

# Scroll & Pen

Pi Theta Epsilon  
The National Honor Society of Occupational  
Therapy



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Wayne State University students at the Annual Business Meeting.

## **Pi Theta Epsilon at the AOTA/NBCOT Student Conclave**

### **Annual Business Meeting**

Twenty-nine 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. We discussed additional goals for PTE to consider for the next three to five years. Common themes from this discussion included increasing inter-chapter collaboration to share ideas, creating private group/discussion boards on social media, and increasing awareness of member benefits. We also discussed ideas for tangible benefits and opportunities for alumni and lifetime members. Some ideas included providing opportunities to earn CEUs and creating a mentorship program between alumni and current students.

Chapters shared event and programs they hosted in the last year, including: journal clubs, inter-professional case studies, educating others about the field of OT, and sponsoring students to present posters at the AOTA Annual Conference. We announced the winners of the [President's Award](#) and the recipient of the PTE [Mary J. Bridle Research Award](#).

The PTE board recognized the outgoing national treasurer, Myrtyce Courtright, for her years of service and welcomed Sean Brim as the new national treasurer. Kim Clark will continue in her role as vice president for the next two years.



Students from Delta Gamma (College of Saint Mary), Alpha Iota (Creighton Univ.), Gamma Nu (Sacred Heart Univ.), Alpha Eta (USC), Beta Delta (Nova Southeastern Univ.) at the ABM.

### **PTE Special Presentation: "Taking the first steps to pursue a career in research"**

On November 18 following the 26th Annual Business Meeting, PTE held a special presentation for members featuring Drs. Susan Murphy and Diane Adamo. The session highlighted the personal journeys of both scientists and provided attendees with tangible recommendations and considerations for pursuing a variety of research paths. The first part of the session focused on helping students to identify their potential research role through keen observation, open mindedness, and using a problem statement to drive research questions



PTE executive officers with Drs. Murphy and Adamo at the PTE Special Presentation.

The second half of the session provided guidance into selecting research programs, identifying mentors, and charting a course for successfully navigating rigorous academic expectations and funding challenges. PTE members were invited to contact [Dr. Murphy](#) and [Dr. Adamo](#) with additional questions about pursuing a career path in research. The next PTE Special Presentation will take place at the 2017 Student Conclave in Birmingham, Alabama.



Eastern Kentucky Univ. OT students Kaitlin Palmer and Faleasha Wink present their poster "Meeting the Continuum of Needs for Adolescents with ASD in Community Programs".

### **Third Annual Poster Session held at AOTA/NBCOT Student Conclave**

Nine posters were selected for presentation from PTE members at College of Saint Mary, Concordia University, Eastern Kentucky University, Eastern Michigan University, Sacred Heart University, University of Pittsburgh, University of Southern California, University of Texas at El Paso, and West Coast University. 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 effects of short-term OT on the quality of manuscript handwriting to the use of electrical stimulation on patients with hemiparesis to reduce pain and improve ADLs.

We hope to continue to see the poster sessions grow with each Conclave! Remember to check the [PTE calendar](#) for submission dates and information.



Kappa Chapter President Sydney Larson accepts the President's Award from PTE President Joe Brey.

## Congratulations to PTE Award Winners

### PTE President's Award

The Pi Theta Epsilon President's Award was jointly presented to Kappa Chapter of the University of North Dakota and Beta Pi Chapter of the University of Mary for their coordination of the 9th annual North Dakota Occupational Therapy Student Conference. Over 100 students from surrounding OT and OTA schools attended! Recent topics for the conference include: OT to aquatic therapy, neonatal intensive care units, prosthetic practice, and "career-building" topics like traveling therapists, the first year experience as a practitioner, and how to evaluate a benefit package.

The two schools form a conference planning committee each year with representatives and advisors from each chapter. Topics and speakers are selected based on ability to contribute to the students' growing knowledge base without duplicating curriculum content. Speakers at the event are typically local occupational therapists, usually graduates of one of the organizing programs, who are willing to share their expertise and practice.

The President's Award recognizes a chapter that organizes and implement outstanding scholarly activities developed to increase knowledge, develop professional skills, and contribute to the advancement of the occupational therapy profession.

In 2017, the President's Award will have a new component, recognizing both an inter-chapter collaborative project as well as an individual chapter's activity that stimulates research and scholarly achievements by its members. More information about the [President's Award can be found here](#).

### Mary J. Bridle First Research Award

[The Mary J. Bridle First Research Award](#) is a \$750 monetary award to foster scholarship and first research efforts within the occupational therapy community of students, young practitioners, and early researchers. This year's award recipient, Sara S. Ulfers, is a 2017 OTD candidate in the Program of Occupational Therapy at Washington University in St. Louis. Ulfers received the award for her manuscript *Occupational therapists' perceived knowledge needs on cancer-related cognitive impairments*.

Award recipients have the opportunity to pursue publication in *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*. As a benefit of the award, Ulfers was able to have a

conversation with the assistant editor of *OTJR* to learn the next steps in the publication process. She will also participate in the AOTA/AOTF Awards Ceremony during the 2017 AOTA Annual Conference in the spring.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the Mary J. Bridle Award and how to apply. Deadline for submissions are in the fall of each year.

*SAVE THE DATE!*  
*WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2017*  
*FACULTY ADVISOR'S WORKSHOP 7:00-8:30*  
*P.M.*  
*PTE ALUMNI RECEPTION 8:30-9:30 P.M.*

*at the AOTA Annual Conference and Centennial Celebration in  
Philadelphia*

We invite all PTE current and alumni members, faculty advisors, and honorary members to attend this evening of interaction with friends, old and new, as we gather for this historical conference. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be served.

Location for Workshop and Reception: Marriott Philadelphia Downtown 1201 Market Street, Philadelphia PA 19107 Room TBD

Please RSVP for both events to Michele at [pte@aotf.org](mailto:pte@aotf.org) or (240) 292-1077.

**Also at the AOTA Annual Conference and Centennial  
Celebration:**

*PTE History Session*

Susan Lin, Sheila Krajnik, and Michelle Cullen, PTE national officers from 1992-1994, are hosting a Pi Theta Epsilon history session during a panel presentation on **Thursday, March 30, 2017** from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Check the AOTA Conference Guide or app onsite for room information.

If your chapter has archival photos of important PTE events locally or nationwide, please send them to [pte@aotf.org](mailto:pte@aotf.org) with a caption. They may be featured in the presentation and will support PTE archives at the national office!



**PTE Presents: Data Driven Decision Making**

This past November, we released our newest educational webinar, *PTE Presents: Data Driven Decision Making* by Patti Faller and Elke van Hooydonk, can be found on our [YouTube channel: Pi Theta Epsilon OT Honor Society](#). Our guest speakers are 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).

You can find out more about DDDM in [Application of Data Driven Decision Making using Ayres Sensory Integration with a Child with Autism](#), co-authored with Patricia Faller, OTD, OTR/L, Joanne Hunt, OTD, OTR/L, Elke van Hooydonk, OTD, OTR/L, Zoe Mailloux, OTD, OTR/L, and Roseann Schaaf, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA. *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, December 2015, Vol. 70, 7001220020p1-7001220020p9. doi:10.5014/ajot.2016.016881

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