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## **Friday Afternoon Poster Session (1.5 hours)**

**Time:** 4:00pm – 5:30pm

**Location:** 161 A/B

### **P01 - Exploring Interprofessional Collaborative Practice and Occupational Therapy's Contribution**

**Presenter(s):** Frank Czuba, DrOT, OTR/L; Grace Bette, OTS; Jake Jackowski, OTS; Kaley Sheehan, OTS; Alicia Watson, OTS

**Contributing Author(s):** Raven Hill, MOT, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** General; Physical Disabilities - including: Neurorehabilitation, Orthopedic

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** Interprofessional collaborative practice (IPCP) occurs when multiple healthcare professionals work with clients to provide high-quality care (IPEC, 2023). Through its therapeutic use of occupations to enhance participation, Occupational Therapy supports effective IPCP and the Quintuple Aim of Healthcare (AOTA, 2022). This poster explores the facilitators and barriers for OT within IPCP.

### **P02 - Occupational Therapy Clinical Pathway: Locked-In Syndrome**

**Presenter(s):** Nicole Singer, OTD, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Physical Disabilities - including: Neurorehabilitation, Orthopedic; General

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** This poster presents an evidence-based, occupational therapy-focused clinical pathway for the evaluation, treatment, and discharge of patients with locked-in syndrome (LIS). The application of this pathway has improved the consistency and quality of education and occupational therapy programming related to patients with this diagnosis. Additionally, it is intended to address the complex patient care needs and high-level clinical decision-making involved in LIS cases.

### **P03 - Recommendations for Gender-Affirming Occupational Therapy: Perspectives of Transgender and Gender Diverse People of Color**

**Presenter(s):** Ricardo Ramirez, OTD, OTR/L; Berit Flagstad, OTS; Heidi Papay, OTS; Maeve Rice, OTS; Lydia Savarimuthu, OTS

**Content Areas:** Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion; Mental Health

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** As the occupational therapy profession has continued to prioritize diversity, equity, and inclusion, there has been a growing interest in providing gender-affirming occupational therapy services as well as working with historically marginalized groups. Thus, it is important to include the voices of transgender and gender diverse people of color (TGDPOC) when developing best practices. This poster will explore the perspectives of TGDPOC on gender-affirming occupational therapy services.

### **P04 - Effects of Pre-exam Yoga Sessions on Stress Levels and Exam Performance in Occupational Therapy Education**

**Presenter(s):** Bridget Hahn, OTR/L, OTD; Lamis Alnatafqi, OTS; Amanda Barbour, OTS; Samantha Benak, OTS; Leah Downey, OTS; Emily Servin, OTS

**Content Areas:** Academic Education / Fieldwork; General

**Target Audience:** Entry-level

**Course Description:** This poster presentation examines the impact of a single-session yoga intervention on stress and exam performance in first-year OTD students. Using a mixed-methods design, anxiety levels were measured pre/post-session and exam scores were compared to historical data. Qualitative feedback highlighted student experiences. Findings support yoga as a brief, meaningful intervention to reduce acute stress and promote wellness, aligning with OT's holistic, occupation-based approach.

**P05 - Table Tennis as Occupational Therapy: A Holistic Intervention for Individuals with MS**

**Presenter(s):** Ryan Durkin, OTD, MBA, OTR/L, ECHM

**Contributing Author(s):** Rachel Welbel, MD, MS

**Content Areas:** Physical Disabilities - including: Neurorehabilitation, Orthopedic; Home & Community Health

**Target Audience:** Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** This presentation explores a 12-week occupational therapy-led table tennis program for individuals with Multiple Sclerosis, highlighting its feasibility, safety, and positive impact on motor function, disability, and quality of life. Attendees will gain insight into how engaging, meaningful activities can be integrated into neuro-rehabilitation to promote physical and emotional well-being for individuals with MS.

