

Curriculum Vitae 2023-2024

Caren M. Schranz DrOT, MS, OTR/L
cschranz@govst.edu

Governors State University, University Park, IL
Collage of Health and Human Services
Department of Occupational Therapy

Education

- January 2009 – June 2011** **GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY, University Park, IL**
Doctor of Occupational Therapy, post professional
Research Capstone Project: Participation in Play in Children with Sensory Processing Dysfunction: Enabled by Caregiver Self-Initiated Solution Finding Skills
- June 1988- August 1990** **RUSH UNIVERISITY, Chicago, IL**
Master of Science Degree, Occupational Therapy
Thesis: Burnout among Occupational Therapists
- June 1977-June 1981** **ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY, Normal, IL**
Bachelor of Science Degree, Park and Recreation Administration

Academic Experience

- May 2019 – Present** **GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY, University Park, IL**
Chair & Program Director and Associate Professor - Department of Occupational Therapy
- Appointed Chair in May 2019
 - Wrote, compiled, and submitted the application for accreditation renewal in May 2019 and was given a 10-year award. Dr. Cynthia Carr, Interim Chair at the time, was co-facilitator.
 - Completed all subsequent accreditation documents for the MOT Program.
 - Led a curriculum review and developed a revised curriculum for the MOT Program.
 - Supervised the implementation and maintenance of department policies, including recruiting new students and the selection of students for admission to the department.
 - Implemented and supervised the approved budget.
 - Prepared the teaching schedule and faculty workload assignments for the department.
 - Supported faculty development through encouraging active participation in professional organizations, attendance at conferences, grant writing, service learning, research, and publications.

- Supervised and evaluated the work of department faculty and staff. Reviewed faculty portfolios and made recommendations to the Dean for retention, tenure, and promotion.
- Worked with library staff to enhance the library holdings relative to the occupational therapy program and promoted the use of the library by faculty and students in the department.
- In process of revising the Doctor of Occupational Therapy (post-professional degree) curriculum and remove it from the university hold (placed on hold during the State of Illinois higher learning budget decrease)
- Taught, Guest Lectured, Presented special topic to courses in the MOT Program

August 2012 – May 2019 GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY, University Park, IL

Assistant Professor – Master of Occupational Therapy MOT Program and Doctor of Occupational Therapy (DrOT) Program
 Academic Fieldwork Coordinator- MOT Program
 DrOT Capstone Research Faculty Member

August 2011- July 2012 GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY, University Park, IL

University Lecturer- Master of Occupational Therapy courses and Doctor of Occupational Therapy Courses
 Academic Fieldwork Coordinator – MOT Program
 DrOT Capstone Research Faculty Member
 Ukraine teaching in service learning project

August 1996- 2009 GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY, University Park, IL

Adjunct Faculty; Co-Fieldwork Coordinator
 Program Development– Assisted in the development, design, and implementation of the new Master of Occupational Therapy graduate curriculum program; contributed to development of the new student admission and interview packet; and served on the admissions committee. Assisted in course development and teaching of curriculum courses.
 Accreditation Participant- Participated in preparation for the on-site accreditation visit and met with the on-site accreditation team

University Publications & Grants

Publications

Sood, D., LoCure, G., **Schranz, C.** & Morrison, C. (2018). Supporting Participation for Children with Sensory Processing Differences in an Early Childhood Center. *American Occupational Therapy Association, OT Practice Magazine, July 9, 2018 issue.*

Schranz, C., & Sane, A. (2017). Community Inclusion for Infants and Young Children. *American Occupational Therapy Association, SIS Quarterly Practice Connections, 2 (1).*

Schranz, C., Ferritis, J, Chukwu, T. (2016) Creating an Educational Experience to Support a Community of Caregivers of Children with SPD. *Illinois Occupational Therapy Association – The Communique’, July/August/September Issue 3.*

