

WUSOTA

Washington University Student Occupational Therapy Association

Program in Occupational Therapy • Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis

Message From the President

I really enjoyed my first semester as WUSOTA President! I'm looking forward to everything we have in store for next semester.

-Janelle Hively

2013 - 2014 WUSOTA President



Advocacy

The Advocacy Committee began advocating for occupational therapy by presenting to Washington University School of Medicine residents. They promoted National Backpack Awareness Day on September 18 via social media and a slide featured on the digital monitors across Washington University campuses. The letter writing campaign to Stop the Therapy Cap on November 19 was a success. Over 74 letters were sent to legislators!

ASD

Three students are attending Hill Day this semester. On September 23, Tim Wolf, OTD, MSCI, OTR/L, gave an excellent Boardroom to Classroom lecture on AOTA. T-shirts were collected and turned into bags to raise AOTPAC funds.



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Community Service

The Community Service Committee was very active this semester. To begin, nearly 40 students participated in the Alzheimer's Walk on August 30. The committee continued to volunteer at the Stampede for Stroke on September 29 and Autism Speaks on October 12. Fifteen students attended a Hope Lodge dinner on November 7 and raised money by participating in the Dance Marathon on November 9. Five students also volunteered their time at the NORC Work Day, also on November 9. Twenty students volunteered at the TASK social night. A new community service opportunity this semester was the Crown Center, which provided students with three different volunteer opportunities. Throughout the semester, students volunteered at The Bridge, Oasis, and Caring Solutions. Now until January 30, the committee is holding a winter clothing drive.

Cultural

The Cultural Committee had a successful movie night, presenting "The Intouchables" on October 3. Nearly 40 students attended the showing! A LGBT presentation went well on October 29 and a Deaf Culture event took place on November 14. The movie "Murderball" was presented on December 3. Members of St. Louis Quad Rugby Team were on hand to answer questions after the movie.

Fundraising

To begin the semester, the Fundraising Committee sold 156 sweatshirts, netting a profit of \$1,783.40 during the annual sweatshirt sale. The committee continued to raise money by selling occupational therapy water bottles and Washington University School of Medicine Program in Occupational Therapy window clings the week of November 4. More than 40 students and faculty attended the annual Gingerbread House Contest on December 5 (photo on page 2). This was a great interdisciplinary opportunity, as there were teams from the Washington University School of Medicine and the Program in Physical Therapy helping to raise funds while in the holiday spirit!

Global Awareness Committee

The Global Awareness Committee started a book club this semester, and their first meeting was held on November 6. The United Nations International Day of Persons with Disabilities Day was observed on December 3. The documentary “Locked Up and Forgotten” was shown followed by a discussion moderated by Parul Bakhshi, PhD, DEA (M.Phil), in observance of this day.

Job Fair

The annual Job Fair will take place on February 27, 2014, from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the Eric P. Newman Educational Center. There are more than 11 sites currently registered. In preparation for the Job Fair, resume workshops will take place in February. Look for other education opportunities at the beginning of next semester!

MOTA

The MOTA Conference was held on November 15-16. Five \$25 scholarships were awarded to students attending the conference. Next semester, a group is planning to go to Jefferson City with several other Missouri schools to lobby for occupational therapy. Look for more information about the February trip!

Professional Development

The Professional Development Committee presented a series of interesting lunch talks this semester: Building an Accessible Home (September 26), Crisis Intervention (October 3), and Pediatric Oncology (November 18). A Leaps and Bounds tour is in the works for next semester, so be on the lookout!

Social

The Social Committee started off the semester with First-Year Orientation. The fun continued with the annual Float Trip on September 7. The Balloon Glow on September 20 was a great way for students to bond while enjoying one of St. Louis’ longest running traditions! The Halloween Run was on October 13. Students also enjoyed going to a Blues game and cheering on St. Louis’ hockey team! The annual Holiday Sweater Party will be December 6.

For any questions regarding the WUSOTA newsletter, please contact Juliana Hersh, Media Relations Committee Chair, at hershj@wusm.wustl.edu.

 **Washington**
University in St. Louis
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Occupational Therapy



Students enjoyed the annual Balloon Glow at Forest Park on September 20.



“Team Calm” won the Gingerbread House Contest on December 5 with their accessible home.

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