**P06 - Redefining Accessibility: Integrating Sensory-Inclusive Design into Modern Architectural Developments**

**Presenter(s):** Samantha Libman, OTD

**Contributing Author(s):** Caitlin Smith, OTD, OTR/L, CLT-UE; Francisco Lasta, OTR/L, Assoc. AIA

**Content Areas:** Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion; General

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** This presentation highlights the application of Dunn's Model of Sensory Processing in architectural design to promote inclusive, sensory-friendly environments. Attendees will explore how occupational therapy can inform infrastructure projects, with tools like the Sensory Design Magazine offering practical strategies to support diverse sensory needs and enhance participation in public spaces.

**P07 - Resilience in Families and Children with Developmental Disabilities: A Scoping Review**

**Presenter(s):** Lauren Little, PhD; Nitya Joshi, BS, OTS; Emily Bryan, BA, OTS; Anna Solberg, BA, OTS; Marion Bensing, BS, OTS; Heather Zissman, BA, OTS

**Content Areas:** Developmental Disabilities; Pediatrics - includes: Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration

**Target Audience:** Entry-level

**Course Description:** The proposed poster would describe a scoping review on factors that support resilience among families and youth with developmental disabilities (DD). Specifically, we will outline how occupational therapy practitioners may support families and youth with DD in promotion of resilience.

**P08 - The Rise of Artificial Intelligence in Graduate Healthcare Programs**

**Presenter(s):** Erin Simpson, DrOT, MOT, OTR/L; Rachael Hinkel, OTS; Kenna Kleinert, OTS; Colin O'Donnell, OTS; Martina Youssef, OTS

**Content Areas:** Academic Education / Fieldwork; General

**Target Audience:** Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** Artificial intelligence (AI) is rapidly advancing in graduate school curricula, especially in healthcare. This study reveals growing AI familiarity and usage among healthcare students for academic tasks. Optimism and trust in AI highlight its potential to transform healthcare. Early AI education could enhance student readiness and integration into healthcare practices.

**P09 - Exploring the Influence of Mental Health on Romantic Partnerships: Occupational Therapy's Role in Enhancing Relationship Quality**

**Presenter(s):** Grace Cheatham, OTS

**Contributing Author(s):** Jennifer Lim, MOT, OTR/L; Erin Luy, MSOT, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Mental Health; General

**Target Audience:** Entry-level

**Course Description:** Romantic relationships are often overlooked when working with clients with various mental health conditions in the occupational therapy field. This presentation examines the literature across various scholarly articles and research studies to understand the impact of mental health diagnoses on romantic relationships and the role of occupational therapy in working with clients to improve relationship quality and health.

**P10 - Implementing a Multidisciplinary Vivistim Care Pathway for Chronic Ischemic Stroke Recovery and Early Real-World Patient Outcomes**

**Presenter(s):** Ashley Madsen, OT, MSOT, OTR/L; Alyssa Meyers, OT, MSOT, OTR/L; Jessica Buchanan, PT, DPT, CLT

**Contributing Author(s):** Caitlin Deom, PT, DPT, NCS; Katherine Enzler, PT, DPT, NCS, CLT-LANA

**Content Areas:** Physical Disabilities - including: Neurorehabilitation, Orthopedic; Assistive Technology

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** This presentation will highlight the development and implementation of a multidisciplinary care pathway for Vivistim® Paired Vagus Nerve Stimulation Therapy at Alexian Brothers in Elk Grove. Attendees will learn how the pathway improves access to chronic stroke care, streamlines coordination across providers, and enhances patient outcomes. Early data and patient stories will be shared to illustrate real-world impact.

