

Tamra L. Pelleschi

Certification:

Registered Occupational Therapist, Pa. License

Certified Assistive Technology Professional, RESNA

Education:

College Misericordia, Dallas, Pa.

Bachelors of Science in Occupational Therapy, 1994

Mt. Aloysius Junior College, Cresson, Pa.

Associate of Science in Occupational Therapy, 1985

Work Experience:

University of Pittsburgh School of Health and Rehab Sciences

OTR/L/ Faculty 5-96 - present

Program Manager, Certified Assistive Technology Professional-Center for Assistive and Rehabilitative Technology, (CART), located at the Hiram G. Andrews Center.

Responsible for the management of all clinical activities and services provided through the CART program.

Responsible for the continued development and implementation of assistive technology services and delivery model utilized at the CART.

Services areas include: Seating/Positioning, Mobility/wheelchairs, Ergonomics, Computer Access, Environmental Controls, Home/Work/ & School Modifications, Pre- Driver assessments and Vehicle modifications.

Clinical education coordinator with OT student population with emphasis placed on clinical, leadership, and communication skills.

Responsible for public relation activities for CART

Active in providing educational seminars throughout the state of Pa.

Northstar Therapy Services/ University of Pittsburgh School of Health and Rehab Sciences

OTR/L 3/95-5-96 -

Evaluation Specialist, contract position with Hiram G. Andrews Center for Assistive and Rehabilitative Technology. Assisted in the development and implementation of assistive technology services.

Evaluations completed in the areas of: Seating/Positioning, Mobility/wheelchairs, Computer Access, Augmentative Comm., Environmental controls, and Home/work/& School.

Lee Hospital

11/87 - 3/95

OTR/L 1/94 - 3/95

_evaluated, developed, and implemented treatment plans for Rehabilitation Unit, Acute Care Unit, Outpatient Unit, Work Hardening Unit and Home Health Nursing Agency Clientele.

Evaluations included: Motor Function, Cognitive/Perceptual Motor, Activities of Daily Living, Feed/Swallow, Home, Hand, Pre-drivers, Physical Capacity, Physical Agilities, and Work Tolerance.

Wheelchair Clinic Coordinator 1990 - 1995
-developed and coordinated Wheelchair Clinic
-addressed all seating/positioning needs for Lee Hospital clientele including: measuring of clients, ordering of equipment, documenting medical necessities, and completing follow-up assessments.

COTA/L 11/87 - 8/93
-carried out treatment plans/techniques with clientele in the Rehabilitation Unit, Acute Care Unit, and Outpatient Unit.

CAMCO Rehabilitation Services

OTR/L 2/94 - 7/94
-evaluated and implemented treatment programs for various contract sites which included:

Pediatrics:

-utilized both educational and medical model approaches while instituting oral motor, neurodevelopmental, and sensory integrative techniques.

Vocational Rehabilitation:

-assessed the need for Assistive Technology
-completed evaluations including: Wheelchair seating/positioning, Motor Function, Perceptual Motor, Physical Capacity, and Work Tolerance.

Mobility Assessment Clinic 3/94 - 2/95

-recommended, measured, and documented seating/positioning needs for pediatric clients.

Allegheny Lutheran Home

Director of Rehabilitation Services 6/85 - 11/87

TEACHING APPOINTMENTS:

Instructor- University of Pittsburgh School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences. April 2000 – present

Adjunct Instructor – Saint Francis University Masters of Occupational Therapy program. August 1999- 2010

PRESENTATIONS:

Pa Transition Conference- Lecturer- AT Module- 2010, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016

Pa. Transition Conference- Guest Speaker “Assistive Technologies in the Workplace” 2004, 2011, 2012, 2014

Pa. Transition Conference- Guest Speaker- “Assistive Technology- No Need to Panic”.

Guest Lecturer- “An Overview of Assistive Technology” Saint Francis College Occupational/Physical Therapy student population. 11-98, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010

Guest Lecturer- “An Overview of Assistive Technology” Saint Francis College Physical Therapy student population. 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015

Guest Lecturer- Instruct Access Technologies courses to Occupational Therapy Assistant students from Mount Aloysius Jr. College.

