

MiOTA Newsletter

Summer 2013

Michigan
Occupational
Therapy
Association, Inc.

Updates from the Leader of the Executive Committee

By Kristen Matthews, MA, OTR/L Leader of the Executive Committee

Greetings! I hope you are all enjoying a beautiful summer of family, friends and relaxation. We, as OT's, are supposed to be great at "balancing" our time between caring for ourselves and families, working, and leisure. Are you feeling balanced or out of balance? I think many of us can safely say we have been out of balance at one point or another; even despite our advanced knowledge of how to analyze and "rebalance" ourselves. It is far easier to work late so you can "get that project done" or put off taking time for yourself because you feel obligated to a house that needs cleaning. Certainly, what one person takes as joy another may not. And as the same, as what one 30 minutes of one activity is "no big deal" to one, that same 30 minutes of activity might be the "straw that breaks the camel's back" so to speak. Also, these "limits" we have can vary; there are certainly times in our lives when we are ready to handle them right away and other times we can't even bear the thought. And when we work with others do we ever really know all that they do and the sacrifices they make to do it standing from viewing room of their lives from the outside? I would also like to note, just because we appear to others to be quite dedicated to certain aspects of these areas of our lives, it certainly does not mean we value the aspects of these other areas of our lives less. After all, I LOVE taking vacations, but I certainly will not be allowed to do that by my employer more than so many times a year! ☺ By the same respect, just because someone seems to work a lot, does not mean they value work more than family. It's a matter of how we balance ourselves internally as much as externally.

We have had some growth in our volunteerism in MiOTA recently – a very welcome thing to have – but in the process of the growth, we have had an opportunity to reflect as an organization on what types of things could use a little "re-balancing" within MiOTA. MiOTA is externally a very balanced organization – bylaws and standard operating procedures direct everything we do and don't do. They tell us who is in charge, who people report to and how members and volunteers alike can gain their maximum benefits from what MiOTA has the ability to offer. However, connecting the structure of these documents to living-breathing people in a time-efficient way takes care. Although the master plan is still in development, we are working to try to find ways to improve how we get people involved within MiOTA so that people can feel comfortable with their roles and responsibilities within the "Corporate" Structure that MiOTA has as quickly and efficiently as possible so that they can move forward. More plans to follow there... ☺

As for people who offer MiOTA so much of their time every day, I would like to put out an extra special thank you in this newsletter to some of those individuals I have been watching work for MiOTA; knowing they all have very busy careers and families, who have taken on projects with MiOTA and who have given 100%. If it was possible to give more than a 100%, I'd say they gave 200%. Even sitting here speaking as the Leader of the Executive Committee, I cannot help but be so very thankful for the dedication and spirit they give every day to MiOTA so that as an OT, I can enjoy the benefits of my state association without spending the equivalency of a full-time job watching over and communicating with people to get these things done every week.

Everyone in MiOTA works very, very hard, but I would like to give an extra shout out to Denise Justice. In addition to being the finance director, she has taken on a number of additional roles to keep things connected and to help to bring in a new generation of volunteers for MiOTA. Thanks to Denise's hard work, we have grown an amazing group of new Fall Conference Planning Volunteers; which brings me to my next thank you's....

The Fall Conference Committee has demonstrated an AMAZING amount of teamwork, creativity, ingenuity and WOW – they have really taking fall conference planning by storm! Denise Justice, Gem Sabolboro, Cindy Klinger and Jennifer Miles have been working non-stop with Cheryl Chapko to get the 2013 Fall Conference in Troy, Michigan ready! (Continued on page 2)

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*See you at
the MiOTA
Fall
Conference
Somerset Inn
in Troy on
October
19 - 20, 2013*

MiOTA Update (Continued from page 1)

Thank you all so much for your amazing work!

Of special note are some new comers to MiOTA; Denise Hoffman, who has been acting as our interim advocacy director, has successfully advocated to BCBS on the importance of them reimbursing some oral-motor codes that have not been reimbursable prior to this. Another new comer – and this one a recent graduate of Occupational Therapy, is Laura Mills. Laura was one of the key persons responsible for organizing the Capital Hill Day in May. We are so thankful for all of your hard work!

One of our past Association Assembly members also came forth to act as our Nominating Committee this year – thank you to Mary Jo Vaughn for, in partnership with Cheryl in the office, collecting the nominations and putting together the ballots for this year's elections!

