



CHECK OUT THESE SYMPOSIUM HIGHLIGHTS!

Earn Up to 12 PDUs

21 Sessions

32 Presenters

- Seasoned experts
- Emerging voices

4 Tracks

- Behavioral/mental health
- Pediatrics/school-based
- Physical disabilities/older adults
- Women's health

Great Rates!

- Limited seating. Reserve your seat before they are sold out.

**Premier Continuing
Education Featuring**

- Smaller sessions
- Deeper dialogue
- Stronger connections
- Seasoned experts
- Emerging voices

REGISTER HERE!

Reserve your seats before they are sold out!

Deadlines to Remember

JUNE 3

- Advance registration deadline (5:00pm PST)
- Deadline to cancel registration. Refund with applicable fees.

JUNE 6 & 7

- Onsite registration may be available. Seating is limited.

OTAC... where the extraordinary gather!

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



SJSU SAN JOSÉ STATE
UNIVERSITY

SYMPOSIUM HOST EVENT LOCATION

San Jose State University
One Washington Square, San Jose, CA 95192

We respectfully acknowledge that SJSU is located on the traditional land of the Muwekma Ohlone people.

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SPRING SYMPOSIUM PLANNING COMMITTEE

- Danny Pavlovich, OTD, OTR/L
- Grace V. Perry, OTD, OTR/L, BCPR
- Samia H. Rafeedie, OTD, OTR/L, BCPR, CBIS, FAOTA
- Winifred Schultz-Krohn, PhD, OTR/L, BCP, FAOTA
- Jerilyn (Gigi) Smith, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA
- Graham Teaford, OTD, OTR/L, SCLV

PRACTICE AREA TRACKS

EARN
12 PDUs

1 Behavioral/ Mental Health	2 Older Adults/ Physical Disabilities		3 Pediatrics/ School-Based		4 Women's Health
SUNDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	SATURDAY
Session 4E Session 4F Session 4G	Session 1A Session 1B Session 1C Session 1D	Session 1E Session 1G Session 1H	Session 2A Session 2B Session 2C	Session 2D Session 2E Session 2F Session 2G Session 2H Session 4F	Session 3A Session 3B Session 3C Session 3D

LEGEND

MH

Behavioral/
Mental Health

OA/PHYSDIS

Older Adults/
Physical Disabilities

PEDS/SCHOOL

Pediatrics/
School-Based

WH

Women's Health

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

EARN
12 PDUs

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2026

8:00am to 8:30am

Registration Check-In/Coffee/Networking

8:30am to 10:00am

1A - How to Support Management of Medications and Diabetes (1.5 PDUs)

Grace V. Perry, OTD, MS, OTR/L, BCPR

This presentation will provide an overview of existing literature for medication management evaluations and intervention strategies. Foundational knowledge for dietary management of diabetes will be reviewed. Specific intervention approaches will be demonstrated with recommendations for how to build an intervention toolkit for medication management and dietary management of diabetes. **OA/PHYSDIS**

2A - Professional Partnerships: The Power of Collaborative OT Practice (1.5 PDUs)

Uyen Nguyen, OTD, OTR/L; Quyen Lieberman, MS, OTR/L

This presentation will propose a transformative shift in school-based occupational therapy from traditional pull-out models to a collaborative consultation and integrated service framework. By embedding therapeutic strategies directly into academic, life skills, and vocational student occupations, it aims to transform the school day into a continuous therapeutic opportunity, build capacity of the entire educational team within an interdisciplinary model, and maximize functional student outcomes. **PEDS/SCHOOL**

3A - Fertility and Function: Why Occupational Therapy Belongs in Reproductive Health (1.5 PDUs)

Kelsie Kavadas, OTD, OTR/L, PRPC

Fertility challenges extend far beyond the medical model — impacting daily routines, stress, relationships, identity, and overall function. So where does occupational therapy fit? This session will explore the unique and often overlooked role of occupational therapy in supporting individuals on their fertility journey. **WH**

10:00am to 10:15am

Break

10:15am to 11:45am

1B - Pathways to Practice: Shaping Occupational Therapy's Role in Skilled Nursing Facilities Through Interprofessional Collaboration (1.5 PDUs)

Aimee Bhatia, MSOT, OTR/L, CTO; Julia Smutz, PT

This session will equip clinicians to expand the role of occupational therapy in skilled nursing facilities through interprofessional care pathways, offering practical program development tools, implementation strategies, and case examples to enhance outcomes and collaborative practice. **OA/PHYSDIS**

2B - Fun with Food! Development of Family-Centered Mealtime Routines (1.5 PDUs)

Winifred A. Schultz-Krohn, PhD, OTR/L, BCP, FAOTA;

Jerilyn (Gigi) Smith, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

Mealtime routines support family functioning by diminishing toddler and child food refusals and fussiness. This course will discuss typical variations in mealtime behaviors of toddlers and young children compared to various

conditions that can negatively impact family meals and create stress within the family. Culturally appropriate approaches will be presented to support families in developing mealtime habits and routines. **PEDS/SCHOOL**

