

2020 Program Report

Faculty:

Sean Getty, OTD, OTR/L, Interim Chair
Karen DeChello, OTD, OTR/L, CEA, Vice Chairperson
Dawn Ippolito, MS, OTR/L, Associate Academic Fieldwork Coordinator, Clinical Asst. Professor
Kyle Karen, MS, OTR/L, Clinical Assistant Professor
M. Blanch Leeman, EdD, OTR/L, CHT, Clinical Assistant Professor
Pamela Linden, PhD, Clinical Associate Professor
Hannah Mercier, PhD, OTR/L, Assistant Professor
Inken Prochilo, Academic Fieldwork Coordinator, Clinical Assistant Professor
Ghenet Weldeslassie Ph.D, Clinical Associate Professor
Sarah Battaglia, M.A., Assistant to the Chair

2020A events included:

- De-stress yoga events on the Southampton Campus, Community Outreach, letters to nursing home residents, Rock Steady Boxing classes, OT Book Club, virtual paint nights and virtual guest speakers

An amazing virtual send off to Class of 2020 created by Stony Brook student Michael Roff -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=jZbsCuHbT80&app=desktop>

Third year student, Michael Roff, completed his first Level II fieldwork with NYSOTA, creating a series of project management systems for NYSOTA initiatives and Committees. The NYSOTA Board, the Executive Director and all members of Michael's student cohort were grateful for his leadership and systems development to enhance NYSOTA's resources and activities. The NYSOTA Board & Executive Director create a new Board position, Project Manager & Strategic Planning Coordinator, which Michael now holds.

Stony Brook class of 2020 Occupational Therapy alumni, Caitlin Bowe, James Fioretti, Samuel Pellegrino, and Karen Rienzi, as their Service Learning and Capstone Project, collaborated with the Suffolk Independent Living Organization (SILO) to assess voter accessibility for individuals with disabilities. The goal of the project was to promote equal access to voting for all individuals. This was supported by conducting polling site and voting machine assessments, and developing an advocacy tool kit to improve voter accessibility. Their great work, "Getting Out the Vote: Maximizing Polling Place Accessibility Using ADA Standards and Universal Design Principles", has been published in OT Practice: Community Mobility, October 2020 edition.

Prof. Kyle Karen mentored Triz Ann Dearoz through the process of creating a poster of her original work and submitting it to NYSOTA where it was accepted to the annual conference. The title of her presentation was "Contextualizing identity in a post-colonial world". Prof. Karen also submitted a proposal to the Society for the Study of Occupation that was accepted for their 2020 annual meeting -- which they postponed to the fall of 2021 due to Covid19. The general subject of this presentation is co-play as inclusive co-occupation.

Prof. Blanche Lehman continues to work on 3D printing in the universal design course and conducting research - IPE with OTS and biomedical engineering students with designing 3D assistive devices.

Pam Linden - Presented at American Spinal Injury Association. Dr. Linden has secured funding from the Administration for Community Living at NIDILRR and an SBU SHTM Seed grant to study remote rehabilitative interventions for people with spinal cord injury. During 2020 she published 3 manuscripts in peer-reviewed scholarly publications.