Last, but not least, I would like to say an extra special thank you to Cheryl Chapko. Cheryl has been in the MiOTA office taking care of day-to-day operations of the association for a number of years now. Cheryl is always a “rock” – she gets things done, prioritizes what needs to be done, passes information along to the right people and processes all of our membership and conference registrations. We are very sad to announce that Cheryl will be retiring in August. Although her replacement will bring an equally amazing set of skills to MiOTA, Cheryl has become like family to us. She has been here for us when the times have been good and when they have been hard. Her dedication and assistance have fostered our growth and saved us in turmoil. Cheryl, from the bottom of our hearts, thank you for your dedication. We will miss you very much and look forward to any opportunities for you to make an appearance with us in the future!

I will let you all read the director's reports in the newsletter to learn how BUSY MiOTA has been in the past several months and how the challenges we face in health care have required a constant struggle and fight to protect and grow our profession. In the meantime, thank you all for the roles you play and balance within MiOTA. No role is ever too small; membership is the simplest first step. But to those of you who find more – whether you be seasoned clinicians, “on-the-spot helpers,” officers, committee members or emerging leaders – THANK YOU!

To Whom It May Concern:

The Student Occupational Therapy Association (SOTA) of Western Michigan University – Grand Rapids is excited to announce the 3rd annual Live.Laugh.Love 5K Run/Walk. The event will be held Thursday, August 15th, 2013 at Comstock Riverside Park in Grand Rapids, MI. We are excited for new changes to this year's event with additional activities for children and families. However, none of this is possible without the help from the communities of West Michigan.

The Live.Laugh.Love 5K Run/Walk is an event created by WMU-GR SOTA to benefit the Mental Health Foundation of West Michigan. The Mental Health Foundation is a key asset to West Michigan as it strives to create and sustain a community which supports and understands people with mental illness. The Live.Laugh.Love program at the Mental Health Foundation educates middle and high school students, staff, and parents about mental illness, why mental illness is considered a brain disorder, and the stigma that has been formed around the mental illnesses. Additionally, the Live.Laugh.Love program educates on the public on warning signs of mental illness and where to access help in your community. There are several ways you can help make this event a success. First and foremost, we would love for you to participate in the 5K; please spread the word and invite your friends and family to do so as well. Additionally, this is a volunteer supported event and we are always looking for more helping hands. Finally, we are humbly seeking financial contributions to maximize this fundraiser's potential. If you are interested in participating, volunteering, or donating to the Live.Laugh.Love 5K Run/Walk, please refer to the enclosed form included with this letter.

Please feel free to e-mail the sponsor coordinator at ashley.m.kleikamp@wmich.edu or call 906-282-7843 with any questions, comments, or concerns. Thank you for your consideration and support!

With much gratitude,

WMU-GR Student Occupational Therapy Association

For more information and updates about the event, please check our Facebook page

www.facebook.com/LiveLaughLove5kbyWMUGRSOTA



**MENTAL HEALTH
FOUNDATION
OF WEST MICHIGAN**

*live * laugh * love*
5K RUN/WALK

Thursday, August 15th
Comstock Riverside Park – 2001 Monroe Ave NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49505
6:00pm Registration begins • 6:30pm 5K begins

To register online, visit the Mental Health Foundation Website:
www.themhf.org/events

If you are interested in volunteering:

Please contact our volunteer coordinator Erin Iacco at erin.m.barrus@wmich.edu

If interested in donating to this event, please complete the following:

Name: _____ Email: _____
Phone: _____ Donation: _____

Checks can be made to The Mental Health Foundation with Live.Laugh.Love 5K in the memo

Please return to:
Any WMU-GR OT student
or mail by July 24th to
Mental Health Foundation • 107 Oakes SE • Grand Rapids, MI 49503

THANK YOU!



Friends of MiOTA The MiOTA PAC is Re-Activated by Jaclyn West-Frasier

MiOTA has determined that it would be in our best interest to reactivate the Michigan Occupational Therapy Political Action Committee (MOT PAC) which will be called "Friends of MiOTA". One of the important functions of MiOTA is to provide advocacy at the state level. Successful legislative work combines lobbying, grassroots advocacy, and political support. This process was successful in obtaining licensure for OT in the state of Michigan.

MOT PAC, Friends of MiOTA, was established in 1994 as an affiliated organization to MiOTA to help advance advocacy efforts by raising money to contribute to a political candidate or campaign at the state or local level. A PAC can raise the profile of MiOTA in the eyes of legislatures by demonstrating our commitment to participating in the political process. It gives MiOTA members a way to participate through contributions to the PAC. Financial contributions to "legislative champions" can help advance our advocacy efforts. As you know from recent emails from MiOTA, we are facing the possibility of losing our licensure because of recommendations from the Office of Regulatory Reinvention to deregulate OT in Michigan. It is time to reactivate our PAC to help us effectively advocate on the behalf of our profession and of those we serve.