3B - Hormonal Chaos in Perimenopause: Lifestyle Redesign® Treatment Approaches (1.5 PDUs)

Emma Schiewe, OTD, OTR/L, TTS, LRC

Perimenopause, driven by shifting sex hormones, marks entry into the later third of life and brings a wide range of symptoms — including irritability, fatigue, hot flashes, and sleep disruption — along with elevated risk for chronic conditions such as cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, cognitive changes, and sexual dysfunction, yet related healthcare remains critically underdeveloped and patient concerns are frequently dismissed. Occupational therapy practitioners are uniquely positioned to close this gap by offering holistic, client-centered interventions that address current symptoms, anticipate future changes, and reduce comorbidity risk through approaches such as Lifestyle Redesign®, pelvic floor support, and self-advocacy skill-building, ultimately equipping both practitioners and clients with the tools, education, and confidence needed to navigate perimenopause and engage effectively with the healthcare system. **WH**

11:45pm to 12:30pm

Lunch Break On Own

12:30pm to 2:00pm

1C - Arthritis Management for Older Adults (1.5 PDUs)

Qianwei (Stella) Wang, MScOT, OTR/L, CHT

This course will review the pathophysiology, clinical presentation, and management of common forms of arthritis in older adults, with a focus on osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis affecting the upper extremity. Emphasis will be placed on the role of occupational therapy in symptom management, prevention and management of joint deformities, and optimizing functional performance. Intervention strategies to be discussed include the use of orthoses (custom-fabricated and prefabricated), joint protection principles, and activity modification to support independence in daily activities. **OA/PHYSDIS**

2C - Fostering Imaginative Play to Support Development (1.5 PDUs)

Winifred A. Schultz-Krohn, PhD, OTR/L, BCP, FAOTA;

Jerilyn (Gigi) Smith, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

Play is an important part of child development and imaginative play promotes creativity and problem-solving skills. This session will focus on the benefits of imaginative play and how this can be fostered within family routines. **PEDS/SCHOOL**

PROGRAM SCHEDULE *continued*

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

EARN
12 PDUs

3C - Next 10 Exits: Socioemotional Curriculum to Enhance Resiliency to Trauma (1.5 PDUs)

Elizabeth "Beth" Ching, OTD, MEd, BSOT, OTR/L

Studies have shown one protective factor against trauma is cultural pride. This presentation will incorporate Ching's book entitled, *Next 10 Exits: Reflections on Race and Resilience in Vallejo, California*, and her research article about the results of a study she developed on a 90-minute interactive session using the therapeutic arts of drawing and poetry with adult participants. Most of the participants identified as female and as such we will delve into what can be learned from the results of the study of participants of a socioemotional curriculum especially around wellness for women. **WH**

2:00pm to 2:15pm

Break

2:15pm to 3:45pm

1D - Dual Sensory Loss (1.5 PDUs)

Yi Yuan, PhD; Graham Teaford, OTD, OTR/L, SCLV

This course will introduce occupational therapy practitioners to the functional consequences of dual sensory loss (combined vision and hearing impairment) in older adults. The content will explore how dual sensory loss impacts communication, psychosocial well-being, occupational performance, and participation. Participants will examine evidence-based strategies for assessment and intervention, including environmental modifications, communication adaptations, and assistive technologies. Emphasis will be placed on interprofessional collaboration and the integration of occupational therapy and audiology perspectives to support safety and participation in activities of daily living. **OA/PHYSDIS**

2D - Service Disruptions in Early Intervention: Understanding Challenges Faced by Families and Providers (1.5 PDUs)

Domenique Embrey, OTD, MS, OTR/L

Families and providers face several obstacles in providing care to children under the age of three years old through California regional centers. This session will delve into a study looking at specific service disruptors from both the family and provider lens. With this information, the researchers explored ways to address these obstacles in the future including creating preparedness plans. **PEDS/SCHOOL**

3D - Hormones, Environment, and Sensory Processing: A Proposed Maternal Sensory and Occupational Identity Framework and Advancing Research (1.5 PDUs)

Tracy Becerra-Culqui, PhD, MPH, OTR/L

This session will examine the interplay between hormonal changes, environmental demands, and sensory processing during the transition to motherhood. Drawing on occupational therapy frameworks, participants will be introduced to a proposed Maternal Sensory and Occupational Identity Framework, which conceptualizes how neurological shifts and new contextual factors shape maternal role development. The session will also highlight opportunities for research collaboration, inviting practitioners to contribute to emerging evidence to advance practice in maternal health. This presenter will appear via Zoom. **WH**

3:45pm to 4:00pm

Closing Comments/Wrap-Up



Earn up to 12 PDUs towards
OT re-licensure requirements.

SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2026

8:00am to 8:30am

Registration Check-In/Coffee/Networking

8:30am to 11:45am

1E - The California Tri-Pull Taping Method for Shoulder Subluxation (3 PDUs)

Kate Hayner, EdD, OTR/L; Ginny Gibson, OTD, OTR/L, CHT

Shoulder subluxation is one of the most prevalent and functionally limiting complications following neurological injury, yet it remains an under addressed challenge in rehabilitation practice. This course will introduce clinicians to the California Tri-Pull Taping (CTT) Method, an evidence-informed taping technique designed to provide dynamic mechanical support to the subluxed shoulder while promoting proper glenohumeral alignment during functional activity. Participants will begin with a comprehensive overview of the subluxed shoulder, exploring the neuromuscular and biomechanical factors that contribute to its development, as well as a critical comparison of current intervention strategies, including slings, orthoses, electrical stimulation, and other taping approaches. From there, the course will dive into the research base supporting the CTT method, examining key studies that speak to its efficacy, safety, and clinical applicability across patient populations. The course culminates in a hands-on application segment where participants will practice the step-by-step CTT technique, gaining the confidence and competency needed to integrate this method directly into their clinical practice. **Participants should wear a top that allows access to their shoulders if participating in the lab. OA/PHYSDIS**

8:30am to 10:00am

2E - Integrating Trauma-Informed Care into Occupational Therapy Clinical Practice (1.5 PDUs)

Kelli Toyooka, OTS, Capstone Student

This presentation will introduce key concepts of trauma and trauma-informed care (TIC) within the context of occupational therapy (OT) practice. Participants will explore the role of OT practitioners in fostering safety, empowerment, and equity when working with individuals who have experienced trauma, particularly those from marginalized or high-risk populations. The session will also highlight existing gaps in clinician preparedness and discuss the value of embedding TIC principles into everyday clinical practice to support more equitable and effective care delivery. **OA/PHYSDIS**

4E - Mental Health Occupational Therapy in Community-Based Settings (1.5 PDUs)

Lea Le, MS, OTR/L

This presentation will explore the role of occupational therapy in community-based mental health, with a focus on supporting individuals experiencing homelessness through trauma-informed, recovery-oriented, and occupation-based practice. Participants will gain insight into interdisciplinary collaboration, real-world case applications, and advocacy efforts that promote housing stability, dignity, and meaningful participation in daily life. **MH**

10:00am to 10:15am

Break

10:15am to 11:45am

2F - OT and SLP in Action: Collaborative Strategies Across the School-Based Process (1.5 PDUs)

Uyen Nguyen, OTD, OTR/L; Marcella Cardoza McCollum, EdD, CCC-SLP

The presentation will focus on how occupational therapy (OT) practitioners and speech-language pathologists (SLP) can work together across the evaluation process, individualized education program (IEP) development, intervention planning and implementation, and discontinuation of services, with attention to coordinated support, and practical strategies for school-based teams. **PEDS/SCHOOL**

4F - Developing Community-Based OT Services Promoting Mental Health and Wellness for Youth (1.5 PDUs)

Jacqueline Cantrell, MS, OTR/L

Occupational therapy's roots are in mental health, but mental health occupational therapy settings are often considered alternative or niche. During this session, participants will explore integration into community settings, program development, and how occupational therapy practitioners fit into more widely known mental health services, to address the needs and wishes of youth facing mental health challenges and building the skills they need. Specific focus will be towards program development using recent and ongoing experiences building programming in the Northern California region, with emphasis on new developments in Sacramento. **MH, PEDS/SCHOOL**

PROGRAM SCHEDULE continued

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

EARN
12 PDUs

11:45am to 12:30pm

Lunch Break On Own

12:30pm to 2:00pm

1G - Fall Risk Assessment and Prevention in Older Adults (1.5 PDUs)

Michelle Rodriguez, MS, OTR/L; Graham Teaford, OTD, OTR/L, SCLV

This course will focus on occupational therapy approaches to assessing and preventing falls in older adults. Building on principles from home environment assessment, participants will learn to identify intrinsic and extrinsic fall risk factors and apply standardized assessment tools to evaluate balance, mobility, fear of falling, and functional performance. The course will emphasize clinical reasoning in selecting appropriate assessments (e.g., TUG, BESTest, FES-I, STEADI) and integrating findings to develop targeted, client-centered fall prevention interventions. Participants will also explore how fall risk assessment informs home modification planning and supports safe aging in place. **OA/PHYSDIS**

2G - OTP and SLP Collaboration in Pediatric and School-Based Practice – Part I (1.5 PDUs)

Swati Shah, OTR/L; Andrea Poirier, PhD, CCC-SLP

This presentation will explore the dynamic collaboration between occupational therapy practitioners (OTPs) and speech-language pathologists (SLPs) in school-based and pediatric settings. Participants will gain insight into how these disciplines intersect to support the whole child, particularly in areas such as communication, sensory processing, feeding, social participation, and functional independence. Through real-world examples and practical strategies, this session will highlight how collaborative approaches can improve student outcomes, enhance service delivery, and foster cohesive interdisciplinary teams. **PEDS/SCHOOL**

