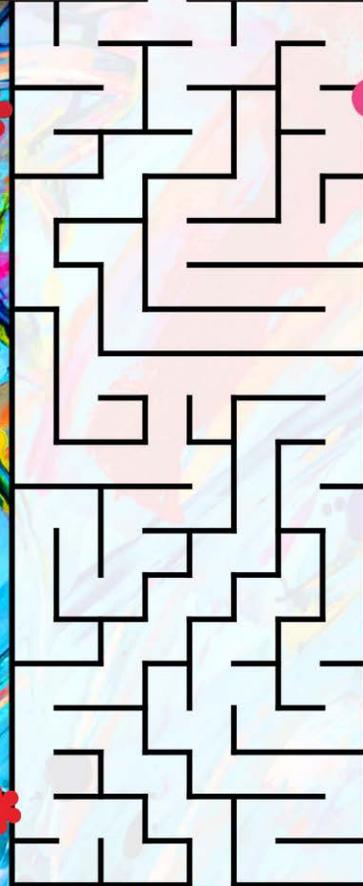
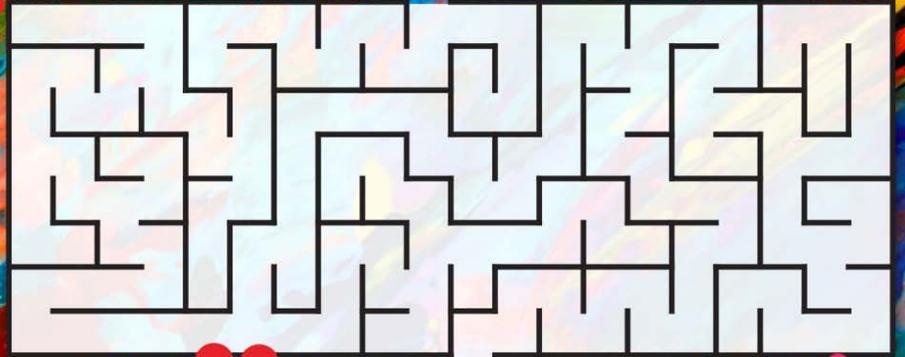


REVISTA



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HAPPY



MONTH



Revista OT – OT Month

IMPORTANT DEADLINES:

CALL FOR PROPOSALS - May 31, 2021

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Jason Stark, OT, MHA
TOTA President

How many times have we heard the terms historic and unprecedented over the past few months? I know many of you are like me, in that I am beginning to wonder when we will have a break from such vocabulary. Upon reflection of the events our country and our state have been going through, I am reminded of two principles that affect not only our organization but the consumers we serve.

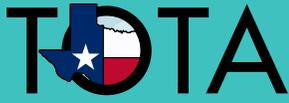
First is that of an arrow. “An arrow must be pulled back to go forward.” The past 12 months have forced many of us to take steps back, both personally and professionally. Whether it is being forced to socially distance, mourn the loss of a loved one or a job, appreciate the comforts of power and water, or even having to take a step back to modify the delivery of services we provide, all are of significance.

Second is the flywheel principle. In 2017, Forbes selected Jim Collins as one of the top 100 greatest living business minds. Collins has authored books such as *Good to Great*, *Built to Last*, *How the Mighty Fall*, and *Beyond Entrepreneurship*. One of his concepts is the **Flywheel Principle**.

The premise of the flywheel is simple. A flywheel is an incredibly heavy wheel that takes huge effort to push. Keep pushing and the flywheel builds momentum. Keep pushing and eventually it starts to help turn itself and generate its own momentum--and that is when an organization goes from good to great (Haden, 2014). When you can keep adding small parts or small successes to a big flywheel you eventually develop momentum. Here is a brief video on the Flywheel Principle that is only about a minute and a half long. https://www.jimcollins.com/media_topics/media.html#*Fly.

TOTA is not only taking steps back to modify how we serve all of you, but we are also adding to the flywheel to propel this organization to the next level. Examples of modifications include our new learning management system, our increased online continuing education, an entire series dedicated to Black History Month, virtual conferences and many more. We continue to develop programs that will serve our membership and allow for personal and professional growth focusing on servant leadership.

continued on page 7



2021 ELECTIONS:

Call for NOMINATIONS

The deadline for submission is April 30, 2021.

To all TOTA members:

It is time for annual elections of state and district board members. The available offices are listed below. Please review the by-laws for specific details and guidelines. Candidates can be nominated by completing the online nomination form which will be available soon.

STATE OFFICES: VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY

Article VI: STATE OFFICERS 6.1 Elected officers of TOTA shall be President, President-Elect, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. a) These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these Bylaws and other such duties applicable to the office as prescribed by the parliamentary authority and the Policy and Procedures Manual adopted by TOTA. **6.2 Eligibility.** a) Any candidate for the office of President, President-Elect or Vice President of TOTA must have been a member of the Association for three (3) years immediately prior to the nomination deadline. b) State officers may reside in a border state, but must be licensed to practice in Texas. c) All officers shall maintain membership in good standing with TOTA and AOTA during their terms of office. d) No state officer can concurrently hold a position as an elected officer in AOTA, a district division of TOTA, or another state's OT membership organization.