**P11 - Enhancing EMS Safety and Performance Through Occupational Therapy Ergonomics Programs: A Student-Led Collaboration with a Local Fire Department**

**Presenter(s):** Mary Tuskey, OTS; Kathryn Little, OTS; Elise Kamp, OTS; Lauren Kubinski, OTS; Kelly Frystak, OTD, OTR/L, ITOT

**Contributing Author(s):** Bernadette Bryant, COTA, OTS; Emerson Mussey, OTS; Maria Fernanda Morones Gomez, OTS; Sierra Van Craenenbroeck, OTS; Jennifer Lim, MOT, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Home & Community Health; Physical Disabilities - including: Neurorehabilitation, Orthopedic

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level

**Course Description:** Occupational therapy practitioners can play a vital role in assessing needs and implementing ergonomics training programs for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel by addressing the proper use of work equipment, safe body mechanics, and injury prevention. This poster presents a collaboration between a student organization and a local fire department to promote work safety and long-term community well-being through education on ergonomic principles.

**P12 - Knowledge Translation Between Fieldwork Educators and Their Level II Fieldwork Students**

**Presenter(s):** Dustin Hogan, OTR/L; Kelly Dunn, OTS; Yuanqin Liu, OTS; Chandler Mahood, OTS; Rachel Paw, OTS

**Content Areas:** Academic Education / Fieldwork; Administration & Management

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** This poster presentation explores how Occupational Therapy Fieldwork Educators (FWEs) are implementing Knowledge Translation (KT) strategies with Level II fieldwork students. Attendees will gain insights into effective KT practices, common barriers, and supports needed to better integrate KT initiatives with level II fieldwork students.

**P13 - Improving Sleep to Support Aging in Place: Occupational Therapy's Emerging Role**

**Presenter(s):** Kathleen Caruso, OTD, OTR/L; Ryan Durkin, OTD, OTR/L, MBA, ECHM

**Content Areas:** Productive Aging; Home & Community Health

**Target Audience:** Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** This presentation explores the critical role of occupational therapy in addressing sleep disturbances among older adults, a commonly overlooked barrier to independence and daily functioning. Attendees will learn how evidence-based, holistic interventions grounded in the PEO model can support aging in place by improving sleep quality and overall occupational performance.

**P14 - Implementation of a Professional Development Toolkit for OTs in Acute Care**

**Presenter(s):** Colleen Hogan, OTD, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Administration & Management; Physical Disabilities - including: Neurorehabilitation, Orthopedic

**Target Audience:** Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** A Professional Development Toolkit for OTs was developed and implemented in the acute care setting that included professional development opportunities, a new hire mentor program, and opportunities for clinician recognition. The toolkit positively impacted department professional development scores from -29 to 13 on a Net Promoter Scale of -100 to 100. The toolkit demonstrates an innovative approach to provide professional development opportunities at a hospital without a clinical ladder.

**P15 - O-Tea, Ableism & Access: A Zine Series for Healthcare and Beyond**

**Presenter(s):** Deeva Evangelista, OTD

**Content Areas:** Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion; Academic Education / Fieldwork

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** O-Tea, Ableism, & Access is a five-part zine series created in collaboration with the University of Illinois Disability Cultural Center and is the primary product of an entry-level doctorate of occupational therapy capstone project. This project explored creative, advocacy-based practices to conspire with the disability community and dismantle anti-ableist ways in occupational therapy and beyond.

**P16 - A Moving Canvas: A Multi-Sensory Art with Gross Motor Integration Program For Preschoolers**

**Presenter(s):** Jessalynn Medina, OTD

**Contributing Author(s):** Kim Kull, M.Ed; Sabrin Rizk, PhD, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Pediatrics - includes Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration; Home & Community Health

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** A Moving Canvas is a gross motor-driven art initiative piloted in an early childhood setting. The project addressed the implementation gap between creative arts and physical activity by developing, testing, and documenting child-led, play-focused activities. The resulting activity guide outlines adaptable gross motor art experiences and shared real-time insights from teachers and children to inform future practice.

**P17 - Bridging Knowledge to Action: Enhancing OT Students' Knowledge Translation in Fieldwork**

**Presenter(s):** Dustin Hogan, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Academic Education / Fieldwork; Administration & Management

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** Explore how a Knowledge-to-Action (KTA) Framework instructional module impacts OT students' understanding, confidence, and use of Knowledge Translation (KT) during Level 1 fieldwork. This session highlights how structured instruction and supportive environments can bridge the research-to-practice gap and enhance evidence-based practice readiness.

