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Dear SJSU Alumni and Friends of the Occupational Therapy Department,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am delighted to be writing you as we welcome in the holiday season.

This has been a busy Fall semester. We were very happy to return to in-person teaching for all classes. Students have certainly been excited and happy to interact with one another and engage in hands on experiences in their classes.

San José State University is well known for its excellent occupational therapy program and we are very proud to announce that we will be offering an Entry-Level Occupational Therapy Doctorate degree, with our first class starting in Spring 2023! We continue to offer the highly popular Master of Science in Occupational Therapy degree program and will add the Entry-Level OTD degree program as the first state funded OTD program in California.

I am pleased to announce that we are currently recruiting for two new tenure track faculty positions that will begin in Fall 2023. If you are interested or know anyone who is interested in this wonderful opportunity, please see the job posting at https://jobs.sjsu.edu/en-us/job/520497/assistant-professor-occupational-therapy or contact me directly. If you are interested in a lecturer position please see https://jobs.sjsu.edu/en-us/job/500619/occupational-therapy-lecturer-pool

Professor and former Occupational Therapy Department Chair Dr. Wynn Schultz-Krohn, retired this summer. Wynn has been a huge presence on our campus, serving on, and chairing countless college and university committees while always being a tireless advocate for the OT program. She had an instrumental role in developing the upcoming doctorate program. We miss seeing her on a daily basis and are thrilled that she will be returning to campus to teach a course in the Spring. We wish her the very best that retirement has to offer and are so happy that she now has the time to do some fun things in life (like her work with rescue animals). She now joins our prestigious emeritus faculty.

The Occupational Therapy faculty continue to be exemplary leaders in the profession. This past year faculty had multiple presentations accepted at state, national and international professional conferences. Additionally, they have been busy conducting research, writing articles and chapters and editing textbooks.

Current research projects include: A randomized control pilot study to improve self-management of physical activity routines in adults with early stage Parkinson's Disease (K. Long); Predictive value of quantitative data in an OT program (C. Arada); The scholarship of teaching through Community Service Learning: Local and international perspectives in the US and Finland (L. Andonian); Social Participation and Navigation: A preliminary study for the description and usability of app-based coaching intervention for young adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders (C. Fang); Effects of mindfulness app on parental stress and sleep; Effects of online mindfulness programs to build resilience for parents of children with autism; Objective and subjective sleep differences related to sensory processing patterns among individuals with sleep issues (M. Chang); The scholarship of teaching and learning; An examination of DEI, occupational/social justice, and work with vulnerable populations within the community (M. Kaye); and Psychometric properties of a newly developed assessment (C. Haworth). Faculty are also involved with Master's students in research projects, many of which have been or will be presented at professional conferences. Please visit our website at https://www.sjsu.edu/occupationaltherapy/ ("About Us") to read more about our faculty and their work.

Thank you to all our wonderful donors who continue to support the San José State University Occupational Therapy program as we prepare occupational therapists to meet the needs of California and beyond. With your help we are able to support students and faculty to attend state and national conferences where they have consistently shared their research through presentations and posters. We also hope to further enhance our faculty led clinics to provide an even richer experience for our students. We have created donor categories and recognize donors on our website. A donation of \$500.00 and above is recognized at the Diamond level, a donation of \$300.00 - \$499.00 is at the Gold level, \$200.00 - \$299.00 is the Silver level, and a donation of \$150.00 - \$199.00 is the Bronze level. We created a Special Donor Recognition section on the alumni page of our website https://www.sjsu.edu/occupationaltherapy/Alumni/. We are extremely thankful for the support you have provided to the department.

If you believe that San José State University and the Occupational Therapy Department contributed to, or were instrumental in your professional development, or you wish to help with the enrichment of our programs, please help us now with a financial contribution. With your generous financial help, we will be able to ensure that the Occupational Therapy Department continues to excel and to graduate exceptionally prepared occupational therapists.

Each and every contribution has special meaning to the department as it reflects the pride and respect you feel toward your SISU Occupational Therapy family and our future. Your gift will truly make a difference. Thank you for your generous support.

Warm regards,

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Jerilyn (Gigi) Smith, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

Chair and Professor – San José State Occupational Therapy Department