1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007

Guest Speaker- "An Overview of Assistive Technology. The Service Delivery Model." Mount Aloysius Jr. college. Provided a one-day workshop to their O.T. & P.T. curriculum fieldwork educators. August 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001

RESNA National Conference- Guest speaker "Strategies for Providing Model Assistive Technology Services within Vocational Rehabilitation"
June 1997

MS Conference- Guest Speaker "Assistive Technologies for Daily Living"

Guest Speaker- POTA District IV Educational Dinner-Meeting
Lecture on the OT's role in the provision of AT services. Sept. 1997

Guest Lecturer- provided seating and positioning classes to the OT student population at MAJC. Sept. 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001

Guest Speaker- an Overview of AT to the Lock Haven University Special Education Faculty. April 1998

Presenter at Showcase for Commerce. "Telemed/Telerehab Evaluations"
May 1998 & 1999

Presenter at the RSA Second Annual Employment Conference in Washington, DC August 1998

Poster Presentation-in conjunction with CERMUSA at the National Telemedicine Conference Salt Lake City Utah 4-99

Group Presenter (CERMUSA), "A Telemedicine Solution to Providing Rehabilitation"
1999 Pa. Rural Health Conference St. College, Pa. 6-99

RESEARCH: Telemedicine as a Tool for Rural Assistive Technology Service Delivery
ARTSCO- Assistive and Rehabilitative Technologies Solutions Company
Co-investigator, Phase I and Phase II, 1996, 1997, 1998, & 99.

The Provision of Telemedicine in Rural Pennsylvania
CERMUSA- Center of Excellence for Remote and Medically Underserved Areas
Associate Investigator, 1997, 1998, through the present

PUBLICATIONS:

Hiremath, S.V., Cooper, R.A., Pelleschi, T.L., and Cooper, R., Wheeled mobility devices. In P.A. Smith, F. Rauch, and G.F. Harris (Eds.). *Transitional Care in Osteogenesis Imperfecta: Advances in Biology, Technology, and Clinical Practice*. Chicago: Shriners Press; 2015, 301-326.

Cooper R., Brewer B., Cooper R., Hill K., Karg P., Karmarkar A., Lane A., Little R., Pelleschi T., (2014) *Seating, Assistive Technology and Equipment*; Stein J., Harvey R., Macko R., Winstein C., Zorowitz R., Wittenberg G., Editors, *Stroke Recovery and Rehabilitation 2nd Edition*; Demos Publishing Company

BobishT., BoningerM., CohenL., CooperR., CooperR.,KelleherA., PelleschiT., (2014) *Wheelchair Design and Seating Technology*; SelzerM., ClarkeS., CohenL., KwakkelG., MillerR., Editors, *Textbook of Neural Repair and Rehabilitation 2nd Edition, Volume2*, Cambridge University Press

Cooper R., Cooper R., Boninger M., Teodorski E., Thorman T., Pelleschi T., (2010) Wheelchairs and Seating for People with spinal Cord Injuries; Bono C., Cardenas D., Frost F., Hammond M., Lindblom L., Perakash I., Stiens S., Woolsey R., Editors, Spinal Cord Medicine Principles and Practice 2nd Edition; Demos Medical Publishing Company

Cooper R., Brewer B., Cooper R., Hill K., Karg P., Karmarkar A., Lane A., Little R., Pelleschi T., (2009) Seating, Assistive Technology and Equipment; Stein J., Harvey R., Macko R., Winstein C., Zorowitz R., Editors Stroke Recovery and Rehabilitation (pp543-564); Demos Publishing Company

Feature Article and Cover in Rehab Management, August/September 2000. "Reaching a Rural Population Through Telerehab"

"Implementation of a Comprehensive Assistive Technology Service Delivery Program as a Hub of a Regional Network of AT Services."
RESNA 1996

Malagodi M., Schmeler M., Shapcott N., Pelleschi T., - "The Use of Telemedicine in Assistive Technology Service Delivery: Results of a Pilot Study"
American Journal of Occupational Therapy Special Interest Section Vol. 8, No. 1. March 1998

Pelleschi T., Shapcott N., Schmeler M., Malagodi M., Garand S. - "Telerehab-Telemedicine in Rural Areas, Assistive Technology and Service Delivery".
14th International Seating Symposium 1998 B.C. pp 175-8. 1998

Research and Support

Telemedicine as a Tool for Rural Assistive Technology Service Delivery
ARTSCO- Assistive and Rehabilitative Technologies Solutions Company
Co-investigator, Phase I and Phase II, 1996-1999

The Provision of Telemedicine in Rural Pennsylvania
CERMUSA- Center of Excellence for Remote and Medically Underserved Areas
Associate Investigator, 1997-2002

Investigation Outcome Measurement Tools for Seating and Mobility
University of Pittsburgh, SHRS
Co-Investigator, 1997-1998

Investigation of Seating Outcome Measures: Phase 2
University of Pittsburgh, SHRS
Co-Investigator, 2002-2007