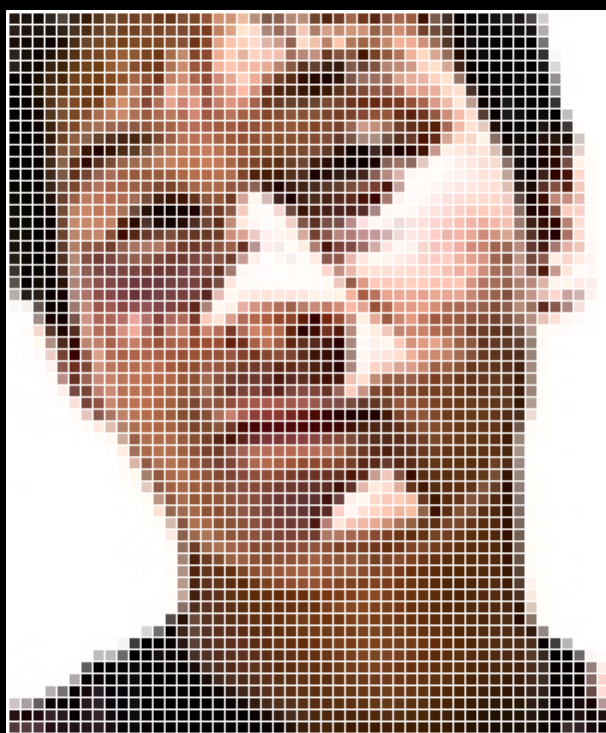
I was first introduced to occupational therapy as a young child at the Child Amputee and Prosthetic Project (CAPP) at Shriner's Hospital for Children, in Los Angeles. I was born in Taiwan with bilateral partial amputations of both hands and both feet, so as soon as I came to L.A., I was fitted with prosthetics. I worked with two fantastic occupational therapists over many years, and they helped me to develop the skills to function independently, whether that means using my prosthetics or not.

It's a little ironic, but despite being a client of OT for years, I did not choose to pursue an education and career in OT until very late in my undergraduate years. During my final undergrad semester at USC, when I was wrapping up an honors thesis in sociology, I enrolled in one of Dr. Kate Crowley's occupational science minor courses. After only two weeks in that class, I realized I had stumbled into exactly what I had been looking for all along! I quickly dropped out of the minor course to enroll in the Bachelor's-to-Master's progressive program.

In building a powerful profession, I think my unique personal experiences



early and prolonged exposure to occupational therapy has given me a deep personal investment in, and gratitude for, the profession.”



John  
Margetis

as a consumer of occupational therapy, as well as the leadership skills that I have had the chance to develop here at USC, will make my 'pixel' shine brightly. I have a deep personal investment, mixed with gratitude, that has made me willing to seek out leadership roles. I want to not only promote and develop my skills as a clinician, but also to promote the entire profession as we get near the 100th birthday!



**CARLY ROGERS** M.A.('04), OTR/L, is leveraging her own occupational interests to develop innovative programming for a very deserving population

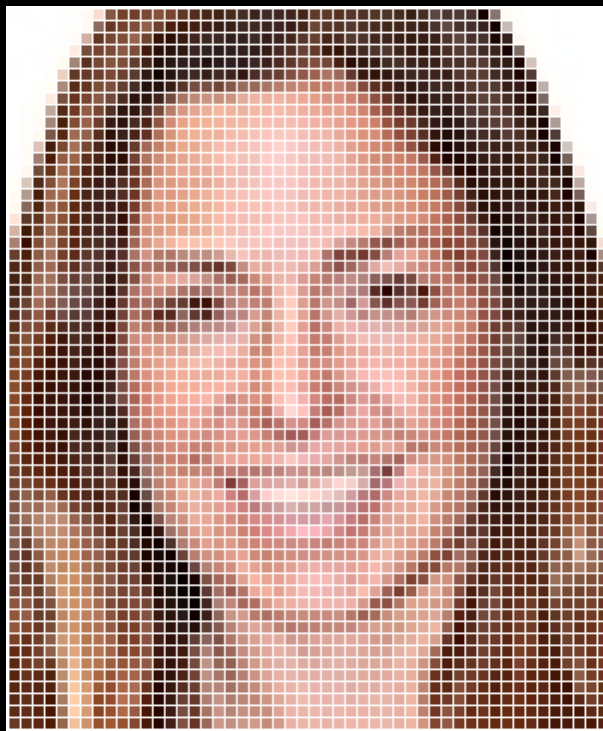
As a student in the professional program at USC, I developed the Ocean Therapy program for our community-based programming course. I have been a Los Angeles County Lifeguard since 1994 and been a Certified Emergency Medical Technician since 1999, so developing a program that combined my love for the water with purposeful therapeutic outcomes was a natural fit. The Ocean Therapy program is designed to facilitate improved self-esteem and self-efficacy in individuals with disabilities through the adapted sport of surfing.