Sood, D., **Schranz, C.** & Szymanski, M. (2015). Enriched Home Environment Program for Pre-school Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Taylor & Francis Production: *Journal of Occupational Therapy, Schools, & Early Intervention, 8, (1).*

Sood, D., Lavessor, P., & **Schranz, C.** (2014). Influence of Contextual Factors on Participation in Home Activities of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. *The Open Journal of Occupational Therapy, 2, (3).*

Grants

7/2020-6/2025

- US Department of Human Services – Health Resources Service Administration (HRSA) - Scholarship for Disadvantaged Students (awarded May 2020) Funded \$2,666,000 .00
Principal Investigator

7/2021-6/2025

- US Department of Human Services – Health Resources Service Administration (HRSA) – Behavior Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET) (awarded July 2021) Funded \$1,768,338.00
Key Personnel

8/2014-12/2014

- Governors State University - Civic Engagement Steering Committee
Project Title: OT Intervention Service Learning Project (awarded August 2014) Funded 250.00
Principal Investigator

University Service

Feb 2023 – Aug 2023 Department of Occupational Therapy Search Committee – Chair

Nov 2022 – present University Librarian-CHHS Librarian Search Committee – Chair

Nov 2022 – present Interprofessional Education Committee – Chair

Aug 2022 OSPR – Office of Sponsored Programs & Research Grant Writer Search Committee,

June 21 – March 22 CHHS Strategic Planning Committee

Nov 2020 COTAD Chapter – Coalition of Occupational Therapists for Advocacy and Diversity, Initiated and developed

Oct 2020 – 2022 GASP - Graduate Student Admission Planning Committee to the GSU Strategic Enrollment Plan

Graduate Student Admission Planning Responsibilities: Enrollment funnel; Enrollment trends; Retention; Promotion and outreach; Influencer engagement

- Oct 2019 – March 2020** **Substance Use Disorders Symposium: Integrating Multidisciplinary Strategies Planning Committee**
- May 2020** **Department of Occupational Therapy Search Committee - Chair**
May 2019
- May 2019 – present** **APC – Academic Program Council**
- April – May 2019** **CHHS Dean Search Committee**
- Sept 19 – March 20** **GSU-CHHS 50th Anniversary Conference Planning Committee: Fostering Educational & Vocational Success for Young Adults with Disabilities**
- Sept 18 – May 19** **CHHS – College Curriculum Committee**
- Aug – Oct 2018** **Physical Therapy Search Committee**
- Aug 2015 – 2019** **Graduate Council, Governors State University**
Two-year term AY 15-17 - Re-appointed AY 17-19
- Oct 2014 - Present** **Communication Disorders Advisory Board**
- Oct 2013 - Dec 2013** **Physical Therapy Search Committee**
- Sept 2013 - 2016** **Interprofessional Education Committee**
- Aug 2013 - Dec 2013** **Occupational Therapy Search Committee**
- Aug 2013 - 2019** **Internship Advisory Council Committee**
- Aug 2012 – Present** **Health Advisory Board, Family Development Center at Governors State University**
- 2010-2012** **Ukraine Service-Learning Project, Governors State University**
- A service- learning project in Ukraine. Mentored MOT students for educational purposes
- 1996** **Graduate and Professional School Expo Career Services Center of the Urbana-Champaign, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL**
- Exhibitor: Governors State University, College of Human Services- Occupational Therapy Program

Professional Service

Illinois Occupational Therapy Association

- Nov 2022** **Illinois Occupational Therapy Association (ILOTA)**
- JEDI SIS Panelist
- Jan 2020 – Oct 2020** **Illinois Occupational Therapy Association (ILOTA)**
- Conference Committee member
 - Proposal Reviewer
- Oct 2013 – Present** **Illinois Occupational Therapy Association (ILOTA)**
- Board member and Chair of the Sensory Integration & Processing Special Interest Section
- Jan 2012 – 2019** **Illinois Occupational Therapy Academic Fieldwork Coordinator Consortium, UIC, Chicago, IL**