12:30pm to 3:45pm

4G - Implementing a Sensory Program: Sensory Rooms and Individualized Treatment Strategies (3 PDUs)

Annette Pinto, MA, OTR/L, LMFT; Joyce Chen, OTR/L;

Jenna Hope, OTR/L; Gina Frassetto, OTR/L

This session will provide an overview of the Zuckerberg San Francisco General Psychiatric Occupational Therapy Department's implementation of

a sensory program, including sensory interventions and sensory rooms to target acute and distressing behaviors. The occupational therapy panel will provide case studies from their experiences in inpatient psychiatry to address multiple symptoms using sensory strategies, as well hands-on opportunities for attendees to engage in using sensory tools and techniques. **MH**

2:00pm to 2:15pm

Break

2:15pm to 3:45pm

1H - Expanding OT's Impact: Evidence-Based Practice and Policy for Older Adults (1.5 PDUs)

Sabrena McCarley, MBA-SL, OTR/L, CLIPP, RAC-CT, QCP, RAC-CTA, FAOTA; Gina Tucker-Roghi, OTD, OTR/L; Carly Reiner, OTR/L; Guy Reavis, OTD, OTR/L, CAPS

The panelists will examine how policy affects occupational therapy with older adults and explore ways to realign services and care with current evidence-based practices. Participants will share their perspectives to inform the OTAC Subcommittee on Aging priorities and goals. **OA/PHYSDIS**

2H - OTP and SLP Collaboration in Pediatric and School-Based Practice – Part 2 (1.5 PDUs)

Swati Shah, OTR/L; Andrea Poirier, PhD, CCC-SLP

This presentation will explore the dynamic collaboration between occupational therapy practitioners (OTPs) and speech-language pathologists (SLPs) in school-based and pediatric settings. Participants will gain insight into how these disciplines intersect to support the whole child, particularly in areas such as communication, sensory processing, feeding, social participation, and functional independence. Through real-world examples and practical strategies, this session will highlight how collaborative approaches can improve student outcomes, enhance service delivery, and foster cohesive interdisciplinary teams. **PEDS/SCHOOL**

3:45pm to 4:00pm

Closing Comments/Wrap-Up

2026 OTAC SPRING SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION

1. PROGRAM SELECTION: Sessions are included in registration for the corresponding day.

You may not register for overlapping sessions.

	SATURDAY (June 6)			SUNDAY (June 7)		
AM	1A	2A	3A	1E	2E	4E
	1B	2B	3B		2F	4F
PM	1C	2C	3C	1G	2G	4G
	1D	2D	3D	1H	2H	

2. REGISTRATION FEE:

FEES INCREASE \$29 JUNE 4, 2026	SAT./SUN.	SAT. ONLY	SUN. ONLY
OT/OTA	\$129	\$69	\$69
OTS (Student-OT or OTA; not licensed)	\$109	\$59	\$59
ADD-ON: NON-OTAC MEMBER FEE/ NEW MEMBER DUES	OT: Add \$135 to the fees above • OTA: Add \$110 to the fees above Students: Add \$50 to the fees above • This add-on fee may qualify you for a 1-year membership.		

Beginning June 4, 2026, registration will only be accepted onsite and the fee increases \$29. Cancellation Fee: \$50/Practitioners; \$35 Students. Must cancel in writing by June 3, 2026. Seating is limited. Seats may not be available if registering onsite.

3. REGISTER: Seating is limited. Reserve your seats before they are sold out!

REGISTER HERE!

QUESTIONS?

By Phone: (916) 567-7000 | By Email: staff@otaonline.org

SYMPOSIUM ATTENDEE DISCLAIMER/AGREEMENTS

By registering for or attending any event or activity associated with the 2026 Spring Symposium, I agree to its disclaimer and agreements which can be located on the Spring Symposium webpage [here](#).

PRESENTER DIRECTORY

SEASONED EXPERTS
EMERGING VOICES



Tracy Becerra-Culqui, MPH, PhD, OTR/L, having conducted health services research at Kaiser Permanente focused on maternal and child health, health equity, and life course outcomes, integrates her occupational therapy (OT) background with advanced training in public health and a PhD in epidemiology.

With over 20 years of experience across diverse pediatric settings,

including early intervention, school-based practice, sensory integration, and community mental health, Becerra-Culqui is also the founder of Mom Sensory Magic, where she partners with early childhood education organizations and provides professional development for OT practitioners on sensory-informed approaches to maternal health, while teaching and mentoring the next generation of occupational therapy practitioners.