After graduating from USC with my Master's degree, I began working at Pediatric Therapy Network in Torrance. That very same month, a long-time friend and fellow L.A. County Ocean Lifeguard, Jimmy Miller, passed away. Two months later, Jimmy's younger brother Jeff Miller approached me about the Ocean Therapy program I had created at USC. After several months of planning, I ran the first Ocean Therapy session with the newly-formed Jimmy Miller Memorial Foundation. In June 2005, we ran a total of 5 Ocean Therapy sessions, and in 2006, we added two more youth groups for a total of 12 therapy sessions.

In 2006, the JMMF got to talking



pixel is being able to combine my personal life passion of surfing and ocean-related sports into a therapeutic intervention that supports the healing of the very individuals it serves.”



**Carly  
Rogers**

*Carly Rogers is also currently a student in the USC clinical doctorate of occupational therapy program.*

about bringing the Ocean Therapy program to Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton to surf with injured and rehabilitating Armed Forces personnel. It took an entire year to negotiate, but we finally had our first Ocean Therapy session in October 2007 at Camp Pendleton. It was such an amazing experience to watch the Wounded Warriors get in the water! And in 2009, we began running another program with the West Los Angeles Veterans Administration Domiciliary. My student-developed project is now a year round program at Camp Pendleton!

My pixel power is going to be dedicated to increasing the power and visibility of occupational therapy and occupation-based programs in military health care. The more I continue working with this population, the more I want occupational therapy to become undeniably recognized as a fundamental intervention in mental health services for combat veterans. Roles, habits, and routines are all aspects of occupational engagement that are impacted by combat and pose fundamental challenges to successfully transitioning back to civilian life.

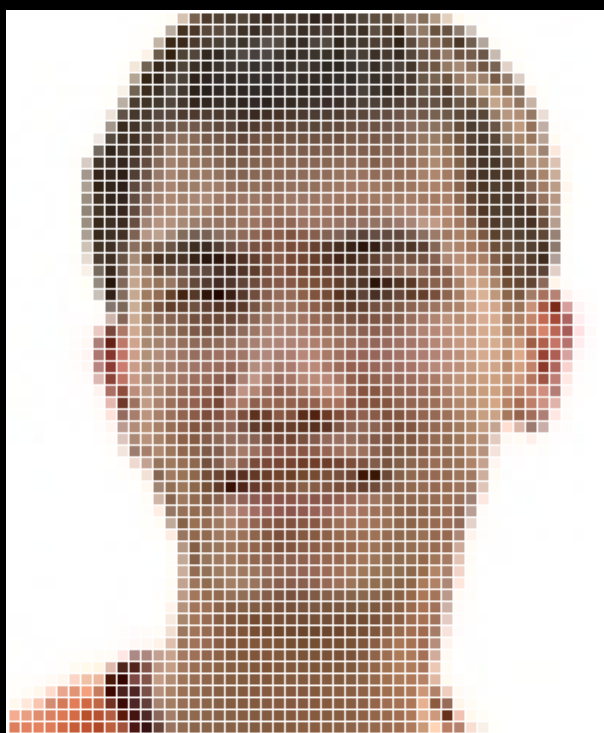
**BILL WONG** B.S., OTS, is bringing his unique perspectives and non-stop enthusiasm to expand future horizons of occupational therapy

I was born in Hong Kong, and came to the U.S. in 1996. I finished my Bachelor's degree in Statistics in 2007. But I struggled to find work for a year after graduating, and my mom, who is a school community coordinator and had interacted with school-based OTs, actually suggested occupational therapy might be a good field for me to consider.