**P18 - A Scoping Review: Gambling Amongst College Students, The Intersection Of Occupational Balance And Financial Literacy**

**Presenter(s):** Luther King, DrOT, MOT, OTR/L, CDRS; Kennedy Blackwell, OTS; Alexis Golden, OTS; Rachel Peterson, OTS; Sandra Pisarek, OTS

**Contributing Author(s):** Jessica Love-Jordan, PhD, LCPC, NCC, CADC

**Content Areas:** General; Academic Education / Fieldwork

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** Financial literacy is critical to making financial decisions and to maintain financial well-being. However, gambling is a prevalent activity that is common among college students due to increased accessibility such as online sports betting. This study investigated the relationship between financial literacy and gambling amongst college students.

**P19 - To explore the lived experiences of immigrant parents/caregivers raising a child with a disability within the context of navigating healthcare and occupational therapy services.**

**Presenter(s):** Elizabeth Wanka, DrOT, OTR/L; Pooja Mehr, OTS; Annette Wu, OTS; Angelina Ungaro, OTS; Justin Martinez, OTS; Gabby Nunez, OTS

**Content Areas:** Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion; Home & Community Health

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** Families from diverse backgrounds face service access barriers due to language, limited support, health literacy, and systemic healthcare navigation challenges. These issues impact trust and service engagement, especially for immigrant families. Understanding parent perceptions is key to addressing barriers and improving culturally appropriate, effective interventions for children with disabilities.

**P20 - Community-Engaged Learning at Play: Building Occupational Therapy Student Competence through Children's Museum Collaboration**

**Presenter(s):** Erin Luy, MSOT, OTR/L; Juliet Perez, MOT, OTR/L; Lauren Stone Kelly, OTD, OTR/L; Kaitlin Kendrick, OTS

**Content Areas:** Pediatrics - includes Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration; Home & Community Health

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** Collaboration is an essential component of occupational therapy and has an increased impact when it occurs within the community. Occupational therapy students collaborated with a local children's museum to promote mutual learning between OT students and the children. A community-based event inspired creativity and development of skills for both the students and children. Strengths, challenges, and application to practice will be discussed.

**P21 - The Perceived Benefits of Community Senior Cafes and the Potential Effects on Occupational Engagement**

**Presenter(s):** Cynthia Carr, DrOT, MS, OTR/L; Jeshua Banks, OTS; Eric Garcia, OTS; Nikayla Gordon, OTS; Paige Oliver, OTS; Kajal Patel, OTS; Janhvi Sheth, OTS

**Content Areas:** Productive Aging; Home & Community Health

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** The Person, Environment and Occupational Performance (PEOP) model was utilized to explore the perceived benefits of Community Senior Cafes as identified by 'aging in place' senior patrons. Surveys collected from twelve Senior Community Cafes across Cook Will, Kendall, and Grundy counties provides data on the impact of cafe participation on participants' occupational engagement. Implications for Occupational Therapy to discuss.

**P22 - Perceived Effectiveness of University Resources in Decreasing Graduate Healthcare Students Stress Levels**

**Presenter(s):** Rebecca Kvasnicka, DrOT, MOT, OTR/L; Alyssa Krause, OTS; Landry Ludwig, OTS; Kaitlyn Slager, OTS; Nayeli Orozco, OTS

**Content Areas:** Academic Education / Fieldwork; Mental Health

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** This presentation shares the results of a research study focused on graduate healthcare student stressors and coping mechanisms. The findings of this study indicate that students are incorporating wellness strategies into their lives to mitigate the increased levels of stress during graduate-level education; however, they desire more support from academic programs and a greater variety of and improved access to university resources.

