



# Occupations

Teaching, Learning, Research & Service

## A Garden of Occupations: Teaching, Learning, Research, Service



*Sensory feature of the adaptive garden*

**Colorado  
State**  
University

*Knowledge to Go Places*

Colorado State University's newest garden is designed to be enjoyed – and used – by people of all ages and abilities. The Occupational Therapy Garden serves as an outdoor teaching and learning laboratory for Colorado State's award-winning Department of Occupational Therapy.

Universal design principles combined with the problem solving expertise of faculty and students from Occupational Therapy and Horticulture and Landscape Architecture Departments has resulted in a one-of-a-kind adaptive garden. Spearheaded by Project Director, Dr. Karen Spencer, the garden was completed this fall, just in time to use as a teaching and learning environment for the MSOT students. Karen noted, "Our garden is already helping our students to learn hands-on how gardening can be used by OTs as a therapeutic activity for the elderly or people with disabilities. The garden provides a real life context for students to analyze, adapt and grade gardening activities; in the big picture, it is another step in assisting our students to learn how to eliminate barriers that negatively impact human participation in daily life tasks."

"Future plans for the garden go beyond the OT Department," said Dr. Jodie Hanzlik, Department Head. "Faculty members have plans to work collaboratively with a variety of university and community partners in order to support research endeavors and provide education and

information about the development and utilization of adaptive gardens. We have so many features we are in a unique position to serve as a community resource and experimentation site."

Adaptive features of the garden that were created to support young and old with full or limited mobility include:

- A compact layout that supports mobility and reduces energy demands;
- Sunny and shady areas that accommodate those that enjoy or are sensitive to the sun;
- A "sensory garden" that features plants with a multitude of textures, smells and colors;
- Garden beds and work areas of different heights that accommodate people sitting in wheelchairs or standing; and
- Paths made of different materials including crushed gravel, flagstone, smooth and textured concrete that allow users to explore moving on different surfaces and to differentiate between garden areas when vision is limited.

A "Program of Excellence" grant awarded from the Colorado Commission on Higher Education was used, in part, to fund the OT Garden.

The Garden is adjacent to the OT Building on the CSU oval. Stop by anytime!

# MISSION



# accomplished!

Dear Alumni and Friends,

It's been a great year. We have a variety of awards and curricular enhancements to report to you! As many of you know, we were once again named as one of the top ten OT programs in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*; in fact, we moved up from ten to seven! We also received the Program of Research and Scholarly Excellence Award from Colorado State University for the second cycle in a row. We competed with over 200 campus departments and programs for this prestigious title. Only 16 CSU programs received this designation!

As you may remember, in 2001, the Occupational Therapy Department was awarded a \$1.6 million Program of Excellence grant from the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE). With the grant project now completed, our program is enjoying a new level of innovation and excellence. The CCHE grant helped us forge new partnerships with other academic departments at CSU and a number of community and state organizations that continue as strong collaborators. Most importantly, the grant allowed us to enhance our curriculum by strengthening our focus on occupation- and evidence-based practice, adding fieldwork opportunities in emerging practice areas, integrating many new facets of technology into our program, while updating our teaching environments and extending professional development opportunities to our students. We have clearly accomplished our mission!

Many of the specifics of our CCHE Program Enhancements are described below and are peppered throughout this newsletter. We are very proud of the curricular improvements that we are able to offer our students thanks to the CCHE Grant. We would love to share them with you as well. Please visit our website for additional pictures and information and please feel free to stop by. We would love to give you a tour!

*Jodie*  
Jodie Redditi Hanzlik, PhD, OTR, FAOTA  
Professor and Department Head

*Left, from top to bottom: Dr. Anne Fisher, Affiliate Faculty; the OT Garden; Dr. Karen Spencer, CCHE Project Director; wireless laptop lab. Top right: student session in the Assistive Technology Lab; bottom right: Dr. Lucy Miller, Affiliate Faculty.*





# CELEBRATING STUDENT RESEARCH

About 200 OT students, CSU faculty, Colorado occupational therapists and vendors attended the annual OT Research Symposium last April at the CSU Student Center. The Department of Occupational Therapy co-sponsored this event with CSU's Information Science and Technology Center to foster interdisciplinary collaboration in technology research within the university. The event also provided an outlet for the OT Department to celebrate the research accomplishments of their students as it served as a showcase for the students' three-semester research projects displayed in poster format. Because of the high quality of the posters, students were invited to display them at the 2004 Colorado Occupational

Therapy Association Conference. Kudos to the Class of 2005!