American Occupational Therapy Association

- Feb 2018 – Present** **American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) Community on Practice (CoP)**
- Participator and Contributor
- 1997** **Review of Self-Assessment Tool for Fieldwork Educator Competency,**
American Occupational Therapy Association, Baltimore, MD
- 1997** **Review of the Guidelines to the Occupational Therapy Code of Ethics,**
American Occupational Therapy Association, Baltimore, MD

Other

- Jan 2021 - present** **Fox College Advisory Board, Tinley Park, IL**
- Dec 2013 - 2014** **The National Board of Certification in Occupation Therapy Inc.**
- Item writer

Scholarship & Creative Activities

Presentations

International

August 2023

ICUDDR 2023 Global Conference, Chiang Mai, Thailand

- Poster Presentation: Making A Difference: Incorporating SBIRT Training in Mental and Allied Health Education. **Schranz, C.**, Burley, N., Dermer, S., Mejta, C.

May 2012

IMFAR (International Meeting for Autism Research), Toronto, Ontario Canada

- Poster Presentation: Effectiveness of the Collaboration Coaching Model when Working with Families of Children with Sensory Processing Dysfunction. **Schranz, C.**, Sood, D.

March 2012

YAI Network's 33rd Annual International Conference, New York, New York

- Short Course Presenter: Participation in Play in Children with Sensory Processing Dysfunction: Enabled by Caregiver Self-Initiated Solution Finding Skills. **Schranz, C.**, Sood, D.

2010

IMFAR (International Meeting for Autism Research), Philadelphia, PA

- Poster Presentation: Practice Models to Facilitate Participation of Children with ASD in Home, School & Community Activities. Sood, D., Zingerevich, C., & **Schranz, C.** (unable to present)

National/State

March 2023

Governors State University Research Days 2023, Governors State University, University Park, IL

- Lu, N., Balthazar, C., **Schranz, C.**, Cheng, K-W. (2022). An Emerging Trend in Doctoral Education in Health Professions in the United States. Presentation - March, 2023.
- Cheng, K-W., Lu, N., **Schranz, C.**, Balthazar, C. (2022). Socioeconomic Disparities in Electronic Cigarette Use Among Adult Smokers in the U.S. 2014-2019. Panel Presentation - March, 2023.

October 2022

Association of Schools Advancing Health Professions, 2022 Annual Conference, Long Beach, CA

- Czuba, F., **Schranz, C.** (2022). Development and Implementation of Substance Abuse Training for Allied Health Professionals: Addressing the Epidemic and Improving the Outcomes. Presentation – October, 2022.
- Lu, N., Balthazar, C., **Schranz, C.**, Cheng, K-W. (2022). An Emerging Trend in Doctoral Education in Health Professions in the United States. Presentation - October, 2022.

- Cheng, K-W., Lu, N., **Schranz, C.**, Balthazar, C. (2022). Socioeconomic Disparities in Electronic Cigarette Use Among Adult Smokers in the U.S. 2014-2019. 2022 Presentation - October, 2022.

March 2020

College of Health & Human Services - 50th Anniversary Conference: Fostering Educational & Vocational Success for Young Adults with Disabilities, Governors State University, University Park, IL

Presentation – Promoting Self-Regulation in the Classroom: Student and Environmental Strategies (March 2020)

April 2019

American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) – 2019 Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA

- Poster Presentation - Supporting Teachers on Self-Regulation in the Classroom. **Schranz, C.** & MOT students: Raven Hill OTS, Melissa Inzinga OTS, Meg Ryan OTS, Carlie Schadler OTS, Stephanie Smith OTS, Alison Wiabel OTS
- Poster Presentation - Universities' Preparations for Student Success on the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy Exam. Simpson, E. & **Schranz, C.**

