PTE Prepares for 2016 AOTA/NBCOT Student Conclave

Pi Theta Epsilon is gearing up for another busy, exciting weekend at the upcoming AOTA/NBCOT Student Conclave in Dearborn, Michigan on November 18-19, 2016.

Don't miss these important events:

**PTE Annual Business Meeting:** Friday, November 18, 9:00-10:30 am

PTE will host its 26th Annual Business Meeting (ABM) in the Great Lakes Center A room. Registration will be held from 8:00 am-9:00 am. This meeting is an opportunity for exchanging information, conducting new business, and discussing pertinent issues. Each chapter is encouraged to send one (1) voting delegate, though all PTE members are welcome to attend the meeting. Chapters have received a delegate's packet in mid-September containing important documents, including:

1. [Chapter Representation Form](mailto:text)
2. [Proxy Affidavit](mailto:text)
3. Rules of the Day
4. Parliamentary Procedures
5. Proposed Agenda for the 26th Annual Business Meeting
6. Minutes from the 25th Annual Business Meeting
7. [Resolution form](mailto:text) for introducing new business/discussion

Please return completed resolution forms by October 18 and the Chapter Representation form by November 11 to Michele Fernandez at [pte@aotf.org](mailto:pte@aotf.org).

**PTE Special Presentation:** Friday, November 18, 10:30 am-12:00 pm
Immediately following the ABM, Pi Theta Epsilon will host a special panel presentation for PTE students featuring Dr. Susan Murphy of the University of Michigan and Dr. Diane Adamo of Wayne State University. The presentation will focus on specific tips, considerations, and recommendations for taking the first steps to pursue a career in research. The presentation will take place in the Great Lakes Center A room. All PTE members are welcome to attend.

**PTE Poster Session:** Friday, November 18, 1:00-2:00 pm and Saturday, November 19, 8:00-8:30 am and 10:15-10:45 am

The 3rd Annual PTE Poster Session will be held on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. This event is a wonderful opportunity to present your student research projects to your peers and to gain additional practice/feedback in preparation for other presentation opportunities, such as the AOTA Conference. The deadline to send in an abstract for consideration to participate in the poster session is **September 16**.

Please contact the PTE National Coordinator, Michele Fernandez, at pte@aotf.org with any other questions or concerns. We look forward to seeing you this November!

**PTE Members Have Unique Award Opportunities**

Did you know, as a member of PTE you have unique opportunities for scholarships and awards which can set you apart from your peers?

- As a student, be honored for your leadership in education, practice, and research, with the **Martha Kirkland Scholarship** (one of 50 scholarships sponsored through AOTF) and win $500-$1500.
- As a first time researcher, be honored with the **Mary J. Bridle Award** and win $750, plus have your research published in *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*.
- As a chapter, be honored for organizing and implementing outstanding scholarly events, with the **President's Award** and get recognized at the AOTA/NBCOT Student Conclave.

Award and scholarship deadlines are typically in October, view the above links for more detailed information and deadlines.

**Meet your continuing Pi Theta Epsilon Vice President -- Kimberly Clark**

Kim, How long have you been on the PTE board?
*I've been on the national board for two years now and I am looking forward to serving another two years!*

What has been your favorite thing about being on the board?
*I love interacting with inspiring PTE members, the board members, the students, and alumni members. I enjoy the collaboration between board members and being pushed to be a better leader, better practitioner, and better advocate for our profession.*

Where do you practice as an OT?
**St. Luke's Rehab Institute, Spokane, WA. I work in in-patient rehab with spinal cord injury and multitrauma.**

What are some fun facts about you?
*As a student I was able to go to China two times and work in several therapy clinics,*
Meet your new Pi Theta Epsilon Treasurer -- Sean Brim

Sean, what is your experience working with Pi Theta Epsilon?
While I attended Florida International University from 2013 to 2015 I became the president of the Mu Chapter of Pi Theta Epsilon during my second year of the program. Through building a strong relationship with communication and leadership with the executive board and the PTE members we were able to have many achievements as a chapter.

What do you do outside of PTE?
I began working as a practitioner in January 2016. I am a full-time pediatric therapist and also work part-time in an orthopedic setting. It's unorthodox to typically work in two entirely different settings; however, I fell in love with both settings. Instead of choosing one, I decided to do both. My day could be spent treating elderly people up to the age of 90-years old to treating babies 8-months old. It keeps me current with latest current events and superheroes.

What are some fun facts about you?
I am full of fun facts. I challenge my colleagues and patients to presidential and Forrest Gump trivia daily. For instance, when Forrest Gump visited the White house what soda did he have to drink? And how many did he have?

As the new treasurer of PTE what do you hope to accomplish during your term?
I am excited to serve as the new treasurer for PTE for the next two years. Working as a leader at the national level brings greater responsibilities which I welcome with open arms. With this new leadership position, I hope to bring new inventive fundraising ideas to PTE as well as fulfill the position of treasurer to my greatest ability.

Lastly, what words of advice do you have for Pi Theta Epsilon students?
Never stop learning. I feel educating ourselves is not only important for oneself but for our profession. I plan on continuing my education by pursuing my doctoral degree in occupational therapy in the upcoming year. If pursuing a doctorate is not in your future, look into the many specializations that are out there.

Lastly, get involved! Continue your membership with AOTA and your state organization, continue your relationship with AOTF; there are so many different opportunities to become involved.

Webinar Watch: Data Driven Decision Making
October Release Date

As members of PTE, we all understand the importance of research. With productivity standards as clinicians and homework assignments as fieldwork students, it may seem overwhelming to stay up to date with the latest evidence-based practice.

This October, we will release our third webinar on the PTE Youtube channel. Elke van Hooydonk, OTD, OTR/L and Patricia Faller, OTD, OTR/L, occupational therapists at Children's Specialized Hospital of New Jersey in Toms River, NJ will be discussing their work with Data Driven Decision Making, and the importance in applying evidence-based practice both in fieldwork and as practitioners. You can find out more about their work in their most recent article, Application of Data Driven Decision Making using Ayres