

Occupational Therapy Honor Society Inducts New Members

The Touro College Chapter of Phi Theta Epsilon (PTE), Alpha Pi, inducted its' newest members in a ceremony held on September 10, 2007 at the Manhattan campus. "The mission of Pi Theta Epsilon is to support the development of occupational sciences and the practice of authentic occupational therapy by promoting research and other scholarly activities by its members. In this way, the organization serves not only the profession, but helps to insure quality health care services for the general public" ([http://www. Phithetaepsilon.org](http://www.Phithetaepsilon.org)).

Students invited to become members of the honor society must not rank lower than the highest 35% of their class and must have a GPA of 3.5 on a scale of 4.0 since entering the occupational therapy program.

This year's inductees included Shari Bensadoun, Adena Goldschmidt, Christine Grey, Yocheved Grohman, Meira Gurfinkel, Yael Jaff, Chana Klinger, Ora Leb, Viktoria Stern, Gary Sytner, and Toby Weissman. Those in attendance of the ceremony were welcomed by VJ Clark-Brown, Director of Occupational Therapy Programs, and congratulated by Joseph Weisberg, Dean of the School of Health Sciences.

The ceremony, conducted by existing Alpha Pi members and Alpha Pi Faculty Advisor, Meira Orentlicher, MA, OTR/L invited the new members to join them as they carry out the mission of Phi Theta Epsilon. Congratulations to all members of Alpha Pi!

Occupational Therapy Program Holds Research Presentation Day

The BS in Health Sciences/MS in Occupational Therapy program of the Manhattan campus of Touro College hosted the annual thesis presentations for the class of 2008 on September 10, 2007. Dr. Joseph Weisberg, Dean of the School of Health Sciences upon reviewing the student's research poster presentations congratulated the students on the quality and diversity of the topics. Occupational Therapy faculty from both the Bay Shore and Manhattan campuses along with occupational therapists from the professional community provide mentorship to the students as they go through the planning, implementation, and analysis of the research projects. The following research projects were presented:

1. Satisfaction with Use of the Internet for Coping by Individuals with Rheumatoid Arthritis by Elliot Engelhardt, Shlomo Ehrman, and Gilah Lempel; Chairperson: Claire Daffner, PhD, OTR, FAOTA; Reader: Jeffrey S. Gruenglas, MA)
2. Coping Strategies of Orthodox Jewish Mothers of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders by Rikki Kopolovich; Chairperson: Meira Orentlicher, MS, OTR/L; Reader: Zvi Gutman, DPT, BS/MS
3. The Experiences, Reactions, & Daily Occupations of Jewish Orthodox Siblings of Children with Autism by Judy Strauss and Heather Sochet; Chairperson: Meira Orentlicher, MA, OTR/L; Reader: Devorah Gerber, MS, OTR/L
4. The Differences Between Working and Non-Working Occupational Therapy Students in Academic Performance, Time Management, and Motivation by Nicole Kelcz; Chairperson: Julie Kardachi, MA, OTR/L; Reader: Salvador Bondoc, OTD, CHT, OTR/L

5. A Modern Orthodox Jewish Adolescent's Experience of Maternal Breast Cancer by Lauren N. Gelnick; Chairperson: Claire Daffner, PhD, OTR, FAOTA; Reader: Salvador Bondoc, OTD, OTR/L, CHT
6. The Difference Between Sabbath and Non-Sabbath Observant OT Students' Use of Time by Ahuva Warshavchik, Cheryl Roth, and Leora Fuchs; Chairperson: Julie Kardachi, MA, OTR/L; Reader: Ellen Pearlman, MS
7. Undergraduate Grade Point Average as an Effective Predictor of Academic Success in Touro College's Occupational Therapy Program by Ruchama Weinberger, Amy Blumenthal, and Michelle Tisser; Chairperson: Julie Kardachi, MA, OTR/L; Reader: Francine E. Hirschman
8. Characteristics and Perceptions of Feedback for OT Students during Level II Fieldwork by Rachel Katz and Chava Fogel; Chairperson: Julie Kardachi, MA OTR/L; reader: Yael Leisman, MS, OTR/L
9. Time Spent in Social Educational Activities by Orthodox Jewish Adolescent Females with Learning Disabilities by Shifra Goldman and Mera Seligman; Chairperson: Claire Daffner, PhD, OTR, FAOTA;
10. Client-Centeredness Implemented by Occupational Therapists and Students in Fieldwork by Esther Montalvo; Chairperson: Julie Kardachi, MA, OTR/L; Reader: Salvador Bondoc, OTD, OTR/L, CHT
11. The Effect of Postural Alignment o Accuracy and Speed of Fine Motor Coordination Activities in Typical Adults by Amy Jakubowitz and Heather Rubin; Chairperson: Julie Kardachi, MA, OTR/L; Reader: Erica Rega, OTR/L
12. Enjoyment and Diversity in Activities Among Children of Different Weight by Lyubov Servakh and Hanna Cohen; Chairperson: Dian Jos, MA, OTR/L; Reader: Sadako Vargas, EdD, OTR/L, BCP
13. The Comparison of the Evaluation Tool of Children's Handwriting-Manuscript and the Minnesota Handwriting Assessment in Children by Tiffany Cooper and Gina Raimondo; Chairperson: Tara Casimano, MHS, OTR/L; Reader: Sadako Varga, EdD, OTR/L, BCP