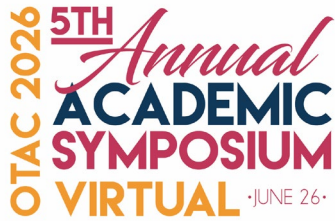


5th Annual OTAC Academic Symposium – Fri, June 26, 2026

Advancing Occupational Therapy Education: Technology, Digital Health,
and Artificial Intelligence



VIRTUAL

Participate from anywhere you
have a strong internet
connection

RECORDINGS WILL BE
AVAILABLE BY JULY 6, 2026
FOR REGISTRANTS.

DATE AND TIME

Fri, June 26, 2026
8:45am to 4:00pm

[Register Here Online](#)

Cancellations

Must cancel by Fri, June 19,
2026, to be eligible for refund.
Cancellation/Refund Policy. \$35 is
retained to cover processing costs.

QUESTIONS?

Contact OTAC staff:
Email staff@otaonline.org
Call toll-free (888) 686-3225



Agenda – 8:45am to 4:00pm – Earn 5.5 PDU's

8:45am – 9:00am	Welcome/Agenda Overview
9:00am – 10:30am	<u>Keynote:</u> Shaping Tomorrow's OT/OTA Student: Artificial Intelligence Risks, Readiness, and Responsibility
10:30am – 10:45am	BREAK
10:45am – 11:45am	Integrating Generative Artificial Intelligence as a Tool for Instruction Design in Assistive Technology Education
11:45am – 12:30pm	LUNCH ON OWN
12:30pm – 1:30pm	Teaching Smarter, Not Harder: Let Generative Artificial Intelligence Help You Create Meaningful OT Case Studies
1:30pm – 1:45pm	BREAK
1:45pm – 2:45pm	Integrating Artificial Intelligence into Occupational Therapy Education: A Case Example
2:45pm – 3:00pm	BREAK
3:00pm – 4:00pm	Meaningful Connections in Hybrid Occupational Therapy Programs

REGISTRATION FEES

	OT/OTA MEMBERS	OT/OTA NONMEMBERS	STUDENT MEMBERS	STUDENT NONMEMBERS
REGULAR	☐ \$79	☐ \$109	☐ \$49	☐ \$79

EDUCATION/MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL 1:

ARE YOU A NONMEMBER WHO WANTS TO JOIN OTAC?
AND A NONMEMBER THAT WANTS TO ATTEND THE SYMPOSIUM?
YOU CAN JOIN OTAC AND ATTEND THE SYMPOSIUM AT A BIG DISCOUNT.

- ☐ OT: SYMPOSIUM AND MEMBERSHIP - \$249
- ☐ OTA: SYMPOSIUM AND MEMBERSHIP - \$199
- ☐ STUDENT: SYMPOSIUM AND MEMBERSHIP - \$109

DID YOU KNOW? OTAC MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT INCLUDES OUR EDUCATION PASSPORT COURSES WHICH PROVIDE 12 FREE PDUs ANNUALLY? NOT APPLICABLE TO OTAC SYMPOSIA.
EMAIL SHANNON@OTAONLINE.ORG TO REGISTER FOR THE EDUCATION/MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL.

EDUCATION/WORKPLACE SPECIAL 2:

3 OR MORE (SAME PHYSICAL WORKPLACE) EARN A 10% DISCOUNT.
CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH SPECIAL 1 DISCOUNT PACKAGE
EMAIL SHANNON@OTAONLINE.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION

[REGISTER HERE ONLINE](#)

8:45am – 9:00am

Welcome/Agenda Overview

9:00am – 10:30am

Keynote: Shaping Tomorrow's OT/OTA Student: Artificial Intelligence Risks, Readiness, and Responsibility

Tammy Richmond, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA, FATA

This keynote will explore how artificial intelligence (AI) is reshaping occupational therapy education, clinical reasoning, student preparation, and real-world practice. A human-centered AI framework is significant to occupational therapy because it safeguards occupation as a lived, meaningful experience while integrating emerging technologies into care. Attendees will examine educators' plus students' AI-integrated curricula strategies that prepare future practitioners to lead within an increasingly technology-enabled healthcare environment. A human-centered framework will ensure AI strengthens – rather than diminishes – client-centered, occupational-based practice and equitable outcomes.

