



Pi Theta Epsilon is the National Occupational Therapy Honor Society. EMU's OT program is the Epsilon chapter and is a recognized student organization. At the conclusion of the first semester of study in the OT program, grade point averages are calculated and the top 35% of students are invited to join the organization. The focus of the organization is on advancing scholarly activity and service. An induction ceremony is held in the second semester of the program for those students, their families and friends and faculty.

Members of PTE work together to bring educational opportunities, OT practice resources, leadership training, and much more to the EMU OT community and the local community at large. PTE is also heavily involved in the Spelbring Lectureship each year. Members volunteer in a variety of ways, including assisting with preparation, set-up, and registration. PTE also sponsors a workshop at Spelbring each year. PTE's faculty advisor, Dr. Valerie Howells, works with students to invite a leader from our field to speak at a special session about leadership in practice. In 2016, we were delighted to hear Dr. Susan Young share about her personal experiences of growth in leadership and this Fall we are pleased to welcome Carole Hays, MA, OTR (retired), FAOTA and Betty Cox, COTA (retired). As well, we encourage PTE members and OT students from nearby universities to join us at the Spelbring lecture and conference.



In March 2017 PTE members collaborated with EMU Special Olympics and Best Buddies to host a viewing of the film "The Family Next Door," about the experiences of a family with children on the Autism Spectrum and facilitate a roundtable discussion.



## BROWN BAGLECTURE

BY MICHELE MORGAN & DEBB CARLTON

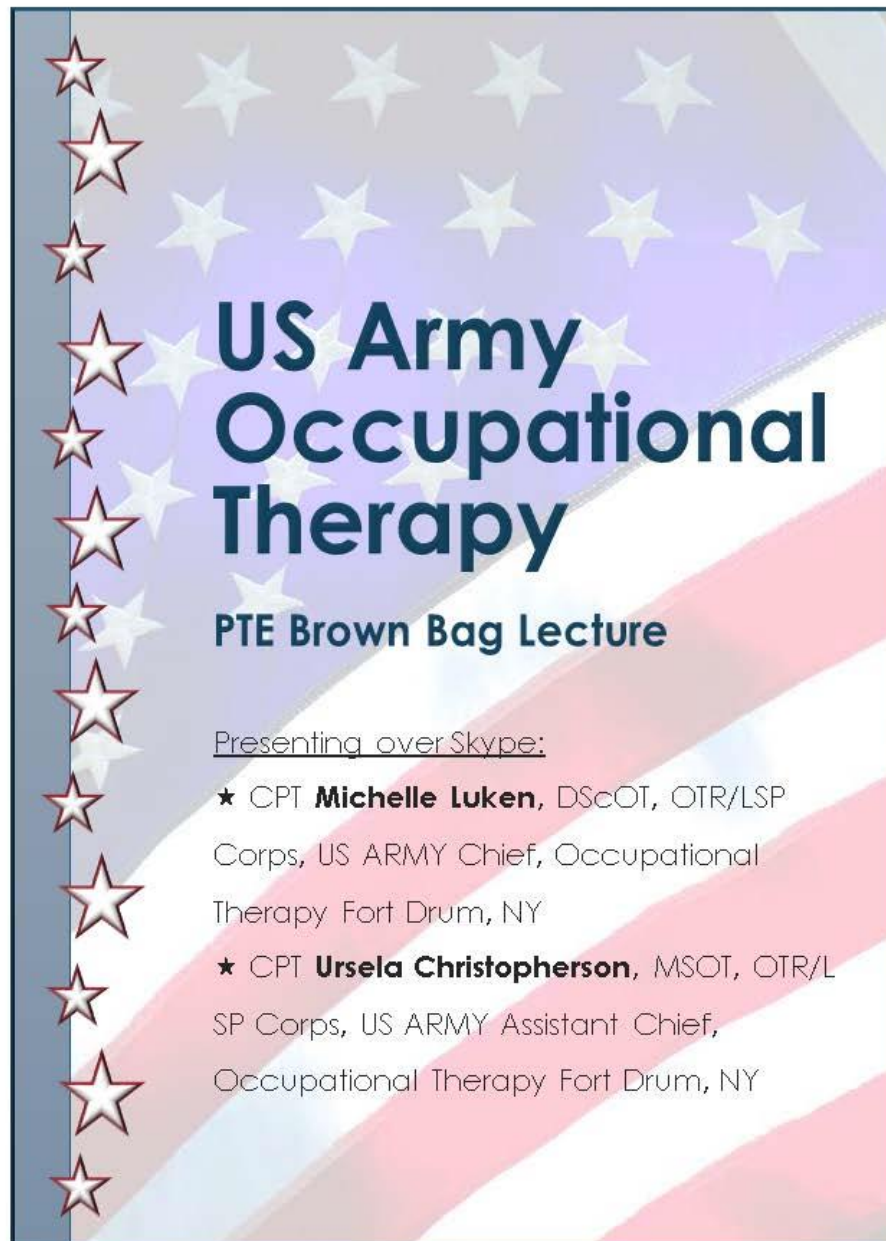
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The **“Make it Work” program** was created by occupational therapists Michele Morgan and Debb Carlton to promote the benefits of occupation-based, industrial arts programming and urban farming for non-traditional learners and at-risk youth. The OT program at Warren Woods Tower High School serves students with physical disabilities, cognitive impairments, autism, learning disabilities, and emotional impairments from 21 districts across Macomb County. Partnerships with area businesses and grant writing allows our program to sustain itself and expand without relying on district funds. We receive industrial waste from countertop manufacturers and apply for grants to create a program that serves over 80 students during the school year and up to 8 students in a 3-week intensive apprenticeship program over the summer. Our shop is equipped with a CNC router, laser engraver, CNC embroidery machine, vinyl cutter, lathes, drill presses, and saws. We raise tilapia, worms, incubate quail, and have an on-site rabbitry that provides students with animal-assisted therapy. Our goal is to share the story of our program, describe how our practice is grounded in uniform terminology and guided by task analysis, and explore ways aspiring and current OT’s can create their own occupation-centered program from the ground up in their respective settings.

In March 2017, PTE members organized and hosted two successful Brown Bag Lectures. We heard from two talented occupational therapists, alum Deb Carlton and her colleague Michelle Morgan who developed and run the “Make it Work” program at Warren Woods high school. They spoke about the critical importance of occupation based, client-centered practice in the school setting.





For the second lecture, "OT in the Military" we held a video conference with occupational therapists, Capt. Michelle Luken and her colleague Capt. Ursela Christopherson who practice in the military while stationed in Fort Drum, New York. They shared about the different avenues available to occupational therapists in the military and gave us a virtual tour of their facility!