December 2018

Governors State University – MOT Research Day 2018, University Park, IL

- Poster Presentation - Supporting Teachers on Self-Regulation in the Classroom. **Schranz, C.** & MOT students: Raven Hill OTS, Melissa Inzinga OTS, Meg Ryan OTS, Carlie Schadler OTS, Stephanie Smith OTS, Alison Wiabel OTS

September 2018

Illinois Occupational Therapy Association - 2018 Annual Conference, Lisle/Naperville, IL

- Short Course Presentation – Fieldwork 101: Strategies for New Fieldwork Educators. **Schranz, C.** & ILAFWC members
- Research Platform - Universities' Preparations for Student Success on the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy Exam. Simpson, E. & **Schranz, C.**
- Poster Session - Supporting Teachers on Self-Regulation in the Classroom. Schranz, C. & MOT students: Raven Hill OTS, Melissa Inzinga OTS, Meg Ryan OTS, Carlie Schadler OTS, Stephanie Smith OTS, Alison Wiabel OTS

November 2017

Illinois Occupational Therapy Association - 2017 Annual Conference, Bloomington/Normal, IL

- Short Course Presentation – Fieldwork 101: Strategies for New Fieldwork Educators. **Schranz, C.** & ILAFWC members
- Short Course Presentation - Caregiver Support for Play with their Children with Developmental Delay. **Schranz, C.** & MOT students
- Led SIS Sensory Integration Roundtable, **Schranz, C.** as SIS Chair

December 2017

Governors State University 2017 Master of Occupational Therapy Research Day, University Park, IL

- Caregivers' Ability to Support Children with Developmental Disabilities in Play. MOT students with Schranz, C. research advisor

- April 2017** **Governors State University – Research Day (2017), University Park, IL**
- Caregivers' Ability to Support Children with Developmental Disabilities in Play, **Schranz, C.** & MOT students
- November 2016** **Illinois Occupational Therapy Association – 2016 State Conference, Naperville, IL**
- Short Course Presentation – Caregivers' Ability to Support Children with Developmental Delays in Play. **Schranz, C.**, Kalvelage, P., MOT students
 - Short Course Presentation – Effectiveness of the Occupational Therapy Fieldwork Educator Skill Enhancement Program. Kvasnicka, R. & **Schranz, C.**
- April 2016** **American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) - 2016 National Conference, Chicago, IL**
- Poster Presentation- Innovative Models of Learning for Fieldwork Education. **Schranz, C.**
- April 2016** **Governors State University - Research Day Conference, University Park, IL**
- Poster Presentation - Student's Perceptions of a Level I Psychosocial Fieldwork, **Schranz, C.** & MOT students
- October 2015** **Governors State University - MOT Research Day, University Park, IL**
- Poster Presentation - Student's Perceptions of a Level I Psychosocial Fieldwork, **Schranz, C.** & MOT students
- October 2015** **Illinois Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference, St. Charles, IL**
- Accepted Presentations:
- Workshop: Collaboration With Fieldwork Partners: Thinking Outside the Box, **Schranz, C.** & AFWC (Fieldwork consortium)
 - Pre-Conference Institute (co-coordination): Educating Future OT Practitioners: Models for Fieldwork Supervision, **Schranz, C.** & AFWC
 - Poster Presentation: Students' Perceptions on Psychosocial Level I Fieldwork, **Schranz, C.**, Carr, C., Kalvelage, P., MOT students
- April 2015** **American Occupational Therapy Association (AOAT) - 2015 Annual Conference, Nashville, TN**
- Poster Presentation: Enriched Home Environment Program for Pre-School Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Sood, D., Schranz, C, Szymanski, M.
- April 2015** **Governors State University – Research Salon: Impact of Environments on Children with Disabilities, University Park, IL**
- Presentation: Impact of the Social Environment of Daily Occupations of Children with Disabilities. Sood, D. & Schranz, C.
- October 2014** **Illinois Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference, Naperville, IL**

- Presentation: 12th Annual Ad Hoc Commission on Education- Pre-Conference Institute: Modeling Professional Practice: Practical Strategies for Fieldwork Supervision. Contributing Author
- Poster Presentation: Supports and Barriers to a Level II Homecare Fieldwork Experience. Schranz, C., Robinson, M., Tuuk, A.
- Poster Presentation: Influence of Culture on the Occupational Therapy Process in the Early Intervention System. Sood, D., Schranz, C. & MOT Students
- Presentation: Impact of Home Environment on Participation among Children with ASD as Perceived by Occupational Therapy Practitioners. Sood, D. & Schranz, C.

