



# EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY ORTHOTICS & PROSTHETICS

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## INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION EVENT UNITES CHHS STUDENTS

On Jan 29<sup>th</sup> an interprofessional education (IPE) event was hosted by the orthotic & prosthetic, physician assistant, and dietician programs. The event was centered around exposing different medical professions to one another by having students from each program work as a medical team.

Eight patient models with a variety of medical histories volunteered and students from each program came together to form teams. Each team was given 15 minutes to evaluate their patient. This was a challenging task as each student had only 5 minutes to perform necessary testing and gather the desired medical his-

tory. Each team evaluated three patients and later came together to discuss what they found and how to best formulate a holistic plan of care for that patient. Finally, the dietetics students

demonstrated preparation of a healthy meal for the students to enjoy.

The event was considered a complete success. Not only did each student learn about different professions, but they were also able to analyze their individual ability to function in a medical team. Most importantly, the patients were able to give the students feedback on their bedside manner and overall effectiveness.

Events such as this one are helping EMU's College of Health and Human Services stand out as the IPE initiative brings healthcare students together throughout the year. For more information, please visit [emich.edu/chhs/IPE](http://emich.edu/chhs/IPE).



## FACULTY PRESENT AT NAKHE

This month Frank Fedel, Jacob Lindquist, and Jim Sweet presented at the National Association for Kinesiology in Higher Education. The presentation focused on the use of new technology in the classroom, specifically the use of 3D printers.

more effectively educate our students in clinical assessment. Both professions have a focus on identifying and correcting biomechanical issues in patients to improve the quality of life for our patients.

The faculty have been experimenting with the use of 3D printers to fabricate models of human anatomy at a fraction of the cost of existing skeletal models on the market. These models can also be scaled up in size for easier viewing or scaled smaller in size for easier storage (lockers, backpacks).

The 3D printers are also being used by many students to complete their capstone projects by prototyping proof of concept prosthetic componentry.



For several years there has been a partnership between the faculty of Athletic Training and Orthotics and Prosthetics in an effort to

## HARVEST ELEMENTARY VISITS EMU

On Friday, January 15, the EMU O&P program was visited by 29 exuberant second-grade students from Harvest Elementary School. This educational field trip provided these young scholars with an opportunity to be exposed to the unique field of Orthotics and Prosthetics, not to mention the luxury of jumping 14 years ahead to graduate school.

Split up into three groups, the kids were tasked with three different activities, simulating a few of the many hands-on skills that our own O&P students learn as they strive to become professionals in the field. The activities included

creating finger molds using alginate and hydrocol, assembling a lower limb prosthesis, and observing 3D scanning and printing; the latter was by far the highlight of the day.

These future orthotist-prosthetists enjoyed themselves as each left with a lifelike finger mold, and a 3D-printed sculpture of each of their teachers' heads. One student summed up the day enthusiastically on their bus ride home: "That was the best field trip in the whole world!"



## STUDENT PROFILES: CLASS OF 2017

### **Bryan Sculthorpe**

*Educational Background:* Bachelor of Integrative Studies with a minor in Exercise Science from Oakland University

*Why did you choose O&P?*

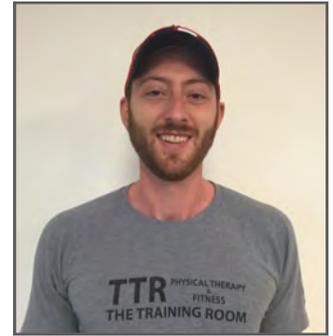
I originally planned on going to physical therapy school but had an interest in building mechanical devices and working with my hands.

*What are your interests in the field of O&P?*

Right now I'm really interested in spinal orthotics and gait analysis. I'm also working on silicone molding a finger prosthesis as well as 3D printing molds for use in upper extremity orthotics.

*Tell us about your first semester:*

First semester was an eye opening experience for me. Coming into the program my only clinical experience was in physical therapy so I've had a lot of general patient care experience but had very limited time in the field itself. I really enjoyed working with the plaster models, learning about 3D printing and just figuring out how my previous experience was going to fit into my role as a clinician. Pretty much everything was new for me. It's been a lot of fun learning about all the processes in O&P.



## STUDENT PROFILES: CLASS OF 2016

### **Katherine Thorpe**

*Educational Background:* B.S. in Zoology from Michigan State University

*What is your background?*

I worked for 7 years as a veterinary technician and clinic manager before coming to EMU. I entered the field because I love working with other amputees and enjoy the challenge of problem solving in O&P.

*What is the biggest difference between first year and second year?*

Personally, I am much more confident this year! I feel really prepared for patient models and case studies. We are also doing a lot more hands-on work this year.

*What are you looking forward to about residency?*

I am excited to put my education into action and start treating patients. Residency is also a great opportunity to learn different techniques and cases that we might not get to see in school.

*Are you working on any projects/research this semester?*

My capstone project is developing a lower limb amputee fitness app so amputees can have a better idea of the calories they are burning during exercise. I will be presenting it as a poster at the Academy meeting in March. I am also assisting our professor Sunny Jang with her research on scoliosis.



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## HIGHLIGHTS: JANUARY

- Second year students welcomed representatives from Wright & Filippis for residency interviews. We would like to thank Dale Ferguson and Jennifer Bick for making the trip to EMU to meet with our students!
- Two EMU students gave a presentation for the ATD Journal Club this month. Ibrahim Ellithy and Katherine Thorpe selected an article examining efficacy of the SmartTemp liner from Ohio WillowWood. In addition to the presentation, we were honored to have the author, Matthew Wernke, join the call for a question and answer session. Faculty, students, and clinicians were able to discuss the article in depth and get Mr. Wernke's insight. The journal club meets via conference call on the last Friday of each month. To read the article, visit [http://journals.lww.com/jpojournal/Fulltext/2015/10000/Smart\\_Temp\\_Prosthetic\\_Liner\\_Significantly\\_Reduces.6.aspx](http://journals.lww.com/jpojournal/Fulltext/2015/10000/Smart_Temp_Prosthetic_Liner_Significantly_Reduces.6.aspx)
- EMU's MSOP program is proud to announce that two second year students, Jon Peurach and Yoni Diamond, have each been awarded the OPERF/ABC Student Award for Academic Achievement. This award program is part of the commitment of the foundation and the accrediting body to promote O&P education.

The Orthotic and Prosthetic Education and Research Foundation was established to raise the standards of education and research in the O&P profession. The American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthotics strives to establish and advocate for the highest patient care and organizational standards in the provision of safe and effective orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic services.

Out of ten awards given this year, Eastern Michigan University students have won 2! Congratulations, Jon and Yoni!