The reactivated MOT PAC, Friends of MiOTA, board has been formed with the following members: Jaclyn West-Frasier (treasurer/recorder), Deb Lindstrom (secretary), Tamara Gerber, Jacquelin Eckert, and Jody Thorton (Book keeper/MSHA representative). Paperwork has been filed with the state to allow for processing of financial contributions and a new bank account is being established to hold and disburse contributions. The Friends of MiOTA board will work to update the mission statement and goals and bylaws. Brett Marr, our lobbyist will help in this process. We will continue to provide updates as we move forward.

Respectfully submitted by Jaclyn West-Frasier



ANNOUNCING 3 EVENTS FOR THERAPISTS OR PATIENTS/FAMILIES

August 10, 2013

Howell Nature Center

1. A Therapist Education Seminar on Brachial Plexus Palsy

WHEN: 8:30 AM until 4 PM (Includes breakfast, lunch and CEU pending approval from AOTA)

COST: \$30

2. A Parent of a Child with Brachial Plexus Palsy under the age of 7: Education Seminar

WHEN: 8:30 AM until 1 PM (Includes breakfast and lunch)

COST: FREE (\$10 Deposit returned upon arrival to session)

3. Overnight Camp for Children Over the age of 7 with Brachial Plexus Palsy

WHEN: 11:30 AM Saturday until 1 PM Sunday (Includes meals and activities and on-site overnight accommodations; offsite accommodations at own expense)

COST: FREE (\$50 deposit returned upon arrival)

RSVP:

Heather Baker at 734-936-5017

E-Mail: bpclinic@umich.edu

Web site: <http://www.med.umich.edu/brachialplexus/news.htm>



Membership Director's Report by Cathleen Johnson, MS OTRL

Our membership numbers as of July 1, 2013

Associate:	1
Honorary:	9
OT:	389
OTA:	31
Student:	216
Retired:	<u>16</u>
Total:	662

MiOTA members – I am sure you all realize that only 10% of the licensed occupational therapy practitioners in the state of Michigan are members of MiOTA. Be a voice of MiOTA – as a member take it upon yourself to encourage a new professional, student, seasoned professional to be a member of MiOTA. Over lunch, in a staff meeting or over coffee ask your colleagues to join MiOTA – their involvement through membership will be the OT professional in the state of Michigan to have a stronger voice to ensure maintenance of licensure, advocate for occupational therapy services for consumers and protect our profession's scope of practice.

The Recruitment and Retention committee welcomes the opportunity to speak to potential members. We will attend a staff meeting, meet a small group for coffee or attend a professional event to speak briefly about membership. Contact Cathleen Johnson, the Membership Director to request attendance at a meeting or event – cell [616 340 8903](tel:6163408903) or email cjohnson@hcr-manorcare.com

Advocacy Director Report by Denise Hoffman, MSOT, OTR/L MiOTA Executive Interim Advocacy Director

Dear MIOTA Members,

I am excited to serve as the interim Executive Advocacy Director for 2013 as we venture towards education and awareness of our profession among consumers and professionals. The advocacy committee includes reimbursement and public policy sub committees, headed by Nancy Krolikowski and Laura Mills, which allows for a broader representation of the profession within legislation, with direct consumers, and among other professionals. It is rewarding to work with so many dedicated and passionate individuals who cohesively unite for our profession. Recent topics our committee has addressed includes: Capitol Hill Day, de – regulation, OT board rules and regulations proposed changes, the Autism Bill, and CPT approvals.

In October 2012, the new Autism Bill included occupational therapy as reimbursable for those consumers with non-self-funded private insurance. As the bill has unfolded, it is apparent the need for occupational therapy representation and advocacy. This was evident in March 2013, the bill passed an addendum expanding behavioral intervention but not occupational therapy services to consumers with Medicaid. A public comment statement was provided in June 2013 to the legislative offices expressing occupational therapy concerns. This is an ongoing advocacy topic, and I encourage those who are interested in this challenge to join the advocacy team or the Autism Alliance of Michigan to increase occupational therapy representation and advocacy for changes to include occupational therapy coverage in the bill for consumers with Medicaid and self-funded private insurance.