6.4 Terms of Office. a) No officer shall be eligible to serve for more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office. An officer serving more than half a term is considered to have served a full term in that office, including in the case of appointment to that office. b) The President -Elect shall serve a one (1) year term. c) All elected state officers shall assume office upon adjournment of the annual business meeting at which their election has been announced. d) The President -Elect shall be elected in an odd numbered year and assume the office of President in an even numbered year. The Vice President and Secretary shall be elected and assume office in the odd numbered years. The Treasurer shall be elected in and assume office in an even numbered year. e) If a sitting President chooses to run for re-election, that person must state the intent prior to the election cycle of a President Elect.

DISTRICT OFFICES:

TRINITY NORTH

**CHAIR
TREASURER**

ALAMO SOUTH

**VICE CHAIR
SECRETARY**

CAPITAL CENTEX

**CHAIR
TREASURER**

GREAT PLAINS WEST

**VICE CHAIR
SECRETARY**

GULF COAST EAST

**CHAIR
TREASURER**

RIO GRANDE

**VICE CHAIR
SECRETARY**

9.5 Eligibility. a) Nominees for District Chair must have been a member of the district for a minimum of one year prior to the nomination deadline. b) Officers must be licensed to practice in Texas and have chosen to be a member of that geographical district. c) All officers must remain TOTA members in good standing throughout their term. d) No District Officer shall concurrently hold more than one elected position in AOTA, a state office of TOTA, or another state's OT membership organizations.

CANDIDATES MUST SUBMIT A CURRICULUM VITAE/RESUME.

EACH NOMINEE MUST SUBMIT A POSITION STATEMENT SUMMARIZING QUALIFICATIONS, REASONS FOR WISHING TO ASSUME THIS LEADERSHIP POSITION, AND VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF THE PROFESSION AND TOTA.

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e-mail: info@OTcourses.com

SAVE THE DATE:

NOVEMBER 5-6, 2021
SUGAR LAND, TEXAS



CALL FOR PROPOSALS
DEADLINE MAY 31, 2021

The 2021 TOTA Annual Conference will be offered in 2 formats.

Conference Live (in Sugar Land, TX): Courses, forums and posters that are presented live, in person format, will not be recorded for on-demand. The live presentations will be available to in-person attendees.

Conference On-demand: Courses, forums, and posters will be pre-recorded for on-demand access to all conference attendees through the Whova app. On-demand access will be available from November 5 – January 31, 2021

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: May 31, 2021

CLICK HERE
FOR DETAILS

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#329 Pediatric NDT Intensive Handling Techniques (15 Hours)

with **Gail Ritchie, OTR, C/NDT**

Waco, TX: Fri-Sat, May 21-22, 2021
Orlando, FL: Sat-Sun, August 21-22, 2021
Fort Worth, TX: Fri-Sat, Sept. 10-11, 2021



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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: 2020 CONFERENCE WRAP UP



Judith Joseph, OTR,
MA, CDRS, TOTA
Executive Director

Don't Quit

*When things go wrong as they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all up hill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.
Life is strange with its twists and turns
As every one of us sometimes learns
And many a failure comes about
When he might have won had he stuck it out;
Don't give up though the pace seems slow—
You may succeed with another blow.
Success is failure turned inside out—
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,
And you never can tell just how close you are,
It may be near when it seems so far;
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit—
It's when things seem worst that you must not quit.*
John Greenleaf Whittier

When I was in college (undergrad), a poster of this poem hung on my wall. I ran across this poem again as I prepared to write this article. This poem seemed appropriate for so many of the circumstances that have occurred since the last OT month, April 2020. Consider the patients and clients served, the quick transition to telehealth, academic programs going virtual, fieldwork placements halted, delayed graduations, events canceled, jobs lost, work hours reduced, federal and state regulations changed, the demand for change in our justice system, and more.

It is National Occupational Therapy Month. How do we celebrate amid so many challenges? The words resilience, adjustment, modification, adaptation, and survival have been included in descriptions of how occupational therapy practitioners, students, and faculty members have managed the changes faced during this pandemic. Let us celebrate by sharing stories of success, innovation, and creativity. Send your stories to me directly at judith.joseph@tota.org and I can share them through our weekly tidbits or on the website. My submission is short, but I hope you enjoy the poem.

I look forward to seeing you face-to-face in November at our 2021 Annual Conference.

Judi



Revista OT is posted online three times a year by the Texas Occupational Therapy Association, Inc., 1106 Clayton Lane, Suite 516W, Austin, TX 78723.

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email: judith.joseph@tota.org
Web: www.tota.org

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The TOTA Learning Management System (LMS) is your resource to access live and recorded, TOTA approved continuing education courses. Choose from a wide variety of topics that serve to enhance professional development and meet certification and licensure requirements.

