Greetings from the Department of Occupational Therapy at Rockhurst University. On behalf of the occupational therapy faculty we welcome you to our annual newsletter. Much has happened over this academic year and we hope to bring you the latest news about the clinical, educational, service and research activities of the department. So let's begin.

Throughout 2010, Rockhurst University will celebrate the 100th anniversary of its charter and the 15th anniversary of the Department of Occupational Therapy. This year of reflection is marked with special events that commemorate our past and celebrate our present and future. The University has several events planned to celebrate their anniversary with a large centennial celebration set for September 23 - September 26 and the OT Department is planning a special celebration of our anniversary in November. Please mark your calendars for a special celebration on November 19, 2010. The details are forthcoming.

This academic year is coming to an end. We are grading final exams, cleaning out lab rooms as we are quickly gearing up for summer classes. The second-year students begin in June for their intensive 10 week "neuro" summer. In July, we will admit a full class of 38 students. During the small break between classes, it gives us a chance to reflect on the year. This year was a very good year for us because have some "top-notch" students into our program. We are proud of our students and it gives us great pleasure to teach them as they prepare them to be future clinicians. We continue our commitment to service through course embedded service learning, our work in the OT-PT clinic at the Kansas City Free Health Clinic and thru the service trips we coordinate. In addition, the faculty kept themselves busy with scholarly activities through publications and presentations. I am very proud of the OT faculty at Rockhurst who show a tremendous dedication to the Department and the University.

We divided this newsletter into three sections titled LEARN, LEAD, and SERVE as we continue our dedication to the Jesuit tradition. Please join me in celebrating our commitment to transforming lives and developing leaders and those who seek to make their world a better place.

Warmest Regards,
Kris Vacek, Department Chair
Fieldwork Update

We currently are operating at full capacity with full enrollment into the OT program. That means we are on our toes with fieldwork education. We have wonderful students who come to us from all many places from California to Philadelphia. We enjoy when our students bring their own personal diversity. We have offered fieldwork experiences in many unique places this year across the United States and beyond. Some unique fieldwork experiences include treating individuals with Hansens’ Disease in Ecuador, working with adults who are developmentally disabled at a sports camp in Colorado, educating the government and hospital staff of St. Lucia about community-based mental health, and treating the pediatric population in Chile. If you are interested in serving as a Fieldwork Educator for either a level I or level II fieldwork, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Liz.zayat@rockhurst.edu.

High Pass Rate on National Board Exam

In the past three years, 47 out of 49 of Rockhurst OT graduates passed the National Board for Certification in Occupations Therapy (NBCOT) exam on their first try. That's a 96% pass rate; well above the national average (78%). We are very proud to have such a high pass rate and feel this is a direct reflection on the strength of our program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of OT Grads</th>
<th>Number Who Took the Exam</th>
<th>Number Who Passed</th>
<th>Pass Rate</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>94%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>100%</td>
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Congratulations to the MOT Class of 2010!

William C. Bates
Abbey Rachelle Bertalott
Audrey Kristine Boyd-Ewing
Nicole R. Boydston
Leah Taylor Brendel
Tanya Renee Brettmann
Lindsey Jo Cherne
Kathryn Julie Cooper
Danielle Christine Copeland
Lindsey Joy Herbert
Erica Jo Hinson
Carrie J. Keirns
Daniel Albert Kennedy
Brenda Diane Lee
Samantha Louise Lester
Brian Joseph Luebbering
Jamie Lynn Luedtke
Carrie Ann Martin
Jennifer Louise Mattox

Keri Lynne Nance
Margaret Mary Obermeyer
Erin Michelle Osborn
Jamie Marie Pool
Alisa Ann Reichenberger
Sarah Jane Sanderman
Bradley John Schmidt
Krystle Reneé Seigler
Trey K. Shandy
Morgan Rene Rousseau
Shelby Lee Shurtz
Rachel Ann Stieren
Sharon Marie Tripoli
Monica Agnes Walter
Sarah Christy Werth
Denise Marie Willemín

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.”
~Eleanor Roosevelt
2010 OT Awards & Recognitions

Robin Bowen Leadership Award:
Rachel Stieren (OT 2010)

Jane Rues Service Recognition:

Alpha Sigma Nu:
Sarah Sanderman ‗10, Krystle Seigler ‗10, and Leah Brendel ‗10 were accepted into Alpha Sigma Nu, the honor society of Jesuit institutions of higher education. The society honors individuals who are the most promising students in Jesuit schools based on scholarship, loyalty, and service.