August 2014

Governors State University - Master of Occupational Therapy Research Day

- Presentation: Providing Family Centered Care when Working with Families & Children from Diverse Cultures- Perceptions of Occupational Therapy Students. Sood, D., Schranz, C. & MOT Students.

April 2014

Midwestern Deans Occupational Therapy Research Conference, Downers Grove, IL

- Paper Presentation: Impact of Enriched Home Environment Program (EHEP) on Participation of Children with Autism
 - Poster Presentation: Parents Ability to Generate Strategies to Support Home and Community Participation in Children with Disabilities
 - Poster Presentation: Perceptions of Occupational Therapy Practitioners Related to Influence of Contextual Factors on Child with ASD's Participation within the Home Environment
- Conference Cancelled

April 2014

American Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference, Baltimore, MA

- Poster Presentation: Parents' Ability to Generate Strategies To Facilitate Home and Community Participation in Children with Disabilities

October 2013

Illinois Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference, Peoria, IL

- Presentation: Co-presenter- 11th Annual Pre-conference Institute- Developing Your Effectiveness as a Fieldwork Educator
- Poster Presentation: Occupational Therapy Students' Perception of Reflective Journaling while on Level I Fieldwork
- Poster Presentation: Teachers Perceptions of Children with Sensory Processing Dysfunction within Classroom Setting
- Poster Presentation: Parents Ability to Generate Strategies to Facilitate Participation in Home & Community Activities in Children with Disabilities

October 2013

NADD 30th Annual Conference & Exhibit Show, Baltimore, MA

- Presentation: Impact of Enriched Home Environment Program (EHEP) on Participation of Children with Autism

August 2013

Governors State University- Master of Occupational Therapy Research Day

- Presentation: Parents Ability to Generate Strategies to Facilitate Participation in Home & Community Activities in Children with Disabilities. Sood, D., Schranz, C. & MOT students.
- Presentation: Teachers Perceptions of Children with Sensory Processing Dysfunction within Classroom Settings. Sood, D., Schranz, C. & MOT students.

May 2013

American Occupational Therapy Association National Conference, San Diego, CA

- Poster Presentation: International Service Learning: Steps Toward Cultural Competence

November 2012

Illinois Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference, Naperville, IL

- Poster Presentation: Tales from the Ukraine: A Service Learning Experience

October 2012

Doctor of Occupational Therapy Research Day: 2nd Annual Practice Scholar Research Symposium. Governors State University, University Park, IL

- Presenter: Collaborative Coaching Model: Creating the Best Person-Environment Fit when Working with Children and Families

July 2012

The MAGIC Foundation 18th Annual Conference, Lombard, IL

- Presenter: Sensory Processing Dysfunction- Explanation and Strategies

November 2012

Illinois Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference, Galena, IL

- Presenter: Participation in Play in Children with Sensory Processing Dysfunction: Enabled by Caregiver Self-Initiated Solution Finding Skills

May 2011

American Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference and Exposition, Philadelphia, PA

- Poster Presentation: Pediatric Occupational Therapy: A Multicultural Experience

November 2011

Doctor of Occupational Therapy Research Day: 1st Annual Practice Scholar Research Symposium, Governors State University, University Park, IL

- Presenter: Participation in Play in Children with Sensory Processing Dysfunction: Enabled by Caregiver Self-Initiated Solution Finding Skills

2011

Lincoln-way School District, Frankfort, IL

- Presenter: Sensory Integration: An Evolving Theory

2010

GSU Student Research Conference, Governors State University, University Park, IL

- Presenter: Family-Centered Child Participation Model for Children with Sensory Processing Dysfunction

2009 – 1994

Earlier Presentations upon request

Scholarly Projects

Primary research advisor for Doctor of Occupational Therapy Capstone Projects completed.