10:30am – 10:45am - BREAK

10:45am – 11:45am

Integrating Generative Artificial Intelligence as a Tool for Instruction Design in Assistive Technology Education

Lauren Andelin, OTD, OTR/L (VA), BCP;

Eileen Shelp, OTD, OTR/L (VA)

This presentation will discuss the role of evidence-based learning theories and generative artificial intelligence (AI) in enhancing instructional design and student outcomes in an entry-level OTD assistive technologies course.

11:45am – 12:30pm - LUNCH ON OWN

12:30pm – 1:30pm

Teaching Smarter, Not Harder: Let Generative Artificial Intelligence Help You Create Meaningful OT Case Studies

Suzanne Rappaport, OTD, OTR/L (NY)

Case-based learning enhances occupational therapy education and artificial intelligence (AI) tools can create realistic, responsive case scenarios. This session will

help faculty use AI to develop cases, explore ethical issues, and integrate AI into occupational therapy reaching and learning.

1:30pm – 1:45pm - BREAK

1:45pm – 2:45pm

Integrating Artificial Intelligence into Occupational Therapy Education: A Case Study

Amber Bennett, OTD, OTR/L;

Mike McNulty, OTD, OTR/L;

Deborah Pitts, PhD, OTR/L, BCMH, CPRP, FAOTA

As artificial intelligence (AI) tools rapidly enter higher education, occupational therapy educators face increasing pressure to integrate these technologies into teaching and learning. However, the assumption that AI should always be embraced warrants critical examination. This presentation will share a case example from an entry-level doctoral course, where faculty intentionally limited and selectively guided AI use. Presenters will describe the pedagogical rationale behind these decisions and situate their instructional choices within emerging scholarship on AI in education.

2:45pm – 3:00pm – BREAK

3:00pm – 4:00pm

Meaningful Connections in Hybrid Occupational Therapy Program

Kelcey Storkensen, OTD, OTR/L

In academia, it is important for educators to be creative, adaptable, and compassionate. We can provide meaningful academic connections with students, even in hybrid programs, to make a lasting impact on how they approach client care.

Symposium Coordinators

Rachelle Murphy, DHSc, OTR/L, DipACLM, OTD Academic Fieldwork Coordinator, Southern California University of Health Sciences

Natalie Perkins, OTD, OTR/L, FIIE, Program Director and Assistant Clinical Professor for the Doctor of

Occupational Therapy Program, University of Pacific

Samia Rafeedie, OTD, OTR/L, BCPR, CBIS, FAOTA, Director of Professional Program in Occupational Therapy, University of Southern California

About Our Presenters



Amber Bennett, OTD, OTR/L, is an associate professor of clinical occupational therapy at the USC Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy. Her career at USC has spanned teaching, clinical, service, and leadership roles including director of admissions. Bennett previously practiced clinically for 11 years at Keck Hospital of USC, specializing in acute care for chronic conditions. She currently co-chairs the OTAC Leadership Institute under the auspices of the OTAC Practice, Ethics, and Leadership Committee.



Lauren Andelin, OTD, OTR/L (VA), BCP, is a pediatric occupational therapy practitioner with more than 15 years of clinical experience. She is an assistant professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy at Virginia Commonwealth University. Andelin also serves as the chair for AOTA's Sensory Integration

and Processing Special Interest Section and has specialty training in sensory integration and assistive technology.



Mike McNulty, OTD, OTR/L, is an associate professor of clinical occupational therapy at the USC Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy. As director of external relations, he supports the Division's

strategic goals and priorities through communications, public relations, marketing, and development responsibilities. McNulty also teaches in the Division's entry-level doctorate program.



Deborah Pitts, PhD, OTR/L, BCMH, CPRP, FAOTA, is a professor of clinical occupational therapy at the USC Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy. Pitts also serves as the doctoral capstone coordinator for the

Entry-Level OTD Program. Her practice expertise includes community-based mental health and psychiatric rehabilitation, in particular, permanent supportive housing and the 'lived experience' of recovery for persons labeled with psychiatric disorders, in particular, occupational engagement and psychosis.