Rues Family OT Scholarship:
Michelle Klindworth (OT 2011)

2009 OT/PT ProBono Clinic Administrators:
Katie Cooper
Brenda Lee

Fieldwork Educator of the Year
Jennifer Wood—Olathe Medical Center

Movement Lab!
A special thanks to Alisa Reichenberger, Barb Bleich, Jamie Pool, Kathryn Lowry, Leah Brendel, Margaret Obermeyer, Tanya Brettmann, Brenda Lee and Trey Shandy for helping with both the UE and LE check-outs. Thanks also to Katie Cooper, Lindsey Cherne, Lindsey Herbert, Samantha Lester, Sharon Tripoli, Teresa Campbell, Carrie Martin, Diana Wiskur and Monica Walter for assistance with check-outs.

Alumni are Leaders!
As you are all aware, the Occupational Therapy Education Program collects data annually on our graduates. Typically, we conduct the graduating class in the fall after they have been on the job for a month or two. Each spring we also contact the classes that graduated one, three and five years ago with an on-line survey. Following are brief summaries from our most recent surveys. We find that you continue your role as a “leader” after graduation.

~For those graduates of 2008-2006-2004 (1, 3, & 5 Year Follow-up):
25% involved in clinical research
47% provided in-service education & presentations
41% AOTA members
53% supervise staff
47% supervise level I students
47% supervise level II students

~For those who graduated in 2009
The mean salary is $60,000
Salary range is $47,000 - $76,000
75% had job offers before graduation with a range of job offers from 1-<5
Graduates work in acute in-patient, rehabilitation, home health and out-patient facilities serving the age range from infants to older adults.
100% report being prepared to well prepared as they began their careers.
90% report being satisfied to highly satisfied with their first job as an OT.

"Leaders are not born. They are made. They are made just like everything else... through hard work. That’s the price we have to pay to achieve that goal or any goal."

~Vince Lombardi
FACULTY PRESENTATIONS:
Ryan, Katherine (April 2010). *A, B, C... Not as Easy as 1, 2, 3: Identifying and Treating the Child with Dyslexia*. MOTA of Greater Kansas City local chapter meeting. North Kansas City Hospital, North Kansas City, MO

Ryan, Katherine (Sept 2009). *A, B, C... Not as Easy as 1, 2, 3: Identifying and Treating the Child with Dyslexia*. KOTA Annual Conference. Lawrence, KS

Ryan, Katherine (Sept 2009). *The Pastime of Play: Occupational Therapy’s Role in Assessment and Intervention*. KOTA Annual Conference. Lawrence, KS


Zayat, E., (Sept 2009). *Cognitive Assessment for Occupational Therapy*. KOTA Annual Conference. Lawrence, KS


FACULTY PUBLICATIONS


FACULTY GRANTS
Vacek, K. M. (2010) Rockhurst University Presidential Grant for further research in grip strength normative data using the Greenleaf EVAL System.

OT Department (2010) Rockhurst University Service Trip Grant for OT service provided to both Guayaquil, Ecuador and St. Lucia.

