

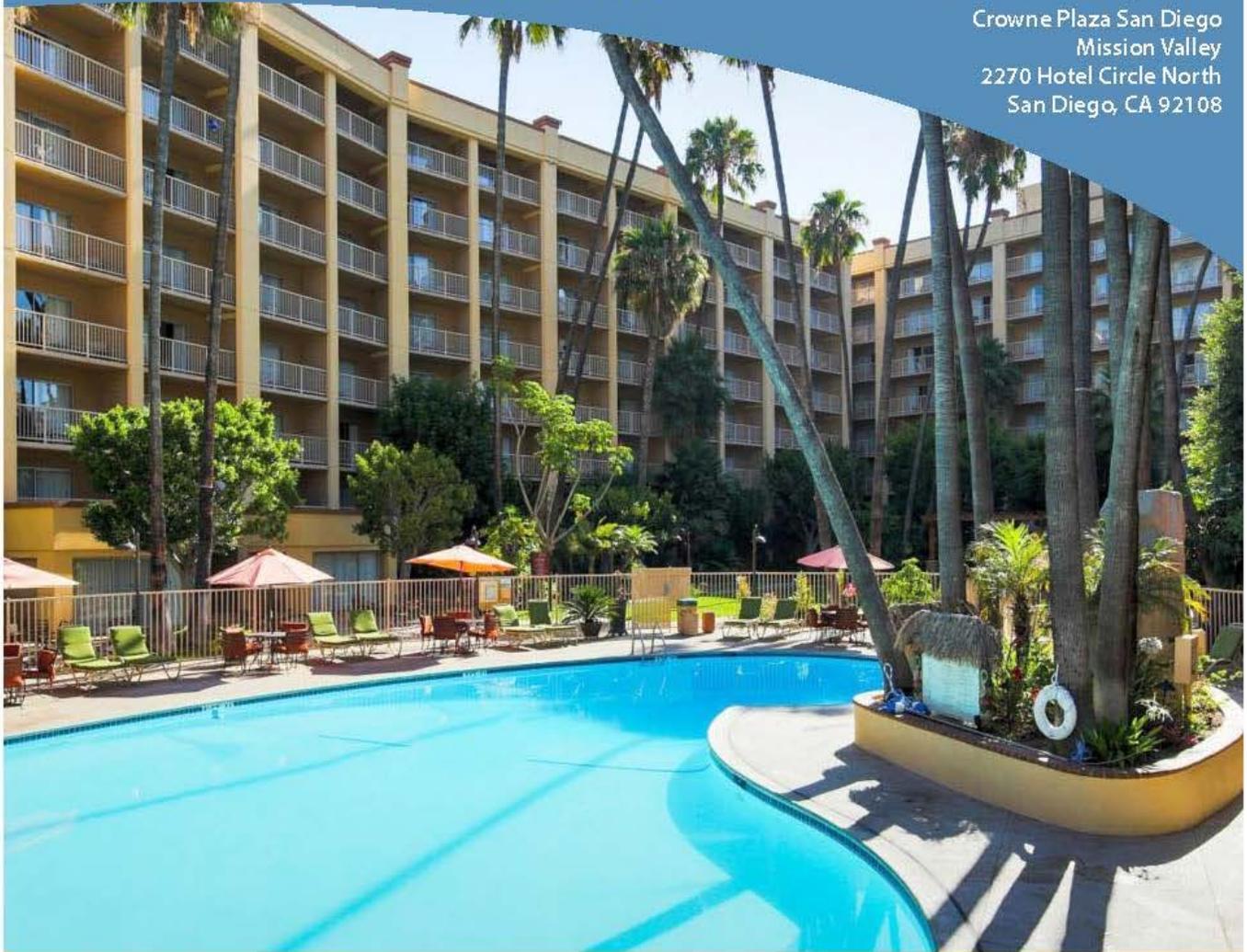


# SPRING SYMPOSIUM

CONTINUING EDUCATION CONFERENCE

March 19 & 20, 2016

Crowne Plaza San Diego  
Mission Valley  
2270 Hotel Circle North  
San Diego, CA 92108



## Presenter Directory

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## ***Thank You to Our Presenters***

OTAC expresses its sincere appreciation to the 2016 Spring Symposium presenters for sharing their knowledge with our Symposium attendees and for taking time away from their professional careers and personal lives to prepare for, travel to, and present at the Spring Symposium. Their dedication to serving OTAC's mission to provide quality, timely, and cost effective professional development. We particularly express our appreciation to those presenters who support OTAC through their personal membership. ***Please thank our presenters.***

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**Valerie S. Adams, MA, OTR/L**, has been an occupational therapy practitioner for over 30 years. For most of that time she has worked in schools in various capacities. For a number of years she owned her own non-public agency that contracted with over 20 school districts in Los Angeles County providing both occupational therapy and physical therapy. She was also the coordinator of occupational therapy and physical therapy services for Long Beach Unified School District for nearly nine years. She currently works as a supervisor for Gallagher Pediatric Therapy. She has presented for OTAC and other professional organizations on topics related to school-based occupational therapy.

***Session 11 – March 19, 2016 – 9:00am – 11:00am***

***Session 57 – March 20, 2016 – 9:00am – 4:30pm***

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**Sarah Appleman, MS, OTR/L**, is a pediatric occupational therapy practitioner currently residing in San Diego, California. She has two passions in life: children and animals. Early in her career, Appleman decided to combine both of these interests and opened a pediatric animal-assisted therapy clinic in Long Beach, New York. It was through this clinic that she fully developed an understanding of the wonderful effect animals can have on children and came up with the concept for *Paw Prints* while teaching handwriting skills to children with disabilities.

***Session 61 – March 20, 2016 – 10:00am – 12:00noon***

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**Nicole Archambault Besson, EdS, MS, CCC-SLP, CLEC**, is an ASHA board certified speech-language pathologist, orofacial myofunctional therapist, and sleep literacy advocate. She is the founder and executive director of Minds In Motion, a pediatric clinic in Santa Monica, California. Besson is on the faculty of the Academy of Orofacial Myofunctional Therapy (AOMT) and is currently a student in the Mind, Brain, and Teaching graduate certificate program at The Johns Hopkins University. She holds an EdS with a specialization in brain research and concentration in instructional leadership from Nova Southeastern University, a Master of Science in speech and hearing sciences from the University of New Mexico, and a Bachelor of Arts in speech and hearing sciences from Washington State University. Besson is a seven-time recipient of the ACE award from ASHA for her dedication to continued professional study. She is a national speaker on the topic of sleep-disordered breathing, about which she also writes professionals articles.

***Session 72 – March 20, 2016 – 1:30pm – 3:00pm***

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**Megan Armstrong, OTD, OTR/L, CLT**, received her doctorate and master's at the USC Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy. She has presented at OTAC and AOTA annual conferences on compassion fatigue with focused studies on professional quality of life. Armstrong currently practices at UCSF Medical Center in acute inpatient care.

**Session 81 – March 20, 2016 – 3:00pm – 4:30pm**

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**Elisse Azofeifa, MS, OTR/L**, is a graduate of Boston University with a master's in occupational therapy. After working on an acute inpatient unit at John George Psychiatric Hospital, her role expanded to developing and delivering an occupational therapy program for the Hospital's Psychiatric Emergency Service. Azofeifa is a member of Alameda County South National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and is on the steering committee for NAMI Walks Bay Area.

**Session 41 – March 19, 2016 – 2:30pm – 4:30pm**

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**Angela R. Baker, PhD, OTD, MA, OTR/L, CTRS**, is an occupational therapy practitioner and faculty member of the Master of Occupational Therapy (MSOT) program at Stanbridge College in Irvine, California. Baker initiated her health care career in 1994 upon graduation from Longwood College in Farmville, Virginia, with a baccalaureate degree in therapeutic recreation and minors in art and women's studies. She continued her studies at the University of Southern California, Universal University, and Rocky Mountain University with degrees in occupational therapy and natural health sciences. Baker has practiced occupational therapy in a variety of settings including school-based pediatrics, home health, acute rehabilitation, psychiatric rehabilitation, geriatric psychiatric care, adaptive yoga, and international program development.