Aimee Bhatia, MSOT, OTR/L, CTO, is an occupational therapy practitioner and a graduate of the University of New England with over 25 years of clinical and leadership experience, primarily in skilled nursing facilities. With more than 15 years as a therapy leader, she has mentored and led interdisciplinary rehab teams to support clinical excellence within the geriatric population. As an

active clinical committee member supporting Ensign Affiliated skilled nursing facilities, Bhatia contributes to advancing evidence-based practices and program development to support clinical outcomes and define the role of occupational therapy in geriatric practice. She is passionate about the aging population and committed to dignifying and elevating the clinical care provided by occupational therapists. She is an active member of AOTA, OTAC, and an active presenter in her organization to advance professional growth and elevate the standard of care in skilled nursing facilities.



Erin Bussell, OTD, OTR/L, LRC, CEAS II, received a master's and doctorate in occupational therapy from USC, and completed a doctoral residency at the USC Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice. As a clinical faculty member, Bussell primarily works with individuals to manage diabetes, hypertension conditions, weight management, and more, college students, and pelvic floor issues. Additionally, she evaluates the work environments of USC faculty and staff within the ergonomics program. Bussell is passionate about promoting body positivity, engaging in culturally sensitive care, and evaluating the impact of environment factors on individuals' well-being.



Jacqueline Cantrell, MS, OTR/L, grew up in California, speaks English and Spanish, and comes from two large families—biological and foster. She graduated with a master's in occupational therapy from Dominican University of California in 2019. Cantrell has particular interest in matters of occupational justice; working with refugees, current and former foster youth,

and individuals experiencing challenges to their engagement in occupations and systematic oppression. She is currently developing new community-based programming in the Sacramento region, highlighting occupational therapy's roots in mental health and providing services to transitional-aged youth experiencing a self-identified challenge to their mental and general well-being.



Joyce Chen, OTR/L, has over 20 years of experience at Zuckerberg San Francisco General in various inpatient settings, and is currently one of the main occupational therapy practitioners on the sub-acute unit, the EPIC expert for the department, and has many years of experience with training occupational therapy interns. Chen is committed to working within the public health

sector and is a vocal advocate for patient care and recovery, regardless of socio-economic, legal status, and racial and ethnic background.



Elizabeth "Beth" Ching, OTD, MEd, BSOT, OTR/L, professor, Samuel Merritt University (SMU), is a third-generation Korean Chinese American born in Vallejo, California, and has been an occupational therapy practitioner since 1985. She has been committed to working with underserved populations throughout her career. Ching has presented at the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education (NCORE) about reducing health disparities and mentoring Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) youth to enter the health professions. She also held the SMU faculty diversity coordinator position

in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. Ching has published in the Journal of Cultural Diversity, Journal of Occupational Therapy Education, Journal of Diversity and Equality in Health and Care, Open Journal of Occupational Therapy, Open Access Journal of Complementary & Alternative Medicine; she has co-authored "Psychosocial and Cognitive Issues Affecting Therapy" in Neurorehabilitation for the Physical Therapist Assistant (2021). Ching was honored to receive the 2021 Faculty of the Year Award at SMU.



Domenique Embrey, OTD, OTR/L, is an occupational therapy practitioner with over 36 years of experience. She has worked extensively with children from birth through 18 years old. Embrey has worked in public and private schools, preschools, pediatric Intensive care units and neonatal intensive care hospital units, as well as private therapy clinics. She has experience in mental health, disabilities, sensory processing, handwriting, ADHD, autism spectrum, Down syndrome, and dyslexia. Embrey has been the consulting occupational therapy practitioner at California School for the Deaf. She currently teaches at Samuel Merritt University, is the clinical coordinator for their free pediatric occupational therapy community clinics in Oakland, California, and serves as co-chair of OTAC's Private Practice Network.



Gina Frassetto, OTR/L, practices at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital working primarily in the forensic and acute psychiatric units. She is passionate about collaborating with patients, meeting them where they are at, and finding out what's meaningful to them.



Ginny Gibson, OTD, OTR/L, CHT, is an adjunct associate professor in the Occupational Therapy Program in the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences at Samuel Merritt University, where she currently teaches coursework related to physical agents and orthotic fabrication. She serves as a rehabilitation service manager, overseeing occupational and speech therapy services at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital, and where she also provides hand therapy services.



Kate Hayner, EdD, OTR/L, is a professor in the Occupational Therapy Program in the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences at Samuel Merritt University. She teaches courses related to the pathophysiology of disease, disability, and treatment. She developed the tri-pull taping method, has published research on the topic of shoulder subluxation, and has been speaking on the subject, both nationally and internationally, for 30 years. Hayner continues to treat adult clients with physical disabilities.



Jenna Hope, OTR/L, has extensive experience across the mental health continuum of care, including outpatient and inpatient programs, psychiatric emergency services, and forensic settings. She has worked with adolescents through older adults, supporting individuals with complex mental health needs, dual diagnoses, and substance use disorders using a strengths-based, person-centered approach. Based in San Francisco, Hope is passionate about helping clients build skills, gain confidence, and reconnect with what matters most to them.



