



EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

ORTHOTICS & PROSTHETICS

October 2017

Welcome Class of 2019

The start of the fall semester welcomes the MSOP Class of 2019. This lively bunch is comprised of 22 students, representing 9 different states with a diverse set of backgrounds.



McKayla Hanson Memorial Scholarship

At the age of 7, McKayla was placed in a foster care home and was diagnosed with a rare cancer, given only months to live. Adopted by Steve and Elisa Hanson, she thrived, despite the adversities she faced. She underwent multiple surgeries, culminating in the removal of her right leg, including her pelvis, which saved her life. McKayla rejected the notion that she was disabled, and became a member of her high school swimming and diving teams, a high jumper, champion rock climber, national champion hand cyclist, national champion triathlete, peer mentor, and a contender for the paralympic Triathlon team. Recently, she received her Master's of Science in Prosthetics and Orthotics from Eastern Michigan University. She was just beginning her career helping other amputees to regain their independence and spirit before she tragically succumbed to cancer. This scholarship is in recognition of her and her impact on others.

EMU Welcomes New Faculty Member

The start of the new year also saw the introduction of a new faculty member, Becca Spragg. Becca previously worked at Wright & Filippis practicing pediatric orthotics and prosthetics, specializing in plagiocephaly, scoliosis, and congenital limb deficiency. Becca started teaching for the MSOP program last winter, as a part time lecturer. She joins the team this year teaching both Upper Extremity Orthotics and Pathologies. Welcome Becca!



STUDENT PROFILES: CLASS OF 2018

Michelle Read



Educational Background: Biomedical Engineering @ Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

Topic of Capstone Research: Quick Coder Phone Application for Transtibial prosthetics

What got you interested in this topic?: I was interested in it because while we were learning coding procedures in class we realized that L-coding could be simplified with an algorithm following the LCD.

Overview of Capstone Research: Developing a phone application following LCD guidelines and input from the user to determine what L-codes are appropriate for a given transtibial prosthesis.

What did you enjoy most about your summer clinical experience?: I enjoyed experiencing 2 very different facilities and the way that they were run. I also enjoyed being able to use the information that we learned in school in an actual clinical setting and solidifying my enjoyment of the field.

STUDENT PROFILES: CLASS OF 2019

Deborah Gay



Hometown: Columbia, SC

Educational Background: Biology @ University of South Carolina

Why O&P?: I started as a temp at an O&P office after being furloughed from my previous job. I had great mentors there and was able to see behind the scenes, as well as the patient interactions. I fell in love with the work and knew that I wanted to be in the room with the patients.

Area of Interest: I started an amputee support group at my office in South Carolina, so I'm really interested in prosthetics, but am open to other areas. I am passionate about helping patients set a personal goal and watching them grow to achieve it.

Upcoming News & Events

October 7 & November 4 (10:30 am - 12 pm): Informational Sessions

October 21: 1st Annual Homecoming and Alumni Reunion

8am-9am Registration, Coffee, Tours

9am-12pm Orthotic (Triple Action Ankle) & Prosthetic (Freedom Plie Knee) Continuing Education Seminars

12pm-2pm Tailgate at Rynearson Stadium

2pm EMU vs. WMU Football (Tickets available @ <http://emueagles.com/sports/2017/1/25/2017-emu-football-tickets.aspx>)

November 3: College of Health and Human Services Interprofessional Education Simulation Event

November 3 7pm : Detroit Pistons game benefitting EMU Special Olympics Club at Little Caesars Arena

Tickets available @ <http://www.fevo.com/edp/Special-Olympics-Night:-Detroit-Pistons-vs-Milwaukee-Bucks-nyhoRKs3>