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# Preparing Students for Acceptance in WMU Occupational Therapy Programs

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# Preparing WMU Undergraduate Students for Acceptance in the WMU Occupational Therapy 4+1 and Entry-Level Masters Programs

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## Vision

Western Michigan University will be the university of choice for students planning to enroll in an Occupational Therapy Curriculum at Western Michigan University or other Midwestern universities

## Mission

To Provide Pre-OT students with opportunities for

1. Understanding what occupational therapy is
2. Relevant Leadership opportunities
3. Diversity experiences

## Preliminary Goals

1. Contact the Student Occupational Therapy Executive Board (SOTA E-Board) to determine how to best support the organization needs
2. Participate in the 2010 Medallion Academic Fair to recruit candidates to WMU Pre-OT program
3. Explore offering First Year Experience for Pre-OT students 2010-2011
4. Contact Haenicki Institute for Global Education (HIGE) to explore a diversity and disability study-abroad experience in Bangladesh for Summer I 2011
5. Work with OT Faculty who teach pre-OT students and graduate seminar students to create a mentoring opportunity for pre-OT students
6. Develop service requirements and appropriate service unit point awards for the Graduate Seminar to encourage OT students to become involved in
  1. mentoring Pre-OT students
  2. service project leadership with Pre-OT students
  3. Active leadership in SOTA

## SOTA E-Board Storage Cabinet



## Accomplishments as of 3/25/10

1. Facilitated storage space for Student Occupational Therapy Association (SOTA)
2. Participated 2010 Medallion Academic Fair
3. Will not pursue First Year Experience in 2010-2011
4. No opportunity for creating a study-abroad opportunity for Summer I 2011.
5. OT Mentoring Fair occurred 1/29/2010; OT graduate students explained the role of OT in various practice settings and set up visitations for pre-OT students.
6. Preliminary work with SOTA E-Board members discussing appropriate service unit point awards for mentoring OT students, active leadership in SOTA and developing service projects to provide pre-OT students with diversity experiences

## OT Mentoring Fair 1/29/2010



## Graduate level students discussing role of OT in WMU Adult Clinic

OT Graduate students held a Mentoring Fair for the pre-OT students in OT 2020.

Outcome as of 3/16/2010  
Sample of 15 /35 Grad Students  
No response Pre-OT student (4)  
Clinical visit 'in process" (7)  
Clinical visits completed (4)

## Graduate student discussing role of OT in School Setting



## Collaborating Faculty OT Mentoring Fair



Professor Michelle Suarez OT 2020  
Mr. Scott Smith OT 6860  
Dr. Debra Lindstrom Hazel  
at OT Mentoring Fair 1/29/2010

## Future/Continuing Goals

1. Support SOTA E-Board as needed for active mentoring with pre-OT students
2. Create a Pre-OT Association focused on service learning for experience
3. Coordinate OT Mentoring Fair every semester (OT 2020 Orientation to OT)
4. Create mentoring experience for OT 2250 (Growth Development and Aging) pre-health care students (in lieu of First Year Experience).
5. Explore study-abroad opportunity for diversity and disability experience in Bangladesh with HIGE
6. Add learning objectives for OT 6860 (Graduate Seminar) to include professional service requirements. Determine appropriate service unit point awards for OT 6860.