Kelsie Kavadas, OTD, OTR/L, PRPC, is a pelvic health occupational therapy practitioner and the owner of HerPath Occupational Therapy & Wellness in Visalia, California. She earned a Doctorate in Occupational Therapy from the University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences (San Marcos campus) and is a Certified Pelvic Rehabilitation Practitioner (PRPC) through the Herman & Wallace Pelvic Rehabilitation Institute. Kavadas teaches an introductory pelvic health course through Aspire OT and is passionate about educating fellow occupational therapy practitioners on integrating pelvic health into diverse practice settings. She has had experience across skilled nursing, acute care, and home health, ultimately finding her niche in pelvic health. Kavadas specializes in reproductive health and is dedicated to supporting women living with persistent pelvic pain conditions.

PRESENTER BIOS *continued*

PRESENTER DIRECTORY

SEASONED EXPERTS
EMERGING VOICES



Lea Le, MS, OTR/L, graduated from San José State University with a master's in occupational therapy. She has 10 years of experience as an occupational therapy practitioner at the Mental Health Association of San Mateo County, a nonprofit organization providing community-based mental health services. Le works with adults who have experienced chronic homelessness and live

with complex mental and physical health conditions, supporting their participation in meaningful occupations and helping them maintain stable housing. She currently serves as the co-chair of the OTAC Advocacy and Government Affairs Committee and is the Northern California Representative for the Psychiatric Occupational Therapy Action Coalition.



Quyen Lieberman, MS, OTR/L, is an occupational therapy practitioner in Santa Clara, California, with over 20 years of experience in school-based and acute care settings. She currently works with the Campbell Union School District and has a long-standing role at Stanford Health Care, providing acute care for adults. Lieberman holds a Bachelor of Science in occupational

therapy and a Master of Science in health and human performance. She is an assistive technology specialist and an active member of AOTA and OTAC.



Sabrena McCarley, MBA-SL, OTR/L, CLIPP, RAC-CT, QCP, FAOTA, RAC-CTA, is a nationally recognized occupational therapy leader, speaker, and policy advocate with more than two decades of experience across post-acute care, reimbursement, and regulatory strategy. A Fellow of the American Occupational Therapy Association and recipient of national recognition for her

advocacy work, she is widely known for advancing occupational therapy's role in value-based care and shaping policy that impacts access, quality, and outcomes for older adults. She brings deep expertise in skilled nursing, MDS, and quality measurement, and has contributed to initiatives focused on healthcare innovation and care delivery reform. A frequent national presenter and thought leader, she bridges evidence-based practice with real-world application to position occupational therapy as an essential driver of interdisciplinary care and population health. Passionate about advocacy and professional empowerment, she works to equip practitioners to elevate their voice, influence policy, and expand the impact of occupational therapy across the continuum of care.



Marcella Cardoza McCollum, EdD, CCC-SLP, is a bilingual speech-language pathologist, assistant professor, and undergraduate program coordinator at San José State University. She advances equitable, culturally sustaining practice through teaching, mentorship, research, and interdisciplinary collaboration. McCollum's work spans schools, hospitals, private

practice, and university clinics, supporting diverse students, families, and communities.



Uyen Nguyen, OTD, OTR/L, has been working in school-based practice since 1998 and currently serves students with special needs in the Evergreen School District. She holds a Bachelor of Science, a Post-professional Master of Science, and a Doctor of Occupational Therapy. Concurrently, Nguyen is a lecturer and the level I fieldwork coordinator for the Occupational Therapy

Department at San José State University and has actively promoted collaborative school-based service models. She has been an active member and volunteer with OTAC, AOTA, NBCOT, and in 2025, Nguyen became the cultural liaison for Vietnam for the Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders OT(AAPI-OT).



Grace V. Perry, OTD, OTR/L, BCPR, is an occupational therapy practitioner working full-time in the inpatient rehabilitation setting for Kaweah Health Rehabilitation Hospital in Visalia, California. She treats adult clients with a variety of neuro-muscular and physical impairments, including SCI, post-stroke, amputation, and TBI. She earned a post-professional doctorate in 2023 from

Creighton University. Perry serves on the OTAC Board of Directors as the Region 4 director-elect.



Annette Pinto, MA, OTR/L, LMFT, is the director of the Psychiatric Occupational Therapy Department at Zuckerberg San Francisco General, where she has proudly dedicated 30 years to the empowerment of patients and growth of staff. She values collaborative relationships, with a deep commitment to reducing stigma and supporting individuals living with mental health

challenges. In addition to her hospital role, Pinto has maintained a small private practice as a marriage and family therapist for over two decades.



