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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Faculty of Medicine
Department of Occupational Science
and Occupational Therapy

OT Lens - Summer 2016

Welcome!

In this issue of the OT Lens, we feature:

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Message from the Department Head

So much has happened in the past two months in the UBC Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy that continues to reinforce the impressive work of our students, clinical faculty, and faculty. The MOT 2 graduating class raised the bar again this year on the quality and professionalism of their research presentations at the 2016 OSOT Capstone Conference, which was attended by British Columbia Occupational Therapists, family and friends, as well as the College of Occupational Therapy of BC and the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists. Well over half of the projects presented have been or will be presented at national and international conferences, and many of these will go on to publications that you'll be able to read about. Our heartfelt congratulations to the Class of 2016. Our students across our programs (MOT, MSc, PhD) have been extraordinarily success and competitive, receiving prestigious university and national awards. Shout-outs go to Laura, Kristy, Stephanie, Emma and Kristine. Finally, if you are interested in becoming involved in the growth opportunity offered by the Rehabilitation Sciences Online Programs, please see the information provided in this newsletter related to recent graduates, the Research Relays, a workshop, and information on how you might apply. This program is well worth your consideration.

Have a lovely summer.

Sue

Susan Forwell, PhD, OT(C), FCAOT

Two CIHR New Investigator Award Winners

Congratulations to Ben Mortenson and Jill Zwicker for winning CIHR New Investigator awards. These five-year awards target new and outstanding researchers, and help in the initiation and development of their health research. Given that only around 40 researchers across the country receive this award each year--and given that this was the final year of the New Investigator competition--we are exceptionally proud to have two award winners in our department.

Ben's project is titled "Maximizing Independence through the Use of Assistive Technology" and Jill's project is titled "Developmental Coordination Disorder: Integrating Brain Imaging and Rehabilitation to Improve Outcomes". We look forward to seeing the research results that this funding enables. Well done, Ben and Jill!

New Faculty Member: Skye Barbic



Skye Barbic began her appointment as an Assistant Professor – Tenure Track in the Department of OS & OT on July 1st, 2016. Skye also holds an Associate Membership in the Department of Psychiatry and an appointment as a Scientist in the Centre for Health Evaluation and Outcome Sciences (CHÉOS).

Dr. Barbic is a scholar in the field of mental health rehabilitation and outcome measurement techniques. Her postdoctoral work, which focused on mental health recovery in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, sought to uncover what constitutes a 'good outcome' for people living with severe mental illness. In addition, she has developed and tested a measure that focuses on mental health recovery that has been adopted by numerous organizations in each of the ten Canadian provinces and in one territory. Most recently the BC government has shown interest in implementing this measure suggesting a credible knowledge translation and broad utility. You can learn more about Dr. Barbic's research in [this February 2015 profile of her work](#) from the Faculty of Medicine.

Skye, welcome to OS&OT. We're all very pleased to have you on board.

Long Term Service Award for Rene Corbett



In June, Rene Corbett was conferred the Clinical Associate Professor Emeritus designation, in recognition for her 30+ years of service to the UBC Occupational Therapy program. Rene has served as a guest lecturer, lab supervisor, and clinical placement supervisor throughout her career. Her first formal appointment at

UBC was as a Clinical Instructor in 1982, and in the 34 years since she has brought her expertise in all clinical aspects of adult psychiatric treatment and rehabilitation to UBC's MOT students. As a teacher, she especially excelled in facilitating student-client rapport and in developing students' self-assessment skills. Thank you, Rene, for all of your hard work, and congratulations on this latest accolade.

Accolades

Congratulations to our graduate students, whose hard work and innovative research has been recognized for awards including:

Laura Yvonne Bulk, PhD student in Rehabilitation Sciences, has won the [Jennifer Laura E. Wilson Memorial Scholarship](#) from the Alliance for Equality of Blind Canadians (AEBC) and an [IODE War Memorial Scholarship](#) in recognition of her academic achievement and potential. Her dissertation project is titled *Being Blind in a Sighted World*.

Kristy Inouye, MOT student, has won 2016-17 [UBC Affiliated Fellowship](#) in recognition of academic excellence, research potential, interpersonal skills and personal characteristics.

Stephanie Glegg, PhD student in Rehabilitation Sciences, has won a [CIHR Doctoral Award](#) and a [Child and Family Research Institute Graduate Studentship](#) (declined). Her dissertation project is titled *Using Social Network Analysis to Advance Knowledge Translation in Pediatric Rehabilitation*.

