

OUR CURRICULUM

Our program is built around the strengths of Iona which include the Hynes Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, and Iona's commitment to service-learning and community engagement. This summer, Iona College announced the creation of the New York Presbyterian Iona School of Health Sciences with the support of a \$20 million gift from New York Presbyterian. Iona College is working to be a model of mission-based collaboration between higher education and health care in the service of meeting the needs of individuals, groups, and populations, and we are excited for this next chapter of Iona OT!

OUR FACULTY

Faculty have been busy working on a number of community-based and scholarly projects. Over the past year, faculty have presented together at the NYSOTA conference on community engagement, developed and implemented a robust Standardized Patient program and developed and implemented non-traditional community-based FW2 placements. Adjunct faculty member, Alice Massa, and Fieldwork Coordinator, Tripta Velamoor, are collaborating to develop a community of practice with NYSOTA. Assistant Professor, Danielle Mahoney, is collaborating on scholarly projects with Dr. Lenin Grajo and Dr. Glen Gillen at Columbia University, and Assistant Professor Michele Artale is bringing the OT perspective to an important cornerstone course for Iona College undergraduate students. Program Director and Professor Laurette Olson is engaged in a college-wide IPE initiative. Iona OT is happy to welcome its newest faculty member, Assistant Professor Sinead Harrington.

OUR STUDENTS

Iona OT students continue to amaze us with their accomplishments! A number of students entered and won various competitions with prize money ranging from \$500-\$5000 from the Hynes Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovation. Iona OT students have an active SOTA and COTAD chapter which has put on many special events since its creation. Two Iona OT students completed their first fieldwork 2 placement with NYSOTA and are currently co-chairs of NYSOTEC (New York State Occupational Therapy Entrepreneurial Collective), and while one student launched "Coffee with an Entrepreneur", the other student will be presenting at the next NYSOTA conference with NYSOTA president, Flo Hannes and Fieldwork Coordinator, Tripta Velamoor, to increase awareness about OT's role in the opioid crisis. Two OT students will take the international stage in Paris at the WFOT conference next Spring to present about the company they created during their time at Iona College, *Accessigear*, which addresses the need for adapted clothing for college students with disabilities. We can't wait to see what else our students accomplish this year!

ACCREDITATION UPDATE

Iona OT is a fully accredited program as of this fall. We fully complied with all 121 standards. ACOTE identified major strengths in the program that included administration's support of the OT program, program leadership, and the work of all faculty, students, and fieldwork educators. ACOTE also singled out our collaboration with the Hynes Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovation. We were happy with the commendations, and ACOTE suggested that the program cite the most current published philosophy of the profession in all documents.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Please like and follow us on Facebook to see updates about our program, and to see what our students and faculty are doing throughout the program! <https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Education/Iona-College-MS-Occupational-Therapy-Program-2555838908025903/>

THANK YOU to all of our community partners for your invaluable support of our program and our students!