**Session 83 – March 20, 2016 – 3:00pm – 4:30pm**

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**Alexander J. Barajas, OTS**, is a second year graduate student in the Master of Science in occupational therapy at Stanbridge College. He received his Bachelor of Arts in theater at the University of California, Irvine. His cultural background and focus on community collaboration has led him to a number of volunteer opportunities and community leadership roles. He currently is the treasurer for the Stanbridge Student Occupational Therapy Association and is also a Student Leadership Committee delegate for the Occupational Therapy Association of California.

**Session 83 – March 20, 2016 – 3:00pm – 4:30pm**

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**Steve Barbour, MA, OTR/L**, is the co-CEO/co-founder of Evolve Therapy, a private practice that provides in-home occupational and physical therapy services for older adults in Los Angeles, California. He graduated from the University of Southern California with a Master of Arts in occupational therapy. While at USC, Barbour was the recipient of the Lisa Marie Bucher Award from the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy. He completed his undergraduate degree from the University of Maryland, receiving a Bachelor of Arts in psychology. He has extensive experience working with older adults in the skilled nursing and community settings and has served within the American Occupational Therapy Association in various capacities, including committee member of the Emerging Leaders Development Program (2010-2013).

**Session 13 – March 19, 2016 – 9:00am – 11:00am**

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**Kerstin Baun, MPH, OTR/L**, joined Advanced Arm Dynamics in November 2011 at the Northwest Center of Excellence in Portland, Oregon, where she works exclusively with patients that have upper limb amputations. Baun frequently presents on the topic of upper limb amputation and related sequelae at local, state, and national venues. She received a Bachelor of Science in occupational therapy in 1990 at the University of British Columbia. In 2008, she received a Master of Public Health at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, where she was the recipient of the Delta Omega Academic Excellence Award.

**Session 24 – March 19, 2016 – 11:00am – 12:00pm**

**Session 63 – March 20, 2016 – 10:30am – 12:00pm**

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**Fredlyn Berger, OTR/L, SWC, HTC, C/SIPT**, during her extensive career of 45 years as a practicing occupational therapy practitioner, has experienced the full spectrum of practice settings and all ages from premature birth to geriatric level. She has been involved in providing treatment and developing programs in acute care hospitals, outpatient programs, rehabilitation centers, home health agencies, and private clinics. In 2003, Berger received the right to be a vendor to the State of California for the early start program and created Every Child Achieves, Inc. Over the course of 12 years, Every Child Achieves grew to be a primary provider for seven different Regional Centers throughout Southern California. She employs over 100 clinicians as part of her team approach including occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech-language pathologists and child development specialists.

**Session 35 – March 19, 2016 – 1:30pm – 4:30pm**

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**Session 17 – March 19, 2016 – 9:00am – 12:00pm**

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**Julie Bissell, OTD, OTR/L, ATP**, is a clinical instructor teaching a course in school-based occupational therapy practice at the University of Southern California and has been practicing in the California public schools for over 30 years. She is a past chair of the AOTA Sensory Integration Special Interest Section and co-authored the AOTA Sensory Integration Fact Sheet and an Official Document, *Occupational Therapy for Children and Youth Using Sensory Integration Theory and Methods in School-Based Practice*. Bissell is an OTAC liaison to the California Department of Education (CDE) and co-chaired the CDE *Guidelines for OT and PT in the California Public Schools* revisions. She is co-chair of the OTAC School-Based Practice Subcommittee of the OTAC Practice, Ethics, and Reimbursement Committee and serves on the OTAC OT Credential Initiative team.

**Session 44 – March 19, 2016 – 3:00pm – 4:30pm**

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**Hannah Boelman, OTS**, is currently an occupational therapy student at Stanbridge College. She graduated from California Lutheran University with a Bachelor of Art in psychology with an emphasis in child and family development. Boelman has served as a youth director leading the high school youth group at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Dana Point, California. She has also worked as a child care provider for numerous families in the community.

**Session 73 – March 20, 2016 – 1:30pm – 3:00pm**

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**Alfred G. Bracciano, EdD, MSA, OTR/L, FAOTA, FAIS**, is an academician and clinician. He is an associate professor and director of the Alaska Distance Pathway at UAA, visiting professor at Jinan University, China, and Yonsei University, South Korea. Bracciano lectures extensively on physical agents and orthopedics nationally and internationally and serves on a number of journals and professional boards.

**Session 14 – March 19, 2016 – 9:00am – 11:00pm**

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**Meghan Busick, OTS**, is an occupational therapy student at Stanbridge College. She received her Bachelor of Science in exercise biology at the University of California, Davis. She loves being physically active through dance and music, exercise, swimming, and sports, and hopes to incorporate this passion into her future occupational therapy practice.

**Session 37 – March 19, 2016 – 1:30pm – 4:30pm - Student Track**

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**Ellen Bustamante, MA, CCC-SLP**, is a speech-language pathologist currently working at Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare in the children's services department where she specializes in treating pragmatic language disorders and dysphasia. Bustamante worked alongside occupational therapy practitioners in a traditional social skills group and has created a curriculum targeting pragmatic language that complements occupational therapy objectives. In addition, she was heavily involved in research design to investigate the use of LEGO® construction in a group therapy setting to target pragmatic language and social skills. Following completion of this research, Bustamante helped create and run an ongoing interdisciplinary occupational therapy/speech therapy program using construction tasks to improve social skills in children with pragmatic language disorders.

***Session 34 – March 19, 2016 – 1:30pm – 3:00pm***

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**Rebecca Buza, OTS**, is a Master of Science in occupational therapy student at Stanbridge College in Irvine, California. She received her Bachelor of Science in kinesiology at California Polytechnic State University of Pomona.

***Session 70 – March 20, 2016 – 1:30pm – 3:00pm***

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**Keven R. Carney, OTD, OT**, is a recent graduate of Creighton University's doctor of occupational therapy program. After years of education and professional experience in kinesiology and exercise science, he felt compelled to finish his education and pursue a career in academia. Without wishing to spend his life in a lab, Carney found occupational therapy to be the profession with both clinical relevance and limitless potential to impact the future needs of health care. In relation to his background and the vision of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), he sees a large opportunity to bridge the latest scientific knowledge in exercise physiology with the clinical application of occupational therapy, in an effort to benefit patients, practitioners, and the profession of occupational therapy.

***Session 14 – March 19, 2016 – 9:00am – 11:00am***

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**Ally Chang, OTS**, is a first-year Master of Arts student in occupational therapy at the University of Southern California. As part of her merit-based scholarship, she is currently assisting Natalie Leland, PhD, OTR/L, BCG, FAOTA, in her research on the occupational therapy's role in fall prevention for older adults in post-acute settings. Chang's clinical area of interest is in adult rehabilitation.

*Session 33 – March 19, 2016 – 1:30pm – 3:00pm*

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**Jennifer Chin, OTS**, is a Master of Science in occupational therapy student at Stanbridge College. Jennifer received her Bachelor of Science in nutritional sciences at University of California, Berkeley. She looks forward to working with older adults in her career as an occupational therapist.

*Session 70 – March 20, 2016 – 1:30pm – 3:00pm*

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**Melissa Clark, DHSc, OTR/L (AZ), CHT**, is an assistant professor and has been a faculty member at A.T. Still University since 2008. She received her Doctorate of Health Science degree in global health from Nova Southeastern University in August 2015, a bachelor's degree in occupational therapy from Indiana University and a master's degree in exercise science and health promotion from California University in Pennsylvania. Clark has been an occupational therapy practitioner for over 25 years and became a Certified Hand Therapist in 1989. Her clinical experiences cover a broad spectrum including outpatient hand therapy, acute and outpatient burns, acute trauma, neuro rehabilitation, school system and home health. Clark has served several positions on the executive board for the Arizona State Occupational Therapy Association (ATSU) and was awarded the Arizona Occupational Therapist of the Year Award in 2002. She received Faculty of the Year Awards at ATSU in 2011 and 2013.

