

# Scroll & Pen

Pi Theta Epsilon  
The National Honor Society of Occupational  
Therapy

*A program of the  
American Occupational Therapy Foundation*



Fall 2017 Volume 27, Issue 3

## Chapter & Member News



### **Epsilon Gamma Chapter at Rush University**

Epsilon Gamma hosted their first induction ceremony in September. The above image shows their charter members, chair of the OT department, Linda Olson (left), and faculty advisor Hillary Napier-Gondek (bottom right).

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### **Welcome to Epsilon Delta Chapter**

Established in September 2017 at University of Minnesota,  
Epsilon Delta is the most recent chapter to join Pi Theta Epsilon.

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### **The "Make it Work" Program - Brown Bag Lecture at Epsilon Chapter**

Michele Morgan and Deb Carlton, occupational therapists from Warren Woods Tower High School, spoke to students in the Eastern Michigan University (EMU) occupational therapy program on March 1, 2017. Approximately 20 students attended the program; proceeds from the \$2 admission donation went to support the EMU Spelbring Lectureship. Ms. Morgan and Ms. Carlton discussed the occupation-based, industrial arts programming and urban farming program they created for the students they serve from 21 districts across Macomb County. Students in this program create a diversity of products, including engraved coasters, engraved wooden pens, and other personalized items. Products are sold at local craft shows and all profits are reinvested into their program. Many students are also active in their urban farming program where they

have a unique perspective on use and recycling. Both Ms. Morgan and Ms. Carlton spoke openly about the challenges of maintaining an occupation-based practice and how they continually overcome these challenges to better the lives of the students they work with.

Ms. Morgan and Ms. Carlton discussed their close connection with the community. Their shop is equipped with numerous pieces of heavy machinery, including a CNC router, laser engraver, drill presses, saws, and more. This machinery was purchased from funds received from grants as well as profits the students have made from selling their products to the community. Students are not only having fun creating these products, but they are learning valuable skills that will prepare them for work after school.

Ms. Morgan and Ms. Carlton encouraged all EMU OT students to create their own occupation-centered program, no matter the setting they work in. While creating an occupation-based program may not always be easy to do, Ms. Morgan and Ms. Carlton illustrated to the students at EMU's OT Program just how rewarding a program like this can be for the students involved in the program and the community at large.

**Do you want to be featured in the member and chapter highlights?  
Send your activities to [pte@aotf.org](mailto:pte@aotf.org)**

**Join us at AOTA/NBCOT National Student Conclave!**

**SAVE**  
*the*  
**DATE**

**AOTA/NBCOT Student Conclave  
November 3-4, 2017  
Sheraton Birmingham Hotel | Birmingham, Alabama**

**You are invited to attend the 27th Annual Business Meeting and Special  
Presentation at AOTA/NBCOT National Student Conclave!**

The Annual Business Meeting and Special Presentation are FREE to PTE members. The meeting is an opportunity for members to network with the nationwide PTE community, while learning about and influencing decisions made by the national office.

Immediately following the meeting, a special presentation on how to conduct research as a clinician and tips on writing an abstract and research proposal will be led by Tracy Flemming Tracy, OT, MSCS, from the Tanner Foundation.

PTE poster presentations will occur throughout Conclave. Don't forget to visit your peers' posters to learn about their research activities.

If you plan to attend PTE events at Conclave, please [send us a note to RSVP](#). Details on other activities at Conclave not related to PTE are available at [www.aota.org/conclave](http://www.aota.org/conclave).

## Welcome, National Officers!



We are excited to welcome two new officers to the PTE Executive Committee at the Annual Business Meeting this fall.

Our current secretary, Rebecca Grondin, has been re-elected. Over the past two years, Rebecca has made contributions to advancing the communication with all members through social media, and has worked with alumni members to increase engagement and identify future benefits for lifetime members. Currently an OT at Sheltering Arms Rehabilitation in Richmond, Virginia, Rebecca is grateful to be able to work with the PTE National Board, along with chapters around the country in order to contribute to the advancement of occupational therapy.



Pooja A. Patel, DrOT, OTR/L, has been elected to the office of president. Pooja is a 2017 graduate of University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She is working as a travel therapist, currently in an inpatient setting near Chicago, Illinois. Her primary areas of interest are research, program development, and entrepreneurship to further the profession of occupational therapy with respect and dignity. Outside of the OT world, Patel 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. By holding this office, she believes she will fulfill her desire to speak to the growing occupational therapy industry at large and work towards her vision of occupational therapy being

recognized, understood, and respected as are its allied healthcare counterparts.

## Awards for Chapters & Members

**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](#) and win \$500-\$1000 (one of over 50 scholarships available through AOTF).

*As a first time researcher*, be honored with the [Mary J. Bridle First Research Award](#) and win \$750, and be considered for publication 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. There is still time to apply before the October 1 deadline.

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

## New Lifetime Member Benefit

This summer, Pi Theta Epsilon launched



a new benefit for lifetime members who graduated: access to select online complimentary courses that offer CEUs. The first course, "Facilitating Return To Work After Stroke Across the Continuum Of Care" was available August 14-28, 2017.

[Register for the next course,](#)  
**Creating the Evidence in Clinical Practice: Case Study and Single Subject Research**, available in January 2018. More details on this member

benefit are available [here](#).

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*Corrections:*

The May 2017 issue incorrectly identified an induction ceremony photo as the Nu Chapter at University of Texas Medical Branch. This was actually the Alpha Chi Chapter at the University of Texas at El Paso.

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