Emma Smith, PhD student in Rehabilitation Sciences, has been awarded a [CIHR Health Professions Fellowship](#) for her research project, "CoPILOT: Collaborative Powered mobility Innovative Learning OpporTunity." She has also won a [UBC Friedman Scholarship](#), which she will use to travel to Ireland and Africa to work on a World Health Organization initiative.

UBC Rehabilitation Science's Public Scholars

Our Rehabilitation Science PhD students are playing an active role in the [UBC Public Scholars Network](#), which helps PhD students to pursue collaborative, socially-engaged research that enhances the public good. One of the inaugural Public Scholars, [Kristine Theurer](#), discusses her research on peer support initiatives in long-term residential care homes--and the [Java Groups](#) that can help combat loneliness and depression--in a blog post on "[The Need for a Social Revolution in Residential Care](#)."

In 2016-17, two Rehabilitation Science PhD students, **Laura Bulk** and **Stephanie Glegg**, will be joining the Public Scholars Network. We look forward to hearing more for these promising emerging researchers in the coming year.

2016 Capstone Conference: "Breaking Boundaries"



Congratulations to the organizers, volunteers, and speakers for another successful Capstone event, which showcased the MOT 2 graduating class. The scope and depth of their research was impressive. Sharing the knowledge produced through their hard work helps to generate new ways of thinking and to shape professional practice.

The UBC Faculty of Medicine will profiled this year's Capstone Conference on [their News page](#) later this week. You can also read more about the presentations on the [Capstone Conference website](#) or by searching the hashtag [#UBCMOT](#) on Twitter.

The Department of OS & OT, its faculty and staff, extend our heartfelt congratulations to the MOT Class of 2016. Great work!

Rehabilitation Sciences Online Program News

The online programs are increasingly popular, and just keep getting better.

Congratulations to 2016 Spring Rehab Sciences Graduates



Congratulations to our latest MRSc graduates: Physiotherapists Gillian Macartney, Crystal Showers and Sandra Squire; Occupational Therapists Andrea Morrison, Sara Murchison and Andrea Wilson; Massage Therapist Gillian Goode; Recreation Therapist Daisy Wong; and Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist Deb Watterworth. Head over to [the MRSc website](#) to read profiles of these grads and to learn about their research projects.

Research for Your Practice: MRSc Research Relays

The “Research Relays” series are monthly webinars in which recent MRSc graduates highlight their clinical research projects. Visit [MRSc Research for You](#) for more details.

Our Fall Research Relay webinar series will include:

- *Lived-experiences of people on the rural outpatient physiotherapy waiting list: How can quality of life be improved while waiting for services?*
Presenter: Chrissy Woodcock
- *Community Perspective of Short-Term Physiotherapy Volunteers in St. Lucia, West Indies.*
Presenter: Crystal Showers
- *Occupational therapists' perceptions of necessary organizational supports to use standardized assessments effectively in acute care*
Presenter: Peter Haughton

While there, checkout links for past topics, such as [Recovery Practices: Opportunities for acute mental health care. A literature review](#) presented by Deb Watterworth or [Collaborative occupational therapy: Teachers' impressions of the partnering for change model presented](#) by Andrea Wilson.

Emotional Intelligence and the Rehabilitation Professional: One-Day Workshop, October 15, 2016

Change your Thinking, Change your View, Change Practice



As complexity grows in our healthcare context, so does the opportunity for rehabilitation professionals to develop the skills to lead effectively. Leaders come in many forms. Join us for this one day workshop featuring workshop facilitator [Jason Giesbrecht](#) on Saturday October 15, 2016, at UBC Hospital. Space is limited. To register, visit [Research for You](#).

Going Forward at Rehab Science Online Programs

[Susan Stanton](#) spearheaded the development of the [Rehabilitation Science Online Programs](#) and has been at the helm as Program Director since its inception in 2002. She will continue in the program as a course instructor and major project supervisor, but we thank her profusely for her vision, passion and dedication to the RSOP and the hours of support she has provided to learners and instructors.

Stepping into the role of Program Manager of RSOP is Patricia Mortenson. Patricia has been an instructor with the program since 2007 and currently team leads 501: Evidence for Practice and is a major project supervisor. Patricia is excited by the incredible results of the online programs in enabling learners and colleagues to enhance practice, conduct meaningful research, develop innovative programs and transform care. Dr. Tal Jarus will serve as the graduate advisor for the RSOP and interim Director. We welcome both Patricia and Tal to these new roles and look forward to working with them in the coming year.

It's time... Your Master's is Just a Click Away!

Check out course-based and research study options at www.mrsc.ubc.ca or email us at info@mrsc.ubc.ca

MRSc: Apply by April 30 for September entry, September 30 for January entry

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