The latest advocacy news is regarding the recent victory allowing independent providers the ability to bill the CPT code 92526, swallowing/oral dysfunction treatment for those consumers with BCBS insurance. Over 18 months ago the state recognized the “Independent Occupational Therapist” status which provided opportunities for private practice growth and reimbursement. However, with change there is always a learning curve which was demonstrated in the lack of consistency of CPT codes between facilities and individual providers. Therefore, it was rewarding to work with Nancy Krolikowski, our BCBS Representative and Reimbursement Director, in getting BCBS to approve the CPT code 92526 effective May 1, 2013 for independent occupational therapists treating oral dysfunctions.

Quoting Maya Angelou, “I’ve learned that people will forget **what** you said, people will forget **what** you did, but people will not forget **how** you made them feel.” Occupational therapy is that profession, making a difference how individuals feel through engagement in the most basic and simple daily task. It is our obligation to continually advocate for the unique opportunities occupational therapy exudes. Here are my recommendations for the top 3 ways to advocate: represent OT on a committee, write to your House of Representatives, and educate one new person every week on OT. Email me your ideas as well and we can post for all to use.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve MiOTA,

Capital Call to Action Hill Day by Laura E. Mills, MS, OTR

On May 21st, 2013, 77 Occupational Therapy practitioners and students gathered at the capital in Lansing, Michigan for the Michigan Occupational Therapy Association (MiOTA) Call to Action Hill Day. This event started by Bret Marr, lobbyist for MiOTA speaking to the attendees about the proposal of the de-regulation of Occupational Therapy in the state of Michigan. For more information about the de-regulation and the Office of Regulatory Reinvention (ORR) report refer to the MiOTA website (www.mi-ota.com). After the meetings, attendees were invited to speak with their representatives about the importance of occupational therapy services and the impact de-regulation could have to our profession. The afternoon ended with the Michigan Board of Occupational Therapists public hearing, where there were proposed changes to the rules and regulation related to our license. Nearly 70 students and clinicians attended the Capital Hill activities, and 3 individuals had the opportunity to present necessary information at the public hearing regarding the concerns about the proposed changes. Please visit the website for further information on OT public hearing. This is the time to advocate for your license within the state of Michigan. Consider contacting your state representative today. We hope to make Capitol Hill day an annual if not a biannual event so consider joining the next event if you missed these years' activities.

Hand SIS By: Lydia Christesen OTD, OTR, CHT

How often have you said to yourself " I wish I knew my functional anatomy better because there is something more going on in my patient? Or, how often have you said, I just need to figure out how to connect the dots in the upper extremity in order to provide the best evidence based therapeutic treatment program for my patient?" The hand SIS is excited to assist you in connecting the dots by bringing Dr. Scott Benjamin PT, DScPT to you this fall. Dr. Benjamin will assist us through this learning process by teaching in both a didactic and laboratory fashion on how to connect the dots.

Dr. Benjamin owns his own PT clinic in Michigan, has co-authored the book "A Cram Session in Functional Anatomy, a handbook for students and clinicians" (Slack Inc.) and is a nationally and internationally known speaker in manual therapy.

The conference is September 20th, and 21st at Ramada Inn in Lansing (see registration form) and is limited to 40 participants. Below is summarized list of course objectives:

1. Participants will be able to identify anatomy and biomechanics of the cervical spine, shoulder, elbow and wrist.
2. Participants will be able to discover those common cervical, shoulder, elbow and wrist dysfunctions that affect each other.
3. Participants will develop skills to assess when and how to mobilize the shoulder, elbow, wrist and cmc joint.
4. Participants will be able to perform differential diagnosis tests for cervical, elbow and wrist.
5. Participants will learn treatment strategies from the shoulder to the hand.
6. Participants will understand how wrist and elbow disorders can impact our client's ADL's.

We look forward to seeing everyone in September. Please note if you are planning of staying at the Ramada Inn overnight you must reserve your room by August 9th to receive a discount rate.

The MI Chapter of ASHT/MiOTA Hand SIS
Presents

Rehabilitation of the Neck, Shoulder and Elbow Didactic and Laboratory Focuses

Presented by: Scott Benjamin, PT, DScPT

SB Seminars, LLC

Limited to 40 participants

Date: September 20th and 21st, 2013
Time: Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm; Saturday 8am-12:00noon
Location: **Ramada Lansing Hotel Conference Center**
7501 W. Saginaw Hwy, Lansing, Mi 48917
Cost: MiOTA / MPTA /ASHT Member/ Students :\$150.00
 Nonmembers :\$175.00
 Late Registration (AFTER August 21) add \$50.00
LIMITED TO 40 ATTENDEES

For any Questions, please call Rasa Poorman, OTR/L, CHT at (248) 543-4886
 Make checks payable to Michigan Chapter of ASHT and mail to:
 Rasa Poorman OTR, CHT 25529 Keenan Ct., Novi, MI 48375
 Confirmations will be emailed

For lodging arrangements please contact the Ramada Inn @ **517-627-3211**. A block of rooms are being held at a discounted rate of 78.00 (plus 10% tax). These rooms are only being held until August 9, 2013. To receive the discounted rate, mention the ASHT Conference/ Hand Therapy.

