

Position Statement for Director of Communications

Lauren Stone Kelly, OTD, OTR/L

Education & Professional Experience

I entered the field of OT in 2013 after receiving my MSOT from Washington University in St. Louis. After several years working primarily in pediatrics, I transitioned to a rehab hospital and worked as the lead OTP on our pediatric inpatient unit as well as a senior OTP in our outpatient and day rehab program. I then went on to be the pediatric program coordinator at the hospital developing programming, developing written communications for internal and external audiences including brochures, annual department reports, and quarterly outcomes reporting. In this role I served as an advocate for the pediatric program to our corporate administrators and CEOs, improved awareness and understanding of our unique program, and worked closely with the leadership team on many projects. After receiving my post-professional OTD from Boston University in 2018, I pursued a career in academia and have been a full-time faculty at North Central College since 2019. I am currently the doctoral capstone coordinator for the program. I also created and maintain several social media accounts for the program including an alumni group, and main Instagram and Facebook profiles.

Professional Activities

I have been an active member in ILOTA and AOTA since 2012, and founded the Pi Theta Epsilon chapter at North Central College. I am currently a co-faculty advisor for the Beta Sigma chapter for the 6th consecutive year. I have volunteered my time to special projects with AOTA and ILOTA and have presented many scholarly works at state and national conferences over the years. I am currently mentoring some of my entry level students to do the same. To date I have also mentored over 23 post-professional students to completion of their doctoral dissertation projects and continue in this mentorship role. I have also served as a consultant and on advisory panels with the DuPage Children's Museum.

Position Statement

In the past two years, I have enjoyed leading the communications team for ILOTA, and hope to continue in this role for another term. As Director of Communications I have consistently published quarterly newsletters on-time and added new informational sections to support ILOTA events and provide important information to our members. Along with my team, I was also able to revive our Blog with several posts throughout the past two years in addition to overseeing our social media communications. In the past year, an audit of our website was initiated with some changes being implemented, and more work underway to improve how we share information with members and how they interact with the website. There is much more to do, but it is an active project that will continue over the next year. In my second term, I hope to further enhance our newsletter communications, collaborate with the advocacy team to increase visibility and information sharing on social media, and develop and implement initiatives to further strengthen ILOTAs member communication.