- Simpson, E. (May 2018) Universities' Preparations for Student Success on the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy Exam. **Chair**
- Thomas, K. (August 2017) Mental Illness, Adolescents and the Role of the Occupational Therapist. **Chair**
- Kvasnicka, R. (August 2016) The Effectiveness of the Occupational Therapy Fieldwork Educators Skill Enhancement Program (OT-FESEP). **Chair**
- Hughes, B. (March 2016) Caregiver Experiences and Perceptions of Enrolling a Spouse with Dementia in an Adult Day Center: Process and Effects. **Chair**
- Randle, D. (April 2015) Students' Perceptions of Critical Thinking within a Master of Occupational Therapy Program. **Chair**
- Babayeju, A. (November 2014) Impact of Visual Perceptual Educational Program on Early Childhood Educators': Knowledge Related to Topics on Visual Perception and its Impact on Classroom Participation among Children. **Chair**

Grants

- 2005** STARnet Grant – **Schranz, C.** (awarded 2005) Funded: 1000 dollars
Illinois Regional STARnet Project, Illinois State Board of Education
Project Title: Visual Support Strategies for the Pretending Place Community Event
- 2003** STARnet Grant – **Schranz, C.** (awarded 2003) Funded: 1000 dollars
Illinois Regional STARnet Project, Illinois State Board of Education
Project Title: The Quiet Space

Professional Clinical Experience

- 1995- Present** **Kids Connection Therapy, Inc., Crete, IL**
Kids Connection Therapy, Inc. - Pediatric therapy business owner and provider of therapy services to children birth to twelve years old and their families. Provider of Occupational Therapy services in the State of Illinois Early Intervention system and clinic-based services. Clinical Leader in the field. Employer of Occupational and Development Therapists; Clinician; Mentor; supervisor; billing CBO and insurance companies; payroll.
- 1990- 2007** **OLYMPIA FIELDS CONTRACT THERAPY, Olympia Fields, IL**

Lead therapist contracted to SPEED Special Education Joint Agreement, District 802 (1995-2007). Staff therapist contracted to Northwest Indiana Special Education Cooperative, Indiana (1990-1995). Provided services for children from birth- 21 years of age for evaluation, direct service, consultative service, treatment plans, IEP development and reporting, and collaborative team meetings. Supervised certified occupational therapy assistants and completed yearly work evaluations.

1998- 2002

INDEPENDENT DAYS ADULT CARE CENTER, Homewood, IL

Owner and operator of adult day services. Developed business plan and budget, secured location and financing, hired and supervised staff, marketed business, developed plan and implemented daily programming, developed and lead support group, and completed staffing and payroll duties.

1991- 1996

ST. MARGARET AND MERCY HOSPITAL, Dyer, IN

Home Care Division: assessment and treatment of home health care clients.

Professional Affiliations

Illinois State Registered and Licensed Occupational Therapist, 056-002561

National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, 977149

Illinois Department for Human Services- Part C Early Intervention Credential, CS23050298P

American Occupational Therapy Association, member since 1988

Illinois Occupational Therapy Association, member since 1988

International Meeting for Autism Research (IMFAR), member 2012-2016

Indiana State Registered and Licensed Occupational Therapist, 31000481A, 1990 - 2020

Awards

2019 ILOTA – Illinois Occupational Therapy Association – 2019 Occupational Therapist of the Year

2014 Selected as Guest Speaker for 2014 MOT Pinning Ceremony

2011 Governors State University Outstanding Doctoral Student Award

2005 Governors State University Outstanding Clinical Supervisor Award