But my academic career started a bit rocky. Just before summer session classes began, I was diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome. It was tough for me because I did not have any time to cope while trying to handle the workload of graduate school. Also, because autism in general is an almost unheard of diagnosis for people aspiring to work in occupational therapy, I had a few doubts about whether I could become a licensed OT.

But over the last few years, I have literally had a 180-degree turn in my viewpoint on how I see individuals with disabilities. I now possess a unique perspective in OT regarding autism. A lot of people in OT have formed their perspectives on autism from being a friend, family member, colleague, or clinician. However, not only am I able to use

Bill Wong



what I learned in class to help the autism community as a practitioner, but I also see myself being able to relay the messages I hear from within the autism community back to OT students and practitioners. After all, during the process of learning about my diagnosis, I found that some consumers with autism might either be comfortable in being alone, or making friends with other consumers. I have become a bright and vibrant pixel in the fact that I can be a facilitator between autism consumers and occupational therapy students and practitioners.

Because

I now realize I have a unique viewpoint on the subject, and have become a bridge for consumers with autism and OT students and practitioners.”

# When

- I first went to Ghana, West Africa, in 2003, it
  - was in my role as a seating specialist to help
  - distribute wheelchairs to people with disabilities.
- However, I soon discovered that the greatest barrier is not physical access, but social access.”

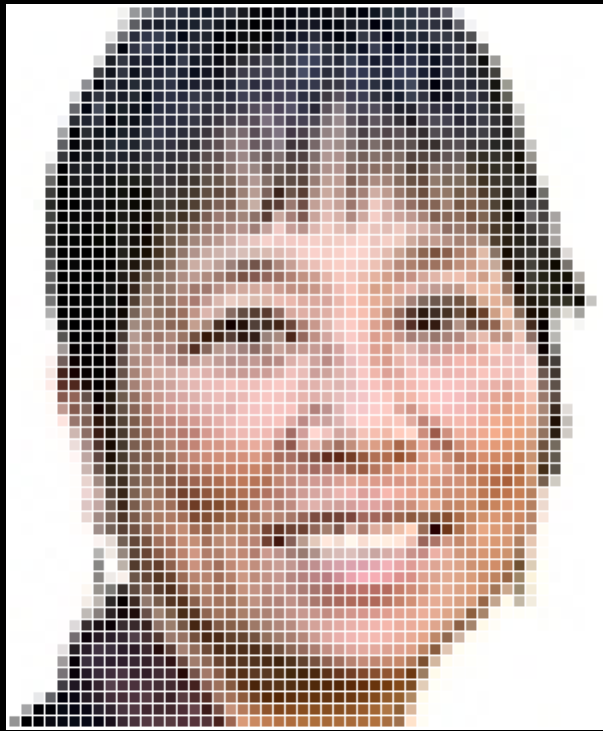
## BONNIE NAKASUJI

O.T.D.(‘08), M.A.(‘04), B.S.(‘73),  
OTR/L, is going global to ensure that  
occupational therapy is  
internationally represented

Growing up, the career choices for women were secretaries, teachers and nurses. But when I found this “medical field” that focused on helping people recover using arts and crafts, and then moved out to California from New Jersey to take the Introduction to Occupational Therapy class at Los Angeles City College’s Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant program, I had fallen in love.

I first went to Ghana as part of an evangelical program to help those in need for specialized mobility equipment. But I soon discovered that in Africa, people with disabilities are considered cursed, are disowned by their families, and children with disabilities are often left alone out in the bush to die.

In 2004, construction work began on a boarding school for children with disabilities, funded by a 75-year old American woman with cerebral palsy who was heartbroken knowing that Ghanaian children would not be educated in a society that shuns disability. When the school opened in 2005, I soon arrived with 10 USC occupational therapy students for Level I Fieldwork Education. In March 2011, the seventh team of USC occupational therapy students and I went to



## Bonnie Nakasuji

Ghana to serve the 39 children who now attend the school. Because there are no occupational therapists currently practicing in the entire country of Ghana, this annual trip has become very important not only to the school, but to the local community and families who need therapy consultation or specialized equipment.

