

# Scroll & Pen

Pi Theta Epsilon  
The National Honor Society of Occupational Therapy

*A program of the  
American Occupational Therapy Foundation*



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Casey Primeau, Omicron Chapter, Boston University, accepts the President's Award from PTE President Joe Brey.

## **PTE Annual Business Meeting at AOTA National Student Conclave**

Seventeen chapters were represented at the Annual Business Meeting this year. The PTE National Executive Committee spoke about the current budget, communication initiatives, member benefits, and alumni developments as well as goals to be considered for the next three to five years. Common themes from this discussion included ways to increase interchapter collaboration, creating potential mentoring opportunities, and increasing awareness of member benefits. We also discussed new initiatives for alumni members, such as free CEUs for participating in webinars through OT.com. Some more ideas for future benefits included creating an alumni database, and the creation of regional conference calls for current members to share ideas on programming and events.

Chapters shared event and programs they hosted in the last year, including: interchapter research symposiums, lunch and learns with clinicians who conduct research, and sending students to state conferences. We also announced the winner of the President's Award. The President's Award recognizes a chapter that organizes and implements outstanding scholarly activities developed to increase knowledge, develop professional skills, and contribute to the advancement of the occupational therapy profession. The 2017 President's Award went to Omicron Chapter of Boston University. In the 2017 spring semester, the Omicron Chapter at Boston University celebrated occupational therapy's centennial birthday and the Centennial Vision creating the AOTF Intervention Research Grant Recipient Webinar Series. The Omicron Chapter hosted a total of 14 online webinars which discussed the work and accomplishments of AOTF Intervention Research Grant recipients. All 14 webinars can be seen on the [PTE Youtube channel](#).

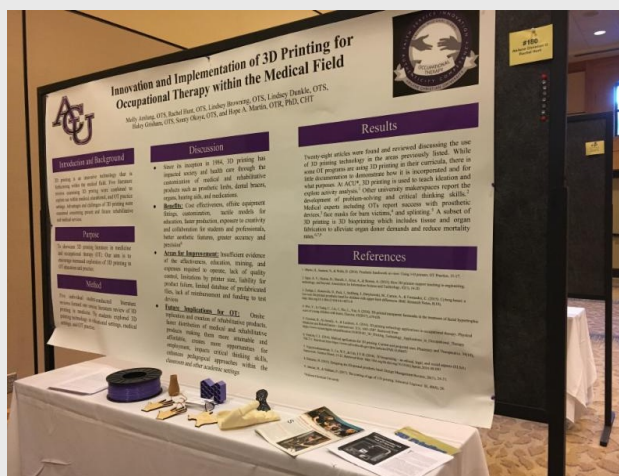
The PTE board recognized the outgoing national president, Joe Brey, for his years of service and welcomed Pooja Patel as the new national president. Rebecca Grondin will continue in her role as secretary for the next two years.



After the Annual Business Meeting, Tracy Flemming Tracy, OT, MSCS, an occupational therapist and a MS specialist certified through the CMSC and executive director of the Tanner Foundation spoke on doing clinical research.

## PTE Posters at the AOTA National Student Conclave

Seven posters from PTE students were selected for presentation at the AOTA National Student Conclave in Birmingham, Alabama. The poster session provided a great opportunity for PTE members to gain invaluable experience sharing the work they are doing to advance scholarship and research in occupational therapy. Students presented on a variety of topics ranging from the impact of women's fear of violence on engagement and enjoyment of outdoor leisure occupations and interventions for children with handwriting difficulties.



PTE National Board (left to right) Secretary Rebecca Grondin, Vice President Kimberly Clark, outgoing President Joe Brey, President Pooja Patel, and Treasurer Sean Brim.

## PTE welcomed its new President, Pooja Patel, DrOT, OTR/L to the Board in Birmingham.

Pooja is a 2017 graduate of University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She is a travel OT and her primary areas of interest are research, program development, and entrepreneurship to further the profession of occupational therapy with respect and dignity. Pooja also serves as a lead curriculum developer on a team launching a health education program for a nonprofit serving incarcerated, abandoned, and orphaned youths in India.

## Welcome, National Coordinator Michael Bloom



Michael Bloom joined the AOTF in November 2017 as the Member and Program Coordinator. This role focuses on coordinating activities for the Pi Theta Epsilon and the St. Catherine Challenge.

Michael joins the Foundation having previously worked as a healthcare recruiter. He also has a background working with multiple nonprofits, including the Mountaineer Boys & Girls Club, the National Youth Sports Program, and the Pantry Plus More Program in Monongalia County, West

Virginia.

Michael earned his BA in History and Political Science from West Virginia University and earned his Master of Public Administration.

Michael is looking forward to meeting PTE members at the AOTA Annual Conference this April in Salt Lake City.

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# SAVE *the* DATE

Wednesday April 18 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. PTE Faculty Advisors' Workshop

Wednesday April 18 8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. PTE Alumni Reception

at the AOTA Annual Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah

Come see the beautiful city of Salt Lake City and engage with thousands of your colleagues in one central location!

The Faculty Advisors' Workshop and Alumni Reception are FREE to PTE members. The workshop is an opportunity for faculty advisors to network with the nationwide PTE community of advisors, while participating in roundtable discussions on topics raised by involved faculty members.