Registration Form (please complete ENTIRE form)

And please print clearly

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax _____

Email (confirmation will be emailed) PLEASE PRINT NEATLY

Please check if you would like vegetarian lunch option

Are you and MiOTA / MPTA or ASHT member ? Yes / No

Membership Number: _____

Total amount enclosed: _____

Rehabilitation of the Neck, Shoulder and Elbow

MiOTA AWARDS NOMINATIONS BEING ACCEPTED IMMEDIATELY

With the Fall MiOTA meeting coming up sooner than most think, I would like to encourage everyone to consider nominating someone that they have known to have positively influenced them in their career be it currently or in the past. There are many worthy individuals out there that have not received the recognition for their efforts. Below are listed the various awards and the criteria for nomination. Please take the time to review the various awards and submit a nomination for an award this year. One important criterion is that the nominee be a current member of MiOTA.

1. **OTR Award of Excellence:** To honor members of MiOTA who have made an outstanding global contribution to the profession via encouraging the desire to contribute to the development and growth of the profession, focused public attention on the scope of OT, increased awareness of OT as a health provider and as a profession whose body of knowledge and skills are innovative in research and in implementation of new approaches to increasing quality of life.
2. **COTA Award of Excellence:** Highest Association award for a COTA to honor members of MiOTA who have made an outstanding global contribution to the advancement of occupational therapy via exemplifying the highest level of technical skills and knowledge that benefit the profession of occupational therapy. Shall have served as a leader within the profession and the health care community fostering growth and development of the profession and MiOTA.
3. **Roster of Fellows:** To recognize members of the MiOTA who, with their knowledge and expertise, during their career have made a significant contribution to the continuing education and professional development of members via utilizing special skills and/or knowledge in therapeutic practice, education, research, and/or administration. Both scholarly contribution and organizational leadership will be considered.
4. **Distinguished Service Award:** To honor a member of MiOTA for extraordinary service to the MiOTA. Nominee has made continuing and outstanding contributions to the development, growth and process of MiOTA.
5. **Certificate of Appreciation:** To express the appreciation of the MiOTA to members and non-members for extraordinary contributions to the advancement of OT. Their efforts could include, but are not limited to: financial contribution, political support, pioneer work, or outstanding leadership role.
6. **Legislative Award:** To recognize a member of MiOTA for significant contribution in promoting OT in the political arena via assuming an active role in training and organizing occupational therapists to impact on federal or state regulations and/or policies, educating legislators of other key government officials about the purpose and function of OT, responding to requests for action from the legislative committee of the MiOTA, acting as an advocate for consumers of health care and educational services, or playing an active role in state activities related to state PACs.
7. **Departmental Membership:** To actively support MiOTA participation by recognizing occupational therapy departments in which 80% or more of the staff are members of MiOTA.
8. **Honorary Member Award:** To recognize MiOTA members who have, or are, retiring, and who have performed distinguished service in the field of occupational therapy.
9. **Master Clinician Award:** To recognize members of MiOTA, who with their knowledge and expertise, have made a significant contribution to occupational therapy through a combination of some of the following: supervision of students and staff; articles and presentations; workshops; mentoring; education; therapeutic work with clients and families. This therapist stands head and shoulders above the crowd: a model for fellow therapists.

PLEASE SEND INFORMATION TO MiOTA Office.

Award Nomination Form

Name of Nominator: _____ Date: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone (W): _____ (H): _____

Part A: Use this portion for all the awards except Departmental Membership:

Name of award: _____

Name of Nominee: _____ MiOTA membership #: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Directions: return this form along with a narrative of at least 50 words specific to the award purpose and criteria, (listed on page 6). Also include a curriculum vitae or resume of the nominated individual by September 1, 2012. Please make sure information is accurate as this facilitates the determination of awards by the Awards Committee via specific information and examples of qualification for the award.

Part B: Use this portion for the Departmental Membership Award Only

Name of Department: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail Address: _____

List the name and MiOTA membership # of all applicable departmental personnel along with number of OT staff within the department.

Please complete a separate form for each nomination if making more (feel free to copy this form). Be sure to send a narrative and curriculum vitae by **September 1, 2013**.