I see my ‘pixel’ becoming brighter through the process of learning how to self-reflect about my own assumptions, perceptions and biases in an effort to become increasingly culturally sensitive and culturally contextual in my work in Ghana.

One of my goals for the USC students who come to Ghana for Fieldwork is that they not only return back home with pediatric therapy skills, but more importantly, they learn the essential skills of self-reflection needed to embrace every future person with whom they will work with the fullest cultural sensitivity, and an openness to listening and partnering with their ‘patients’.







# Welcome Home.

For over 100 years, the Widney Alumni House has been a symbol of the world-renowned Trojan Family. The Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy Alumni Association warmly welcomes the graduates of the Class of 2011 as the newest members of the Trojan Family.

Learn more at [www.usc.edu/ot/alumni](http://www.usc.edu/ot/alumni)

Photo by Philip Channing



## OT-PT FORUM HONORS TEAMWORK

In a forum organized by students from the USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy and USC Division of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy, students, faculty and clinicians gathered in Mayer Auditorium on February 17th to discuss each professions' roles in varied health care settings.

Florence Clark, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, USC Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy Associate Dean and Professor, and current President of the American Occupational Therapy Association, opened the forum by highlighting ways in which the upcoming health care reform regulations will require collegiality among all professions comprising health care teams.

Clark also urged students to consider the ways that future expansion of Medi-Cal coverage will increase demand for health care services by underinsured populations in neighborhoods adjacent to the USC campuses.

Cheryl Resnik, PT, DPT, USC Division of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy Assistant Professor and Associate Chair, and immediate past president of the California Physical Therapy Association, then delivered a speech highlighting the potential synergies between occupational therapy and physical therapy.

"While there are some issues where it looks like PT and OT are on opposite sides of the fence, there are so many other issues where we must band together for the good of our professions," she said.

After the keynote addresses, four occupational therapist-physical therapist clinical teams presented case studies to illustrate the unique yet complementary roles each profession plays in the treatment progression of patients. Each pair represented a different practice discipline, including pain management, pediatrics, acute care, and clinical research.

The teams also discussed the ways in which workplace professional boundaries can be simultaneously distinct and ambiguous, and emphasized the importance of inter-professional collaboration for enhancing care quality and patient outcomes.

Carissa Villanueva, occupational therapy M.A. student and co-organizer of the forum, said that initiating more communication between students of these two renowned USC divisions is the first step toward organizing future events.

Villanueva said she "hopes students could see how occupational therapy and physical therapy ideally work together in order to form more powerful clinical teams and how that ultimately benefits our patients."

*—Amanda Aaron and Vivian Tang are current Master's program students*

## SQUEEZING MORE INTO A BUSY DAY

While many people harbor a secret hope to magically stretch their daily schedules to fit in more exercise, reading or even napping, occupational therapist Camille Dieterle (O.T.D. '08, M.A. '07), has ideas for making such wishes come true.

At a recent Women in Management breakfast led by Dieterle, Director of the USC Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice, a group of USC staff and faculty members learned strategies for incorporating more of their favorite activities in their busy lives.

"Our culture is really good at pushing us to be 'on' all the time," Dieterle said. But in order to be even more productive, individuals actually need to take more breaks and include daily activities that energize them, she explained. "Having a sense of control about how we spend our time can lower stress levels."

Different individuals find different activities restorative or depleting, and it is up to each person to identify how certain activities affect them, Dieterle said. Since everyone occasionally must do things they might find draining, she encouraged participants to schedule restorative activities on their calendars and planners.

Workshop participants offered examples of small things they do in order to stay engaged, including walking around the block, talking with a colleague and the all-important act of eating chocolate. Others suggested longer, after-work breaks such as receiving a massage, going to Disneyland or "watching a movie my kids don't like," as one participant said.

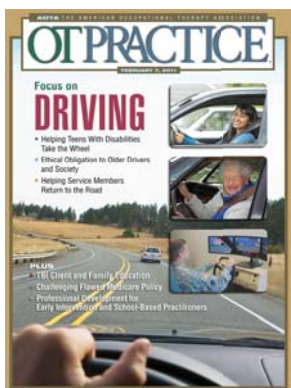
The workshop also focused on multitasking. Dieterle cited research studies that show how the growing volume of media competing for our attention can create symptoms that mimic ADD, even in individuals who do not have the disorder. One study from the University of London showed that workers distracted by e-mail and phone calls suffered a drop in IQ more than twice that of marijuana smokers.