The day-long conference entitled, Next Generation – Science and Technology, featured Dr. Walter Greenleaf, an internationally known scientist who has pioneered the use of advanced computer technology in medical applications. Dr. Greenleaf's presentations focused on accessibility, disability and computer-based applications in rehabilitation. Virtual reality, SmartHomes, Dynamic Feedback, brain-machine interfaces and context-aware technologies were some of the high points of the conference presentations. Follow-up discussion sessions gave OT students the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of assistive

technology and to explain to the non-OT rehabilitation scientists in attendance how occupation-based practice is carried out in intervention settings.

*Top photo: Students debate merits of their research. Bottom photo: Post-professional students present their poster.*



## Keynote speaker, Walter Greenleaf, PhD

Walter Greenleaf is a research scientist trained in Neuro- and Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University. His current research, writing and presentations focus on the use of advanced technologies to improve access, quality and continuity of health care while decreasing costs.

Dr. Greenleaf is an internationally recognized advocate of the use of advanced computer technology in medical applications. He has worked as a scientific advisor and consultant to the US Public Health Service, the National Institute of Health, NASA and the Department of Education. He is the primary investigator on a SBIR grant from NIH and is editing a series of biomedical books. Dr. Greenleaf established Greenleaf Medical in 1988 to develop new diagnostic and analytical technologies for medicine. His company has launched several computer-based workstations for clinical evaluation and treatment.



*Dr. Greenleaf at the OT Research Symposium*



# Enhancing Opportunities For External Funding

A new tradition has been initiated to support faculty members to grow their research programs.

\$20,000 in departmental research grants is being used to leverage current faculty research for upcoming projects. The following overview provides information on the faculty member, purpose of the current research funded through the department and the future funding outcomes that are anticipated.

Pat Sample, PhD, MDiv, Associate Professor: *State Agency Mobilization Around Service Needs for Persons with Brain Injury*

Purpose: Study the process of a statewide task force addressing the inadequacies of the Brain Injury Association of Colorado website. Evaluate the success of the effort and the usability of the website and provide follow-up evaluation of the website. These data will support the submission of a grant to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) to examine service access interventions for people with brain injuries.

Patti Davies, PhD, OTR, Associate Professor: *New EEG Paradigms in Sensory Gating*

Purpose: Establish reliable and objective measures of the brain's ability and inability to gate sensory information and

use these measures to help identify or diagnose children and adults with sensory processing deficits. Data from this study were leveraged to support another related research project funded through the Wallace Foundation.

Karen Spencer, PhD, OTR, Associate Professor: *Interdisciplinary Preparation of Related Services Personnel for School Practice*

Purpose: Establish an electronic referencing system for current library of literature/articles related to a future grant proposal and add to the literature base in the area of special education, related services and personnel preparation. These activities will be utilized to support the submission of a future training grant to the Department of Education.

Cathy Schelly, MEd, OTR, Assistant Professor: *CSU Faculty Perspectives on Instruction of College Students with Learning Disabilities*

Purpose: Through a university-wide web based survey, determine faculty perspectives as they provide instruction for college students with learning disabilities. Data from this project will support a letter of Intent to the US Department of Education, FIPSE. Through this project a training protocol will be developed and implemented to assist faculty as they in-

tegrate the principles of universal design and accessibility into all aspects of course delivery, insuring that course content is accessible to all learners.

Karen Atler, MS, OTR, Assistant Professor: *Making Connections with Adults with Neurological Conditions*

Purpose: Community project emphasizing active learning for students as they interact with and help adults with a neurological condition explore/learn new activities that interest them. Funds for this project were added to funding from a CSU Service Learning Grant to provide a more comprehensive student program.

Matt Malcolm, PhD, OTR, Assistant Professor: *Somatosensory Influences on Hand Function and Motor Cortex Excitability*

Purpose: Explore feasibility of using repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation effects on brain function for eventual use as an adjunct to therapy for individuals with abnormal muscle tone. Findings will be used to support an NIH proposal to investigate effective intervention methods for elderly adults with dystonia.

*Above: Atler, Davies, Spencer, Malcolm and Sample brainstorm strategies for future projects*

# Faculty Research Grants Enhance MSOT and PhD Students' Education

Setting the pace for community connections while creating inclusive recreation, Cathy Schelly, MEd, OTR, Assistant Professor and Director of the Center for Community Participation, is the recipient of two multi-year U.S. Department of Education grants. Both focused on the development of inclusion-based recreation programs throughout the city of Fort Collins, barriers are being broken down while people of all ages with disabilities are now participating in city recreation programs. Both grants provide identification and implementation of adaptations and accommodations for individuals with disabilities that allow them to successfully join in any program that interests them. *Pre-OT, and Level II fieldwork students serve as inclusion specialists working alongside individuals with disabilities to ensure that the necessary supports and accommodations are in place and that their experiences are successful.*