Current Faculty and Staff of the Department of Occupational Therapy
Kris Vacek - Chairperson
Liz Zayat – Academic Fieldwork Coordinator
Jane Rues – Emeritus Professor
Mary Jane Youngstrom – Assistant Professor
Katie Ryan – Assistant Professor
Mylene Schriner – Assistant Professor
Suzi Wiley – Adjunct Professor
Ketti Coffelt – Adjunct Professor
Ellen Klem – Adjunct Professor
Amy McPherson and Lauren Schwartz– Secretaries
A Special Thanks to our Guest Speakers and Adjunct Faculty

A wide variety of guest speakers taught Rockhurst students this year to broaden and enhance our students’ educational experiences. Several were Rockhurst graduates or former teachers. A special thank you from us to you!

Barb Warner OTR, Director of Rehab Services, Truman Behavioral Health Center - Psychotropic drugs

Brian Mills OTR/L, CHT (‘00), KU Med West – Developing Therapeutic Interventions & Peripheral Nerve Disorders

Diane Pickel OTR, President of KOTA, President of Therapy Associates - Use of behavioral modification in OT treatment

Dot Nary MA, NIH Doctoral Trainee, University of Kansas Gerontology Center - Advocacy

Ellen Klem OTR/L (‘99) - Geriatrics & Adjunct Professor in Musculoskeletal Assessment and Intervention

Jamie Starcevich OTR/L, CHT (‘00) - Advanced UE Evaluation

Kathleen Pauli OTR/L (‘99) - Adjunct Professor in Medical Conditions I

Ketti Coffelt-Johnson, OTR/L, Olathe School District - Providing Occupational Therapy Services in the School System

Kim Littlejohn OTR/L (‘00) –Leadership & Reimbursement in Long Term Care

Kim Salinski, OTR/L – Work Hardening and the Functional Capacity Evaluation (FCE)

Linda Nobles, OTR/L, MS, former Rockhurst OT faculty member – Visual and Hearing Impairments

Lora Wendling OTR/L, CHT (‘00) – PIP Static Progressive Splinting and Serial Casting

Mike Theobald, Direct of Rockhurst University Career Services - Interview Skills; and Resume Development

Panel presentation by the National Alliance of Mentally Ill (NAMI) - Roles and functions of the National Alliance of Mentally Ill; supports provided for people living with mental illness

Rachel Eisenfelder OTR/L, Truman Behavioral Health Center - A day in the life of a psychiatric occupational therapist

Sarah Were, OTR/L - Park Hill School District - Taking Culture into Consideration: Providing Educational Experiences in Different Cultures

Sue Cox, Cancer Rehabilitation Specialists – Cancer Rehabilitation and Lymphedema Management

Theresa Chop MS, OTR, Faculty member, Penn Valley Community College - OT and OTA students interacted to develop an understanding of how OTs and OTAs work as partners to provide quality OT services to clients

Tim Nanof, AOTA lobbyist - Legislative issues at the national level including health care reform
Occupational Therapy Research Capstone Topics for the Academic Year

Health Literacy and Stroke Survivors: A Pilot Study
Leah Brendel, Brenda Lee, Margaret Obermeyer, Diana Wiskur, and Sarah Sanderman
Faculty Mentor: Mylene Schriner

Establishing Normative Data for Hand Grip Strength: Greenleaf Evaluation Reporting System
Keri Nance, Krystle Seigler, Jamie Luedtke, and Brad Schmidt
Faculty Mentor: Kris Vacek

Proactive or Reactive: Certified Driving Rehabilitation Specialists' Strategies to Meet the Needs of the Older Driver
Carrie Martin, Nicole Boydston, and Carrie Keirns
Faculty Mentor: Jane Rues

Older Adults Use of Technology in Home and Community Instrumental Activities of Daily Living
Abbey Bertalott, Denise Willemin, Brian Luebbering, and Sharon Tripoli
Faculty Mentor: Mary Jane Youngstom

The Development of the TOGSS as a Real-World Measure of Executive Functioning: Planning, Problem-Solving, and Working Memory
Shelby Shurtz, Alisa Reichenberger, Samantha Lester, Rachel Stieren, Lindsey Cherne, Erica Hinson, Monica Walter, and Tanya Brettman
Faculty Mentor: Elizabeth Zayat