"The multitasking information is alarming," said Women in Management member Ginger Mayerson. Though it was Mayerson's day off, she attended the breakfast because she wanted to learn more about time management skills. "I need to reevaluate how I spend my time," she said.

Another time management concept addressed by Dieterle is time deepening, an alternative to multitasking. Time deepening refers to simultaneously performing two or more activities that do not compete for the same kind of cognitive attention such as driving while listening to books on tape. Time deepening is one of the ways that a person's mind can relax. We need "space to wander in our mind in order to develop new and often better ideas," Dieterle said.

Participants offered their own *continued on page 23*





## Reminder: We're Looking for a Few Good Videos

Inspired by a video created by University of Southern California occupational therapy students ([www.youtube.com/watch?v=4lhX728vrJY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4lhX728vrJY)), AOTA

1 sponsoring a contest for



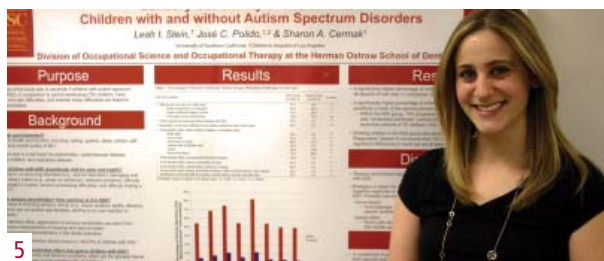
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8

1 The February 7, 2011, edition of OT Practice announced the AOTA nationwide student video contest that was initially sparked by a YouTube video created by several current MA-II students 2 From left to right, Associate Professor Ann Neville-Jan, Associate Professor of Clinical Occupational Therapy Erna Blanche and Assistant Professor of Clinical Occupational Therapy Julie McLaughlin Gray proceed across Alumni Park dressed in full academic regalia during the Inauguration ceremonies of 11th USC President Max Nikias 3 Elizabeth Skidmore, Assistant Professor at the University of Pittsburgh, lectures at the 4th annual Occupational Extravaganza 4 Camille Dieterle, Director of the USC Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice and Assistant Professor of Clinical Occupational Therapy, on the cover of the February 2011, edition of News-Line for Occupational Therapists & COTAs 5 Current Occupational Science Ph.D. student Leah Stein presents her research poster during the Division's Research Day in March 6 Associate Dean and Professor Florence Clark addresses a full Mayer Auditorium about her vision for occupational therapy in the coming decade of health care reform, during February's OT-PT Forum, organized by students 7 Interveners on the Pressure Ulcer Prevention in Spinal Cord Injury research program, Celso Delgado and Jane Baumgarten, at the Occupational Extravaganza 8 USC University Hospital clinical faculty occupational therapist Whitney Pike, center, listens to a student question at the OT-PT Forum





# University of Southern California Alumni, Faculty and Students presenting and co-presenting

at the

American Occupational Therapy Association 91<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

## Wednesday, April 13

Janice Burke

Teaching in High Definition

## Thursday, April 14

Michele Berro; Lisa Deshaies  
Esther Lopez; Rebecca Curry;  
Stephanie Hayes  
Kaitlin Smith; Yao Leung  
Nancy Bagatell  
Leah Stein  
Elizabeth Pyatak  
Mary Khetani; Pamela Roberts  
Camille Dieterle; Susan McNulty  
Michael McNulty; Katie Jordan  
Pam Roberts

Integrating Outcomes in Practice: Outcome Data From the *Canadian Occupational Performance Measure 2007-2010*  
Community-Based Mental Health Practice: The OT Student Experience

Pollie Price  
Tammy Richmond  
Zoe Mailloux; Erna Blanche;  
Susanne Smith Roley  
John White  
Diane Kellegrew; Zoe Mailloux  
Doris Pierce  
Julie Gray

