

STUDENT PROFILES: CLASS OF 2017

Geoff Smith

Educational Background: 9 years ago at BSU, Painting and Printmaking BFA

Why did you choose to attend EMU?

I chose EMU because they were the nicest and most prompt in their responses to any questions I had as an prospective student.

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

I am interested in a great deal of facets of O&P and right now my plan is to soak up anything and everything I can and worry about direction the field takes me later.

Tell us about your first impressions of the semester:

I will say the new facility is very nice. The structure of some of the classes is a conversational/conceptual approach which is nice for stimulating thought processes and tying information into your brain a bit better than the traditional means of education. I have found that everyone here is very helpful and will provide you with guidance when sought. My final thing is, I feel like my intrinsic capabilities have a home within the O&P field and it excites me to know that those skills will be honed at EMU to one day be a successful O&P practitioner.



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Danielle Brown

Educational Background: Western Michigan University, bachelor's in Exercise Science.

How were summer clinicals?

Summer clinicals were very informational and a great way to get immersed, some of us for the first time, in our field. The biggest bit of information I took away from clinicals would be how the practitioners interacted with the patients. It was a worthwhile experience for sure.

What do you think of the new facilities in Rackham hall?

The new facilities are a huge upgrade! Not only do we have so much more space, we also have updated equipment. It is a huge blessing to be able to work in such an environment. Our teachers now have their offices in this building too, making them all much more accessible for questions.

Are you working on any projects/research this semester?

Yes, my partner and I are currently working on my capstone project titled *A quantitative and qualitative comparison of CAD/CAM and Plaster-casted TLSOs: A case study*. I just completed an abstract and hope to present this study at the national Academy meeting in Orlando, FL in March.



HIGHLIGHTS: SUMMER AND SEPTEMBER

• The Organization of Orthotic and Prosthetic Students (OOPS) hosted its second annual charity golf outing this August in Ypsilanti. The event was organized by Jon Peurach, the SRC representative for EMU. The fundraiser was supported by matching funds from ABC. The event raised over \$1000 to benefit OPERF!

• The ATD journal club met to explore an article about early adolescent idiopathic scoliosis. Students had the opportunity to discuss the article with the authors as well as listen to insights from practitioners.

The article is available at: www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4141910/

• In acknowledgement for the recent growth and improvements to the MSOP program, the university has recognized us by granting an additional tenured faculty position. The search committee has recently been formed to begin the hiring process.

We are looking forward to welcoming a new faculty member in the fall of 2016!

• O & P News recently unveiled a list of 175 O&P professionals they have identified as leading innovators in the field. We are proud to announce that program director Wendy Beattie was included in this elite group. "I am humbled and honored to have my commitment to the profession acknowledged in this fashion" said Beattie.