Occupational Therapy Interventions in Nursing Homes: Is Occupation-Based Practice a Reality or a Dream
Danielle Copeland, Dan Kennedy, Audrey Boyd-Ewing, and Katie Cooper
Faculty Mentor: Mary Jane Youngstom

The Effect of Individualized Ergonomic Assessment and Intervention on Compliance and Satisfaction
Morgan Rousseau, Teresa Campbell, Trey Shandy, and Jamie Pool
Faculty Mentor: Jane Rues

The Possible Relationship between Video-Gaming Habits and Grip Strength Among Children
William Bates, Lindsey Herbert, Jennifer Mattox, and Erin Osborn
Faculty Mentor: Kris Vacek

2010 Class Gift
3 Drawings (right) by Jamie Pool ('10) Gifted to the Department of OT. Photos from Level I Fieldwork Experience in Winter Park, CO Thank you Jamie!!!
Service Learning

Service-learning (sér vis - lérn ing)– *noun*
A teaching methodology that extends learning beyond the classroom and into the community through relevant and meaningful service. Through the assignment of a project that addresses community needs, students learn from community members and develop leadership skills while practicing knowledge gained in class. Service-learning is at the heart of Rockhurst’s educational foundation: learning, leadership and service in the Jesuit tradition. Everyone benefits from service-learning. Community organizations benefit from student talent and faculty expertise, while students learn from and serve the community. We want to send a special thank you to the leaders in the community who allow our student to serve in their facility on a regular basis.

- Parkinson's Foundation of the Heartland
- Joshua Center
- Hope Care Center
- Operation Breakthrough
- Salvation Army Supportive Housing Program
- American Stroke Foundation

**OT/PT Pro Bono Clinic**
The clinic has been providing services to the community at the Kansas City Free Health Clinic since 2001. It complements the mission of Rockhurst University. The clinic serves people who are uninsured or otherwise unable to pay for therapy services. The clinic enhances the quality of life for those citizens while helping Rockhurst faculty and students give greater love, care, and compassion for our neighbor. Additionally, the clinic provides opportunities for students to supplement their clinical skills by gaining hands-on experience in evaluating and educating patients under the supervision of a licensed clinician. This past year, we served 55 clients; more than we have ever served.

Thank you to the Kansas City Free Health Clinic for your deep commitment to Rockhurst.

**OT is Blogging!**
This blog started to document the *fieldwork adventures* of Rockhurst University's Occupational Therapy Education Program. We travel to many interesting places and have been blessed with an abundance of opportunities to learn and serve. Recently we began adding a few personal reflections related to the Rockhurst experience, occupational therapy, and life in general. We hope you enjoy reading about our adventures both on and off campus.

Check us out at [http://www.otfieldofview.blogspot.com/](http://www.otfieldofview.blogspot.com/)
15 Year Anniversary Celebration

Please save the date for Friday, November 19, 2010! Rockhurst University is celebrating its centennial and the Rockhurst OT program is celebrating its 15th anniversary. In honor of these special hallmarks, the RU OT department is hosting a celebration. The theme of the centennial celebration is Learning, Leading and Serving in OT Profession. This event will include a day of scholarship, continuing education, and celebration for our current students, their families and RU OT alumni. Virginia Stoffel, PhD, OT, BCMH, FAOTA, Vice President of the American Occupational Therapy Association, will highlight leadership and progress towards the Centennial Vision of the OT profession. Students from the class of 2011 will present their Research Capstone Projects followed by a reception to celebrate the past, present, and future of our OT program.

Thank you to the Fieldwork Sites who Educated our Students This Year!