*Session 51 – March 20, 2016 – 9:00am – 10:00am*

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**Cynthia Cooper, MFA, MA, OTR/L (AZ), CHT**, is a clinician, author, researcher, and educator. She has practiced occupational therapy and hand therapy for over 35 years and has published chapters in various hand therapy, occupational therapy, and physical therapy textbooks and journals. Cooper is the editor of "Fundamentals of Hand Therapy: Clinical Reasoning and Treatment Guidelines for Common Diagnoses of the Upper Extremity," which is in its second edition and is on the NBCOT recommended reading list for preparation for the OTR examination. She has presented at

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international and national meetings of occupational therapy and hand therapy organizations and has won several honors including ASHT's Best Scientific Paper Award, ASHT's Best Poster Award, AOTA's Service Award, and the ArizOTA Dennis Krenek Volunteer Service Award. She was an invited overseas guest speaker for the Hong Kong Society for Hand Therapists and the Hong Kong Society for Surgery of the Hand in 2014.

***Session 32 – March 19, 2016 – 1:30pm – 3:00pm***

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**Amber Cote, OTS**, is an occupational therapy student at Stanbridge College. She received her Bachelor of Arts in communications from the University of California, Santa Barbara in 2009.

***Session 37 – March 19, 2016 – 1:30pm – 4:30pm - Student Track***

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**Karen R. Crum, OTD, OTR/L, CLT**, graduated from the University of Southern California (USC) with her clinical doctorate in occupational therapy and worked as a graduate assistant in the Health Services Research Lab. She is currently an assistant professor of clinical occupational therapy at Keck Hospital USC, specializing in outpatient treatment for patients with lymphedema. Crum has an ongoing interest in facilitating the translation and implementation of evidence into practice to align post-acute care rehabilitation with the priorities of health care reform.

***Session 33 – March 19, 2016 – 1:30pm – 3:00pm***

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**Teresa Daugherty, OTR/L**, is manager of occupational therapy/activity therapy at John George Psychiatric Hospital (JGPH) and the activity therapy department at Fairmont Hospital Skilled Nursing, Alameda Health System. A SJSU graduate, she is a seasoned therapist and engaged manager. Under her management of the occupational therapy/activity therapy department with their goal of patient-centered care, JGPH is nationally ranked in the top 10 percent for patient satisfaction. Within the past year, the occupational therapy department was recognized by the Alameda County Network of Mental Health Client's Reach Out, a client-run hospital visitation program.

***Session 41 – March 19, 2016 – 2:30pm – 4:30pm***

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**Judy Delaware, OTR/L (CO)**, has over 32 years of extensive experience with both geriatric and pediatric patients, both institutional and in homes. She has taught many classes to other occupational therapy practitioners and published a number of books, including “Management of Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis”. Delaware is a well-known feeding expert.  
*Session 55 – March 20, 2016 – 9:00am – 12:00pm*

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**Louie Delaware, CLIPP, CAPS, ACPC**, has a knack for being able to describe home safety issues in easy-to-understand terms comes after 22 years in the field of advanced research and development for medical and analytical devices. He has been awarded many different patents and received the prestigious international R&D 100 award for advanced technologies. In 2004, he founded US Safety Pros, LLC, which specializes in childproofing, radon testing and mitigation, home accessibility, and many other home safety services. Delaware is a sought after safety expert for TV news and radio programs, along with many newspapers (including USA Today®), where he is known as The Home Safety Guru®. He holds the following certifications: Certified Living in Place Specialist™ (CLIPS), Certified Aging in Place Specialist® (CAPS), Advanced Certified Professional Childproofer® (ACPC), Radon Mitigation and National Program for Playground Safety.  
*Session 55 – March 20, 2016 – 9:00am – 12:00pm*

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**Catherine Dorr, MS, OTR/L**, currently serves as a full-time occupational therapy practitioner within the Polytrauma Network System (PNS) at the Department of Veteran Affairs treating veterans and active duty military with moderate to profound brain injuries and amputations. She is also a current doctoral candidate at the University of Southern California’s Mrs. T.H. Chan School of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, developing a standardized practice and protocol for the use of canine facilitated interventions in occupational therapy. Additionally, Dorr has been a certified assistance dog trainer and instructor since 2006 and has lectured nationally and internationally on the benefits of assistance dogs and canine facilitated interventions for individuals with profound injuries, illnesses and disabilities. She has been recognized for her contributions to the field of patient-centered care as a Jefferson Award recipient, a Philadelphia Health Hero finalist, and by a commendation from the Pennsylvania State Senate.  
*Session 80 – March 20, 2016 – 3:00pm – 4:30pm*

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**Uchenna Ebiringah, OTS**, is currently in pursuit of his Master of Science in occupational therapy degree at Stanbridge College located in Irvine, California. As an undergraduate student at Elmhurst College, Uchenna majored in exercise science with a minor in psychology and played on the College's NCAA football team and school sanctioned rugby club. As a collegiate athlete, Uchenna was exposed to taping interventions for the facilitation of athletic performance. A combined two years of volunteer and work experience with fitness specialists and rehabilitative therapists at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital and Athletico Physical Therapy exposed Uchenna to rehabilitative strategies for combating various musculoskeletal and orthopedic conditions. As an avid fitness enthusiast, he continuously searches for intervention strategies that promote optimal performance and prolonged injury free participation in physical activity. Uchenna has encountered many athletes who promote the benefits of kinesiotape application, particularly CrossFit athletes.

**Session 30 – March 19, 2016 – 1:30pm – 2:30pm**

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**Sarah Eggen-Thornhill, OTR/L, CBIS, SWC**, has practiced as an occupational therapy practitioner for 21 years, specializing in neurological rehabilitation. Since 2007, she has been in a general partnership with Dee Dee Clarke, as co-owners of their private practice – OT House Calls. (Clarke and Eggen-Thornhill first met at an OTAC Board of Directors meeting while serving as OTAC Chapter Directors.) Eggen-Thornhill also serves as the health educator and coordinator for the San Mateo County Fall Prevention Task Force.

**Session 42 – March 19, 2016 – 3:00pm – 4:30pm**

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**Ernie Escovedo, OTD, OTR/L, CES, CA PAM approved**, received his first degree in occupational therapy from San Jose State University, followed by his post-graduate doctoral degree from Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions in 2014. His career has included clinic work with the brain injury, spinal cord injury, and CVA population, as well as management and educational training/coordination responsibilities with companies such as Pace Therapy, South Coast Rehabilitation, and Sundance Rehabilitation. In 2004, he joined Accelerated Care Plus (ACP) where he expanded his training experience to include program management and consultation to therapy departments and administration in multiple sites throughout the Western United States. Escovedo has provided extensive continuing education to occupational and physical therapy

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practitioners in topics that include physical agent modality basics, pain management, fall prevention, contracture management, progressive resistive exercises with elastic bands, virtual reality augmented therapy, and congestive heart failure. In his current role as Regional Consultant for Clinical Services for ACP, he is responsible for all clinical education and training for new clinical program consultants within the Western States.

**Session 56 – March 20, 2016 – 9:00am – 12:00pm**

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**Nicole Foster** is an energetic, inquisitive senior in high school who is passionate about education. She uses technology daily to accomplish most tasks in her life, enriching her education and social interactions. Foster offers a rich, poignant, first-hand insight into the adolescent experience. She currently attends high school in Santa Maria, California, where she is active with church, tutoring for students struggling in math up to calculus, and community service. She has led workshops for military teenagers promoting resilience and stress management. She is the president of the California Scholarship Federation for her school, and a National Honor Society member. Foster's goal is to become an occupational therapy practitioner and a military officer.