MiOTA

124 W. Allegan St., Suite 1900

Lansing, MI 48933

Fax 517 484-4442

The MI Chapter of ASHT/MiOTA Hand SIS
Presents

**Didactic and Laboratory Focuses
Tentative Agenda**

Friday, September 20, 2013

7:30-8:00am:	Registration and Check in: Complimentary breakfast for hotel guests
8:00am:	Introduction to the course: Case Studies
8:30am:	Biomechanics and Anatomy of the elbow, shoulder and wrist with the spattering of cervical motion as it relates to the distal segments.
9:00am:	PALPATION LAB: Shoulder, elbow and wrist
9:45am:	Vendor Break
10:00am:	Cervical to elbow to wrist connection and differential diagnosis
10:45am:	Tennis elbow and what to do with it?
10:30am:	Differentiation from radial tunnel syndrome
11:15am:	Tendonitis versus Tendinosis
11:30am:	Laboratory for tendon attachments and also joints
12:00-1:00	Lunch- Provided/ Vendor Break
1:00 pm:	Mobilization and what does that have to do with it? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shoulder• Elbow• Wrist
1:45pm:	Recognizing and treating an Abducted Ulna LAB: for mobilization/positioning and case studies for the shoulder and elbow Treatment of Tennis Elbow, Radial Tunnel, Olecranon Fractures, Ankylosed Elbow Modalities for elbow disorders
2:45pm:	Cervical Spine and its relation down the closed chain to distal extremity
3:15pm:	Vendor Break
3:30pm:	Aquatics and Isokinetics: Are they useful, needed and payable? Example and setups reviewed
4:15pm:	Radius fracture management and CMC issues; rehabilitation, exercises, strengthening and modalities efficacy

Saturday, September 21, 2013

8:00am:	Questions from previous day Discussion of Illness Scripts
9:00am:	Differential Diagnosis of the elbow and wrist disorders (case study approach)
10:00am:	Biomechanical Examination lecture
10:20am:	LAB: Biomechanical Evaluation
11:10am:	What does the Wrist have to do with it?
12:00pm	Dismissal

Michigan Occupational Therapy Association - 2013 Election

Candidate Information for Offices per Job Position

Running for Communications Director

1. Nancy Vandewiele Milligan, Bio: PhD, OTRL, FAOTA, FMiOTA **PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE:** In 2011 MiOTA chose to honor Dr. Milligan with the Roster of Fellows Award and she has received "outstanding Service Award for the past six years for her dedication and work with the state organization. Dr. Milligan began her service to MiOTA in 1982 and since then has served in multiple capacities on the Executive Committee and Association Assembly from 2006 to 2009, she worked in conjunction with the advocacy director to obtain licensure for OT in the state of Michigan. From 2005 to 2011, she held the position as Communication Director and Network Coordinator. During this time she has overseen updating the organization's website and list serve as an effort to better serve the membership. Dr. Milligan assists in organizing local chapter meetings throughout the state to keep membership informed of the latest information affecting OTs within the state of Michigan. **PLATFORM:** In seeking a third term in this position, I would like the opportunity to complete the goals that the current Leader of the Executive Committee and MiOTA members has been striving for. Our work to continue to create a strong membership base is dependent upon having good communication and current information available to its members. One of the major focuses in my next term if elected, is to continue to work on the development of our Website, Face Book Page and Newsletter with the appointed coordinators. I would also work with the Association Assembly to continue to identify and mentor members who are interested in taking on leadership roles in local chapters and Special Interest Sections. My position as Academic Fieldwork Coordinator and Assistant Professor at Wayne State University has afforded me the opportunity to connect with students, other academic institutions hospitals, clinics and agencies where our members work, so that I can continue to connect to our members and advocate for our association and recruit new memberships.

2. Sara Andriyna Bio: COTA My experience as an officer in the Macomb Community College Occupational Therapy Assistant Student Leadership Organization and the AOTA Assembly of Student Delegates Steering Committee as the OTA Vice Chairperson has empowered me to nominate myself and I would be honored to be your Communications Director. As a new practitioner I am very passionate and excited. My leadership qualities include excellent interpersonal skills, organization, and effective time management. As the demand for our services increase so does our demand for communication, we are challenged with the responsibility to provide quality, ethical and evidence based services in an ever changing health care system. In a world where technology continues to expand and communication is at everyone's finger tips we must maximize our resources to empower Occupational Therapy practitioners with information. As the Communications Director I would provide access to current documents, coordinate with special interest sections and chapters through the newsletter, website, listserv and social media. As Communications Director, I want to create an online archive of all newsletters so information can be accessed at any time. The newsletter will be online and easy to access providing you with up to date information and events, including links to licensure law, public health code, and the Michigan Board of Occupational Therapists agenda and meeting minutes. The website will be user friendly with current information and events from chapters, special interest sections and The American Occupational Therapy Association. I plan to utilize social media to keep members informed and up to date with pertinent information and events. I would incorporate new forms of communication to increase member involvement such as Skype for meetings and live chats. It is my hopes that as the Communications Director I will utilize my leadership skills and personal power to assist the Michigan Occupational Therapy Association into the future.