Alberta Health Services
Alphapointe
Allina
American Stroke Foundation
Athletico
Beatrice Community Hospital
Blue Springs School District
Blue Valley School District
Brooklyn Park NovaCare
Cancer Rehabilitation Specialists
Carmel Hills Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center
Carondelet Manor
Children’s Mercy Hospital
Children’s Spot
Children’s Therapeutic Learning Center
Children’s Center for the Visually Impaired
Children’s Therapy Group
Colorado AgrAbility Project
Colorado Center for Pediatric Learning and Development
Colorado Therapeutic Riding Center
Columbia School District
Cooper County Memorial Hospital & Clinics
Crane Rehab Center LLC
Cushing Hospital
Damien House
Denver Health
Four Fountains Convalescent Center
Freda Markley Early Childhood Center
Fridley NovaCare
Garden Terrace
George Washington University Hospital
Giant Steps
HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital
Plano
Hedrick Medical Center
Infant Development Center
Integrity Home Health Care
Jefferson City School District
John Knox Home Health
Kansas Rehabilitation Hospital
Kansas University Medical Center
Kansas University Medical Center-West
La Posada
Lakeview Village
Lancaster Rehabilitation Hospital
LaVerna Village Nursing Home & Apts
Leavenworth School District
Lee’s Summit R-7 School District
Lee's Summit Medical Center Outpatient Therapy
Liberty School District
Lifecare Center of Grandview
Lifecare Center of Yuma
Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital
ManorCare Overland Park
Mary Echterling
Meadowlark
Menorah Medical Center
Mercy Regional Health Center
Meriter Hospital
Mid America Rehabilitation Hospital
Minds Matters
Moline School District
Mt. Carmel Senior Living
Munroe-Meyer Institute
National Sports Center for the Disabled
Naval Medical Center Portsmouth
Nebraska AgrAbility
Newmark Health Care Center
North Kansas City Early Childhood Education Center
North Kansas City Hospital
North Kansas City School District
North Kansas City School Early Childhood
NovaCare Outpatient Rehabilitation
Olathe Home Health
Olathe Medical Center
Olathe School District
OT Outreach
Overland Park Medical Center
Overland Park Regional Medical Center
Pediatric Therapy Institute
ProRehab PC
Provena Covenant Medical Center
Providence Holy Cross Medical Center
Providence Medical Center
Rehabilitation Institute of Kansas City
Rehabilitation Institute of Kansas City - West
Research Medical Center
Research Medical Center Outpatient Therapy
Research Psychiatric Center
Sam & Rose Stein Education Center
Sensory Solutions
SERC Physical Therapy
Shawnee Mission Medical Center
Special School District
SSM Physical Therapy
St. Francis Medical Center
St. John Home Care
St. John's Hospital
St. John's Mercy Rehabilitation Hospital
St. Joseph Health Center
National Mental Wellness Center
St. Luke Plaza
St. Luke’s Hospital Northland
St. Luke’s Hospital of Kansas City
St. Luke's Hospital East
St. Luke's South
St. Mary's Outpatient Clinic
Sunshine Center
Tabitha Health Care Services
The Carlton at the Lake
The Cedars at JCA
Therapy Associates LLC
Therapy In Action
Tiny Tots
TMC Behavioral Health
Topeka Presbyterian Manor
Triumph Hospital
Truman Medical Center Behavioral Health
Truman Medical Center Hospital Hill
Truman Medical Center Lakewood
USD 383 Manhattan
Wesley Rehabilitation Hospital
Student Occupational Therapy Association (SOTA) Update

The Student Occupational Therapy Association has been very active this past year! In the fall SOTA members hosted a Mexican pot-luck for all OT students and participated in the Alzheimer’s walk in November where they raised money to support the Alzheimer’s Association. In the spring, SOTA members celebrated national occupational therapy month by attending the greater Kansas City chapter of the Missouri Occupational Therapy Association (MOTA) followed by a night of bowling. The students also volunteered and participated in the Trolley Run benefitting the Children’s Center for Visually Impaired on April 25th. Many of the 1st and 2nd year students attended the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) conference in Orlando, FL at the end of April. In June, Rockhurst University is the sponsoring school of the Army.Guy.com project. This project involves collaboration with an occupational therapist serving in Afghanistan. The students are currently collecting toiletries, non-perishable food items, and therapy supplies to send over to the troops. Additionally, the June SOTA meeting will include a live webcast between the students and the army occupational therapist while he is treating soldiers at the army clinic in Afghanistan. This will be a wonderful opportunity for the students to learn about globalization and occupational therapy service within the military! In July, SOTA is hosting a barbeque for the incoming first year class during orientation.
Student & Alumni updates

