



# 5<sup>th</sup> Annual School-Based OT Symposium - VIRTUAL

## VIRTUAL

Participate from anywhere you have a strong internet connection

RECORDING WILL BE AVAILABLE BY SEPT. 19, 2023 FOR REGISTRANTS.

DATE AND TIME  
September 9, 2023  
8:00AM to 4:30PM

Register Online  
<https://www.otaconline.org/education/school-based-ot-symposium>

Register by Fax  
916/294-0415

QUESTIONS?  
Contact OTAC staff:  
Email [staff@otaonline.org](mailto:staff@otaonline.org)  
Call toll-free (888) 686-3225



OTAC is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to be the collective voice representing the occupational therapy profession.

Disclaimer: Read the disclaimer on the last page

**Supporting Students with Sensory Processing Challenges in the Schools**  
Evidence | Meaningful Occupation | Links to Curriculum | Tools to Support Practice

### Saturday, Sept 9, 2023 – 8:00am to 4:30pm (earn 7.5 PDUs)

- 8:00am – 8:15am Welcome and Overview
- 8:15am – 10:15am **Keynote:** What Is Sensory Integration Anyway?
- 10:15am – 10:25am Break
- 10:25am – 11:25pm Structured Observations of Sensory Integration-Motor (SOSI-M) and Comprehensive Observations of Proprioception-Revised (COP-R)
- 11:25pm – 12:30pm Sensory Processing Measure-2 (SPM-2) in a School-Based Setting
- 12:30pm – 1:00pm **Lunch (on own)**
- 1:00pm – 2:00pm Panel Discussion: How Is Sensory Integration Applied in the Education Environment?
- 2:05pm – 4:00pm Movement and Sensory Strategies for Engagement in Learning
- 4:00pm – 4:30pm Wrap-Up and OT Credential Update

REGISTRATION FORM *One form per person. Please type or print clearly. Check appropriate boxes.*

	OT/OTA MEMBERS	OT/OTA NONMEMBERS	STUDENT MEMBERS	STUDENT NONMEMBERS
EARLY BIRD REGISTER BY AUGUST 1	<input type="checkbox"/> \$99	<input type="checkbox"/> \$139	<input type="checkbox"/> \$69	<input type="checkbox"/> \$99
REGULAR REGISTER BY SEPTEMBER 4	<input type="checkbox"/> \$129	<input type="checkbox"/> \$169	<input type="checkbox"/> \$99	<input type="checkbox"/> \$129

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Employer or School \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

PAYMENT OPTIONS: CHECK ONE

Check (make payable to OTAC)       MasterCard       Visa       AMEX

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_ VCode \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

SUBMIT PAYMENT:

Fax to: 916/294-0415, or

REGISTER ONLINE - <https://www.otaconline.org/education/school-based-ot-symposium>

Cancellation/Refund Policy. \$25 is retained to cover cancellation/refund processing costs. Written notice to [staff@otaonline.org](mailto:staff@otaonline.org) must be received in the OTAC office by Sept 4, 2023 to be eligible for refunds. No refunds after this date.

### Schedule, Topic Descriptions, Learning Objectives, and About Our Presenters

Recording will be available by September 19, 2023 for registrants.

**8:00am – 8:15am**

#### Welcome and Overview

*Amanda Cassetta, OTR/L; Beth Dillin, MOT, OTR/L; Jo-Ann Vargas, MA, OTR/L*

**8:15am – 10:15am**

#### Keynote: What Is Sensory Integration Anyway?

*Erna Blanche, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA*

This presentation will focus on the impact of sensory integration theory in daily practice and its evolution over the last 30 years. Special attention will be given to the changes in terminology, the evidence that has accumulated on its application to the evaluation of sensory processing disorders, intervention practices, and research methodologies. Special attention will be given to the use of sensory integration treatment and Ayres Sensory Integration® in school-based practice.