**P23 - Unspoken Narratives: The Impact of Neurodivergent Voices Captured Through Photos on Understanding, Empathy, and Attitudes**

**Presenter(s):** Sydney Boland, OTS; Elizabeth Buchanan, OTS; Olivia Frail, OTS; Margaret Manthey, OTS; Abigail Veith, OTS

**Contributing Author(s):** Elsie Pollari, OTD, OTR/L, CSRS; Elizabeth Levine

**Content Areas:** Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion; Academic Education / Fieldwork

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level



**Course Description:** This presentation reports findings from a mixed-methods faculty-led student research project examining how a curated photovoice exhibit, featuring original photos and captions by neurodivergent adults, impacted viewer understanding, empathy, and attitudes. Results highlight the potential for immersive, narrative-based exhibitions to promote more neuro-affirming and inclusive environments in academic and public settings.

#### **P24 - Impact of Weight Loss Programs on Life Participation**

**Presenter(s):** Marie-Claude Touchette, DHSc, MHS, OTR/L, ACUE; Marissa Barauskas; Carolina Castillo; Kelsi King; Victoria Schoenholtz; Mary Emma Zimmermann

**Content Areas:** General; Physical Disabilities - including: Neurorehabilitation, Orthopedic

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** Obesity affects over 40% of adults in the United States and can affect multiple facets of an individual's life. Yet, bariatric evaluations mostly focus on BMI and medical comorbidity. It is crucial to apply a multifaceted approach to obesity care. This study is twofold: 1) Examine the effect of weight loss programs on life participation 2) Establish the concurrent validity of the LPIQ-O, a newly developed questionnaire assessing areas of life participation impacted by obesity.

#### **P30 - Vagus Nerve Stimulation Paired With High-Intensity Task-Specific Occupational Therapy Training for Chronic Stroke: A Case Series**

**Presenter(s):** Ashley Madsen, OT, MSOT, OTR/L; Alyssa Meyers, OT, MSOT, OTR/L; Jessica Buchanan, PT, DPT, CLT

**Contributing Author(s):** Caitlin Deom, PT, DPT, NCS; Katherine Enzler, PT, DPT, NCS, CLT-LANA

**Content Areas:** Physical Disabilities - including: Neurorehabilitation, Orthopedic; Productive Aging

**Target Audience:** Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** The objective of this case series was to evaluate the impact of pairing vagus nerve stimulation (VNS) using the FDA-approved Vivistim system with high-intensity, task-specific occupational therapy (OT) on upper extremity function in chronic stroke survivors with moderate to severe motor impairments. Prior research has demonstrated that VNS paired with OT<sup>1-4</sup> enhances neuroplasticity and leads to 2-3 times greater improvement in arm and hand function compared to task-specific training alone.

#### **P35 - Gardening as an Intervention in Occupational Therapy: Results from an OT Practitioner Survey**

**Presenter(s):** Stephanie Zuba-Bates, OTD, MS, OTR/L; Brianna Camphor, OTS; Bianca Guardiola, OTS; Kaitlin Martin, OTS; Christopher Harrell, OTS; Khaliah Williams, OTS; Tevin Parker, OTS

**Content Areas:** General; Physical Disabilities - including: Neurorehabilitation, Orthopedic

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** Gardening is a meaningful occupation that offers many physical, mental, and spiritual health benefits. This research study surveyed occupational therapy practitioners to explore if and how they incorporate gardening into their practice. It also investigated factors that influence their professional reasoning regarding its use. This presentation will include a review of current literature on gardening in OT, an analysis of survey findings, and a discussion of the implications of these results.