**Session 40 – March 19, 2016 – 2:30pm – 4:30pm**

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**Stephanie Foster, PhD, OTR/L**, has a passion centered on children and families with a variety of special needs. She has been an occupational therapy practitioner since 1991 and currently owns and operates Kid's Work, a private practice that specializes in working with families and children with sensory processing disorders. Her passion is to help families understand self-regulation and to help children function without medication. Foster completed her Bachelor of Science from Tufts University in occupational therapy, and her Master of Science from Boston University in pediatric occupational therapy. Here she completed a fellowship on the efficacy of occupational therapy in the schools, and certification on the Sensory Integration and Praxis Test. She completed her PhD in prenatal and perinatal psychology from the Chicago School of Psychology (Santa Barbara Graduate Institute).

**Session 40 – March 19, 2016 – 2:30pm – 4:30pm**

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**Joyce Fries, MS, OTR/L**, has been practicing occupational therapy since 1987. She began in Connecticut where she graduated from Quinnipiac University. She moved to California first in 1989 and worked at Cedars-Sinai as well as Casa Colina in the Los Angeles area. In 1993 she traveled to England and worked as an occupational therapy practitioner for one year. She was graced with the opportunity to sail the Aegean Sea for another year before returning to California. After returning to graduate school she completed her post-professional Master of Science at San Jose State University. Fries spent 14 years at Scripps Mercy Hospital working on every unit including trauma, ICU, behavioral health, and others. She also established and maintained the clinical fieldwork program and coordinated all student placements for OTR and OTA students for over 10 years. Currently she is the academic fieldwork coordinator for Grossmont College Occupational Therapy Assistant program in East San Diego County.

***Session 84 – March 20, 2016 – 3:00pm – 4:30pm***

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**Heather D. Gillies, OTD, OTR/L**, is currently an occupational therapy practitioner in gerontology at a continuous care retirement community. She recently completed her clinical doctorate with Natalie Leland, PhD, OTR/L, BCG, FAOTA, working with a team of researchers to qualitatively analyze focus group data on hip fracture rehabilitation and interviews of occupational therapy practitioners serving clients with chronic conditions.

***Session 43 – March 19, 2016 – 3:00pm – 4:30pm***

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**Elizabeth Gomes, MS, OTR/L**, is the regional director for Northern California for Burger Rehabilitation. She has served as the chair or co-chair of the OTAC Practice, Ethics, and Reimbursement Committee since 2010. Gomes has volunteered for three years with the California Partnership to Improve Dementia Care and has served as leader for the education work group for this partnership for the past two years. She has been an occupational therapy practitioner working in the area of geriatrics for over 25 years. She received her Master of Science in occupational therapy from San Jose State University and is a frequent presenter in the areas of documentation, dementia, fall prevention documentation to avoid denials, and other clinical topics. She also serves as an expert witness for the Board of Occupational Therapy in California. Gomes is a Dementia Care Certified Therapist.

***Session 36 – March 19, 2016 – 1:30pm – 4:30pm***

***Session 62 – March 20, 2016 – 10:00am – 12:00pm***

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**Nina Handojo, OTS**, is a second-year occupational therapy graduate student at University of Puget Sound and will be receiving her Master of Science Occupational Therapy December, 2016. She completed her Bachelor of Arts at Tulane University, where she majored in communication and sociology and minored in Spanish. Handojo is interested in pediatrics, mental health, community-based, and other emerging practice areas in occupational therapy.

**Session 37 – March 19, 2016 – 1:30pm – 4:30pm – Student**

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**Debbie Hines, MA, OTR/L (AZ)**, is president and co-owner of KidzSPOT Pediatric Therapy. She received a Bachelor of Science in occupational therapy from East Carolina University and a Master of Arts in organizational management from the University of Phoenix. Hines has over 30 years of experience in pediatrics. She is certified in the Neuro-Developmental Treatment approach for children with cerebral palsy and other neuromotor disorders as well as in the administration of the Sensory Integration and Praxis Test. In addition, she is a certified infant massage instructor. As an adjunct faculty, Hines has taught occupational therapy students at Northern Arizona University, A.T. Still University, and Midwestern University. She has served the Arizona Occupational Therapy Association in various leadership roles including as the Arizona representative to the Representative Assembly (RA) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) and is a past member of the AOTA RA Leadership Team. In 2003, Hines was awarded the Arizona Occupational Therapist of the Year Award.

**Session 51 – March 20, 2016 – 9:00am – 10:00am**

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**Sherry Hite, MOT, OTR/L**, is the occupational therapy department supervisor at City of Hope National Medical Center, one of the leading National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Centers in the U.S. Her practice is focused exclusively on the oncology setting, and she is a frequent speaker on the crucial and expanding role of occupational therapy in oncology. Hite manages doctoral-level research and quality improvement projects, some of which have resulted in the development of new and unique occupational therapy interventions. She earned her Master of Occupational Therapy, *summa cum laude*, and her Bachelor of Science, *cum laude*, in health science, from Loma Linda University. She was one of 13 individuals selected from a nationwide pool of competing candidates to participate in the first AOTA Leadership Development Program for Middle Managers, September, 2011.

**Session 37 – March 19, 2016 – 1:30pm – 4:30pm – Student Track**

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**Tracy Jalaba, OTD, OTR/L**, received her master's degree in occupational therapy and doctorate of occupational therapy from USC. She completed her doctoral residency at the USC Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice (OTFP) and focused on development for its program for adults and adolescents on the autism spectrum. As a clinical faculty member, Jalaba works primarily with clients in OTFP's autism spectrum disorder, college student, mental health, and weight management programs. In addition to her work at OTFP, she represents occupational therapy in the office for Disability Services and Programs at USC. She has a bachelor's degree in exercise biology from University of California at Davis. Her previous work and volunteer experience includes a year commitment with AmeriCorps working with at-risk youth in Arkansas, as well as non-profit work with Best Buddies, Camp Kesem, and Invisible Children.  
*Session 22 – March 19, 2016 – 11:00am – 12:00pm*

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**Mo Johnson, MS, OTR/L**, is a contributing faculty member in the Master of Occupational Therapy and Doctorate of Physical Therapy Programs at St. Augustine University for Health Science. She is simultaneously practicing as a staff occupational therapy practitioner in the acute and rehabilitation units for Scripps Memorial Hospital, Encinitas, in San Diego. Previously, Johnson practiced as an occupational therapy practitioner, occupational therapy clinical educational specialist, and supervisor for approximately 10 years at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, where her clinical experience included a wide variety of inpatient and outpatient conditions including traumatic brain injury, stroke, spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis, Guillain-Barré syndrome, and other neurological and orthopedic diagnoses. Currently, Johnson is an online and webinar presenter on topics such as low vision and multiple sclerosis through Rehab Education. She is a Return Peace Corps Volunteer spending over two and a half years in South America working as an occupational therapist/community rehabilitation therapist.  
*Session 75 – March 20, 2016 – 1:30pm – 4:30pm*

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**Katie Jordan, OTD, OTR/L**, has spanned the health care system spectrum from prevention to hospice and from clinician to administrator. As the director of the USC Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice she utilized her skills as a Lifestyle Redesign® specialist with clients. Jordan served as the lead therapist at a long-term acute care hospital, delivering acute rehabilitation and hospice care, and managing rehabilitation services on all units from a

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multidisciplinary approach. Currently, as the associate chair of Occupational Therapy Clinical Service in the USC Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy and as the director of Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy at Keck Hospital of USC and USC Norris Cancer Hospital, Jordan draws upon her leadership experiences to integrate, support, and expand access to clinical services in the USC health system and beyond.