Give Yourself Permission: Building Competence and Confidence of a Profession to Address Sexuality  
Engaged Moments: Mediated Action and Autism  
The Relationship Between Sensory Sensitivities and Oral Care in Children With Autism Spectrum Disorders  
Diabetes Care and Occupations of Young Adulthood: Remediating Tensions and Enabling Participation  
A Practical Guide To Exploring Options for Doctoral Education  
Lifestyle Redesign<sup>®</sup> Approach to Chronic Pain Management  
Issues in Evidence-Based Management of Healthcare Services  
Occupational Therapy's Key Role in the Interdisciplinary Team Approach To Improving Patient Outcomes Through Use of a Medical Passport  
EDSIS Faculty Subsection Annual Program: Swimming With Sharks – Success in Getting Promoted and Tenured  
AMSIS Annual Program: Marketing Health, Wellness, and Specialty Interventions Under Health Care Reform  
DDIS Annual Program: Evidence-Based Sensory Strategies and Assistive Technology Interventions for Addressing Occupational Participation Needs of People With Autism  
So TL: Pathway to Evidence-Based Education  
Evidence-Based Literature Review on Occupational Therapy and Early Intervention/Early Childhood  
Are you Ready To Provide Secondary Transition Services?  
Stroke Rehabilitation and Recovery in High Definition: Suggestions for Occupational Therapy Based on a Longitudinal Study of a Survivor's Experience

## Friday, April 15

Florence Clark  
Noomi Katz  
Ann Baltazar Mori; Gina Geppert Coleman  
Whitney Pike; Tiffany Shuster  
Chantelle Rice; Camille Dieterle;  
Karen McNulty; Susan McNulty  
Aaron Eakman  
Linda Tickle-Degnen  
Susan McNulty  
Esther Huecker  
Chantelle Rice; Camille Dieterle  
Lori Breeden  
Noomi Katz  
Chang-Chih Kuo

High Definition Occupational Therapy's Competitive Edge: Taking It to the Health Care Reform Playing Field  
Factors Contributing to Participation of Adults Following Mild Stroke  
Building an Effective Inter-Agency Model of Collaboration To Provide Comprehensive Early Intervention Services  
OT in OT: Occupational Therapy in Organ Transplantation  
Lifestyle Redesign<sup>®</sup>: Current Application in an Outpatient Clinic

Doris Pierce  
Jeanne Jackson; Erna Blanche  
Erna Blanche; Megan Chang; Diane Parham  
Ann McDonald  
Mary Khetani  
Zoe Mailloux  
Ruth Segal  
Nancy Bagatell  
Shawn Phipps; Pamela Roberts  
Susanne Smith Roley; Stefanie Bodison

The Engagement in Meaningful Activities Survey: How a Measure of Meaning Can Inform Occupational Therapy Practice  
Gender Differences in Older Adult Role Participation  
Lifestyle Redesign<sup>®</sup> for Chronic Headaches  
Development of Therapeutic Listening<sup>®</sup> for Children With Sensory Processing Disorders Living in Taiwan  
Occupational Therapy and Type II Diabetes Prevention and Management: OT's Role in This International Health Concern  
Comparing the Responsiveness of the COPM and AMPAC in Stroke Survivors With Spasticity  
Contribution of Mediation to the Potential of Learning and Change of Clients Following Stroke: Implications for Intervention  
The Relationship of Expectation and Satisfaction of Filial Piety With Stroke-Related Outcomes of Chinese Older Adults in Stroke Rehabilitation  
A National Pilot Study of Exemplary Transition Services to Adolescents  
A Cultural Adaptation of the Well Elderly Intervention for Spanish-Speaking Older Adults  
Development of an Adult Sensory Processing Questionnaire  
The Assessment of Play in 7-11 Year Old Children  
Families Transitioning From Part C Early Intervention Services  
A Randomized Trial of the Effectiveness of OT To Address Maladaptive Sensory Behaviors in Children With Autism  
Shifting in Paradigm: Moving from a Deficit-Based to a Strengths-Based View of Individuals With Autism Spectrum Disorder  
Constructing Daily Lives: The Experiences of Families With Adolescents With Autism  
The Effect of Cerebral Palsy on Self-Care, Mobility, and Social Function  
EISSIS and SISIS Joint Annual Programs: Using Sensory-Based Occupational Therapy Interventions Across Settings