Registration is Required for all courses

Most meetings are FREE to current TOTA members. Not a member? By becoming a member, you would be supporting your state association and enjoy cost savings while earning CEUs! Each registration form has an optional membership section for non-members who wish to join or those in need of membership renewal.

Non-Member OT/OTA (1 to 1.5 CEU/2 CEUs) \$20/\$30

Non-Member Student (1 to 1.5 CEU/2 CEUs) \$10/\$15

FEATURED COURSES



A Show of Hands: Therapeutic Intervention for Common...

On-demand

Erin Bailey, OTR, C...

FREE



Managing and Crushing Student Loan Debt

TOTA Student Event On Demand

Angela Johnson, ...

FREE

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFO

FROM THE PRESIDENT,
continued from page 2

The best example of how TOTA is adding to the flywheel is the introduction of both HB 1903 and SB 485 relating to the compact licensure for occupational therapists. Need a brief explanation/description of the legislation here. We hope our many meetings with AOTA and legislators have established the foundation needed to get a TOTA sponsored bill passed in session!

Thank you all for taking a step back and contributing to the success of TOTA and our profession as well as continuing to add to our flywheel, thus propelling us forward.

Happy OT Month,

Jason Stark, OT, MHA

References

Haden, Jeff (2014). Best From the Brightest: Jim Collins's Flywheel. A classic business concept revisited. Inc.com. Retrieved from: <https://www.inc.com/jeff-haden/the-best-from-the-brightest-jim-collins-flywheel.html#:~:text=The%20premise%20of%20the%20flywheel,goes%20from%20good%20to%20great>

TOTAPAC NEEDS YOUR HELP

The purpose of the TOTA PAC is to provide a voice for occupational therapy practitioners in the State of Texas political arena.

Your donations help us continue to represent occupational therapy in the political arena.

TOTA MEMBERS CAN DONATE HERE



OT AND PT SERVICE DELIVERY IN SCHOOLS

POLICY, RESEARCH, AND BEST PRACTICES

This conference is designed to assist OT and PT school-based practitioners serving in Texas public schools with developing their knowledge base regarding service delivery for all struggling learners. Planned sessions will alert attendees to the latest developments in federal and state education policy, including applicable case law. Evidence-based practices and effective interventions will be shared for service delivery to students in traditional educational environments as well as virtual school environments. Current published competencies (PT) and quality standards (OT) for school-based practitioners will be reviewed.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE:

Friday, June 4, 2021

- 8:15 - 8:30 Welcome!
- 8:30 - 9:30 Keynote: Current Policy and Future Plans from TEA Impacting OT and PT Services to Texas Students
- 9:30 - 10:30 FAQs From OTs and PTs About the Law
- 10:30 - 10:45 Break
- 10:45 - 12:15 Section 504: the Impact on Education for Children with Disabilities and the Role of OT and PT
- 12:15 - 1:00 Lunch
- 1:00 - 2:30 Delivering Inclusive Services – Integrating Interventions into School Contexts
- 2:30 - 2:45 Break
- 2:45 - 4:00 YOU can be a Change Agent – Promoting Inclusive, Integrated Practices

Saturday, June 5, 2021

- 9:30 - 10:30 Break Out Sessions:
 - 1) OT – Using the Quality Indicators for School Practice to Frame, Guide and Evaluate Services
 - 2) Competency-Based School Physical Therapy and Student Outcomes.
- 10:30 - 12:00 Break Out Sessions –
 - 1) OT – Evidence-Based OT Interventions for Children and Youth
 - 2) PT- Breaking News from the PT Literature!

TOTAL CEUs/CCUs = 9.25 (preapproved by TOTA and TPTA (pending))

TOTA/TPTA Members - \$125 Non-Members - \$150
TOTA/TPTA Student Members: \$35 Student Non-Members: \$65

2-DAY

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE:

June 4-5th

spaces are limited.

REGISTER TODAY!

SPEAKERS

Justin Porter, Director of Special Education, Department of Special Populations, Texas Education Agency

Jim Walsh, Attorney at Law, Walsh, Gallegos, Trevino, Russo & Kyle, P.C.

Carie Crabb, PT, MS
 Senior Director, School-Based Therapy Services Harris County Department of Education

Beth Goodrich, OTR, ATP, PhD, FAOTA, Moderator; and Panelists from the TOTA School Focus Group Advisory Board

Jean Polichino, OTR, MS, FAOTA, Judy Frankson, OTR and Michelle M. Smith, OTR

- 1) Yvonne Swinth, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA
- 2) Susan Effgen, PT, PhD, FAPTA

- 1) Gloria Frolek Clark, PhD, OTR/L, BCP, FAOTA,
- 2) Ginny Paleg, PT, DScPT



CELEBRATING TEXAS' "OT COMMUNITY OF BENEVOLENCE"

Reggie Michael Campbell OT, MS, FAOTA



Reggie Michael
Campbell OT, MS,
FAOTA

and practitioners in pursuit of health and wellbeing. OT Month also provides an opportunity to acknowledge the value of working in community to continue to build and sustain a "community of benevolence" in service to Texas OT colleagues.