**10:25am – 12:30pm**

#### WHAT SENSORY ASSESSMENT TOOLS ARE AVAILABLE AND VALID?

**10:25am – 11:25am**

#### Structured Observations of Sensory Integration-Motor (SOSI-M) and Comprehensive Observations of Proprioception-Revised (COP-R)

*Dominique Kiefer, OTD, OTR/L (FL)*

This presentation will focus on the strengths of the SOSI-M and COP-R as assessment tools and outcome measures in school-based practice. Participants will learn how the results provided from the SOSI-M and COP-R, when combined with measurements of participation, answer clinical questions regarding a child's sensory processing skills and its impact on school functioning. Case studies will be used to understand and interpret the results and connect them to performance in the school environment.

**11:25am - 12:30am**

#### Using the Sensory Processing Measure, Second Edition (SPM-2) in a School-Based Setting

*Cheryl Ecker, MA, OTR/L, BCP*

The focus of this short course is the use of the *SPM-2* (Parham, Ecker, Kuhaneck, Henry, Glennon, 2021) in a school-based setting. This session will include a summary of the changes that occurred when the instrument was updated. The psychometric properties of the *SPM-2* support evidence-based practice. Case examples will provide an opportunity to familiarize the user with nuances of interpretation.

**12:30pm – 1:00pm**

#### Lunch

**1:00pm – 2:00pm**

#### Panel Discussion: How Is Sensory Integration Applied in the Educational Environment?

*Moderator: Beth Dillin, MOT, OTR/L;*

*Panelists: Emily Dassow, OTR/L; Jo-Ann Vargas, MA, OTR/L; Debra Em Wilson, MA, EdD*

**2:05pm – 4:00pm**

#### Movement and Sensory Strategies for Engagement in Learning

*Amanda Cassetta, OTR/L*

This presentation will focus on applying movement and learning within all classroom levels and how to track the data for effectiveness through video modeling, case studies, and evidence-based practices. Sensory strategies to improve focus and regulation at the same time without taking time away from teaching or academic instruction will be presented.

**4:00pm – 4:30pm**

#### OT School Credential Update and Symposium Wrap-Up

### Learning Objectives

**8:15am – 10:15am**

#### **Keynote: What Is Sensory Integration Anyway?**

At the conclusion of this presentation, the participants will be able to:

- Describe the evolution of sensory integration theory and its impact on practice.
- Summarize the evidence that has accumulated over the last 15 years.
- Apply principles of sensory processing and sensory integration to practice in different contexts.

**10:25am – 12:30pm**

#### **WHAT SENSORY ASSESSMENT TOOLS ARE AVAILABLE AND VALID?**

**10:25am – 11:25am**

#### **Structured Observations of Sensory Integration-Motor (SOSI-M) and Comprehensive Observations of Proprioception-Revised (COP-R)**

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to:

- Describe the SOSI-M and COP-R and its links to sensory-motor functions to functional issues and participation.
- Explain the rationale for using the SOSI-M as part of a school-based assessment and as an outcome measure.
- Identify the strengths of the SOSI-M and COP-R in the evaluation and progress monitoring process.

**11:25am - 12:30am**

#### **Using the Sensory Processing Measure, Second Edition (SPM-2) in a School-Based Setting**

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to:

- Identify the purpose, scope, and psychometric properties of the SPM-2.
- Identify the changes and similarities between the SPM and SPM-2.
- Demonstrate how the SPM-2 can be used in the assessment process in school-based practice.
- Demonstrate nuances to interpretation through case examples.
- Provide examples of how using the SPM-2 in the school-based setting can contribute to treatment planning.

**2:05pm – 4:00pm**

#### **Movement and Sensory Strategies for Engagement in Learning**

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to:

- Embed movement and sensory strategies across educational settings and grade levels.
- Describe the movement and sensory activities to assist with classroom attention.
- Describe how data collection can be used to assist teaching staff effective use of movement while learning.

### About Our Presenters



**Erna Imperatore Blanche, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA**, is a clinical professor of occupational therapy at the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, University of Southern California. She is an internationally known expert in the areas of

evaluation and intervention of sensory processing disorders in children with developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorders. Blanche has authored and co-authored multiple publications on these topics and has lectured extensively around the globe. She is also co-owner and a co-founder of Therapy West, Inc., a clinical facility that serves up to 1,000 children per year in multiple locations in California. In her multiple roles as professor, international lecturer, and clinician, Blanche crosses the borders between clinical practice and academic research.