## Saturday, April 16

Elizabeth Carley  
Katie Jordan; Camille Dieterle; Whitney Pike  
Aaron Eakman  
Ruth Sun  
Esther Huecker  
Vivian Yip  
Jess Holguin  
Zoe Mailloux; Sharon Cermak;  
Susanne Smith Roley; Gina Geppert Coleman  
Katie Jordan; Kathleen Gross;  
Camille Dieterle  
Tammy Richmond

Aggression Reduction for Adolescents: An Interdisciplinary Approach  
Pike Lifestyle Redesign<sup>®</sup> in an Acute Care Environment: Clinical Outcomes and Lessons Learned in a Case-Study Format  
Meaningful Activity Participation Supports Life Meaning and Life Satisfaction: Applying a Meta-Model of Meaning in Life  
Food Fitness: Healthier Eating for a Healthier Lifestyle for At-Risk Youth  
Occupational Therapy Orientation for Medical Students  
Life Stories of Individuals With Unilateral Congenital Below Elbow Deficiency Who Wear a Prosthesis: A Qualitative Study  
Activity Engagement and Older Adults: Links to Ethnicity, Life Satisfaction, Depression, and Subjective Well-Being  
Sensory Integration Patterns in Children With Hearing Loss and Hearing Function in Children With Developmental Delays  
Occupational Therapy Practice in an Academic Medical Center Environment: Concurrently Defining Our Work and Pushing the Boundaries  
Clinical Application of Telerehabilitation in Occupational Therapy

## Sunday, April 17

Nancy Bagatell; Pollie Price  
Mary Lawlor; Cherly Mattingly;  
Olga Solomon; Melissa Park;  
Kim Wilkinson; Esther Huecker; Aaron Bonsall

Disciplinary Intersections of Medical Anthropology, Occupational Therapy and Science, Disability Studies, and Public Health  
Qualitative Approaches To Studying Human Action in Context



USC Occupational Therapy team at the Los Angeles Multiple Sclerosis Walk.



Current student Jess Holguin cradles the newest member of the Trojan Family, newborn son Garvey Holguin. Garvey entered the world on March 12, 2011, weighing 8 lbs. 9 oz. Congratulations Holguin Family!

Current O.T.D. student Michelle Farmer (M.A. '10), OTR/L, delivered one of the keynote presentations "Moving Forward with Healthcare Reform: Don't Get Left Behind!" at the 9th annual OTAC Practice Issues Forum, on March 17th at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. The presentation educated occupational therapy practitioners on the potential opportunities afforded within recent health care reform legislation. Also discussed were actions California is taking to comply with implementation of the legislation and the steps practitioners can take to engage in the process.

Half-Century Trojan Claire B. Kopp (M.A. '61, B.S. '55), whose career has primarily focused on developmental psychology, authored the article "Development in the Early Years: Socialization, Motor Development, and Consciousness", published in the January 2011 issue of the *Annual Review of Psychology*. Fight On!

Trojans seemed to be everywhere at R2K, the annual research symposium hosted by Pediatric Therapy Network, in late February. Trojan presenters included Assistant Professor Lisa Aziz-Zadeh; Adjunct Instructor of Clinical Occupational Therapy Stefanie Bodison (O.T.D. '10, M.A. '94, B.S. '92); Professor Sharon Cermak; Zoe Mailloux (M.A. '81, B.S. '77, and current O.T.D. student); L. Diane Parham (M.A. '81); and Susanne Smith Roley (current O.T.D. student).

Mental health expert Peggy Swarbrick, Ph.D., OTR, CPRP, Director of the Collaborative Support Programs of the New Jersey Institute for Wellness and Recovery Initiatives, visited USC this spring to talk with students about Consumer Operated Services in community mental health. Dr. Swarbrick also met with faculty, students and local mental health OTs to discuss Wellness and Recovery in mental health. Dr. Swarbrick has received the UPRA Carol T. Mowbray Early Career Research Award.

Congratulations to Doris Pierce (Ph.D. '96, M.A. '88), OTR/L, FAOTA, Endowed Chair in Occupational Therapy at Eastern Kentucky University's Department of Occupational Therapy, on her recent selection by the Society for the Study of Occupation: USA to deliver the 10th annual Ruth Zemke Lecture in Occupational Science.

