



FEATURES

- Recent events
- Student organization initiatives
- Grant funded projects
- Scholarship support



TarHeel Preview Day Team

Katie Sorensen, David Morse, Chris Lane, Linn Wakeford, Zakiyyah Carter, Shelby Miller, Kierra Peak, Colleen Kane, Tom Carr, and Dylan Sheedy

RECENT EVENTS TarHeel Preview Day

A group of OT students, PT students, and OT faculty hosted a Tar Heel Preview Day activity on November 9, 2018. Twenty-seven young men in grades 6-8 participated in a case-based activity in which problem-solving and teamwork were highlighted. In groups of 6-7, each accompanied by an OT student and a PT student, the middle-schoolers had to work together to solve problems of everyday living for “Kendall,” a 12-year-old with a spinal cord injury.

We had the chance to talk about the work of occupational, physical, and speech therapists, how each might support “Kendall” as part of a team, and how problem-solving and creativity are key features of the work. The middle school students were amazing in their creativity and effort! Tar Heel Preview Day is sponsored by the UNC Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

To see more photos of the event, please check out the Diversity & Inclusion page of our website:
<https://www.med.unc.edu/ahs/ocsci/diversity-and-inclusion/>

Student Occupational Therapy Association (SOTA) Diversity & Inclusion Committee

The work of this committee includes developing materials for and connections with local public schools and undergraduate groups on the UNC campus to promote OT as a possible career for students from underrepresented minorities. UNC SOTA is also an active chapter of the Coalition for Occupational Therapy Advocates for Diversity (COTAD), an organization that operates at the national level.

UNC students were recognized by COTAD recently for a Continuing Education Event they sponsored on “Cultural Humility and Ethics.” Check out the story on the COTAD site: <https://www.cotad.org/blog>



AH:SPIRE (Allied Health: Strategies to Promote, Inspire, Recruit, and Educate) is an interdisciplinary, diversity-related project funded by an Innovation Grant awarded by the NC Allied Health Education Centers. The aim of AH:SPIRE is to develop, test, and use educational materials and resources that will increase awareness of and interest in the Allied Health professions of occupational therapy (OT), physical therapy (PT), and speech-language pathology (SLP) among elementary, middle school, and high school students of diverse backgrounds.

For more information: <https://ahspireproject.com>

OUR TEAM

UNC-CH Division of Occupational Therapy:

Linn Wakeford, PhD, OT/L
Lauren Holahan, PhD, OT/L
Kendyl Cole, OT Student
Abby Clayton, OT Student

UNC-CH Division of Physical Therapy:

Laurie Ray, PhD, MS, PT
Deanna Sipes, PT Student
Shelby Miller, PT Student

UNC-G Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders:

Perry Flynn, CCC-SLP
Lexie Byom, SLP Student
Jonathan Reiter, SLP Student



SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT

The MSOT Program offers three scholarship opportunities that may help support students from diverse backgrounds. These are listed below, and more information is available on the Division website: <https://www.med.unc.edu/ahs/ocsci>.

- The **Diversity Awareness Scholarship** for students in the Master of Science program in Occupational Therapy was originated by alumnus Mr. Stacy Wilson, MSOT Class of 2010. This \$2000 scholarship is awarded once per year to an incoming first year student in the MSOT program to promote diversity in the field, and to increase awareness of the profession of occupational therapy among under-represented minority groups.
- The **Community Contribution Scholarship** serves to recognize incoming students who have a history of commitment to volunteerism and community service. Five scholarships of \$8000 may be awarded each year, with the full amount paid out over 4 semesters (\$2000/semester). Priority is given to students who have completed an application for financial aid (FAFSA), and who are not receiving substantial aid from other scholarships or grants.
- The **Diversity Recruitment Scholarships** are awarded once per year to incoming students in the MSOT program who bring significant aspects of diversity to the program. Up to 5 scholarships of \$8000 may be awarded each year, with the full amount paid out over 4 semesters (\$2000/semester)*. Awardees are nominated by faculty during the admissions process, based on information in admissions applications and/or in the admissions interview process.