## **Saturday Afternoon Poster Session (1.5 hours)**

**Time:** 3:15pm – 4:45pm

**Location:** 161 A/B

### **P25 - Enhancing Hair Care Experiences for Children with Sensory Sensitivities**

**Presenter(s):** Sydney Roberts, OTD

**Contributing Author(s):** Lisa Mahaffey, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

**Content Areas:** Pediatrics - includes Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration; Mental Health

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level

**Course Description:** This presentation will showcase a capstone project that focused on addressing challenges children face during haircare activities at a salon. The project involved developing targeted interventions, such as an online training module for the hair stylists, creating parent education resources, and providing sensory tools, to enhance participation and improve the overall experience for the children, their families, and the stylists.

### **P26 - Perceived Barriers to Universal Design Implementation: A Scoping Review to Inform an Occupational Therapy/Architecture Collaboration**

**Presenter(s):** Laura Vanpuymbrouck, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA; McKenzie Cox, OTDS; Saba Elothman, OTDS; Rebecca Keidan, OTDS; Joshua Noriega, OTDS

**Contributing Author(s):** Jennifer Westrick, Library Research Information Specialist

**Content Areas:** Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion; Home & Community Health

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** There is growing interest in Occupational therapy (OT) and architecture collaborating on universal design (UD). This scoping review explored architects' perceived barriers to UD to inform OT involvement in design. Using Arksey and O'Malley's framework, ten studies were reviewed from diverse countries. Barriers included limited UD education, lack of user-centered perspectives, and systemic issues. OT professionals are well-positioned to address these gaps through advocacy and collaboration.

### **P28 - Social Participation in the United States for Filipino American Older Adults**

**Presenter(s):** Trisha Mallare, OTD

**Contributing Author(s):** Monika Robinson, DrOT, OTR/L; Chase Irwin, M.S.

**Content Areas:** Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion; Productive Aging

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level

**Course Description:** To enhance social participation and provide holistic care, occupational therapy practitioners must consider the contextual demands of the population they serve by understanding constraints that extend to Filipino older adults, both physically and mentally for social participation.

### **P29 - Empowering Family Caregivers: A Support and Education Program to Reduce Stress and Enhance Wellbeing**

**Presenter(s):** Maria O'Brien, OTD

**Contributing Author(s):** Pooja Patel, DrOT, OTR/L, BCG, CDP, CFPS, CGCP

**Content Areas:** Productive Aging; Home & Community Health

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** This program focused on developing a family caregiver support and education program to address the increasing challenges of informal caregiving. Occupational therapy practitioners play a vital role in equipping caregivers with the tools needed to sustain their well-being and improve care outcomes. By fostering a supportive network and integrating educational resources and health management strategies, this initiative sought to enhance both caregiver and care-recipient quality of life.

**P31 - LGBTQIA+ identity disclosure within the rehabilitation environment: Experiences of healthcare professionals**

**Presenter(s):** Sam Dooley, OTD

**Content Areas:** Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion; Administration & Management

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** This poster explores how LGBTQIA+ rehabilitation professionals navigate identity disclosure within healthcare settings. Findings highlight the complex, context-dependent nature of disclosure and its impact on therapeutic relationships. Participants will gain insights into how occupational therapy practitioners can foster more inclusive and affirming environments for LGBTQIA+ individuals.

**P33 - Occupational Identity, Empowerment and the Role of Participation in an Integrated Dance Company**

**Presenter(s):** Courtney Bland, OTD; Earl Bondoc, OTD; Kelsey Horwath, OTD

**Contributing Author(s):** Lisa Mahaffey, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

**Content Areas:** Physical Disabilities - including: Neurorehabilitation, Orthopedic; General

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** This study examines the lived experiences and occupational identity of disabled and non-disabled dancers in an integrative dance company. Thematic analysis revealed themes of community building, self-identity, empowerment, and challenging norms of artistic excellence. Findings emphasize the need to increase visibility and access to arts-based programs for individuals with disabilities across the lifespan.