"If you want to go fast go alone. If you want to go far.... go together."
African proverb

Community Built on Benevolence

The cornerstone for a Texas OT "community of benevolence" was laid in 2017 when a small group of OT practitioners responded to the devastation of Hurricane Harvey. Following review of a TOTA Harvey ad hoc committee report and TOTA board recommendations, the Occupational Therapy Benevolence Endowment (OTBE) Foundation established. Although the OTBE is linked to TOTA, it is a separate organization.

"The Occupational Therapy Benevolence Endowment (OTBE) is a not for profit, benevolence corporation established to support occupational therapy (OT) practitioners and/or their ability to delivery OT services in times of significant life crisis. The OTBE funded initiatives allow OT practitioners, OT public supporters, and their families the opportunity to give back to the OT community and support the delivery of OT services in Texas."

Traditionally occupational therapy practitioners come together in April to celebrate the profession and to highlight the contributions made by organizations

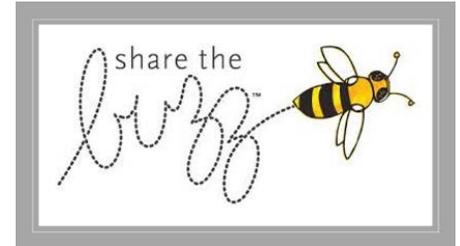
OTBE bylaws aligned with state and federal 501(c3) regulations were written. Board officers and directors were recruited to write the OTBE's vision, values, and mission statements. Over the years, the OTBE mission expanded beyond natural disasters to include other catastrophic life crises. An **OTBE Benevolence Grant Program** was established to support occupational therapy practitioners' ability to sustain the delivery of occupational therapy services in Texas following a significant life crisis. Visit otbe.org to learn more about OTBE and OTBE Benevolent Grant program.

The support of the professional community of TOTA and the compassion of Texas OT practitioners who have generously given time, expertise, and financial assistance to provide the start-up community resources needed to establish the OTBE Benevolence Grant Program is cause to celebrate. *As is to date, the awarding of 5 OTBE Benevolence Grants to support Texas OT and OTAs' abilities to maintain professional credentials following a life crisis.* To sustain the vision, values, and mission of OTBE and OTBE Benevolence Grant Program, our Texas "community of benevolence" must continue to grow.

"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members."
Coretta Scott King

"Advocating for Benevolence"

The literature is rich on the power and value of community in promoting health and wellbeing. The role of occupational therapy in contexts of natural disasters has been defined. However, the *impact of environmental and health crises on occupational therapy practitioners' health and*



wellbeing and ability to deliver of occupational therapy services has yet to be fully explored. Research supports there is much to be gained by both the recipient of benevolence and the giver. Acts of generosity on behalf of others has been shown to increase happiness, reduce stress, and improve physical, mental, and spiritual health. (<https://www.heartmath.org/articles-of-the-heart/generous-others-youll-happy/>).

In celebration of OT Month, the directors of OTBE invite OT colleagues to become members of the OTBE Advocacy Community. **Membership in the OTBE Advocacy Community is free. Membership requirements include:** a benevolent heart and willingness to advocate for "benevolence as a professional value." **Membership Benefits include:** the opportunity to engage in health promoting activities for self and in community with others in service to OT colleagues and the profession.

For further information on how to become a member of the OTBE Advocacy Community, email txotbe@gmail.com and request an OTBE Advocacy Community Membership Application.

"Alone we can do so little: Together we can do so much." Helen Keller



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AMERICAN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY FOUNDATION (AOTF)

Tara C. Alexander, OTR, CPC



Tara C. Alexander,
OTR, CPC

The American Occupational Therapy Foundation (AOTF) is the nation's leading nonprofit investing in occupational therapy research and the future

OT workforce. Quality, data-driven evidence is essential to improving the delivery of care, enhancing reimbursements and strengthening the value of our profession.

The AOTF mission, to advance the science of occupational therapy, is accomplished by funding new OT research grants, supporting future OT students and scientists with scholarships, and disseminating information to the profession and the public through programs, events and our journal *OTRJ: Occupation, Participation and Health*.

Currently, AOTF has three research grant programs: The Intervention Research Grants, Health Services Research Grants and Implementation Research Grants. Each of these grant programs focuses on building evidence for priority needs of the profession; addressing a number of different diseases, disabilities, and challenges OT face in delivering high quality care. AOTF is currently partnering with the

Michael J Fox Foundation to support a study on OT and Parkinson's disease.