Andrea Poirier, PhD, CCC-SLP, is a seasoned school-based speech-language pathologist (SLPA) and dedicated mentor to SLPAs and clinical fellows. She serves as a regional clinical manager, lead SLP, and clinical supervisor at Ascend, where she supports clinical staff in a variety of settings. Poirier holds both a master's degree in speech pathology and a PhD in communication

sciences and disorders. She is passionate about advancing the field and values meaningful collaboration and connection with fellow professionals.



Guy Reavis, OTD, OTR/L, CAPS, is an occupational therapy practitioner and assistant professor of clinical occupational therapy at University of Southern California where he teaches courses on occupational science, communication skills in practice, and is the lead instructor for the productive aging and geriatrics immersion course. In addition, he serves as a faculty mentor for

students completing doctoral capstone projects focused on working with older adults in emerging practice areas such as senior community centers like GenSpace and Easter Seal's Adult Day Centers. Clinically, Reavis has worked in acute care, skilled nursing, home health, and adult day healthcare centers. Most recently he has been working with community dwelling older adults as an occupational therapy practitioner for nonprofit organizations such as Neighborhood Housing Services of Los Angeles, Rebuilding Together: City of Angels, and Habitat for Humanity of Los Angeles to provide home safety assessments and modifications for hundreds of older adults under the Older Adult Home Modification Program, a HUD sponsored grant program. He currently serves as co-chair of the OTAC Practice, Reimbursement, and Ethics Subcommittee on Aging.



Carly Reiner, OTR/L, is an occupational therapy practitioner (OTP) and director of partnerships at Rosarium Health, a platform dedicated to helping older adults and individuals with disabilities safely age in place. As director of partnerships, she is in on the front lines upskilling OTPs to serve in households of older adults. Moreover, she works with Rosarium's nationwide clinician

network, where she regularly interacts with OTP clinicians and builds partnerships in other states to provide services for community dwelling older adults to age in place. In addition to this work, Reiner works in Imperial Valley, California on a grant-funded program aimed at increasing access to occupational therapy assessments and interventions. This initiative supports individuals with disabilities in building skills and resources to start their own businesses, promoting independence and long-term economic empowerment. In addition, she runs a private practice specializing in early intervention and fall prevention programs. Reiner's passion for occupational therapy and healthcare policy has deepened through providing services across multiple states and internationally, including work in Thailand. She is committed to expanding the scope and impact of occupational therapy, continuously exploring innovative ways practitioners can utilize their expertise.



Michelle Rodriguez, MOT, OTR/L, is an occupational therapy practitioner with clinical experience working with patients with physical disabilities in nursing homes and with older adults in community settings. She has been an occupational therapy practitioner at On Lok PACE since 2017. She is a contributor for the Activities of Daily Living (ADL) chapter in Pedretti's Occupational

Therapy (9th edition). Her interests include aging in place, dementia, and influence of culture and socioeconomic on ADL performance.

PRESENTER BIOS *continued*

PRESENTER DIRECTORY

SEASONED EXPERTS
EMERGING VOICES



Emma Schiewe, OTD, OTR/L, TTS, LRC, earned a master's and doctorate in occupational therapy from USC and completed her residency at the USC OT Faculty Practice. She works as a clinical faculty member practicing Lifestyle Redesign® in the USC oncology program and within primary care occupational therapy, addressing concerns with chronic conditions such as mental health, weight management, and women's health. Schiewe became a Certified Tobacco Treatment Specialist in 2022 to support clients quit smoking and vaping.



Winifred A. Schultz-Krohn, PhD, OTR/L, BCP, FAOTA, has over 40 years of experience as an occupational therapy practitioner. She is Board Certified in Pediatrics (BCP) by the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) and has advanced practice in swallowing (SWC) by the California Board of Occupational Therapy. She served as the chair of various AOTA committees and is a professor emerita of occupational therapy at San José State University. Schultz-Krohn received a regional Jefferson Award for her volunteer service to homeless families, was selected as the honored lecturer for the California Occupational Therapy Foundation (CFOT), awarded the prestigious Outstanding Professor of San José State University, awarded several OTAC awards including the Practice Award, Award of Excellence, Lifetime Achievement Award, and the AOTA Distinguished Educator Award. Schultz-Krohn is the co-editor of the 6th, 7th, 8th and the 9th Edition of Pedretti's Occupational Therapy: Practice Skills for Physical Dysfunction textbook in addition to authoring well over 40 articles and chapters. She has clinical experience with clients across the lifespan with a wide variety of conditions and continues to provide direct occupational therapy services to families with toddlers and young children with a focus on feeding, eating and swallowing along with occupational pursuits.



Swati Shah, OTR/L, is an occupational therapy practitioner with over 28 years of diverse experience in pediatric care and inpatient care. She is the director and founder of Pediatric and Rehab Services, Inc., a multidisciplinary pediatric therapy organization serving children across California in various settings, including home-based, early intervention, outpatient, school systems, and clinic-based services.