Running for Advocacy Director –

Denise Hoffman, (currently serving as *interim* Executive Advocacy Director – Advocacy Committee) Bio: MSOT/OTRL - graduated with a degree in Occupational Therapy from WMU in 1998 and recently graduated with post professional master's from Quinnipiac University this past May, 2013. She has devoted her 15 year career to helping children and families develop healthier, more productive lives through OT. Creativity, passion and integrity top the traits in her professional and personal life allowing for continued growth, success and enjoyment in all her endeavors. Ms. Hoffman has acted as an advocate and developed extensive pediatric therapy programs for numerous outpatient facilities throughout the country. In 2010, she was recognized as a leader in creating one of the top 5 most successful clinics for Physiotherapy Associated. In 2008, the same company published an article authored by Ms. Hoffman for their

Election Bio's (continued from page 11)

for their quarterly peer journal, which was an accomplishment since the company journal predominately publishes adult PT related materials. She has created a unique pediatric specialty lecture series for fieldwork OT students at WMU and Allied Health high school students of Kalamazoo County. She has served on countless committees to advocate for children and families with providers, schools and insurance companies. Most recently, she helped to get approval of the swallowing and oral motor CPT coding for BCBS and independent OT practitioners. Committees and organizations such as Child Care Expulsion Prevention, Child Care Resources, Portage Site Base Curriculum Liaison, and Ambucs (appointed to executive board member) are a few of those entities served. The combination of her business background, clinical knowledge and professional experience set the foundations for Ms. Hoffman to open her own clinic in 2012, *Occupational Therapy Plus, PLLC*. She balances her time between work, family and community volunteer activities using the platform of OT to serve and help others. Starting a Boys on the Run program, creating developmental classes for young mothers at the homeless shelter and organizing food and clothing drives yearly for those in need are a few projects Ms. Hoffman has led to advocate for the health and well-being of those in the community. OT was the vehicle to drive Ms. Hoffman toward leadership roles while advocating for individuals health and well-being outside of the traditional OT committees and organizations. Seeking leadership roles outside of OT has allowed for greater awareness and effect on the validity of the profession within the community and among all ages. Therefore, continually striving for more "outside of the box" avenues to develop and impact is an ongoing goal. Work experience includes direct provider, clinic director, consultant, insurance liaison within a hospital, home health private practice and school based settings. She has worked at Memorial Hospital, Borgess Home Health, Physiotherapy Associates, Handwriting Without Tears (national and international presentation opportunities), Advantage Home Health Care and Bronson Hospital. These have created a well-rounded awareness of the needs of the profession and allowed her to create countless connections with individuals in a vast array of professions directly impacting OT. Service Organizations/Volunteer experiences include Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Girls on the Run, Habitat for Humanity, Ambucs, Moors Bridge School, community tutor, South Bend homeless shelter, Cheff Center therapeutic Riding, Valley Family Church, Portage Little League and food banks. She is a proud mother of 2; Trey (11 yrs. old) and Bailey (13 yrs. old). It has been a long journey in which she had the opportunity to implement her OT background when her son was born 3 months premature and years later when her daughter was diagnosed with SPD. The ability to personally advocate for her own children and educate countless other parents has been a great accomplishment, especially seen in the children as they are both thriving academically and with extra-curricular activities. **PLATFORM:** The voice of Advocacy. Advocacy is the effectiveness to make a change, stand up for a cause and engage the non-believer to believe. When her son laid helpless in his bed in NICU, she only could facilitate bonding through the touch of her hand. A simple act made all the difference. It is Ms. Hoffman's platform to engage in simple acts and empower, encourage and enable others in the profession to join forces to advocate for OT. It is the combination of simple acts that makes a larger voice and teaching individuals no matter how big or small your actions are, it makes a difference. It is her goal to get individuals informed of meetings, legislative changes as well as knowing where to seek out resources to be the most effective OT in your school, practice, facility or agency. Furthermore, it is her mission to seek out the knowledge and creativity from fellow practitioners who have advocacy ideas and channel them into opportunities or action. The ultimate outcome would be that OT will have such a strong impact and awareness that defining or defending OT no longer would be our "elevator speech". Understanding of the profession would be second nature for the providers, insurance companies and the community.