Alumni Claudell Gapultos (M.A. '01) and Desiree Go (M.A. '02, B.S. '01,) were married last August in Westlake Village, CA.

*continued from page 20*  
ideas for creating more focused time for themselves and ways to have a more healthy relationship with time. Suggestions included leaving the phone off for a period of time or only answering e-mails during certain parts of the day.

"I have a little list of things I need to unlearn, such as doing too many things at once," Women in Management member Stacy Patterson said. "Now I feel empowered to do things differently."

—Laura Stursa is the Division's Graduate Student Advisor and member of Women In Management



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## ALUMNA IS A L.A. COUNTY WOMAN OF THE YEAR

On March 14, 2011, Terri Chew Nishimura, M.A. ('85), OTR/L, was honored by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the Commission for Women as one of a handful of Los Angeles County "Women of the Year". The 26th annual Women of the Year Luncheon was hosted by Emmy Award-winning journalist Asha Dusbabek at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles.

Executive Director of Policy and Community Affairs for Pediatric Therapy Network, a private pediatric therapy clinic in Torrance, Ms. Nishimura was presented with the award before nearly 600 civic leaders and professionals gathered from across Los Angeles County.

As well as being a licensed occupational therapist and director at a non-profit children's therapy center, Ms. Nishimura has served on a variety of public commissions, boards, and committees. She currently is the chairperson of the Los Angeles County Policy Roundtable for Child Care Commission, the official county body on all matters relating to child care.

Ms. Nishimura was also recently appointed by the City of Torrance to serve on the Torrance Centennial Committee, a committee established by the Torrance City Council to spearhead plans for a yearlong, city-wide celebration of the city's 100-year anniversary in 2012.

Congratulations Terri, and Fight On!

*Read the full press release of the event at <http://bos.lacounty.gov/categories/commissions/laccw/Awards2-v02-26.htm> and learn more about Terri's pixel power on page 12*



**1** Terri Chew Nishimura and family at the 26th Annual Women of the Year Luncheon hosted at the downtown Los Angeles Millenium Biltmore Hotel **2** Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors 4th District Supervisor Don Knabe with alum Terri Chew Nishimura **3** Terri onstage with Supervisor Knabe



When I describe Pediatric Therapy Network, I borrow the slogan from the National Basketball Association, and say it's "where amazing happens"



# In Memoriam

The Sunday, June 10, 1945, edition of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer ran a special feature chronicling "Women in Wartime". The first photograph on the first page showed smiling Ensign Elizabeth Jane Schrack (B.S. '44) overseeing the leatherwork of a Reserve Marine rehabilitating at U.S. Navy Hospital, Seattle. One of the earliest graduates of the USC Department of Occupational Therapy, Elizabeth (Schrack) Johnson was extraordinarily proud of her profession and university. She was a lifelong friend of classmate Ernestine Estis (B.S. '44, M.S. '52) and maintained correspondence through the decades with her cherished instructor Dr. Margaret Rood. Elizabeth passed away in February, in San Diego, at 87.

*Submitted by son Ronn Rohe*

## The Smart Set ... WOMEN IN WARTIME ...



● THE URGENT NEED for Hospital Corps WAVES in the U. S. Navy is emphasized today by this series of pictures taken at the U. S. Naval Hospital, Seattle. Pfc. John W. Hoppe, U. S. M. C. R., finds interesting work fashioning leather play shoes to strengthen his arm muscles wounded on Guam. Ens. Elizabeth Jane Schrack of Alhambra, Calif., is his specially trained instructress.

— (Post-Intelligencer Photo.)

## Seattle Post-Intelligencer



● IN THE DENTAL X-RAY department technicians receive instruction from senior dental officer. The williamson of Spokane, V-12 student in Washington. The students are (left to right) Gloria Henkelman and Lyda at the Naval Hospital.

Engagement





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Closeup look at one of the new  
honors donor panels installed  
in CHP. See a wider view of the  
refreshed hallway on pages 4–5

*Photo by Michael McNulty*

# VISION

*We envision the Division of Occupational Science  
and Occupational Therapy as a hub of innovation  
and research where we study participation in  
the "occupation"*