

Division of Occupational Therapy Faculty

Amy R. Darragh, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

Division Director; Professor; Director of Injury Prevention, Rehabilitation and Research Lab

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Dr. Darragh studies the intensive pediatric neurorehabilitation in infants and children with hemiplegia. Dr. Darragh's current work in this area includes an NIH-StrokeNet-funded phase 3 clinical trial in pediatric constraint induced movement therapy for infants and toddlers with perinatal arterial ischemic stroke, the NIH-funded National Pediatric Rehabilitation Resource Center, and work examining the feasibility of telerehab-delivered pCIMT with her collaborators at Nationwide Children's Hospital and Virginia Tech. Dr. Darragh also has expertise in the use of technology for supporting health and safety and is leading research aimed at using apps and virtual reality to improve home safety outcomes.

Maria Baldino, OTD, MS, OTR/L

Associated Faculty, Lecturer

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Dr. Baldino's professional area of interest is pediatrics including infant development, caregiver-infant co-occupations, autism spectrum disorder, feeding, and early identification and treatment of cerebral palsy. She completed an AOTA Fellowship Program at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Pediatrics. Dr. Baldino is currently practicing in pediatric acute care and outpatient feeding therapy.

Jewel Crasta, PhD, OTR/L

Assistant Professor - Tenure-track

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Dr. Crasta is a rehabilitation scientist with expertise in clinical neuroscience and studies brain-behavior relationships in children with neurodevelopmental disabilities. Dr. Crasta's primary research focuses on examining the relationship between attention and sensory processing in individuals with autism using neuroimaging tools such as electroencephalography (EEG) and functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI). She is passionate about bridging basic neuroscience research and everyday clinical occupational therapy practice.

Lori DeMott, OTD, OTR/L, CHT

Assistant Professor - Clinical

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Dr. DeMott's clinical experience and interests are focused on neuromusculoskeletal disorders, and occupation-based interventions that promote improved function. Rehabilitation and teaching interests include orthotic fabrication, nerve glide, posture and traumatic injury interventions. Dr. DeMott, who practiced as a hand therapist for 30 years, has been an active member of the American Society of Hand Therapists and was in the first group of board-certified hand therapists.

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Carmen DiGiovine, PhD, ATP/SMS, RET

Professor – Clinical; Director of Rehabilitation Science and Technology – Assistive Technology Center

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Dr. DiGiovine's research focus is on the application of science and technology to improve the quality of life of individuals with disabilities. His most recent research activities include investigating the role of technology that supports public transportation for individuals with cognitive disabilities using technology, the development and implementation of best practices in the wheelchair service delivery process, and the implementation of emerging educational technologies to support online education in assistive technology. Dr. DiGiovine is also interested in assistive technology outcome measures and the role of rehabilitation engineering in the field of assistive technology. Dr. DiGiovine is an active member of the RESNA Board of Directors.

Lisa Juckett, PhD, OTR/L, CHT

Assistant Professor – Tenure-track

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Dr. Juckett's research focuses on bridging the gap between empirical discoveries and the use of these discoveries in real-world practice settings. Heavily informed by the field of implementation science, Dr. Juckett's research examines the factors and strategies that influence health care professionals' use of evidence-based practices in the areas of fall prevention and stroke rehabilitation. Active involvement of the community and clinical stakeholders is a hallmark characteristic of Dr. Juckett's research, resulting in collaborations with local organizations including Lifecare Alliance and The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center.

Erika Kemp, OTD, OTR/L, BCP

Assistant Professor – Clinical; Capstone Coordinator

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Dr. Kemp is the Capstone Coordinator and has an interest in the purpose and value of the doctoral capstone and how it can enhance community-based practice. She is a pediatric occupational therapist with clinical interests in aquatic therapy, feeding, sensory integration and school-based therapy with an active line of research in the use of aquatic therapy. Dr. Kemp serves as the Chair for the Doctoral Capstone Coordinator's Academic Leadership Council and sits on AOTA's Commission on Education.

Monica Robinson, OTD, OT/L, BCMH, FAOTA, FNAP

Associate Professor - Clinical

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Dr. Robinson's practice interests include aging, substance/opioid use disorder, mental health, leadership and health policy. Research interests include implementation science, older adults, metacognition, and teaching and learning. Dr. Robinson has served on numerous American Occupational Therapy Association committees and has served two terms as the Ohio Occupational Therapy Association President.



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Emma Sabransky, OTD, OTR/L

Associated Faculty, Lecturer

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Dr. Sabransky's primary clinical interest is adult neurorehabilitation. She completed the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) Neurologic Fellowship at Ohio State in 2019-2020, gaining experience and advanced clinical skills related to stroke, spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury and neurodegenerative diseases. Dr. Sabransky currently works part-time in inpatient rehabilitation while teaching courses related to physical rehabilitation, occupational performance and task analysis. Dr. Sabransky's research interests include metacognition, teaching and learning, and neurorehabilitation after severe traumatic brain injury.

Lindy Weaver, PhD, MOT, OTR/L

Assistant Professor - Clinical

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Dr. Weaver's clinical and research endeavors are focused on improving and providing evidence-based care that maximizes protective factors and facilitates personal growth among underserved or stigmatized youth. Her research interests include eating disorders, autism, and positive mental health development. Dr. Weaver teaches a variety of courses including mental health, therapeutic use of self, school age and adolescence and advanced pediatrics. She also serves as the Faculty Liaison for the Coalition of Occupational Therapy Advocates for Diversity (COTAD) Chapter at Ohio State.

Lauren Wengerd, PhD, OTR/L

Associated Faculty, Lecturer

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Dr. Wengerd's clinical background is in adult neurorehabilitation. Her research is focused on identifying and implementing evidence-based interventions for adults with paralysis due to stroke and spinal cord injury. As such, she actively collaborates with engineers at Battelle to develop and test innovative neurotechnologies to maximize hand function. Dr. Wengerd teaches several courses in the OTD curriculum including neuroscience and various clinical courses on restorative and adaptive approaches to maximizing occupational performance in adults with sensorimotor and/or cognitive impairments.

Ali Williams, OTD, OTR/L

Assistant Professor - Practice; Academic Fieldwork Coordinator

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Dr. Williams has an extensive background in many different settings including home care, mental health, nursing homes, schools, acute care and outpatient pediatrics. She was a pediatric occupational therapist for 5 years, where she had the experience of supervising Level I, Level II and Capstone students. She served as the fieldwork coordinator for Nationwide Children's Hospital where she was responsible for communicating with schools and students for fieldwork placements and bridging the gap between the students and their fieldwork educators, in both outpatient and inpatient settings.

The Doctorate of Occupational Therapy program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 6116 Executive Boulevard, Suite 200, North Bethesda, MD 20852-4929. ACOTE's telephone number is 301-652-6611 and its web address is www.acoteonline.org.