As a Spinal Cord Injury, Mental Health and Wheelchair & Mobility Clinic Program Manager Supervisor at the Dallas VA Medical Center, I know firsthand how the demand for evidence is rising. How many times have you asked or wondered about the "normal" or average amount of times it takes to complete a task/activity compared to the time it is taking the person you are currently working with? Think about your patient: a recently discharged soldier with depression missing a lot of work; a patient with degenerative spinal changes at C8-T2 having difficulty holding things in his/her hands for performing household tasks, or a teenager with an above-the- knee amputation traveling between classes in school in a wheelchair. These thoughts are how research ideas are generated. They can open the door to therapeutic discoveries and changes in practice methods for future OT practitioners.

Every day, veterans, clinicians, care givers, policy makers and payers need more evidence to make informed decisions. I served on the AOTF Board of Trustees from 2018-2020 to help bolster the research efforts of AOTF and bring more awareness of the need for more evidence related to mental health issues and veterans. During my time on the board, I saw an

increase in research activity and in the support of future OTs, all thanks to a community of support. In the last three years alone, AOTF has increased its annual grant offerings from 5 to 12 and now offers over 55 scholarships to OT students, including 3 scholarships specifically to students of under-represented populations. I am also proud that my fellow Texans have stepped up to make the TOTA scholarship at AOTF the largest award of any state scholarship. Each year, two Texas OT students receive financial support to help them obtain their degrees.

Today, we believe there are two critical needs for OT: the need for more evidence and the need for more OT researchers. We know that with new evidence, OTs can improve delivery of care, address issues that plague healthcare systems and health service environments, and change policy and reimbursement standards that are out of date and inaccurately measure progress or wellbeing. I hope you will join me in supporting the important work of AOTF, advancing the science of occupational therapy and building more evidence to meet the growing demand.

You can learn more about AOTF at www.aotf.org including ways to volunteer, free research resources, and support your alma mater in the annual St. Catherine's Challenge. ➡

AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

Dahlia Castillo, OTD, OTR, Rio Grande District Chair



Dahlia Castillo, OTD, OTR

The TOTA Ad Hoc Committee for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion was formed in July 2020 in response to a call for action in the June 16, 2020, issue of the Justice-Based Occupational Therapy (JBOT) newsletter. The newsletter article outlines recommendations for action and action steps specifically for professional associations. In June, 2020, TOTA president Robin Clearman appointed then president-elect Jason Stark to establish an ad hoc committee to explore the alignment of this call from OTJB

with TOTA strategic planning initiatives in place. In addition to Stark, committee members are Tara Alexander, Dahlia Castillo, Judith Joseph, Riqiea Kitchens, Rafferty Laredo, John Luna, Demetria Sweat, and Shirley Wells.

The following purpose statement was approved by the members of the committee in fall 2020.

TOTA's Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusion strives to transform TOTA into a fully integrated and inclusive OT community. It hopes to:

- Address systemic racism and occupational disparities within the TOTA,
- Create an equitable occupational

experience and environment for all OT practitioners who want to belong, and

- Generate an inclusive professional environment that has a positive impact on all members and the organization.

The focus and action will include, but not be limited to: actively encourage and facilitate participation and representation of members from diverse backgrounds especially African Americans, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), at all levels of the organization, as well as, support individuals, communities, and populations who have experienced discrimination due to age, disability, socio-economic status, faith, gender identity, and/or sexual orientation. ➡

TRINITY NORTH DISTRICT NEWS

Serving Our Community and Profession Throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic

Emilie Klingman, OTR, MOT, Trinity North District Vice Chair



Emilie Klingman, OTR, MOT

Although the pandemic has changed the way we conducted district and state events this past year, we know that it strengthened ways our members serve as practitioners, academicians, researchers, and students. Trinity North District would like to recognize our members who have gone above and beyond in serving the community and professional organizations and contributing to the education of others. **Julie Hebert**, OTD, OTR, Academic Fieldwork Coordinator and Clinical Assistant Professor, UT Tyler, presented at the TOTA conference

and also presented two posters at the AOTA Education Summit. **Emilie Klingman**, OTR, MOT, Occupational Therapist II & Concussion Program Lead OT, Children's Health System of Texas, conducted a short course on "Keys to Professional Success" at the TOTA Annual Conference.

Laura Montgomery, OTR, Co-Owner/Administrator, Countryside Therapy Group, Inc. presented at SynerImages' 13th Biennial Rehabilitation Conference for ORF, CORF, Home Health Agencies, and Independent Therapy Providers. She conducted a roundtable discussion "How to Boost Therapy Revenue for Texas Therapy Business."

William Sit, Ph.D., OT, BCPR, CLSVT-Big, CSIPT, A-ONE rater Associate Clinical Professor, Texas Woman's University, was named

TOTA OT of the Year. He was also elected as Texas representative to the AOTA Representative Assembly.