Cathy is also the recipient of three grants from the Colorado Division of Developmental Disabilities. Two of the

grants are related to the provision of supported employment for people with disabilities. One of those additionally provides community integration support for adults with developmental disabilities while the other provides a mentoring system that connects adults with developmental disabilities who hold community jobs and students with developmental disabilities who are entering the supported employment job market. The final project includes the development of a student self-advocacy model and corresponding training materials that will be disseminated through Colorado school districts to high school students with disabilities transitioning to employment settings. *Two OT graduate students work as Research Assistants on these projects.*

The early identification of children and youth with acquired brain injury (ABI) in schools across the front range of Colorado is the focus of a multi-year Department of Education grant received by Pat Sample, PhD and Cathy Schelly, MEd, OTR. Grant consultants meet with OTs, teachers, parents and students to educate them about the manifestations

of ABI and adaptations and accommodations that can be utilized to successfully support such children within the context of a school setting. *Level II OT students serve as consultants alongside project staff.*

Given the aging population, prevention of falls in the elderly is a growing concern. David Greene, PhD, OTR was funded by the Colorado Injury Control Research Center to develop and implement a pilot "Fall Prevention Program" with elderly adults in the Fort Collins area who are committed to aging in place. *Six OT graduate students are assisting David to conduct his research.*

The Wallace Research Foundation and the CSU Career Enhancement Award Program are the two organizations currently supporting Patti Davies, PhD, OTR, to conduct her research. The results of Patti's research will lead to a better understanding of the underlying brain mechanisms of sensory processing disorders and will strengthen the validity of such diagnoses. *Her dissertation and thesis students are serving as research assistants on this project.*



*Graduate student works with community member in the OT Garden.*

# FACULTY NEWS



## Patti Davies, PhD, OTR, Teaches in Japan

**P**atti Davies, Associate Professor, traveled to Japan as a guest instructor at Yamagata Prefectural University of Health Sciences (YPHS) last spring. She lectured to the OT faculty and students about "OT Practices for Children in the United States." In addition to YPHS faculty and students, members of the Japanese OT Association were also invited to hear Patti speak about "The Importance of Evidence-Based Practice in OT."

The School of Sports Sciences, Waseda University, was Patti's second invited stop. She presented EEG research entitled "Motor and Cognitive Development in Adolescence Concomitant with Pubertal Hormonal Changes" to faculty and students. Reflecting on her visit, Patti stated, "Overall, the opportunity to teach and share with students and faculty in Japan was an extraordinary experience."

## Matt Malcolm PhD, OTR, and Lisa Daunhauer ScD, OTR, Join Faculty



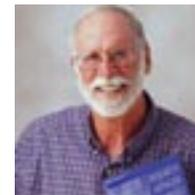
**M**att Malcolm, Assistant Professor, joined the faculty Spring 2004 after completing his doctorate at the University of Florida. His research interests include stroke rehabilitation, neurological processes of recovery from brain damage and motor learning and control within an occupational context. Matt's research program is focused on constraint-induced therapy with the elderly who have had strokes. His recent accomplishments include publications in *Magnetic Resonance in Medicine*, *PT & OT in Geriatrics*, *the Journal of Hand Therapy*, and *the Journal of Rehabilitation Research and Development*.



**L**isa Daunhauer, Assistant Professor, joined the faculty Fall 2004 after com-

pleting her doctorate at Boston University. Lisa's research interests include the effects of early environments on development, particularly neurological development. Her doctoral research examined the developmental effects of living in extreme deprivation in Eastern European orphanages. Lisa lived in Buzau, Romania for over 12 months as she led her data collection teams. Watch for one of Lisa's publications in an upcoming volume of *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*.

## Jeffrey Gliner, PhD, Retires After 23 Years



**J**eff Gliner, Professor, retired from CSU May 15th, 2004 after 23 years of service. He was brought to CSU to develop the

OT graduate program; he served as an interim department head for 2 years and as a valued faculty member during his entire tenure. Jeff's high standards and scholarly activities have increased the productivity expectations for students while his jokes have helped to ease their stress. Jeff's history of research-related activity has resulted in his lengthy and well-deserved national reputation. He is known for his expertise in research methods, statistics and program evaluation. Some of his most important contributions include his publications, totaling over 100 in nationally respected research journals, and his efforts as a PI and evaluator, totaling approximately \$15 million dollars in funding through agencies such as the CDC, NSF, and NIH. Jeff was awarded Emeritus Faculty status in Fall 2004.