**P34 - Menstrual Hygiene and Management for Students with Intellectual Disabilities**

**Presenter(s):** Lillian Gaskin, OTS; Hailey Godbout, OTS; Isabel Guillen, OTS

**Contributing Author(s):** Ashley Murphy, OTS; Laura Murguia, OTS; Kayla Alvarez, OTS; Audre Omdahl Chaput, OTS; Shannon Neumann, OTS

**Content Areas:** Developmental Disabilities; Pediatrics - includes: Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level

**Course Description:** This presentation explores caregiver perspectives on how school-based menstrual hygiene instruction impacts students with intellectual disabilities. Attendees will learn about common barriers to menstruation management, adaptive strategies used by families, and the unique role occupational therapists can play in promoting independence and access to essential menstrual hygiene education.

**P37 - Perceptions of Parenting After Stroke**

**Presenter(s):** Kristen Rousonelos, OTS; Peyton Miller, OTS; Jessica Escobedo, OTS; Derek Stuart, OTS; Casey Bruce, OTS; Madelynn Cosgrove, OTS

**Contributing Author(s):** Elizabeth White, OTS; Eron Bozec, OTD, OTR/L, CSRS, CDI, DRS

**Content Areas:** Physical Disabilities - including: Neurorehabilitation, Orthopedic; Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

**Target Audience:** Entry-level

**Course Description:** Researchers explored parental role changes and challenges experienced by stroke survivors who are parents of children under age 18. Five main themes emerged from the research: Family as Motivation, Emotional Impact on Family, Effects on Kids, Role Changes, and Normalcy.

#### **P38 - Incorporating Universal Design of Learning Principles in Graduate Education**

**Presenter(s):** Gabriela Carmona, OTS

**Contributing Author(s):** Monika Robinson, DrOT, OTR/L; Danielle Bank, MEd

**Content Areas:** Academic Education / Fieldwork; Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

**Target Audience:** Student

**Course Description:** Discover how Universal Design for Learning (UDL) can revamp graduate education by promoting inclusive, flexible, and evidence-based teaching strategies. This poster supports the effectiveness of a UDL module designed for faculty and students, that consists of practical tools to support diverse learning needs, including for those without formal accommodations.

#### **P39 - Exploring the Feasibility of Nature-Based Art Programs for Children with Disabilities in Community Settings**

**Presenter(s):** Patrycja Karwowski, OTD

**Contributing Author(s):** Evguenia Popova, PhD, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Pediatrics - includes Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration; Developmental Disabilities

**Target Audience:** Entry-level

**Course Description:** In this presentation, attendees will explore the benefits of integrating nature and art into occupational therapy through a case study of an adolescent with Down syndrome. The presentation highlights a pilot art-in-nature program at a free urban zoo and its impact on social-emotional skills and community participation. Participants will gain insight into nature-based, goal-directed interventions that support meaningful engagement for youth with developmental disabilities.

#### **P40 - Families In Transition: Supporting Caregivers in Navigating the Transition out of Early Intervention (EI)**

**Presenter(s):** Talia Neuhaus, OTD

**Content Areas:** Pediatrics - includes Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration; Pediatrics - includes: Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration

**Target Audience:** Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** Caregivers play a crucial role in their children's education- especially for children with disabilities. Current practices during the transition out of early intervention (EI) do not provide sufficient support. This presentation shares the results of a project that aimed to increase caregiver knowledge of and confidence in the transition process at one EI program in several ways: creating accessible resources, supportive individualized meetings, and provider training in transition navigation.

**P42 - Clinimetric Properties and Patient Group Validity of The Chicago-Quick Hand Function Test**

**Presenter(s):** Amrendra Kumar, PhD, MSOT, OTR/L; Marina Morcos, OTS; Adam Valera, OTS; Rose Scaliatine, OTS; Baltazar Del Rosari, OTS; Isabella Prado, OTS; Justin Arevalo, OTS

**Content Areas:** Physical Disabilities - including: Neurorehabilitation, Orthopedic; Home & Community Health

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** This session introduces the Chicago-Quick Hand Function Test (C-QHFT), a novel performance-based outcome measure designed to capture comprehensive hand function, including in-hand manipulation and psychomotor skills. Attendees will learn about its clinimetric evaluation in adults with hand impairments, including known group validity, MCID, and clinical utility, offering valuable insights for clinicians and researchers in hand rehabilitation.