Immediately following the Faculty Advisors' Workshop, the annual Alumni Reception will be held in a separate room. The reception is an opportunity for PTE alumni and lifetime members to network with their colleagues in an informal setting. This is a wonderful networking opportunity to identify other professionals interested in similar practice areas as you, to discuss career advancement, and/or to seek out a mentor.

Interested in volunteering with PTE at a national level? We're looking for PTE alumni volunteers to assist us with the Alumni Reception. **Contact us for more information.**

If you plan to attend PTE events at Conference, **please send us a note to RSVP.**

Registration and housing information for the **AOTA Annual Conference can be found on their website.**

## Thoughts About Mentoring

Susan H. Lin, ScD, OTR/L, FAOTA  
co-chair, Mentoring Committee  
Past National President PTE

I am very pleased that AOTF and Pi Theta Epsilon are working on establishing a mentoring program for PTE's alumni and student members. Having experience as a mentor and mentee, I am delighted to serve as co-chair of the Mentoring Committee with Susan Murphy, ScD, OTR/L (AOTF Academy of Research) This new column will explore mentoring, including methods, evidence, and resources.

### ***What does mentoring mean?***

Although Merriam-Webster defines mentoring as teaching or giving guidance to someone less experienced, mentoring is currently defined as a communication process that serves as the foundation for development (Gilfoyle, Grady, & Nielson, 2011). Instead of serving as a teacher/trainer, modern mentors are viewed as partners in a vibrant and dynamic relationship with the goal of building upon the mentee's capacities.

### ***What does mentoring practice look like?***

If you have difficulty picturing mentoring practice, it may be due to the many definitions and models of mentoring practices. Certainly, the traditional one-to-one, mentor-mentee relationship is still being utilized today, but there are several other ways to characterize mentoring practices.

- \* Informal or Formal
- \* Self-directed or assigned
- \* Face-to-face or over distances
- \* One-to-one or one mentor-to-group

Occupational therapists recognize and appreciate the influence of context, so understanding context of the mentoring relationship is key to determining the nature of the mentoring practice. What is the mentee's role, situation, goal or questions? What is the mentor's role, expertise, and availability?

### ***What are some characteristics of successful mentoring?***

Successful mentoring transcends the mere act of transferring knowledge from mentor to mentee; it includes promoting learning and development. One of the processes underlying successful mentoring is critical reflection (introspective dialogue), essential for self-discovery and learning

(Gilfoyle et al., 2011).

In the next column, we will delve into other processes of mentoring. In the meantime, I welcome your stories or questions about mentoring ([SusanLinOT@gmail.com](mailto:SusanLinOT@gmail.com)).

### Reference

Gilfoyle, E., Grady, A., & Nielson, C. (2011). *Mentoring leaders: The power of storytelling for building leadership in health care and education*. Bethesda, MD: AOTA Press.



## PTE National Board Reflections

When I was elected to the Pi Theta Epsilon national Board in the fall of 2013, I could never have imagined the opportunities, rewards, and experiences that would come to fruition due to my tenure as a Board officer. Initially, as national secretary and subsequently as national president, I have been able to participate in high level discussions on how to best advance and serve the interests of Pi Theta Epsilon members in their pursuits to promote research and scholarly activity within the profession. As PTE President, I had a seat on the American Occupational Therapy Foundation Board and participated in large-impact discussions with some of the most accomplished leaders in occupational therapy.

Because of my time as a PTE national Board member, I have built professional connections that will long outlast my service on the Executive Committee and serve as a critical resource as my career continues to develop. I have also honed leadership skills that have aided my contributions on interdisciplinary work teams and have a greater appreciation and insight into the professional responsibility we have to inform the best possible practice for our clients. I couldn't be more grateful for my time on the national PTE Board, and encourage my fellow PTE members to consider applying for this amazing opportunity.

Joe Brey, outgoing PTE President

## Fall Webinar on PTE YouTube channel

This past November, PTE released our newest educational webinar. The webinar, [PTE Presents: Data Driven Decision Making by Patti Fuller and Elke van Hooydonk](#), can be found on the [PTE YouTube channel](#). Our guest speakers were clinicians at Children's Specialized Hospital of New Jersey who have developed a process for incorporating evidence into daily practice. In alignment with our PTE mission, we recognize that while development of research is important in advancing our field, just as important is the integration of current research into daily practice. The Data Driven Decision Making Process (DDDM) is a process designed to facilitate this. The DDDM is a systematic evidence-based approach to clinical reasoning which is closely aligned with the ICP and OTPF. This process maps out the progression from assessment>hypothesis generation>intervention>outcome measures. Most importantly, the DDDM helps to demonstrate a clear and concise presentation of the need for skilled OT intervention which helps our profession maintain it's relevance in today's changing healthcare landscape. Check out the webinar for a step-by-step demonstration, including case studies, and start applying the DDDM in your daily practice today! (You may also want to consider sharing the webinar at one of your local chapter meetings).

**Do you want to be featured in the member and chapter highlights?**

**[Send your .jpgs and information to pte@aotf.org](mailto:pte@aotf.org)**

## New Lifetime Member Benefit



Last summer, PTE began a partnership with OccupationalTherapy.com to provide complimentary access to select OccupationalTherapy.com courses for lifetime members who have completed their OT program to earn CEU credits.

Watch for registration information on the next course: Evidence-based Intervention for Balance and Falls prevention, May 7-May 21, 2018.

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