

The Occupational Therapy Department had a record number of eighteen presentations by Misericordia faculty, students and graduates at the April 3-6, 2014 American Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference in Baltimore, MD. They were:

1. "Examining the Benefits of Community-Based Self-Help Groups for Persons with Chronic Health Conditions." Dr. Gwen Bartolacci, OTR/L, (faculty) and Entry Level Masters degree students Chelsea Boyer, Noelle Lopopolo, James Miller, Katie O'Hearn, and Catherine Strbo.
2. "Parental Perceptions of Adolescent Health and Wellness." Dr. Dawn M. Evans, OTR/L (faculty) and Entry Level Masters degree students Jerilyn Firlik, Jessica Miller, Monica Wall, & Jaimie Washofer.
3. "Occupational Therapists as School Administrators: A Contribution to the Centennial Vision." Elizabeth Richardi McQuaid ,MS, OTR/L (OTD Student).
4. "Direct Model vs Integrative/Group Model Therapy and Participation and Performance Scores of School Function Assessment." Nereida Meloi, MS, OTR/L (2012 Post Professional MS Graduate) and Dr. Julia Guzman (OTD Graduate).
5. "Combining Sensory Strategies & Social Skills Training to Improve Children's Functional Performance." Lori Charney , MS, OTR/L (Adjunct faculty and OTD Student) and Ellen McLaughlin (faculty).
6. "Testing the Use of an iPad Application To Decrease Letter and Number Reversals in First Grade Students." Ann Kehrer, MS, OTR/L (2013 Post Prof MS Grad) and Dr. Amy Lynch, OTR/L (pro rata faculty).
7. "Enhancing Preschool Behaviors During Circle Time: Effectiveness of Dynamic Seating and Sensory Strategies." Lorna Schwarzer, MS, OTR/L (2013 Post Prof MS Grad) & Ellen McLaughlin, Ed.D., OTR/L (faculty).
8. "Enhancing a Sensory Based Practice with Exercise and Cognitive Behavioral Techniques for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders." Dr. Deirdre Azzopardi,OTR/L (OTD Graduate).
9. "Step It Up Adolescent Health and Wellness Program." Dr. Dawn Evans, OTR/L (faculty).
10. "A Systematic Review of the Effects of Horticultural Therapy on Persons with Mental Illness." Dr. Joseph Cipriani, OTR/L (faculty) and Entry Level Masters Degree students Ashley Benz, Alanna Holmgren, Dana Kinter, Joseph McGarry and Gabrielle Rubino.
11. "Developing Individualized Therapy Programs to Address Feeding Challenges in Children with Autism." Dr. Jessica Piatak (OTD Grad 2013) and Kristina Carraccia, MS, CCC-SLP.
12. "Happiness and Social Interaction of Older Independent Apartment Residents in an Occupation-based Program." Dr. Grace Fisher, OTR/L (faculty) and Entry Level Masters degree students Bonnie Hardik, Colleen Noga, Allison Ortman, Samantha Panuski, and Jessica Roe.
13. "Environmental Control Can Boost Patient Independence." Mimi Ludwig, MS, OTR/L and Sirly Marin-Pareja,MS, OTR/L (Weekend College graduates).
14. "Methods That Support Evidence Based Practice In the Intervention Process." Sherri Brandthill, MS, OTR/L (OTD Student).
15. "An Investigation of Favored Group Activities and Happiness in Older Adults within a Senior Living Complex." Dr. Grace Fisher (faculty), Michael Devitt, Holly Haberern,

OTR/L, Leah Redinski, OTR/L, & Susan Smaka, OTR/L (2013 Weekend College Graduates).

16. "Community Education in Action: The Ten Tips Workshop Series." Christine Luhrs, MS, OTR/L (OTD Student) and Kristen Healey.
17. Smart Tools for Evaluating the Built Environment. Roger Smith, Jaclyn Schwartz and Denis Anson, MS, OTR/L (ATRI Director and OT adjunct faculty).
18. Using Early Power Mobility to Advance Cognitive and Motor Skills. Dr. Amy Lynch, OTR/L (pro rata faculty) and Cole Galloway.