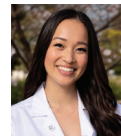


Jerilyn (Gigi) Smith, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, has been an occupational therapy practitioner for 40 years. She received a bachelor's and post-professional master's in occupational therapy from San José State University and earned a PhD in health sciences from Touro University International. Smith is a professor and chair of the Occupational Therapy Program department at San José State University where she also acts as a faculty advisor for student research projects. She is also the graduate admissions coordinator for the Occupational Therapy Program. Smith sits on multiple committees at the university, college, and departmental levels. She has written several chapters in well-respected occupational therapy textbooks and lectured locally, nationally, and internationally on various topics, but most extensively on occupational therapy's role in dysphagia intervention. Smith has been an active member of AOTA and OTAC since she was a student, serving on many different committees and in various leadership roles. She is currently the co-chair of the OTAC Bylaws, Policies, and Procedures Committee. Her clinical experience includes working with adults with neurological disorders in a variety of practice settings and with young children, zero to three years old.



Graham Teaford, OTD, OTR/L, SCLV, is an assistant professor of occupational therapy at San José State University (SJSU). He is an occupational therapy practitioner with clinical experience working with older adults in community settings. He completed the Low Vision Rehabilitation Graduate Certificate Program at the University of Alabama Birmingham (UAB) in 2018 and earned a doctorate in occupational therapy from UAB in 2022. Teaford completed an executive certificate in home modification program from USC in 2016, and in 2020, AOTA specialty certification in low vision (SCLV). He has been a faculty member at SJSU since 2008 teaching courses in neuro-rehabilitation,

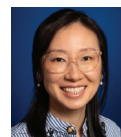
occupational therapy with older adults, clinical practice in occupational therapy, fieldwork practicum and seminar, and infusing occupation in clinical practice. His research interests include neurological assessment and intervention, fall prevention for older adults, community aging, home modification, low vision rehabilitation, ethics, and community-based occupational therapy programs.



Kelli Toyooka, occupational therapy doctoral capstone student, in June will be a new occupational therapy graduate clinician from Samuel Merritt University. She completed her clinical fieldwork at UCLA and Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, where she gained experience working with diverse patient populations across acute and rehabilitation settings. Toyooka recently concluded her doctoral capstone project focused on integrating trauma-informed care (TIC) into occupational therapy (OT) practice and education. Her work included collaborating with a community residential treatment program (CRTP) to embed TIC principles into existing OT frameworks, as well as partnering with Samuel Merritt University to support the integration of TIC into entry-level OT curriculum. Her professional interests include trauma-informed practice, equitable care delivery, and advancing OT education to better prepare clinicians to meet the needs of diverse populations.



Gina Tucker-Roghi, OTD, OTR/L, is an occupational therapy practitioner with over 30 years of experience spanning clinical practice, leadership, and education. Her scholarly interests include occupational therapy services for individuals living with dementia and their care partners, as well as workforce development for occupational therapy practitioners and other members of the interprofessional team who care for older adults. She currently serves as chair and program director of the Occupational Therapy Department at Dominican University of California. Tucker-Roghi was the first occupational therapy practitioner to receive the Geriatric Academic Career Award from the Health Resources and Services Administration, through which she directed an initiative focused on improving well-being and quality of life for older adults with cognitive impairments and their caregivers. A 2022 UCSF Tideswell Emerging Leader in Aging Scholar, she presents nationally on advancing care for older adults. She served as co-editor of the AOTA Gerontology Board Certification Exam Prep Course and has developed partnerships with Northern California community-based organizations to implement programs addressing the needs of older adults. She currently serves as co-chair of the OTAC Practice, Reimbursement, and Ethics Subcommittee on Aging.



Qianwei (Stella) Wang, MScOT, OTR/L, CHT, earned a Master of Science in Occupational Therapy from the University of Toronto in 2013 and has been a Certified Hand Therapist since 2017. She has been practicing in outpatient hand therapy settings since 2015, specializing in orthopedic, post-surgical, and complex upper extremity conditions. Her clinical experience includes the management of fractures, tendon/ligament repairs, arthroplasties, peripheral nerve injuries, and complex trauma, with advanced skills in custom orthotic fabrication, manual therapy, physical agent modalities, and kinesiotaping.



Yi Yuan, PhD, is an assistant professor of the Department of Audiology at San José State University. She earned a PhD in communication sciences and disorders from the University of Florida in 2021, where her doctoral training focused on multisensory integration in speech perception in noise. She then completed postdoctoral training at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center in the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, with an emphasis on auditory electrophysiology and neurophysiology. In Fall 2024, Yuan joined San José State University and founded the Multisensory Integration and Neurocognitive Dynamics (MIND) Lab. Her research integrates behavioral, electrophysiological, and neuroimaging approaches, including fNIRS, EEG, and eCAP to examine how sensory experience and neuroplasticity shape communication and learning across the lifespan, with the goal of informing individualized, evidence-based clinical practice.