Temple OT program is going to San Diego!

Temple University will be well represented at the national AOTA convention, taking place in beautiful San Diego, April 24-28, 2013. The following faculty will be presenting their work: Dr. Beth Pfeiffer, Dr. Fern Silverman, and Professor Carlos Moreno. Members of the OT faculty will be part of six different conference presentations.

Dr. Ivy Lazzarini will be participating in all program director meetings. Professor Lauren Sponseller and lecturer Sara Schroeder will also be attending. In addition, we will have eight MOT students coming to represent our active TU SOTA group and student cohorts!
MEET OUR PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Dr. Ivy Lazzarini

Dr. Lazzarini received her Bachelor’s degree with Honors in Occupational Therapy from Temple University and her Doctoral degree from Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska. She completed two post-doctoral fellowships with Dr. Charlotte Royeen at Creighton University and Saint Louis University. Before coming to the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences at Temple, she was a faculty member at Creighton University’s School of Health Professions.

Dr. Lazzarini is an avid and well respected speaker and author. Her areas of scholarship are Neuro-Occupation, Neuro-Ethics, Cognition and Complexity Sciences. In 2008, she served as the President for the Society of Chaos Theory in Psychology and the Life Sciences.

TU SOTA UPDATES

The spring semester is really flying by! Even with a jam-packed semester, TU SOTA managed to get a lot done in a little time. From community service, to exploring our education at conferences and dinner, to social events, TU SOTA kept busy!

Students participated in a walk for Alzheimer’s disease and walked 2.5 miles on a brisk morning to raise awareness and funds for research. They also took part in helping out with activities for children with disabilities at a pumpkin carving event this fall. During the annual SOTA Alumni Happy Hour event at McGillicuddy’s, current Temple OT students got to meet and socialize with each other as well as past alumni of the program. In February, students got to show off their sewing skills by making blankets for children in the NICU with Project Linus.

TU SOTA really enjoys bouncing ideas off of each other at monthly meetings, which are run by esteemed Presidents Erin Shapelle and Stephen Gionta. Every so often, TU SOTA will have a pot luck lunch with all of the MOT students to keep everyone up to date on current SOTA happenings! TU SOTA looks forward to a fun-filled and productive rest of the year!
NBCOT PASS RATES...GOOD NEWS!
The results of the NBCOT exam are back for the most recent group of students taking it from our MOT program. Our pass rate is 94%! Kudos to our excellent students and faculty!

FIELDWORK UPDATES
As an integral part of the OT curriculum at Temple University, the fieldwork office has been busy forging new relationships within the region and with many new sites across the country. This gives our students a broad range of opportunities to learn and to spread the Temple Made brand. The current class is disbursed as far and wide as Texas, Illinois, Virginia, Maryland, and South Carolina. We would like to thank all of fieldwork education partners and all alumni who have stepped up to take students.

We look forward to hearing from you and if you are interested in taking a Temple OT student, please contact the Temple University OT Fieldwork Office at 215-707-4836.

RESEARCH and SCHOLARSHIP in our OT programs

Dr. Fern Silverman is continuing her work as a consultant and researcher at the Franklin Institute in an effort to support them with regard to accessibility and participation for all museum visitors. She recently authored two articles on this topic:


Dr. Beth Pfeiffer is developing an outcome measure to assess the impact of sensory environmental characteristics on daily activity in children with Autism Spectrum Disorders in collaboration with Dr. Wendy Coster and the Boston Rehabilitation Outcomes Center, where she is a visiting scientist. She recently completed a study on the Effectiveness of the Size Matters Handwriting Program in collaboration with three DOT students, one of whom developed the program. Over 200 children participated in the study and results identified significant improvements in handwriting in the group participating in the program.

**UPDATES from our DOT program**

There are 7 DOT students graduating in May who will present their capstone projects on May 17, 2013 at Temple’s Center City campus. The Capstones are the culmination of the program resulting in the development of a comprehensive program or the completion of a research project. The students will be honored for their scholarship at a luncheon on the day of the presentations. All students and alumni are welcome to attend the Capstone Presentations. For details, contact Jacquee Lukawski at jlukawski@temple.edu.

**HONORS SOCIETY INDUCTION**

A select group of stellar graduating MOT students will be inducted into the Pi Theta Epsilon honors society on Tuesday, April 30, at 3:30 PM.

Pi Theta Epsilon (PTE) is a specialized honor society for occupational therapy students and alumni. The society recognizes and encourages superior scholarship among students enrolled in professional entry-level programs at accredited educational programs across the United States.

**Congratulations to our May 2013 MOT Graduates!**

Congratulations to our students will receive their Master of Occupational Therapy degree in May 2013. We congratulate them on their accomplishments and success and are pleased to welcome them as alumni and colleagues.

**STAY IN TOUCH WITH OT PROGRAM ALUMNI AND RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF EVENTS, TRAINING, AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES!** Be sure to update your contact information! Email Jacquee Lukawski at jlukawski@temple.edu.

Follow us on facebook! [www.facebook.com/templeot](http://www.facebook.com/templeot)