Congratulations to the following RU OT students whose research was recently presented at the American Occupational Therapy Association conference in Orlando, FL: William Bates ('10), Lindsey Herbert ('10), Jennifer Mattox ('10), Erin Osborn ('10), Tanya Brettman ('10), Lindsey Cherne ('10), Erica Hinson ('10), Samantha Lester ('10), Alisa Reichenberger ('10), Shelby Shurtz ('10), Rachel Stieren ('10), Monica Walter ('10), Jamie Luedtke ('10), Keri Nance ('10), Krystle Seigler ('10), Brad Schmidt ('10), Jennifer Bohan ('09), Monica Grewal ('09), Jenna Halstead ('09), and Amanda Thompson ('09).

Congratulations to Erin Meredith ('10), Georgeanna White ('09), Rachel Rama ('09) and Teryn Ebert ('09), and former RU faculty member Dr. Janis Davis for the acceptance of their research paper to the International Listening Association, Listening Education. The title of the article is Occupational and Physical Therapy Students’ Conceptualizations of Listening and Learning to Detect Non-Verbal Emotional States.

Brian Mills ('00) was Featured in Rockhurst Magazine. The winter 2010 issue includes a story that features many graduates from Rockhurst University who are working in the healthcare field.

Danae Koopman ('11) recently became engaged to Barry Eitzmann. They plan to marry on April 9, 2011 in Seward, Nebraska. Congratulations!

Lindsey Cherne ('10) is engaged to Tommy Frevert (current PT student) Their wedding will be on May 21, 2011 at St. Mark's Catholic Church in Independence.

Lisa Porter ('94) Has been accepted into a 10 week long Fellowship with Dr. Lucy Miller. She will work with children and other researchers at the Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD) Foundation in Denver, CO. She currently runs her private practice in Portland, Oregon.

Morgan (Rousseau) Shirley ('10) married Jason Shirley on December 19 in Edwardsville, Illinois.

Sharon Tripoli ('10) became engaged to Jared Austin. They will be getting married on 12/11/10 in Kansas City

Occupational Therapy Department—Fund Raising Campaign

If you have not yet had an opportunity to contribute to the OT program, we would appreciate the support. Please complete the form below and return this sheet with your donation. We thank you in advance for your support of our students and faculty!

If you want your gift received by OT, Please make it clear as to how would you like your gift directed?

1. OT General Fund
2. Jane Rues Family Scholarship Fund (OT)
3. Other_____________________________________

There are Several Ways to Make a Gift—online, mail, or give us a call

Online: visit us at http://www.rockhurst.edu/alumni/giving/makeagift.asp

Mail Us A Check: Occupational Therapy Education—Rockhurst University
1100 Rockhurst Rd.
Kansas City, MO 64110

Call: 816.501.4629
Hello Out There...

We’d like to hear from you and share your news with other alumni in an upcoming issue of Rockhurst’s Therapy News. Please mail this completed form to: Rockhurst University, OT Program, Attn: Amy McPherson, 1100 Rockhurst Road, Kansas City, MO 64110-2561. You may also e-mail your news to occupational.therapy@rockhurst.edu. Photos are welcome.

FULLNAME: ____________________________________________________________

First                                           Middle                                           Last (maiden)

DEGREE/YEAR: __________________________ CHECK HERE IF THIS IS A NEW ADDRESS _________

HOME ADDRESS: ___________________________________________________________________

CITY/STATE/ZIP: __________________________________________________________________

TELEPHONE: __________________________ EMAIL: _______________________________________

HERE’S MY NEWS: _________________________________________________________________