**Session 74 – March 20, 2016 – 1:30pm – 3:00pm**

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**Leslyn Keith, OTD, OTR/L, CLT-LANA**, received her Bachelor of Arts in therapeutic recreation from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, CA in 1986. She earned her master's in occupational therapy from San Jose State University in California in 1998, when she also began studying about lymphedema. In 2000 she became a certified lymphedema therapist through the KloseNorton School of Lymphedema Therapy and became LANA certified in 2001. In 2010, she was also certified as a mastectomy fitter. Keith has been treating lymphedema and other chronic edemas since 1999 and has started three lymphedema therapy programs in California. She was the owner of a private practice lymphedema clinic for 12 years. Currently, she is an instructor with Klose Training & Consulting where she instructs therapists, physicians, and nurses in all aspects of lymphedema treatment and management in nine-day intensive courses offered throughout the United States. She also consults regarding complex lymphedema cases and lectures nationally regarding lymphedema, obesity, and private practice issues. Keith was the president of the board of directors for Enhancement, Inc., a non-profit organization working to improve the quality of life for breast cancer survivors, until its closure in 2012. In 2007 she co-founded, and now volunteer coaches, the Central Coast SurviveOars, a dragon boat team for women cancer survivors. She is presently pursuing a clinical doctorate in occupational therapy with a focus on lymphedema and obesity.

**Session 71 – March 20, 2016 – 1:30pm – 3:00pm**

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**Jessica Kersey, MS, OTR/L (NV), CBIS**, received a bachelor's in health science and a Master of Science in occupational therapy from the University of Florida. Since graduation, she has worked in inpatient rehabilitation with a special interest in stroke and brain injury rehabilitation. Kersey is a certified brain injury specialist and has presented at both state and national conferences on a variety of topics related to the treatment of individuals with neurologic conditions. In addition, she has a community-based private practice

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for individuals with neurological conditions. She is currently serving as the vice president of the Nevada Occupational Therapy Association.

**Session 10 – March 19, 2016 – 9:00am – 11:00am**

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**Heather J. Kitching, OTD, OTR/L**, practices as an independent contractor in home health care in the Los Angeles area. She is also a member of the fieldwork coordination team at California State University, Dominguez Hills. She has more than 24 years of experience in acute rehabilitation and, more recently, acute medical-surgical care. Kitching completed her clinical doctorate degree at the University of Southern California and has experience both in clinical teaching as well as classroom instruction. She has held many elected and appointed positions within the Occupational Therapy Association of California and is currently President-Elect for the 2015-2016 fiscal year, taking the office of President in July of 2016.

**OTAC Town Hall Lunch – March 19, 2016 - 12:00pm – 1:15pm**

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**Jean Koketsu, MS, OTR/L**, graduated from UCLA with a Bachelor of Arts in psychology and a Master of Science in occupational therapy from San Jose State University. She has been a lecturer at San Jose State University in the department of occupational therapy and has worked for 23 years as an occupational therapy practitioner primarily in physical disabilities settings including inpatient rehabilitation, acute care, and outpatient hand therapy. Koketsu has most recently worked as an occupational therapy practitioner in community-based settings with older adults. Her investigations into sleep originally stemmed from her clinical experiences when many of her patients were found to have sleep difficulties. Her research proved that sleep was vital to functioning and was neglected by herself, occupational therapy, and society at large. This realization convinced her to communicate and educate about the importance of this topic to occupational therapy students, occupational therapy practitioners, and the community at large.

**Session 54 – March 20, 2016 – 9:00am – 12:00pm**

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**Dak Kopec, PhD, MS Arch, MCHES, HHS**, holds a PhD in environmental psychology, master's degrees in architecture and community psychology, and a Bachelor of Science in health sciences. He holds certifications from the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing and the National Environmental Health Association. Kopec's publications include journal articles, monographs and four books. He was also a Fulbright Specialist and

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served appointed positions by the governor of Hawaii and the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (Fulbright).  
**Session 50 – March 19, 2016 – 3:00pm – 4:30pm**

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**Donnamarie Krause, MS, OTR/L**, has been an occupational therapy practitioner for 24 years in Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota, recently relocating to California to complete requirements for a PhD in rehabilitation science at Loma Linda University. She is currently a faculty instructor in the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy program and Occupational Therapy Assistant program at Stanbridge College in Irvine, California. Krause has 17 years of experience with burn injury, and is an experienced therapist in hand injuries, neurological impairments, and orthopedic diagnosis in a variety of inpatient and outpatient settings; including a metropolitan hospital serving many cultural enclaves, refugee, and immigrant populations. She seeks effective methodologies and interventions, in the field of occupational therapy.

**Session 30 – March 19, 2016 – 1:30pm – 2:30pm**  
**Session 73 – March 20, 2016 – 1:30pm – 3:00pm**

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**Natalie E. Leland, PhD, OTR/L, BCG, FAOTA**, is an assistant professor at the University of Southern California, with joint appointments in the Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy and Davis School of Gerontology. Her research expertise is in health services research with a focus on post-acute care quality and fall prevention. Her current work is funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

**Session 33 – March 19, 2016 – 1:30pm – 3:00pm**

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**Kimberly Perring Lenington, OTD, OTR/L**, is a clinical faculty member at the USC Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy. She completed her undergraduate degree in psychology at Chapman University followed by her master's and clinical doctorate degree at the University of Southern California. She is currently working at Keck Hospital of USC in acute inpatient services as well as teaching graduate coursework in wellness and clinical reasoning.

**Session 81 – March 20, 2016 – 3:00pm – 4:30pm**

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**Erik Listou, CLIPP, CAPS, CAASH, CGR, CGP, CR, LDST**, is proud to be a senior and is passionate about providing safe and comfortable housing for everyone. Recognized by the housing industry with six national certifications and project and leadership awards, he blends almost five decades as a building professional with a focus on bringing awareness of home safety issues to the industry, as well as the general public. He has published countless articles and produced/hosted his own talk radio and TV shows. From design to body language to strategic planning, he is an energetic public speaker and knowledgeable consultant on housing and business topics. Currently he is co-authoring “How to Live in Place” as a resource for adults, individuals with disabilities and others who simply want to live in place. Lisou holds the following certifications and accomplishments: Certified Living in Place Specialist™ (CLIPS), Certified Aging in Place Specialist (CAPS), Certified Active Adult Specialist in Housing (CAASH), Certified Graduate Remodeler (CGR), Certified Green Professional (CGP), Certified Remodeler (CR), Lead Dust Sampling Technician (LDST), Subject-Matter Expert for Carpentry Standards, Subject-Matter Expert for Project Management and Educational Licensee.

**Session 55 – March 20, 2016 – 9:00am – 12:00pm**

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**Jeff Magallanes, OTS**, graduated from UC Riverside with a Bachelor of Arts in interdisciplinary studies. After graduation, he received his first experience in occupational therapy by working with several different skilled nursing facilities. Now, as a master’s student, Magallanes continues to work with several skilled nursing facilities, with hopes to one day start a clinic of his own.

**Session 20 – March 19, 2016 – 11:00am – 12:00pm**

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**Muriel Ena C. Malixi, OTS, MSOT**, is an occupational therapy student at Stanbridge College, with a mission to provide occupational therapy to those in underrepresented populations. She graduated from Sonoma State University with a Bachelor of Science in business administration and is currently an assistant in a functional medicine practice. She has always been interested in a holistic approach to health and well-being and applies that vision to this project thesis and the refugee population whom it serves.

**Session 73 – March 20, 2016 – 1:30pm – 3:00pm**

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**Christine Martinez, OTR/L**

*Session 75 – March 20, 2016 – 1:30pm – 4:30pm*

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**Jenny Martinez, OTD**, is an assistant professor of clinical occupational therapy at the USC Mrs. T.H. Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy. Her interests center around promoting the meaningful involvement of patients, caregivers, clinicians, and other health care stakeholders in research and program development, as well as improving health status, health outcomes and quality of care for adults from ethnically and racially diverse backgrounds. She is also working to improve diversity and inclusiveness within occupational therapy education, an area that she is focusing her efforts as a member of the 2015-2016 cohort of AOTA Emerging Leaders Development Program.