Parker University was recognized for conducting community service events including a diaper drive for Hope Supply Co., a hygiene, winter coat, and canned food drive for North Dallas Shared Ministries, and a toy drive for Preston Wood Pediatrics. Students also created and sent 100 Valentine cards to clients at the James L. West Dementia Care in Fort Worth

The University of Texas at Tyler Master of Occupational Therapy Program was granted accreditation. ➡

TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ALUMNI CHAPTER

Marie Nadine Garza, OTR



Marie Nadine Garza, OTR

With the growth of occupational therapy and the desire to increase leadership in the profession, the need to connect alumni of TWU school of occupational therapy was essential. The School of Occupation Therapy has over 4,000 alumni, in both entry level and post graduate level. With the help of my fellow TWU alumni, Texas Woman's University School of Occupational

Therapy Alumni Chapter was formed. Our mission is: "To engage and unite Occupational Therapy alumni to build strong connections in our profession, link our common interests, and encourage future alumni to support TWU School of Occupational Therapy as leading examples in work and in the community."

The chapter is open to all graduates of any OT program, entry level and post-graduate. Alumni are automatic members; therefore, no sign up is necessary. However, to stay up to date with upcoming events, please

update your contact information at the TWU Alumni website. Connect with former graduates or faculty, network and become a mentor through the Pioneer Network. You can also join our Facebook page at: Occupational Therapy Alumni Chapter. If you are not a TWU graduate, we will happily welcome A Friend of the TWU Alumni Chapter.

I look forward to meeting you at our **upcoming event on April 13, 2021.** We will be hosting a virtual trivia night/networking event. You can sign up online through the TWU Alumni page.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR OUR FIRST VIRTUAL EVENT April 13, 2021 6:00 PM

Calling all Occupational Therapy Alums!! Join us for a fun virtual music trivia night and networking event!

TWU SCHOOL OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ALUMNI CHAPTER



Find us on social media

★ *FaceBook-Occupational Therapy Alumni Chapter*
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/twuotchapter/>

★ *Pioneer Network-network and connect with former classmates and become a mentor*
<https://twupioneernetwork.com/>

Stay up to date on our upcoming events by updating your contact info at TWU alumni page
<https://form.jotform.com/202816398121151>

First event April 13, 2021
Trivia and Networking
Register here:
<https://form.jotform.com/210556001906143>

All graduates of any OT program (entry level or postgraduate) are automatic members. No need to sign up
If you are not a TWU graduate, we will happily welcome A Friend of the TWU Alumni Chapter

STUDENT ZONE

TOTA'S DISTRICT STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES GROUP MESSAGE

Texas Occupational Therapy Association

What is your favorite OT school memory so far? Also, can you send us a picture to post on the Revista OT? (:

Cristina Martinez, Alamo South District OT Student Rep.



My whole school experience has been amazing from gaining more knowledge about my profession to learning intervention strategies for different populations. My favorite memory is we went to an art museum and were asked to find art that portrayed occupations, roles and the philosophy of OT. This was the first time I began to develop my "occupational lens" to see that occupations are all around us and make up every part of our lives. This class allowed me to see the benefit occupational therapy can have on the world around us and how we, as a profession need to advocate for ourselves and clients.

Texas Occupational Therapy Association

WOW, that's awesome! Thanks Cristina for sharing and good luck with the rest of the semester!

Fey Cortez, Alamo South District OT Student Rep.



One of my favorite OT school memories was collaborating with my classmates to create and design an AT 3D printed device that would increase independence in cooking skills for individuals with poor fine motor coordination.

Texas Occupational Therapy Association

A 3D printed device to increase cooking skills independence, that is so CREATIVE! Keep up the hard work Fey!

Hunter Bozant, Gulf Coast East District OTA Student Rep.



I believe my favorite memory so far would have to be our tailgating experience. We are given a lunch break between classes and due to the length of the lunch break, we try not to leave campus. My cohort has been eating lunch in the parking lot while maintaining social distance this semester to accommodate for not leaving campus. I believe this tailgating experience has brought us closer as a cohort and relieves a little of the stress that school imparts as it allows us to take a break.

Texas Occupational Therapy Association

WOW, maybe more cohorts can do this (during these social distancing times) and continue building rapport as a class. Thanks for sharing Hunter, you rock!

Lexie Matheo, Gulf Coast East District OT Student Rep.



Mine is fieldwork related. I just got to go to the NICU, and that was an amazing experience!

Texas Occupational Therapy Association

The NICU is such a cool setting! You're doing amazing Lexie!

STUDENT OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS' GROUP MESSAGE

Texas Occupational Therapy Association

How is SOTA going? Do y'all have any plans for OT Month? Also, please send us a picture to post on the Revista OT. (:

Abigail Wilson, TWU Houston SOTA President, MOT Program



This semester, TWU Houston SOTA has continued to volunteer within their local community at places such as the Houston Aphasia Recovery Center, SIRE hippotherapy (to update their sensory trail), and the Houston Food Bank. Also, the chapter has worked with PM Pals to assist them in planning and executing a Valentine's Day drive thru and celebration party where SOTA members also shared special Valentine's themed cards with the children. Many SOTA members also attended Night to Shine, which is a prom night dedicated to individuals with special needs. Additionally, members have volunteered with BakerRipley, which is a charitable organization based in Houston that provides resources, education, support and a better quality of life for individuals in the local community. For OT month, TWU Houston SOTA has planned a weekly social media challenge, an OT spirit week, amazing guest speakers and socials. Spirit week will have themes that highlight members favorite occupations, muscles, skills, leisure activities and places in the community!