# The Louise Wendt White Scholarship is Established

Dear Alumni and Friends,



Louise White has given much to the Occupational Therapy Department at Colorado State University. Her

leadership has supported the growth and development of the students, curriculum and the department as a whole. Louise's career spanned 35 years; she joined the faculty in 1997 and retired in 2002. During that time she served in many official capacities – professor, acting department head and assistant department head. To faculty in and outside of the department, Louise was known for her service. She chaired and served on many, many committees at all levels in the university. Her efforts have ultimately touched thousands of students and assisted them to more

effectively participate in campus life. In recognition of Louise's outstanding service, she was given the highest service award bestowed at both the University and College levels.

However, Louise is probably best known to many of you as the OT Undergraduate Admissions and Departmental Key Advisor, as well as the faculty member who taught all of the adult Physical Disabilities, Neurorehabilitation and related seminar coursework. From range of motion and muscle testing (in her earlier years), to NDT, occupation, ADLs and more – Louise taught it all! Louise has taught adult evaluation and intervention techniques to approximately 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students, many of whom are currently practicing occupational therapy. I do not feel that I am exaggerating when I say that a little bit of Louise has touched health care programs and institutions in all 50 states and a few foreign countries!

Because the OT Department would like to honor Louise for her dedication to the department and the profession, and because Louise's major focus was to support students, it seems only fitting to establish a scholarship in her name. Please consider joining the OT Department at CSU in honoring Louise and everything she stands for by making your scholarship gift today. Gifts of any amount are appreciated and will assist us to support current and future OT students attend our program in Louise's name.

Please fill out the enclosed form below and return it to us. If you have any questions regarding the Louise Wendt White Scholarship Fund, please give me a call at 970.491.7304. On behalf of the Occupational Therapy Department Faculty, Staff and Students, thanks for your support!

Jodie  
Jodie

Yes, I want to support the Department of Occupational Therapy with a charitable gift!

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- Louise Wendt White Scholarship Fund  Ellie Gilfoyle Scholarship Fund (47655)  
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## FACULTY

Jodie Redditi Hanzlik, Ph.D., OTR,  
FAOTA

Karen Atler, M.S., OTR

Barbara Borg, M.A., OTR

Lisa Daunhauer, Sc.D., OTR/L

Patricia Davies, Ph.D., OTR

David Greene, Ph.D., OTR

Matthew Malcolm, Ph.D., OTR

Pat Sample, Ph.D., M.Div.

Karen Spencer, Ph.D., OTR

### *Fieldwork*

Patty Stutz-Tanenbaum, M.S., OTR

## CENTERS

Assistive Technology Resource  
Center

Marla Roll, M.S., OTR, Director

Center for Community Participation  
Cathy Schelly, M.Ed., OTR, Director

Phone: (970) 491-6253

Fax: (970) 491-6290

Address: 219 OT Building

Fort Collins, CO 80523-1573

e-mail: [otinfo@cahs.colostate.edu](mailto:otinfo@cahs.colostate.edu)

Internet: [www.cahs.colostate.edu/ot](http://www.cahs.colostate.edu/ot)

Photos: Sandy Geecs, Bill Cotton,  
Craig Spooner

Design: Terry Nash, University  
Relations, Colorado State University



## AOTA's First

# Student Fieldwork Evaluations Supported by Research

Thanks to Karen Atler's leadership and research skills, the American Occupational Therapy Association has a new Fieldwork Evaluation tool supported by research for OT and OTA students and their supervisors to use during their fieldwork experiences. In 1998 the process began when Karen and Roberta Wimmer, OTR were named as the co-chairs of the Fieldwork Evaluation Revision AOTA task force, mandated to revise or develop separate, but companion documents to measure entry-level competence of OT and OTA Level II fieldwork students. Since that point much has been accomplished. Karen directed three pilot reliability and validity studies based on Rasch Analysis to define and refine the items included in the student FW evaluation forms. From this data, the OT and OTA Fieldwork Performance Evaluations were created

as well as a variety of documents to support their use. To watch a PowerPoint presentation about the use of the tools created by Karen and Roberta, visit AOTA's website to see *In-Service-In-A-Box, An Introduction to Understanding the OT and OTA Fieldwork Performance Evaluations*. For a more detailed description of the tools, the authors also developed an online course available through AOTA. Another resource authored by Karen is the manual, *Using the Fieldwork Performance Evaluation Forms: The Complete Guide*, available through AOTA Press. Karen's commitment to the Fieldwork Evaluation project has resulted in a unique field work evaluation, based in research and responsiveness to the nuances of the fieldwork experience for students and their supervisors.

*Above: Karen Atler in her course, Occupation and the Individual*



Department of Occupational Therapy  
219 Occupational Therapy Building  
1573 Campus Delivery  
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1573

*Knowledge to Go Places*

Return Service Requested