*Session 43 – March 19, 2016 – 3:00pm – 4:30pm*

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**Sabrena McCarley, MBA-SL, OTR/L, CLIPP**, earned her Bachelor of Science in occupational therapy as well as her Master of Business Administration-Strategic Leadership from Dominican University of California. She is currently employed as a director of clinical education and outreach with Intergro Rehab Services and is responsible for therapist mentoring, training, program development, continuing education development, quality assurance, and regulatory support for over 45 facilities in California. McCarley has been a guest faculty speaker at OTA and occupational therapy programs and has presented at state, national, and international conferences. She obtained her CarFit Instructor Certification in 2013 and has been a leader for CarFit Technician Trainings, CarFit Event Coordinator Trainings as well as CarFit events. In 2015 she obtained her Certified Living in Place Certification and is a member of the Living in Place Advisory Panel. She is actively involved with OTAC leadership and is chair of the OTAC Advocacy and Government Affairs Committee.

*Session 15 – March 19, 2016 – 9:00am – 12:00pm*

*Session 60 – March 20, 2016 – 10:00am – 12:00pm*

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**Heather McEwen, OTR/L**

*Session 17 – March 19, 2016 – 9:00am – 12:00pm*

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**Monique McGivney** is a marketing professional and has dedicated her knowledge and passion to the mobility industry for the past decade. She graduated *cum laude* from Arizona State University with a Bachelor of Science in marketing. After working in the semiconductor industry for seven years she became a member of the marketing team at Vantage Mobility International (VMI), makers of wheelchair accessible vans. McGivney's tenure at VMI lasted nine years where her focus was connecting with the consumer; attending trade shows, obtaining customer feedback and data on products, and leading their social media team. In 2014 she took the helm of a start-up website, Crytico, which is a review based site for products and services in the mobility industry (scooters, wheelchairs, lift chairs, vans, etc.). After her year contract expired, she took on her latest role with Ability Center which is a mobility equipment dealer with 13 locations in California, Arizona, Nevada, and Oregon. Her role with Ability Center is to ensure the highest brand awareness and educate each community about the solutions her stores sell, service, and install.

**Session 52 – March 20, 2016 – 9:00am – 10:00am**

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**Denise M. Miller, MBA, OT/L**, has over 20 years' experience in occupational therapy practice, consultation, program development, and business development. She maintains a full-time director position at Glendale Adventist Medical Center in Glendale, California, where she researched, designed, developed and implemented the Live Well (55+) Senior Program. She is responsible for effectively navigating seniors and their families toward easier access to health care information, resources, and wellness and prevention programs both within the hospital and in the community. Miller earned a Bachelor of Arts in occupational therapy from the University of St. Catherine in St. Paul, Minnesota, and a Master in Business Administration from La Sierra University in Riverside, California. She was appointed in 2013 and re-appointed in 2015 by Governor Brown to the California License Board of Occupational Therapy (CBOT) and currently she is the president of CBOT. Miller is also a city-council appointee of the Glendale Commission on the Status of Women. She was the Region 5 Director of the American Occupational Therapy Association Political Action Committee (AOTPAC) for two-terms. She is an active member of the California (OTAC) and the American Occupational Therapy (AOTA) Associations and has served in a variety of leadership roles in both associations. Miller was a nationally recognized leader for occupational therapy in the areas of work and industry, authoring seven work-related manuals, a chapter in a self-paced clinical course,

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chapters in two text books and a regular column about work in *Advance for Occupational Therapists*. She has spent the last 14 years effectively lecturing and advocating for occupational therapy in the areas of outpatient therapy, hand therapy, and now senior wellness.  
**Session 36 – March 19, 2016 – 1:30pm – 4:30pm**

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**Bernard A.K. Muriithi, PhD, OTR/L**, presently works as occupational therapy practitioner with Oxnard School District, Interstate Rehab (acute care), and Wellcare Connects (home health). He holds a PhD in applied musicology and music therapy from the Otto-von-Guericke University of Magdeburg in Germany. Muriithi has researched and published on music, consciousness, health/healing, spirituality, culture, and protest music. He has an interest in teaching, and in researching occupational therapy interventions that involve music and its use in altering consciousness in individuals or groups of people for healing purposes.  
**Session 16 – March 19, 2016 – 9:00am – 12:00pm**

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**Patricia S. Nagaishi, PhD, OTR/L**, has over 30 years of experience as an occupational therapist with expertise in early intervention (birth to five), evaluation and assessment of young children, autism spectrum disorder and developmental disabilities, sensory processing/self-regulation, and infant and early childhood mental health. She has worked in medical and community-based settings, and also has extensive knowledge of interdisciplinary assessment and training; evidence-based interventions; and the laws/regulations affecting occupational therapy practice in the California systems serving children and youth. Currently, Nagaishi is in school-based practice as an occupational therapy specialist on the preschool assessment team with the Pasadena Unified School District. Among her previous roles, she was an occupational therapy consultant with the South Central Los Angeles Regional Center for many years, and has also served on the faculty with the occupational therapy program at California State University, Dominguez Hills. Nagaishi is the president of the Occupational Therapy Association of California and chairs the Autism Subcommittee of the OTAC Practice, Ethics, and Reimbursement Committee, which reviews and monitors legislation and regulations related to autism issues and services; their impact on occupational therapy practice; and makes recommendations for OTAC positions and actions in education and advocacy activities to ensure individuals with autism and their families have access to occupational therapy services and that occupational therapy practitioners are reimbursed by funding sources and payers. She also

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is working with the School-Based OT Subcommittee on an initiative for a credentialing process for occupational therapists in California public schools.

***OTAC Town Hall Lunch – March 19, 2016 - 12:00pm – 1:15pm***

***Session 36 – March 19, 2016 – 1:30pm – 4:30pm***

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**Anna Quyen Nguyen, OTD, OTR/L**, is an occupational therapy practitioner and currently works as the director of internship training at the Davis School of Gerontology where she places undergraduate and master's students in their fieldwork assignments. She has taught a course on universal design for the Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy at USC and has helped to develop several online and video-based courses on environmental modification and fall prevention, created to increase the knowledge base of professionals who work with older adults. Nguyen has also been a guest lecturer on a variety of topics including: fall prevention, home modification, aging in place, and universal design. Her interests include: the role of the environment in fall prevention, how an intentional design process and changing behavior strategies can positively affect the interaction of people with their surroundings, and how the home assessment process can best address the activity needs of the individual.

***Session 18 – March 19, 2016 – 9:00am – 4:30pm***

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**Mark Petersen, OTD, OTR/L**, is currently a member of the MSOT faculty at Stanbridge College in Irvine, California, where he teaches coursework in foundational occupational therapy, kinesiology, ethics, and pediatrics. He received his Master of Arts in occupational therapy in 2009 and his Doctorate of occupational therapy in 2010 from the University of Southern California. Petersen's doctorate project focused on establishing a low vision outpatient program at Keck Hospital of USC. Prior to joining Stanbridge College, he spent many years managing and practicing in an outpatient pediatric clinic and is Sensory Integration and Praxis Test certified.

***Session 20 – March 19, 2016 – 11:00am – 12:00pm***

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**Korinne Petris, OTS**, graduated from the California State University of Fullerton with a Bachelor of Science in kinesiology, which focused on gerontology and a minor in psychology. During her time as a master's student, Petris has held an executive chair position in the Stanbridge SOTA and actively participates in various volunteering events while maintaining her mark on the dean's list.

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She hopes to obtain an occupational therapy doctorate in the future and work in the psychiatric field of occupational therapy.

