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Touro University Occupational Therapy extends our sincere thanks to all who are involved in MOTEC. The collaboration of the consortium has been a great source of support and resources. The collaboration is beneficial to the education of our students in our shared profession of occupational therapy. Many thanks to the dedicated team of Touro University professionals, including faculty and our clinical fieldwork educators, for the continued commitment to the education of our students. Faculty accomplishments continue to advance the University and the OT Profession.

Stephanie Dapice Wong, DPT, PT, OTR/L, CAPS, Chairperson and Director OT. Deepest thanks to the Touro OT faculty and staff for their dedication, creativity, passion, and hard work. Because of them, the OT Department continues to grow and thrive. We have received the maximum re-accreditation through ACOTE for our BSHS/MSOT programs in Manhattan and Long Island. Our refreshed and revised curriculum is preparing students well for the OT profession. In addition, we are in the second year of offering our dynamic post-professional OTD with an emphasis on program development in community-based practice. Although the climate is challenging nationwide, we are happy to say we meeting our enrollment goals. In addition, Stephanie is working on a co-authored AOTA publication on adaptive ADL techniques,

**Michelle Buccinna, OTD, OTR/L** is the Director & an Assistant Professor in the occupational therapy department at the School of Health Sciences Long Island Campus of Touro University. She has been actively presenting at the AOTA conferences and AOTA Education summits, NYSOTA, and for Touro University Educational symposiums. Her research and presentations have focused on continuing education, evidence-based practice, and occupation-based practice, as well as patient simulations in OT education. She continues her service to the university by implementing her Neer Peer Mentoring program where graduate students mentor undergraduate students in the Touro University system.

Tara Collins, DHS, OTR/L is the Academic Fieldwork Coordinator for the Occupational Therapy Program at the Long Island campus of Touro University's School of Health Sciences, which she has held for 17 years. She also serves as the Community Engagement Coordinator. As an occupational therapist, Dr. Collins has over 20 years of pediatric experience across the spectrum of care, including early intervention, in-patient, school-based therapy, and private practice. Dr. Collins's research interests are in fieldwork education and bullying. She regularly presents at national conferences and the WFOT conference in Paris in 2022. Dr. Collins is a member of the Roster of Accreditors. Recently, she co-authored the revision of the AOTA Self-Assessment Tool for Fieldwork Educator Competency (SAFECOM).

**Danielle Losonci, MS, OTR/L** has been a full-time faculty member at Touro since 2021. Danielle's research has focused on using the lived experience as pedagogy and the efficacy of a mindful self-compassion intervention for students in the health professions. Danielle was recently awarded a Dean's Research Award, where she will use community-based participatory research to investigate how consumers of mental health services can drive inclusive community programming at a New York State park. She recently presented a poster at the AOTA INSPIRE Conference about using an evidence-based auditory hallucination simulation with occupational therapy students to promote

empathy for and understanding of psychosis. She is currently pursuing her PhD in Psychiatric Rehabilitation Counselling at Rutgers University.

Louis Dmytryk OTD, OTR/L joined Touro University as assistant professor in March 2024. Prior to becoming a faculty member at Touro, Louis served as an associate adjunct professor at Hofstra University where he taught classes in Functional Movement Analysis and Assessment; Health & Human Service Delivery Systems; Community & Group Interventions, and Clinical Lab Interventions to Support Occupations. In November 2023, Dr. Dmytryk published an article entitled Occupational therapy's role in disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction: Addressing the emergency preparedness needs of people with disabilities in AOTA's SIS Quarterly Practice Connections. In addition to this, Louis maintains his clinical skills as a home health provider at Catholic Health.

Rem Narain OTD,OTR/L is a full-time faculty member since 2022 and was an adjunct since 2010. Rem just presented research posters at NYSOTA and the American Hippotherapy Conference focusing on the use of hippotherapy as treatment took for occupational therapy. Rem prior to joining Touro full time has been a pediatric OT focusing on Spasticity Management, sensory Integration and Early Intervention since 1997. Rem has also been an OT at HorseAbility since 2010. Rem will be hosting a webinar lunch meeting to discuss his capstone project titled: Hippotherapy Online Volunteer Education Program. Rem's research agenda will be on hippotherapy caregiver satisfaction and how hippotherapy intervention impacts occupation for children with various neurodevelopmental disorders.

**Linda Rini OTD, OTR/L**, CLC joined the Touro faculty in 2022 after practicing occupational therapy full-time in a school setting for 19 years. Linda's doctoral capstone work, *Use of an Education and Coaching Intervention to Promote Occupational Balance in Graduate Occupational Therapy Students* was published in the Journal of Occupational Therapy Education in January 2024. Past presentations include *A Non-traditional Level II FW Experience to Support the Post-professional Transition from COTA to OTR: A Replicable Case Study* (NYSOTA 2019), *Promoting Occupational Lifestyle Balance in Clients, Students, and Self* 

Using an Education and Coaching Model (NYSOTA Dessert & Dialogue), and Active Coaching in Occupational Therapy Practice (NYSOTA 2023). Linda's current research agenda is focused on the development of a peer-coaching program to support the occupations of all college students and the exploration of sensory processing interventions for adolescents and adults.

**Debra Cullinane, OTD, OTR/L, CAPS** is a graduate from Touro Universities OT program, class of 2001 and is a former OT clinical fieldwork educator for Touro. She has been a full-time faculty member of the Long Island NY campus since December 2018 and an adjunct faculty member of the Manhattan campus since January 2015. Debra has extensive clinical occupational therapy experience in adult physical disabilities, gerontology, and adult homecare. She was a co-presenter for a poster presentation at the 2020 NYSOTA Conference about Virtual Health Promotion Fieldwork Experiences within Assisted Living Facilities: Keeping Adults Connected during COVID-19. She was a co-writer for a published article in the *Journal of Occupational Therapy Education*, 6 (3).