

# Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy

DEPARTMENT of  
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## Wilson Establishes Scholarship to Promote Diversity

By Lauren Williams

Stacy Allieou Wilson (UNC MSOT Class of 2010) has funded a new annual scholarship, named Increasing Diversity in Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy Annual Scholarship, to recognize UNC OS/OT students who bring diversity to the field of occupational therapy. First-year MSOT student Dokota Michell Boston of Winston-Salem, NC, was chosen to be the first recipient of the scholarship for the 2012-13 academic year.

As a speaker at the opening ceremony of AOTA's Student Conclave in 2011, Wilson was surprised by the lack of diversity represented in the field of OT and felt that this was one area in particular that OT should improve upon. Wilson's scholarship aligns with AOTA's Centennial vision to increase diversity in OT.

Wilson said UNC's curriculum helped him learn to think "out of the box" and to become a change agent in occupational therapy. With this scholarship, he wants to give back to UNC's program, which allowed him to develop a holistic approach to his profession, and to support diversity in the field of occupational therapy.

Wilson is currently an OT at Wake Med Inpatient Rehab. Some of his career goals include becoming a rehab manager or director of a rehab wing in a hospital, furthering his education by obtaining either an OTD or a PhD in OT/OS, serving locally with NCOTA or on a national level within AOTA, and potentially owning his own practice one day.

As this year's recipient of the Increasing Diversity in Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy Annual Scholarship, Dokota Boston will complete a project that includes spreading awareness/knowledge about the profession of occupational therapy to high school or college students from diverse backgrounds.

"As an African-American woman, I feel an innate passion for promoting diversity in the health field in general, and that passion



*Dokota Boston, Stacy Wilson, and OS/OT Associate Professor Linn Wakeford at the Allied Health Sciences Scholarships and Awards Brunch on November 3.*

is multiplied when it comes to occupational therapy," Boston said. "I want to represent and bring OT to the forefront as a possible profession for others who are in the shoes I was in back when I was considering career choices. And even more, I want to be the type of person I wish I had seen more of when looking at pictures of OTs during my exploration. Occupational therapy serves people from all races, genders, cultures, sexual orientations, and diverse backgrounds; so to me, it is fundamental that the profession represent its population of clients. I am a person who is striving to make that a reality asap! With this scholarship I plan to go out to schools, particularly those with large minority populations, and present OT. My goal is to at least get students curious about OT enough to explore it as a possible career choice for themselves."

The Increasing Diversity in Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy Annual Scholarship will be awarded to another deserving student for the 2013-14 academic year.



*Alyson Dozier of Carolinas Rehabilitation and Michelle Reed at the Allied Health Sciences Scholarships and Awards Brunch on November 3.*

## Reed Receives Carolinas Rehab Scholarship

Michelle Lynne Reed, a MSOT student from Toledo, Ohio, was selected to receive the Carolinas Rehabilitation Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy Annual Scholarship for 2012-13. Funding for the scholarship has been provided by Carolinas Rehabilitation in recognition of the excellent clinicians now working at the hospital who graduated from the UNC program. The scholarship was created to reward and recognize a deserving student who has an interest in a career working in acute physical rehabilitation. Recipients complete a clinical affiliation at Carolinas Rehabilitation in the summer.

"Having steered my life in the pursuit of becoming an occupational therapist, I have had the wonderful privilege of attending UNC's Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy program," said Reed. "The myriad educational experiences and opportunities with classmates, faculty, professionals, and the community have truly enriched my life and fostered in me a deep appreciation for the complexity of life and for occupational therapy's commitment to promoting meaningful human engagement in the world. I am absolutely thrilled to have been chosen for the Carolinas Rehabilitation Scholarship and to have the fieldwork opportunity at Carolinas Rehabilitation—Main in Charlotte, NC. I look forward to expanding my idea of occupational therapy, learning about the innovative programs they have available to clients, and working with the interdisciplinary team to facilitate rehabilitation with adults there."

# Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy



## Hasselkus Selected as 2013 Mitchell Symposium Scholar

Dr. Betty Risteen Hasselkus, PhD, OTR, FAOTA, Emeritus Professor of Kinesiology/Occupational Therapy at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, has been selected as the 2013 Mitchell Symposium Scholar. Hasselkus will be in Chapel Hill from March 4-6 to present a seminar to UNC Occupational Science PhD students, meet with designated groups of faculty and students, and deliver a public lecture scheduled for March 6. The time and location of the public lecture will be announced online and in e-mail blasts once details are finalized.

