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Occupational Science &  
Technology Research Lectureship  
Friday, December 14, 2018 • 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Union West Ballroom

Proceedings:

[https://uwm.edu/healthsciences/event/  
occupational-science-technology-research-  
lectureship/](https://uwm.edu/healthsciences/event/occupational-science-technology-research-lectureship/)

Schedule of Events	
8:00-9:00am	<b>Breakfast with Dr. James Patton</b> (Postdoctoral fellows, PhD students, and PTE officers)
9:00-10:15am	<b>Poster Presentations</b>
10:15-10:25am	<b>Introduction</b> Dr. Brooke Slavens
10:25-10:30am	<b>Welcome Remarks</b> Interim Dean Raymond Fleming
10:30am-Noon	<b>Podium Presentations</b> Introduced by Dr. Brooke Slavens
Noon-1:00pm	<b>Keynote by Dr. James Patton</b> Introduced by Dr. Roger Smith
1:00pm	<b>Concluding Remarks</b> Dr. Brooke Slavens
1:05-2:00pm	<b>Lunch</b>



Keynote Speaker

**James L. Patton, PhD**

Professor of Bioengineering at the University of  
Illinois at Chicago  
Senior Research Scientist at Shirley Ryan  
Ability Lab

Research focus on computational modeling of  
biomechanics, the neural control of actions, motor  
learning, and neurorehabilitation



## Occupational Science & Technology Research Lectureship Proceedings

### Podium Presentations

1.	Matthew M. Hanks, PhD, ATC. ....	4
	Comparison of Glenohumeral Kinematics During the Overhead Lacrosse Throw in Able-Bodied and Wheelchair Lacrosse Player	
2.	Ruoliang Tang, PhD.....	6
	Morphology of Human Lower Lumbar Spine: Pilot Results Learned from the Three-Dimensional MRI Scans	
3.	Omid Jahanian, MS.....	7
	Biomechanical Analysis of the Shoulder During Geared Manual Wheelchair Propulsion in Veterans with Spinal Cord Injury	
4.	Anahita A. Qashqai, BS.....	9
	Methods for Characterization of Gait Kinematics in Children with Hypermobility Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome	
5.	Sabrin Rizk, MS, OTR/L.....	11
	Effects of Medical Home Access on Receipt of Educational Services in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder	
6.	Maysam M. Ardehali, BS.....	13
	A Review of Electroencephalogram Brain-Computer Interface (EEG-BCI) Systems and Applications in Occupational Therapy and Neurorehabilitation	
7.	Qussai M. Obiedat, MSOT.....	18
	A Closed Loop Neural Activity Triggered Stroke Rehabilitation Using an EEG-Based Brain-Computer Interface	

### Poster Presentations

8.	SURF Project: Measuring the Effect of Multifocal Lens Spectacles on VOR.....	20
9.	The HESTIA Home Evaluation App: Usability Analysis.....	21
10.	AccessRatings for Buildings (AR-B): Development and Next Gen.....	23
11.	The Impact of Universal Design on Research Quality.....	25
12.	The xFACT Taxonomy Editor: Designing Usable Complex Data Collection Protocols.....	27
13.	Research and Development Needs And The Role Of Rehabilitation Engineering in Combining Therapy And Social Robot Applications.....	29
14.	Next Generation of Assistive Social Robotics: Therapeutic Applications.....	31
15.	Increasing Community Participation for People With Disabilities: Enhancing AccessTools.....	33
16.	The Development of an iPad Application for the Assessment of Pain in Individuals with Developmental Disabilities and Complex Communication Needs.....	36
17.	A Systematic Comparison of Two Mindfulness-Based Interventions for Individuals with Upper Limb Musculoskeletal Disorders.....	38
18.	Accuracy of 3D Analysis of Mimicked Postures Compared to Ground Truth Postures to Estimate Shoulder Positioning During Task Performance.....	40
19.	Evaluating Shoulder Postures During Tasks: Comparing Video and Motion Capture Analysis....	41

20. Glenohumeral Joint Kinematics and Functional Outcome Scores for ADL Task Following Supraspinatus Rotator Cuff Repair.....	43
21. Occupational Therapists Perspectives on the Potential Use of Performance Profiling in Occupational Therapy Practice.....	44
22. Healthy Transitions from the NICU to Home: A Pilot Study of the SMILE Curriculum.....	45
23. Using Photovoice to Understand the Meaning of Social Participation as it Impacts Transitions for Student Veterans.....	46
24. Using Participatory Action Research to Uncover the Impact Photovoice has on Informing, Creating Opportunities, and Connecting Students by Exposing Focus Groups to Photovoice Pieces Depicting the Transition from Military to Civilian Student Life.....	49

# Occupational Therapists Perspectives on the Potential Use of Performance Profiling in Occupational Therapy Practice

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## Introduction

Client centred practice is seen to be vital to the occupational therapy profession. However, there are ongoing challenges to promote our professional values and meet the expectations of services and organisations. There is still a significant shift needed from therapist led sessions to truly collaborative therapy (Sumsion 2006). As a result, the research introduced an alternative method in the form of Performance Profiling to occupational therapy. Performance Profiling is a natural application of Kelly's (1955) Personal Construct theory that is utilised within sporting psychology (Butler and Hardy 1992). The method offers a systematic approach to enhance the understanding of how athletes rate their physical, psychological and technical skill development to enable optimum performance. This supports collaboration to build ideal intervention based on the athlete's perception of need (Doyle & Parfitt 1997).

## Methods/Design

The research utilised a social constructionist qualitative method which included a workshop introduction, interview or focus group. The participants were asked two questions 1. To share their thoughts about Performance Profiling and 2. Whether they thought it could support Occupational Therapy Practice. Nine expert occupational therapist from three counties participated. The data was thematically analysed.

## Results and Discussion

Four major themes were found, theoretical perspectives, practice settings, promoting communication and education. There was an agreement that Performance Profiling had potential use of supporting occupational therapy practice by promoting effective communication with clients. However, further research is required to understand its contribution to the client therapist relationship. This research is a first of a grounded theory doctoral research to provide insight into the valuable communication within the therapy process.

## Acknowledgements

We the authors would like to thank all the participants for giving their time and dedication to the research process. Our gratitude is extended to the University of Wisconsin -Milwaukee Occupational Science and Technology team for their continued support to ensure the next phase of the research maintains an international perspective. Special thanks to Dr. Ginny Stoffel and Dr. Jay Kapellusch for your mentorship.

## Prior submissions:

This research has been presented at; The Royal College of Occupational Therapists- UK (2015) with developments presented at the; American Association of Occupational Therapists (2018).

## References

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