Running for Finance Director

Denise Justice, Bio: OTRL who graduated from Eastern Michigan University in 1992 with a BS in occupational therapy. Four years prior she obtained an AS in occupational therapy from Schoolcraft College in Livonia, Michigan. She pursued her internship training at the University of Michigan and has been employed with the University of Michigan Medical Center for more than 20 years. Her experience has primarily been in pediatrics with inpatients and outpatients and she is a clinical specialist. Her training includes feeding and swallowing, serial casting, splinting, sensory integration, prosthetic evaluation and training, taping and neuromuscular electrical stimulation. Denise's patient experience ranges from clinical care to rehabilitation to acute care. She has treated patients in the neonatal intensive care, intensive care, acute care and rehabilitation situations; experience with a variety of patient diagnoses. She now specializes in brachial

Election Bio and Ballot – (continued from page 12)

and participates actively in the multi-disciplinary Pediatric Brachial Plexus Program. Denise Justice is a member of the American Occupational Therapy Association and Michigan Occupational Therapy Association. Special Interests: The treatment of pediatric brachial plexus and peripheral nerve disorders. Personal Experiences: Denise Justice was the treasurer's assistant for 3 years and chairperson fund raising chair for 2 years at Livonia Co-Op Nursery where her three children attended preschool. For 2 years she has served on the Board of Directors for Livonia Gymnastics Academy as the secretary for 2 years and 1 year as the President. Denise was elected for Finance Director with MiOTA in 2010.

Michigan Occupational Therapy Association - 2013 Election Ballot

***** RETURN BY August 10th 2013 *****

****Your name and voting choices will be kept confidential within the MiOTA Business office, but you must be a current member to participate in voting; we ask for your name OR membership number to verify current membership****

Name and/or MiOTA Membership Number: _____

Please vote for ONE choice for each category after reviewing accompanying candidate information : Indicate your vote by checking the name or completing the write in name. Please print legibly if entering a write in name. There must be previous consent from the person whose name is used as a write in and this person must be a MiOTA member

1. Communications Director – : This position appoints, (with the approval of the Executive Committee) and oversees the Coordinators of the Newsletter, Website and Listserv coordinator as well as Networking Committees and the subsections of the Networking Committee (Special Interest Sections [SIS] and Chapters). They discharge the duties of the Leader of the Executive Committee in the absence of the Leader; perform other such duties as are assigned by the Executive Committee, and orient incoming elected director at least two (2) months prior to the first day of the fiscal year before the elected member assumes office.

_____ Nancy Vandewiele Milligan, PhD, OTRL, FAOTA, FMiOTA (see accompanying BIO)

_____ Sara Andriyna, COTA (see accompanying BIO)

Write In: _____

2. Finance Director– *This position is responsible for managing the fiscal affairs of the Corporation so that the financial resources are available to allow the Corporation to achieve its goals. They prepare the budget and present it to the Executive Committee for approval. Act in an advisory capacity to the Agent of the Corporation. Keep full and accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements of the Corporation or delegate to an Agent for the Corporation as specified within a contract. Arrange for the annual review of the corporation accounts by a qualified accountant. Submit written statements of financial affairs to the Executive Committee for all Executive Committee meetings and at other intervals as it determines. Review submitted Co-Sponsoring Activity with MiOTA Worksheets and Cost Projections Worksheets with other interested parties and informs the person or persons of acceptance, need for revision, or denial of the proposal. Orient incoming elected director at least two (2) months prior to the first day of the fiscal year before the elected member assumes office. Perform other such duties as are assigned by the Executive Committee*

_____ **Denise Justice OTRL** (see accompanying BIO)

Write In: _____

3. Advocacy Director– *This position is responsible for appointing, with the approval of the Executive Committee, and oversee the coordinators of Public Policy and Third Party Reimbursement, exhibit knowledge regarding current health care legislation and reimbursement issues at the State and National levels, assure MiOTA's legislative presence and integrity in health care issues at both the state and, through AOTA, at the national level, assure the involvement of MiOTA in issues that impact the reimbursement for occupational therapy services in the State of Michigan, assist the MiOTA membership in obtaining necessary information regarding laws, rules and regulations and third party reimbursement and shall serve as an avenue for the membership to bring related issues to the attention of the Executive Committee and/or Association Assembly.*

_____ **Denise Hoffman, MSOT/OTRL** (see accompanying BIO)

Write In: _____

RETURN TO:

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