During her over 40 years of active participation in the profession of occupational therapy, Dr. Hasselkus has focused her research, teaching, and practice on the everyday occupational experience of people in the community, with a special emphasis on family care giving for older family members, physician-family caregiver relationships, meanings of everyday occupation to dementia day care staff, and the meaning of doing occupational therapy.

She was elected to the American Occupational Therapy Association Roster of Fellows in 1986 and to the American Occupational Therapy Foundation Academy of Research in 1999. Dr. Hasselkus

was the invited Wilma West Lecturer at the University of Southern California in 2003 and in 2005, she was awarded the AOTA Eleanor Clarke Slagle Lectureship Award—the Association's highest award for scholarship. Dr. Hasselkus was editor of *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy* from 1998-2003. Her international reputation as a scholar has taken her to Australia, Canada, Sweden, Denmark, Wales, and Northern Ireland where she has provided lectures and workshops on qualitative research methods, critical analysis, writing, and qualitative research opportunities in everyday occupation. Her scholarly career includes over 90 publications in journals and texts. The second edition of her book, *The Meaning of Everyday Occupation*, was released in January 2011.

The Mitchell Symposium in Occupational Science is named in honor of Drs. Marlys and Earl (Mitch) Mitchell and has been made possible through a generous donation from Drs. Ruth Humphry and Bruce Carney as well as other donors. ([Biographical information on Dr. Hasselkus from the University of Wisconsin-Madison Web site](http://kinesiology.education.wisc.edu/ot/people/emeritus/betty-hasselkus/) <http://kinesiology.education.wisc.edu/ot/people/emeritus/betty-hasselkus/>.)

### Proctor Awarded Allcott Fellowship

By Lauren Williams

Meg Ferrell Proctor, a MSOT student from Jackson, Mississippi, was one of three UNC Allied Health Sciences students selected to receive a June C. Allcott Fellowship for the 2012-13 academic year. Named in honor of June C. Allcott (1916-1996), the fellowship recognizes students who demonstrate exceptional, ongoing, and new community service.



Meg Ferrell Proctor

"My community service work has allowed me to deepen my connection to my community, to understand the world with greater nuance, and to find my place in the world both personally and professionally," Proctor said. "Engaging in community service and activism continually teaches me that my place in the world is not neutral—it is bound in relationships of privilege, power, oppression, and liberation. Looking honestly at systematic oppression and the people it affects most affirms my own humanity as well as that of the people with whom I work. The financial support of the Allcott Fellowship has enabled and challenged me to expand my engagement in the community and my relationship to the field of occupational therapy in ways that bring greater joy and meaning to my life and work."

### Division Welcomes Bailliard to Faculty

Dr. Antoine Bailliard has joined the faculty of the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy as an assistant professor. Bailliard earned his BA in Peace War and Defense, his MS in Occupational Therapy, and his PhD in Occupational Science, all from UNC Chapel Hill.

After earning his MSOT, Bailliard worked in inpatient psychiatry providing group therapy, individual consults, and assessments to clients across the lifespan. Bailliard's interest in mental health grew from his experience as a job coach for adults with autism with comorbid mental illnesses. He saw occupational therapy as the optimal approach to enhance the quality of life of his clients with mental illness. As an OT in inpatient psychiatry, Bailliard worked extensively with the Spanish speaking immigrant population at the hospital. This was the impetus for his doctoral work with an immigrant Latino community in North Carolina.



Antoine Bailliard

His dissertation, an ethnography of the lived experience of immigration to North Carolina, revealed that immigrants suffered numerous social injustices that had devastating effects on their occupational participation and mental health. Bailliard's study also found that participants had embodied the sensory situations of past occupational engagements as expectations of experience. Participants reported distress and poor wellbeing when their occupations did not evoke expected sensations.

During his tenure at UNC, Bailliard will pursue a research agenda on occupation and mental health, including their role in the complex case of population migration. His ultimate career goal is to reduce health disparities and to strengthen occupational therapy's role in the provision of mental health services. Bailliard believes that basic research on the phenomenon of occupation and its relationship to mental health is essential to inform the development of intervention research that will translate to practice. Bailliard's interest in immigration and social justice will benefit entry level OT students who, upon graduation, will encounter an increasingly diverse world with unprecedented migration of populations.