**Session 20 – March 19, 2016 – 11:00am – 12:00pm**

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**Shawn Phipps, PhD, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA**, has been an occupational therapy practitioner for 18 years and began his career at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center as a staff therapist, developing his clinical expertise working with children and adults with traumatic brain injury, spinal cord injury, and stroke. He has served as a supervisor and manager of occupational therapy services and currently serves as the Chief Quality Officer & Associate Hospital Administrator at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center as the first occupational therapist to be appointed to an executive leadership position at Rancho. Phipps also oversees the hospital's accreditation programs with The Joint Commission (TJC) and the Commission on the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) and provides oversight of the Quality Resource Management Department and the Patient Safety, Infection Control, and the Risk Management Departments.

Phipps is also an adjunct assistant professor of clinical occupational therapy at the University of Southern California and a member of the Board of Councilors for the USC Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, where he graduated with his occupational therapy degree in 1997 and currently teaches the leadership and management course content in the post-professional graduate program. Phipps has also served in various leadership roles with the Occupational Therapy Association of California and the American Occupational Therapy Association where he currently serves as vice president on the Board of Directors. He has also been honored with many awards for his contributions to the profession and both associations.

**Session 17 – March 19, 2016 – 9:00am – 12:00pm**

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**Deborah B. Pitts, PhD, OTR/L, BCMH, CPRP**, assistant professor, USC's Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, is an expert in mental health practice, chaired and/or served on AOTA's MHSIS, Board Certification in Mental Health workgroup, and mental health practice ad hoc work groups. Pitts received the OTAC 2011 Practice Award for her advocacy of occupational therapy in mental health and currently chairs the OTAC OTs as Licensed Mental Health Professionals Ad Hoc Committee.

**Session 12 – March 19, 2016 – 9:00am – 11:00am**

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**Samia Rafeedie, OTD, OTR/L, CBIS**, is an occupational therapy practitioner and assistant professor in clinical occupational therapy in the Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy at the University of Southern California. She has been on faculty since 2008 and is responsible for teaching the adult physical rehabilitation immersion course, as well as the kinesiology course. Her primary practice area has been with adults in a physical rehabilitation setting, as well as the older adult population in extended care facilities and skilled nursing facilities. She uses humor and compassion as therapeutic tools to connect with her clients and students alike. Rafeedie considers herself a generalist practitioner with a passion for developing occupation-centered experiences. She volunteers her time with the Occupational Therapy Association of California (OTAC) and is very passionate about the profession.

***Session 18 – March 19, 2016 – 9:00am – 4:30pm***

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**Nadia Rachel** is a Master of Design Studies candidate in design for human health at the Boston Architectural College, a Master's level mental health clinician and a dance/movement therapist. Her direct clinical experience with special populations and previous studies in architecture and design contribute to an integrated approach she takes when treating and designing for individuals. Rachel is committed to providing and advocating for the holistic and equitable care of individuals and communities, a marriage of nature and nurture, in order to achieve optimal well-being.

***Session 50 – March 20, 2016 – 9:00am – 10:00am***

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**Douglas Rakoski, OTD, OTR/L, ATP**, is an assistant professor and directs the Therapeutic Technology Program at Loma Linda University Medical Center. He has served as clinical specialist in assistive technology for the University of Michigan Health System managing the Computer Assisted Therapy Program. Rakoski worked for six years at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center where he specialized in spinal cord injury and performed assistive technology evaluations at the Center for Applied Rehabilitation Technology. His research experience includes participation in a National Institutes of Health grant on implantable electrodes in stroke survivors and a National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research grant on mobile arm support development.

***Session 53 – March 20, 2016 – 9:00am – 10:30am***

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**Lindsey Reeves, OTD, OTR/L**, received her Doctorate of Occupational Therapy in 2015 from the University of Southern California and her Masters of Occupational Therapy in 2015 from the University of Southern California. Her residency was completed at the USC Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice, where she practiced Lifestyle Redesign® specializing in the chronic pain, chronic headache, and ergonomic programs. Her doctoral work consisted of growing the pain management program and creating a 10-week Lifestyle Redesign® Fibromyalgia Treatment and Support Group and continues to work with this population as a clinical faculty member. Reeves received her Bachelor of Science in environmental science from UCLA in 2011.

**Session 22 – March 19, 2016 – 11:00am – 12:00pm**

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**Debbie Ricker, OTR/L, CDT**, graduated from Loma Linda University, with a degree in occupational therapy. She is a Driving Rehabilitation Specialist, and specializes in working with older adults. Ricker also is a Certified Dementia Trainer, and is one of the nation's leading experts on driving and dementia. She has presented on the state and national levels regarding the effects of dementia on driving. Ricker also assesses individuals who have Parkinson's, stroke, diabetes, tumors, brain injuries, and other diseases or medical conditions affecting a person's ability to drive.

**Session 70 – March 20, 2016 – 1:30pm – 3:00pm**

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**Jo Tennyson Samson, MA, OTR/L, CHT**, obtained her Master of Arts in education with an emphasis on school-based occupational therapy and teaching in higher education. She completed her thesis on occupational therapy interventions for children with fine motor handwriting difficulties. In her 20 years of professional experience in the field of occupational therapy, Samson realized there were no handwriting/fine motor programs available that addressed all the performance components (pencil grip development, visual motor integration, dexterity, complex finger motor planning and kinesthetic awareness) for good handwriting acquisition. The Pencil Gymnastics program is a result of the hands-on techniques that Samson developed in her work with children. It uses music and rhythm to make exercising fun while increasing proprioceptive self-awareness. Samson is currently working in hand therapy at Dominican Hospital. She has also presented workshops throughout the United States on a variety of topics, including sensory integration, pediatric splinting, and handwriting/fine motor interventions.

**Session 21 – March 19, 2016 – 11:00am – 12:00pm**

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**Kathryn S. Scheuring, MA, SLPA, OTS**, is an occupational therapy student at Stanbridge College, in Irvine, California. She graduated from California State University, Sacramento with a Master of Arts in bilingual education. Her undergraduate work consists of a Baccalaureate in speech language pathology with minors in Spanish and American Sign Language. She became a licensed speech language pathology assistant in 2010 and has practiced in several Title 1 schools and private speech clinics. She is also the vice president for the Stanbridge Student Occupational Therapy Association and Student Leadership Committee Delegate for the Occupational Therapy Association of California.

**Session 83 – March 20, 2016 – 3:00pm – 4:30pm**

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**Elisa Seidner, MA, OTR/L**, is the owner of KidAbilities, a pediatric occupational therapy clinic in Santa Monica, California. She has clinical experience with populations across life span in a variety of specialty settings (NICU, inpatient/outpatient adults and pediatrics, schools, sensory integration based clinics, spinal cord injury community programs). Her interest in interdisciplinary training and work grew from her involvement in the Maternal and Child Health Bureau funded Leadership Education in Neurodevelopment and Related Disabilities program with the University of Southern California and Children's Hospital of Los Angeles. She has recently participated in interdisciplinary projects merging together occupational therapy and architecture/design. Seidner is a lead examiner in the pilot testing of a sensory integration and praxis evaluation instrument, the Evaluation of Ayres' Sensory Integration.

**Session 18 – March 19, 2016 – 9:00am – 4:30pm**

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**Brandon Seigel, CRP**, brings over 12 years of experience supporting entrepreneurs in creating strategies for improving profitability while empowering a workforce. He is currently the executive director for Every Child Achieves where he oversees creating strategic growth for the company in an ever-changing health care environment while empowering a new company culture to support a multi-generation team.

**Session 17 – March 19, 2016 – 9:00am – 12:00pm – Student Track**

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**Anna Shakeshaft, OTS**, is in her senior year as an undergraduate student at the University of Southern California. She is majoring in social sciences with an emphasis in psychology and a minor in occupational sciences. Shakeshaft is preparing to apply for graduate schools for a Master in Occupational Therapy. She is hoping to specialize in pediatric practice, but is excited to explore the different domains of fieldwork.