**P43 - The Chicago-Quick Hand Function Test: An Outcome Measure for In-Hand Manipulation and Dexterity**

**Presenter(s):** Amrendra Kumar, PhD, MSOT, OTR/L

**Contributing Author(s):** Mary Shotwell, PhD, FAOTA, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Home & Community Health; Physical Disabilities - including: Neurorehabilitation, Orthopedic

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** The study delivers a new standardized outcome measure, the Chicago-Quick Hand Function Test (C-QHFT) to healthcare professionals to assess hand function comprehensively, effectively, and efficiently which every occupational therapist struggles to do.

**P44 - The Impact of an Educational Workshop on Occupational Therapy Students' Perceptions of People with Experiences of Addiction**

**Presenter(s):** Samantha Dooley, OTD

**Contributing Author(s):** Averie Robertson, OTD; Bianca Chapa, OTD; Jillian Paguiligan, OTD; Emily Simpson, PhD, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Academic Education / Fieldwork; Mental Health

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** The purpose of this mixed-methods study was to understand if a workshop for OT students had an impact on their attitudes towards people with experiences of addiction. The workshop included education, self-assessment, and speakers with lived experience.

Participants were positive about the program and identified a need for education to supplement OT curriculum, including intentional content and greater opportunities to gain exposure to the lived experiences of people from stigmatized groups.

**P45 - Building an Advocacy Course for Entry-Level Occupational Therapy Students**

**Presenter(s):** Elizabeth Levine, OTD, OTR/L, CLT

**Content Areas:** Academic Education / Fieldwork; General

**Target Audience:** Advanced-level

**Course Description:** This capstone project developed an evidence-based advocacy curriculum for entry-level OT students to build skills in policy influence, profession promotion, and addressing systemic barriers. It emphasized knowledge, practice, & confidence through experiential learning.

**P46 - Supporting Autistic Girls Through Puberty: The Role of Occupational Therapy in Promoting Independence and Well-Being**

**Presenter(s):** Laura Lamere-Prazma, COTA/L

**Content Areas:** Pediatrics - includes Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration; Developmental Disabilities

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** This poster explores the unique challenges autistic girls face during puberty and highlights the critical role in occupational therapy assisting in promoting independence and well-being. It emphasizes the need for further research, evidence-based interventions, and practitioner education related to supporting hygiene and sensory regulation needs during this transitional period.

**P47 - A Case Study of an Arts-based Occupational Therapy Intervention for Survivors of Commercial Sexual Exploitation**

**Presenter(s):** Ciara Brabant, OTD; Sydney Roberts, OTD; Alisha Thomas, OTD

**Contributing Author(s):** Emily Simpson, PhD, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Mental Health; General

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** The purpose of this case study was to explore how an arts-based intervention for occupational exploration was experienced by women who have experienced commercial sexual exploitation. Women described how the intervention supported them to safely explore and re-engage with previously valued occupations and to more intentionally connect with current ones. Guided creative occupations can be added to current programming for this population.

**P48 - The Habit and Behavior Intervention Tool (HABIT): Pilot Results of an Evidence-Informed Approach to Habit Formation**

**Presenter(s):** Erin Epley, OTD, OTR/L

**Contributing Author(s):** Anna Andryushchenko, OTS; Kaelen Bradford, OTS; Lacey Kaiser, OTS; Jillian O'Brien, OTS

**Content Areas:** General; Academic Education / Fieldwork

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** This presentation explores the development of an evidence-based framework for habit change (the HABIT - Habit and Behavior Intervention Tool) and shares results from a pilot study using an 8-week intervention based on the framework and principles of wellness and health promotion. Though the intervention was tested in undergraduate students, the framework has the potential for relevance across populations and settings where habits determine health and wellness