Suzanne Rappaport, OTD, OTR/L (NY), is an occupational therapy practitioner, educator, and advocate whose work bridges the arts, health, and social justice. A former visual and circus artist, she brings a creative, multidisciplinary approach to occupational therapy, specializing in

community practices, pediatric mental health, and supporting individuals with learning challenges. Rappaport is the PP-OTD program coordinator and assistant professor at SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University, and advances health equity through teaching, mentorship, and public scholarship, including her podcast OT JEDI.



Tammy Richmond, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA, FATA, is an occupational therapy practitioner and exercise physiologist, and CEO of G0 2 Care, Inc., an online telehealth company that provides telerehabilitation technology solutions, telehealth training, telerehabilitation research

collaborator, and telerehabilitation consultation. Richmond serves as chair of the Telerehabilitation SIG at the American Telemedicine Association (ATA) and has authored multiple publications, webinars, and

presentations on various aspects of private practice, management, and telehealth/telerehabilitation.



Eileen Shelp, OTD, OTR/L (VA), graduated with a doctorate from Virginia Commonwealth University (VDU) in May 2025 and currently practices in inpatient rehabilitation at Sheltering Arms Institute on the neuro unit. Shelp's capstone

experience focused on curriculum design in the VCU OTD assistive technology course, and since graduating continues to serve as a guest instructor throughout the VCU OTD curriculum.



Kelcey Storkensen, OTD, OTR/L, is an occupational therapy practitioner with a diverse background spanning clinical practice, academia, and community services. She has made significant contributions to Biola University's occupational therapy programs – service as a consultant in establishing the

OTD program, now in its pre-accreditation phase, and currently teaching across the MSOT program, the pre-OT undergraduate program, and the psychology department. Clinically, Storkensen specializes in early intervention with children birth to three, using a parent coaching model that reflects her broader commitment to empowering the people she serves. This same philosophy extends to her community work with Mission Hope, a nonprofit supporting individuals and families at-risk of or experiencing homelessness, where she facilitates wellness meetings and workshops covering wellness, parenting, and leadership. Storkensen also leads mentorship groups and delivers professional training within her organization, including sensory education for fellow practitioners.

UPCOMING VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON SYMPOSIA

OTAC 2026 **8TH Annual**
MENTAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM
VIRTUAL • MAY 30 •

OTAC 2026 **OT SPRING SYMPOSIUM**
SAN JOSE • June 6-7 •

OTAC 2026 **5TH Annual**
ACADEMIC SYMPOSIUM
VIRTUAL • JUNE 26 •

OTAC/CFOT **2ND 2026 Annual**
RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM
VIRTUAL • JULY 11 •

OTAC 2026 **8TH Annual**
SCHOOL-BASED SYMPOSIUM
VIRTUAL • SEPTEMBER 12 •

OTAC ANNUAL CONFERENCE & INNOVATION EXPO

OTAC 2026 **ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXPO** CONTINUING EDUCATION
PASADENA
NOVEMBER 5-8

ABOUT THIS VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM

Cancellation/Refund Policy

\$35 is retained to cover cancellation/refund processing costs. Written notice must be received in the OTAC office by the due date on the registration form. Disclaimer: OTAC reserves the right to make changes to the program. No refunds will be made based on those changes.

This Symposium Will Be Recorded

This Symposium will be recorded. Participate virtually and then re-watch at your convenience for the life of the recording on OTAC's platform. Recordings are generally available 14 days following the conclusion of the event.

System Requirements. OTAC webinars are broadcast through Zoom. A broadband internet connection is required. For minimum system requirements, visit the following page:

- Zoom - <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362023-System-Requirements-for-PC-Mac-and-Linux>

Earned PDUs

PDUs will be entered into your OTAC customer record.

Why OTAC Symposia?

To support OTAC Core Value No. 7 - Professional Development: To provide quality education and resources to advance the knowledge, skills, and continued competence of occupational therapy practitioners.

Symposium Disclaimer

This Symposium is sponsored by OTAC for the purpose of professional development. The material presented is not intended to represent the only or the best methods appropriate for the occupational therapy and/or medical condition or professional development issues being discussed but rather is intended to present the opinions of the presenters, which may be helpful to other health care professionals at arriving at their own conclusions and consequent application. Attendees participating in this professional development education program do so with the full knowledge that they waive any claim they may have against OTAC and its representatives for reliance on any information presented during this educational event.

[Click here for OTAC's complete disclaimer/terms. You must agree to these disclaimers/terms. Please don't register if you do not.](#)