Texas Occupational Therapy Association

Great job TWU Houston SOTA, keep being amazing!

Erin Hobbs, UT Health San Antonio SOTA President, OTD Program



At UT Health San Antonio, although university guidelines and CDC recommendations have continued to prohibit in person meetings, the SOTA chapter has worked to provide virtual monthly meetings featuring guest speakers from a variety of Occupational Therapy and community organization providers. Within 2021 the student members have been able to attend discussions on: the importance of AOTA membership and legislature (and took part in the voting process), SCI and other mobility impaired social programming presented by local organization Rolling Inspiration, and will soon be hearing from an interprofessional perspective of Aquatic Therapy. Additionally, our members have volunteered with organizations such as Morgan's Wonderland, Camp CAMP, The Saddle Light Center, The San Antonio Food Bank, The Caring for the Caregiver program, and more! In honor of OT month, the chapter will be hosting four selected presentations in April on topics including Hippotherapy, Level II fieldwork and Capstone project experiences, and other community-based programs. The chapter looks forward to celebrating OT month and will close out the month and the semester with new officer elections. Even in this tumultuous year, our members remain excited when learning about the expansive opportunities for occupational therapy in a variety of settings and look forward to entering the workforce in the coming years.

Texas Occupational Therapy Association

Thanks for sharing UT Health SA SOTA! Keep up the hard work!

Rachel Perez, San Jacinto College SOTA President, OTA Program



Our goal for SOTA is to have at least one fundraiser and one community service project. This semester for SOTA we are doing a T-shirt fundraiser as well as a community service project. Later this month, our community service project will be to provide arts and craft supplies to a community home in Houston who was affected by the storm.

Texas Occupational Therapy Association

Awesome! Thanks San Jacinto College SOTA, we appreciate you!

IN MEMORIAM – DELANA HONAKER PHD, OTR, CLT, FAOTA

Stacy Sue Rosello, MA, OTR/L and Sally Harris King, COTA

If you ever received an email from DeLana, then this quote is familiar: “This is a woman who has not been tamed to be as others want; she has not been cut down to fit her circumstances.” *The Taming of the Queen* by Philippa Gregory

DeLana Kaye Honaker, 57, of Amarillo, TX, passed away on March 16, 2021. The immediate family will be celebrating her life privately. DeLana was born in Amarillo on February 15, 1964. She attended TWU where she earned 3 degrees in occupational therapy. She received her BS in 1994, her MA in 1999, and her PhD in 2001. DeLana’s passion was working with children of all abilities and their families with an emphasis on evidenced-based practice. As a pioneer and creative visionary, she contributed a multitude of scholarly publications including textbooks, manuals, and position papers. DeLana was a research scientist and a professor. She held positions as

“I am quite familiar with issues related to marginalization, discrimination, and limited opportunities for anyone who is just different. Our words can convey equity in promoting justice, impartiality and fairness; and inclusion as an outcome to ensure everyone, and especially those that are diverse actually feel invited and/or are welcomed.”

associate professor at Elizabethtown College, and an adjunct faculty at both TWU and Texas Tech. She volunteered as an accreditation evaluator for AOTA, was a board member of TBOTE, and served on the editorial board for both the *AJOT*, *OJOT*, and the *Journal of Occupational Therapy Early Intervention & Schools*. At the beginning of 2021, she was elected to chair the TWU Therapy Pioneer Alumni Chapter. In 2014, DeLana received one of the highest professional achievements for recognition of her work through the AOTA. She was

awarded the FAOTA, joining the Roster of Fellows for her significant contributions to the field of OT in pediatrics and technology.

DeLana spent many years in her OT journey devoted to family issues which encompassed understanding the intricacies of family life and the importance of family occupations in creating togetherness and family identity. DeLana, along with her colleague, Stacy Sue Rosello, MA, OTR/L, dedicated over 10 years incorporating family into OT practice. Supported with exploratory OT literature and evidence-based practice, they highlighted the need to broaden the OT framework to include family occupations and family-centered practice in assessment and intervention across the lifespan.

While DeLana enjoyed the academic setting, she was also an outstanding clinician and business woman. She owned two businesses: Well Versed, LLD and Health Harmony Therapy, CLLC.

She was an advocate for diversity, equity, and inclusion in the field of OT as she was born with Usher Syndrome, a genetic disorder characterized by progressive hearing and vision loss. The hearing loss was detected in childhood. Soon after high school, DeLana began experiencing



visual difficulties, but throughout her life she always persevered. In her words, she shared, “I am quite familiar with issues related to marginalization, discrimination, and limited opportunities for anyone who is just different. Our words can convey equity in promoting justice, impartiality and fairness; and inclusion as an outcome to ensure everyone, and especially those that are diverse actually feel invited and/or are welcomed.”

