



## Bobcats in Botswana!



Three OHIO PT students recently returned from the annual service trip to Botswana with Janice Howman, Director of Clinical Education, and several OHIO speech and audiology students and faculty. During past trips it was clear that there were children in Botswana who would benefit from a standing frame, but the cost of one was prohibitive. So, Janice Howman proposed that PT students team up with senior mechanical engineering students to build a standing frame that could be brought to Botswana.

To find out how they did it, click [here](#).

## Welcome OUR NEW TEAM MEMBERS

Dr. Paula DeLorm PT, DPT, CEEAA moved to Athens this summer to join the DPT faculty at OU as the Assistant Director of Clinical Education working directly with Janice Howman. She came to OU because she shares a passion for clinical education, as does Howman. Together they strive to provide quality clinical education experiences for OU DPT students. Dr. DeLorm has experience as a DCE in a developing DPT program and a wealth of clinical experience working with the aging adult population. She is APTA credentialed as a clinical instructor (CCI) and clinical trainer for the CCIP course.



## Upcoming Alumni Gatherings



Mark your calendar & come catch up with fellow alumni, faculty & students!

Oct. 14 — Columbus

7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. @ [Gordon Biersch](#)  
[View on Facebook](#)  
[RSVP](#)

Nov. 17 — Cincinnati

7:30 p.m. @ [Madtree Brewing](#)  
[View on Facebook](#)  
[RSVP](#)

## Steve Trotta Scholarship & Retirement



Like many students, Steve Trotta did not make it through college on his own. He earned degrees in zoology and physical therapy and did so due in part to the generosity of others. To honor those who meant so much to his education, Trotta established the Trotta, Haste and Schulman Physical Therapy Scholarship in 2013 to benefit physical therapy graduate students.

This past December, Steve's aunt, Patricia Haste passed away unexpectedly. From Haste's estate, a donation has allowed for the endowment of the Trotta, Haste and Schulman Scholarship which will help financially assist an Ohio University physical therapy student. The full story can be seen [here](#).

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[Click here](#) to support the Trotta, Haste & Schulman Scholarship or any of our other Division of Physical Therapy scholarships.

## Follow us on Social Media!



## Faculty Research Highlights

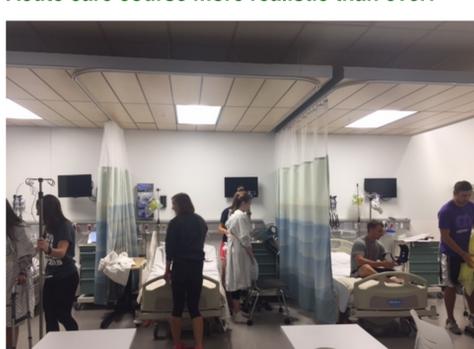


Dr. James Thomas, PT, PhD, Professor in the Division of Physical Therapy and Dr. Christopher France, Distinguished Professor of Psychology, have just been awarded a \$2.8 million grant from the National Institutes of Health. Virtual Immersive Gaming to Optimize Recovery in Low Back Pain (VIGOR) will study the effectiveness of a virtual reality gaming intervention developed in the Motor Control Laboratory at Ohio University to improve spinal motion and decrease pain and disability in chronic low back pain sufferers. The use of a gaming environment is an innovative approach to address low back pain by developing technology to improve treatment access and reduce long-term disability.



Dr. Jennifaye Brown, PT, PhD, NCS is currently recruiting participants for her research on fabricating AFOs that accommodate typical footwear. She is using 3D printing to design and fabricate AFOs that accommodate typical footwear based on neuromuscular and gait impairments, paying particular attention to social determinants of health encountered by young individuals with stroke and traumatic brain injury. This research aims to identify factors causing product dissatisfaction and resolve them by creating customized AFOs using 3D printing technology. A full description can be found [here](#).

## Acute care course more realistic than ever!



Class of 2019 students had the opportunity to utilize the new Interdisciplinary Simulation Suite in Grover Center for their acute care course this summer. Professor, alumna Ashley Crow '09, taught students the reality of acute care physical therapy using two hospital simulation rooms, each equipped with eight hospital beds and equipment to make the learning experience as real as possible.

The full Interdisciplinary Simulation Suite has six fully equipped simulation rooms, ample debriefing space and other supporting areas, as well as the latest technologies, to provide a team-based learning environment. Unprecedented realism allows for a wide variety of high-impact student experiences that will help prepare them for situations they might encounter in the real world of healthcare. Recorded video footage is available for review for instructive feedback as well as for pedagogical research.

## Student Spotlight: Kelsey Biller '18



In July, Class of 2018 student Kelsey Biller was nominated to be one of the two OPTA Central District Student Liaisons. In the past, all student liaisons have been from Ohio State University. Now, OHIO PT will have student representation on the board going forward, as Kelsey will pass her position on to another OHIO PT student when she graduates this spring. Congratulations Kelsey!

## Alumni Spotlight: Carina Siracusa '05



Carina Siracusa '05 presented at the World Confederation for PT Congress in Cape Town, South Africa in July. Carina, a pelvic floor therapist, discussed pediatric bowel and bladder dysfunction. Read the World Confederation for PT article about her [here](#). Carina currently works with OhioHealth in Columbus where she is a pelvic floor specialist and the program coordinator for the oncology rehabilitation team. She has been teaching for the Section on Women's Health for over 5 years. Carina also recently visited Athens to give oncology lectures for the Class of 2019 as part of their acute care curriculum. Thank you, Carina, for representing OHIO PT locally and around the world!

## Stay connected with OHIO Physical Therapy

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