***Session 37 – March 19, 2016 – 1:30pm – 4:30pm – Student Track***

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**Andrea Sherman, OTD, OTR/L**, received a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Miami. Upon graduation, she served as behavior interventionist and case manager at Vista Center for Behavior Analysis for children and families with autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities. Through this position, she discovered the wonderful field of occupational therapy and went on to achieve a Master of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy and a doctorate degree in occupational therapy from the USC Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy. Sherman was a resident at the USC Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice where her doctoral work focused on Lifestyle Redesign<sup>®</sup> and mental health treatment. She served as occupational therapy practitioner and therapy supervisor at Easter Seals Southern California Culver City office, specializing in self-care intervention for children with autism spectrum disorder. She currently works as per diem occupational therapy practitioner at both Therapy West and Children's Hospital of Los Angeles.

***Session 81 – March 20, 2016 – 3:00pm – 4:30pm***

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**Jennifer Hendrick Snyder, MHA**, a partner at Capitol Advocacy with more than 20 years of experience in policy development, community relations and health care issues, assists clients with strategic, analytical, and advocacy services. A former vice president of behavioral health and governance at the California Healthcare Association and former director of government affairs for the California Alliance of Child and Family Services, Snyder worked directly with hospitals and agencies to advocate on issues related to health and human services for women and children. She was legislative director for the California Association of Health Facilities where she led the organization's grassroots program and tracked health and human service related bills. Prior to that, she also coordinated lobbying activities related to long-term care and social services for the California Association for Health Services at Home. In addition to her experience in the nonprofit sector, Snyder worked

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as a legislative aide to former State Senator, now Congressman Mike Thompson (D-St. Helena), where she specialized in developing and managing legislation related to education and health issues. She has a degree in political science from California State University, Chico and a master's in health administration from the University of San Francisco.

**OTAC Town Hall Lunch – March 19, 2016 - 12:00pm – 1:15pm**  
**Session 36 – March 19, 2016 – 1:30pm – 4:30pm**

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**Daniel Swiatek, OTR/L**, serves as regional clinical director for Genesis Rehab Services in Southern California where he provides clinical and operational support to over 40 facilities. Swiatek has been an occupational therapy practitioner for 19 years and is pursuing a clinical doctorate in occupational therapy. His practice settings have included acute, home health, and skilled nursing. He has been an active presenter at state and national conferences.

**Session 60 – March 20, 2016 – 10:00am – 12:00pm**

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**Lara Taggart, MS, OTR/L (AZ)**, joined the Northern Arizona State University (NAU) Occupational Therapy Doctorate Program as an instructor in July of 2015. She has been an occupational therapy assistant instructor at Brown Mackie College (BMC) since October of 2013. Taggart holds a master's in occupational therapy from AT Still University (ASU), and a bachelor's in applied psychology from ASU. Before joining NAU, she worked as an occupational therapy practitioner in various settings, which included outpatient/inpatient adult and pediatric, school setting, infant/toddler home health, and rehabilitation facilities. Taggart has been a fieldwork educator for three years supervising occupational therapy and occupational therapy assistant students. She has also been adjunct faculty at Pima Medical Institute and AT Still University. Taggart has served on the executive board of the Arizona Occupational Therapy Association in a variety of positions including co-chair for the ArizOTA Fall and Spring Conferences, as well as, Pediatric and Neuro Special Interest Groups. In 2013, she was awarded Arizona Occupational Therapist of the Year Award. She is also a contributing author to "Fundamentals of Hand Therapy: Clinical Reasoning and Treatment Guidelines for Common Diagnoses of the Upper Extremity, 2nd Edition."

**Session 51 – March 20, 2016 – 9:00am – 10:00am**

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**Rennie Tang** is an assistant professor of landscape architecture at California Polytechnic State University, Pomona. As a practice-based researcher her work is fueled by transdisciplinary collaborations with professionals from different fields ranging from visual artists and choreographers to occupational therapists. Her work fuses concepts and methods drawn from her background in architecture, urban design, landscape architecture, and dance. Notable projects include, 'Punt-Point,' a self-guided public tour for the Van Abbe Museum in Eindhoven, the Netherlands (with artist Sara Wookey), 'Body As Urban Unit' performance/urban exploration for the Berlin Unlimited Urban Arts Festival, and the design of KidAbilities occupational therapy clinic. As an educator, she brings her background in dance to landscape architecture through a series of outdoor installations designed by her students as movement prompts for dancers. Tang holds a bachelor's in architecture from McGill University and a Master of Science in architecture and urban design from Columbia University.

**Session 18 – March 19, 2016 – 9:00am – 4:30pm**

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**Lisa A. Test, OTD, OTR/L**, has been an occupational therapy practitioner for 25 years. She is the coordinating therapist for a large urban school district. She co-edited the current and past "Guidelines for OT and PT in the California Public Schools" and she brings a wealth of information related to school based practice.

**Session 57 – March 20, 2016 – 9:00am – 4:30pm**

**Session 17 – March 19, 2016 – 9:00am – 12:00pm**

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**Ana Verran, MA, OTR/L, CDRS**, received her Master of Arts in occupational therapy from the University of Southern California. For the past seven years she has worked as a driving rehabilitation specialist for the Department of Rehabilitation, California's vocational rehabilitation agency.

**Session 23 – March 19, 2016 – 11:00am – 12:00pm**

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**Jennifer Weaver, MA, OTR/L (NV), CBIS**, graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in biology from California Lutheran in 2008 and a Master of Arts in occupational therapy and occupational science from the University of Southern California in 2011. She has been a Certified Brain Injury Specialist since 2014. Weaver has spent her career working with adults with neurological conditions in both the inpatient setting and her community-based private practice. She is secretary for the Nevada Occupational Therapy Association.

**Session 10 – March 19, 2016 – 9:00am – 11:00am**

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**Rhonda Windham, OTD, OTR/L**, currently works with at-risk, economically disadvantaged youth in a community based mental health setting in Los Angeles County. Windham completed both her master and her doctorate degrees in occupational therapy at the University of Southern California. Windham is currently the Occupational Therapy Doctoral Coordinator at SSG-OTTP. She is committed to promoting the benefits of occupational therapy and incorporating healthy habits and routines in daily living to enhance quality of life.

*Session 17 – March 19, 2016 – 9:00am – 12:00pm*

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**Bill Wong, OTD, OTR/L**, attended USC for his master's in occupational therapy at USC Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy from 2009 to 2011, and clinical doctorate degree in occupational therapy degree in 2012 to 2013. He currently works as an occupational therapy practitioner in the skilled nursing facility setting. Wong is always passionate about autism related issues in occupational therapy since he was diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome in August 2010. He was selected to be a speaker at TEDxGrandForks in February 2015. His presentation title at that TEDx event was Fighting On: Overcoming Diagnosis.

*Session 31 – March 19, 2016 – 1:30pm – 2:30pm*

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**Carin Wong, MS, OTS**, is an occupational science PhD student at the University of Southern California Mrs. T.H. Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy. She obtained her Master of Science in gerontology also from USC. Her broader research interests are in nursing home activity engagement and she has participated in health services research looking at post-acute care quality.

*Session 43 – March 19, 2016 – 3:00pm – 4:30pm*

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**Sarah Yun, MA, OTR/L**, is an occupational therapy practitioner currently working as a pediatric occupational therapist at Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare. Her areas of specialty include early intervention, primarily with clients with autism, feeding, and parent education. She served as the primary occupational therapist in creating the LEGO® construction social skills pilot program at Casa Colina over the summer. Yun also enjoys working with local community members and organizations to promote inclusion of individuals with special needs. She regularly collaborates with other disciplines to provide the most comprehensive care to her clients and families.

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***Session 34 – March 19, 2016 – 1:30pm – 3:00pm***

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