

DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER



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UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 6

EMU Winter Semester begins

MARCH 15

OPAF First Swim, Kayak, and Scuba

**Happy Holidays from Eastern Michigan University
Orthotics and Prosthetics!**



ROBOT PROJECTS AND MINI LEGS

Our first-year biomechanics class presented their finished robots this past week. The requirements were to make a robot stand up and sit down using a drill.



The first-year students have also been making mini prosthetic legs in their Materials class to understand the processes involved in fabrication. Check out some of the cool designs they have created! Here is what Kate said about her BoSox Leg: “I chose to use this design for my mini leg because I saw a t-shirt used during the lamination process while I was shadowing. I used my favorite t-shirt for this project. I am planning for this mini leg to sit in my office somewhere, someday. This project was a bit of trial and error, but I am really happy about how the final product turned out! Boston is my favorite city as I am from New Hampshire and I hope to run the Boston Marathon someday through an O&P organization. This leg is a good reminder of this goal and reminded me of a piece of home.”



ENROLLING ADMISSIONS

The faculty have been hard at work evaluating applications and processing admissions for the coming school year. So far, we have had 4 people confirm their acceptance to the class of 2022. Congratulations!

COAPT GUEST LECTURE

On Friday December 14th, Coapt Control came in to teach the second-year students about pattern recognition. Thank you, Erica and Jodi, for a great presentation and hands on training. And thanks to Sandy for being our patient model!



CAPSTONE SPOTLIGHTS

JESSICA HOVESTOL AND ALI DANIELS

What is your capstone project?: The project consists of a survey to determine where there is consensus on the definition of and treatment for idiopathic toe walking.

What progress have you made so far?: We have reviewed the literature, wrote the survey, piloted the survey, found possible participants (20/200 respondents agreed to take survey), sent out round one, and organized results.

Why did you choose this? During our clinical rotations, we saw different treatments for the same pathology, depending on the clinician and we wanted to know if there was consensus for treatments in the literature. We looked up different pathologies that we will see in practice and wanted to find a diagnosis that was small enough that we could do a good job but relevant enough to make a clinical impact.



MELISSA SIROIS

What is your capstone project?: My project is creating a part task trainer to assess palpation skills of the lower limb. There are pressure sensors attached to 5 bony landmarks in the leg and an LED light that turns on when the landmarks are palpated.

What progress have you made so far?: So far I have fabricated the leg, completed the coding for the sensors, and assessed about half of the first year students' palpation skills.

Why did you choose this? I came up with the idea for this after struggling to find landmarks through a gel liner during transtibial patient evaluations. I looked into palpation accuracy in different healthcare fields and found that there was a need for improved training.