DeLana was a talented artisan. As an app developer, jewelry maker, and a crafter, she found great meaning in creative activity. She was a devoted friend and mentor to a multitude of people from every walk of life. DeLana made lifelong friends, like family, throughout her career. She will be remembered by them for her steadfastness, her honesty, her genuine interest and love for others, and her ebullient laugh. Amidst her progressive health issues, she gave consistent loving support to all.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial donations be made to <https://www.boystownhospital.org/about/donate> or <https://donate.fightingblindness.org/webdonation> 🇺🇸

TOTA HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Esther Bell
OTR, FAOTA (1998)

O Jayne Bowman
Ph.D., OT (2020)

Reggie Michael Campbell
OTR, MS, FAOTA (2016)

Donald Davidson
OTR (2001)

Harriett Davidson
MA, OTR (2015)

Ruth Dodds
OTR (2020)

Virginia Chandler Dykes
OTR (1989)

Grace Gilkeson
PhD, OTR, FAOTA (1995)

Gayle Hersch
PhD, OTR (2017)

Jaclyn F. Low
OTR, PhD, FAOTA (2014)

Suzanne Peloquin
OTR, PhD, FAOTA (2012)

Jean Polchino
OTR, MS, FAOTA (2020)

Caroline Ann Smalley Polliard
OTR (2000)

Kathlyn L. Reed
PhD, OTR, FAOTA, MLIS (2010)

Gretchen M. Schmaltz
OTR (2002)

Leonard Sobel
OTR, MOT (2020)

President's Club

Dorit Haenosh Aaron
Janna Leigh
Teri Powers



TOTA MEMBERSHIP

Elizabeth Holland Laurie, OTA, BS

Membership is the backbone of an organization. It is important to keep our membership strong and active. Don't forget to renew your membership and encourage others to join. As a member, you can stay involved with issues facing our profession state and locally, enjoy connecting with fellow professionals, enjoy CEU opportunities, and serve in leadership positions.

[CLICK HERE TO
JOIN OR RENEW NOW!](#)

STANDARD MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

TOTA offers 12, 24, or 36 month rolling memberships which start when dues are paid. Membership renewal is available 30 days prior to the expiration date. TOTA provides an opportunity for members to pay for multi-year memberships at a discount. Your membership renewal date can be found on your online membership card.

FIRST YEAR PRACTITIONERS

are eligible for a 50% discount on membership fees! On the form, select your practitioner type. All first year practitioners enter into "pending" status until licensing is verified. At that time, the practitioner is converted to "active" membership status. The 50% membership discount is only available for twelve months from the license issue date. Applicants must provide license# and issue date.

LEGACY MEMBER PRESIDENT'S CLUB MEMBER

An individual who supports the activities of TOTA by paying dues in one and one-half times the membership fee.

PRESIDENT'S CLUB MEMBER

An individual who supports and sustains the activities of TOTA by paying dues in the amount of twice the membership fee.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

An OT or OTA who has been recognized by a vote of the Board of Directors, also known as the Board, as having performed distinguished services in or for occupational therapy may be granted honorary membership for life. 

Embrace Change



Register for the 26th TSHT Annual
Education Conference
April 10-11, 2021

TOTA ORGANIZATION PARTNER – TSHT

Doris Crofts, OTR, CHT, President, TSHT



Doris Crofts,
OTR, CHT

The Texas Society for Hand Therapy (TSHT) is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization incorporated in the State of Texas for the

purposes of advancing education, research, outreach, and fellowship among hand therapy professionals. We are a group of occupational therapists and physical therapists who seek to bring hand therapists and colleagues in the medical community together. We want to

provide opportunities to maintain the highest standard of care in the clinic while creating innovative ways to treat patients, blending evidence-based science and art. Ultimately, our goal is to provide a platform for hand therapists to maintain high clinical standards and an independent status in healthcare. TSHT maintains awareness of the actions of the policymakers and when needed, combine as members to influence policy, including advocating ethical fees for service.

Each spring we host an education conference specifically focused on science-based hand therapy topics.

This year's conference will be held virtually on April 10th and 11th. Each year we award grants based on research, education, and community outreach. We are actively involved in advocacy and join with TOTA during the Week at the Capitol and we have our own Advocacy Committee. Our current board of directors consists of President Doris Crofts, OTR CHT; Vice President Cara Smith DPT PT CHT; Secretary Harriet Sexton OTR CHT; Treasurer Kirk Gober, OTR CHT; Historian Kristi Chapman OTR CHT; and Education Co-Coordinators Michelle Purdy OTR CHT and Sharon Guebert OTR. Please visit us online at www.TSHT.org. 

TOTA
Annual Conference

SAVE THE DATE:

NOVEMBER 5-6, 2021
SUGAR LAND, TEXAS



We will be updating conference information regularly. Stay tuned at www.tota.org for details!

Keynote Speaker:
Cherry Steinwender

The call for proposals for 2021 TOTA Annual Conference will end May 31, 2021.