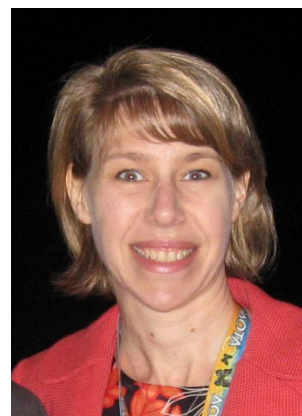
**Amanda Cassetta, OTR/L**, has been an occupational therapy practitioner for 25 years (10 years working in an outpatient neuro and 15 years within school-based therapy). Throughout the last 15 years, she has worked in a variety of educational settings.

Cassetta has several certifications, including (neurodevelopment treatment, sensory integration, and Assistive Technology Assessor certification). She has done self-training within S'cool Moves, Brain Gym®, and Bal-A-Vis-X. All of these have contributed to her approach to movement and learning and a belief that all children want to learn when they are in a 'ready to learn state.'



**Emily Dassow, OTR/L**, is an energetic and passionate pediatric occupational therapy practitioner specializing in sensory integration (SIPT certified). She has worked extensively in a private sensory integration clinic setting, and in schools and homes with a

variety of aged children and abilities since 2004. She enjoys mentoring new practitioners and hosting workshops for her colleagues and other related professionals focused on sharing and teaching fun and practical activities with kids. Dassow thinks the best part of being an occupational therapy practitioner is being able to help kids and their families meet their goals, big or small.



**Cheryl Ecker, MA, OTR/L, BCP**, has been practicing in occupational therapy with specialization in sensory integration and feeding for over 30 years. She has practiced in the school, home, and clinic settings. Ecker is a co-author of the *Sensory Processing Measure, Second Edition (SPM-2)*. She has provided guest lectures and

presentations for numerous university programs, community groups, television/radio programs, and national/international organizations.



**Dominique Kiefer, OTD, OTR/L (FL)**, is a co-owner of Therapy West, Inc. in Los Angeles, CA and an occupational therapy practitioner in Orlando, FL. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science in engineering from Brown University and holds a

master's and doctorate in occupational therapy from the Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, University of Southern California. She is one of the co-authors of the *Structured Observations of Sensory Integration-Motor (SOSI-M)* and *Clinical Observation of Proprioception (COP-R)*. She teaches courses in evaluation and treatment using sensory integration, clinical observations, and school-based practice. She has published numerous articles and book chapters and was one of the original authors/directors of the video "A. Jean Ayres: the pioneer behind sensory integration."



**Debra Em Wilson, MA, EdD**, is the founder of S'cool Moves has a professional doctorate from the University of Southern Queensland Professional Studies Program as well as an MA in education from Fresno State University. Her dissertation uncovered attributes of

successful collaboration between occupational therapy practitioners and general education teachers working together in the classroom environment. Wilson is a reading specialist and has taught at the college, high school, and elementary levels. She consults with districts focusing on collaboration between support staff and teachers. For over twenty years, S'cool Moves workshops have provided evidence-based neurodevelopmental strategies to support all students in the classroom.



**Jo-Ann Vargas, MA, OTR/L**, is the lead occupational therapist for the East Valley SELPA. She holds a Master of Arts in education specializing in best practices. With over 30 years of experience in occupational therapy, Vargas has worked with all age groups and

treated a variety of conditions. The last 13 years of her career have been in school-based practice. She is certified in assistive technology applications and the Therapeutic Listening® program and has completed the USC Sensory Integration Certification Program. Vargas has a special interest in working with children with attentional and behavioral difficulties.

### Symposium Committee

*Amanda Cassetta, OTR/L*

*Beth Dillin, MOT, OTR/L*

*Jo-Ann Vargas, MA, OTR/L*

*Our deep appreciation to Lisa A. Test, OTD, OTR/L,*

*FAOTA, for launching the School-Based OT*

*Symposium for OTAC and her ongoing contributions and mentoring.*

### About This Virtual Symposium

#### This Symposium Will Be Recorded

Participate virtually on September 9, 2023, and then re-watch at your convenience for the life of the recording on OTAC's platform. Recordings are generally available 10 days following the conclusion of the event.

**System Requirements.** OTAC webinars are broadcast through Zoom. A broadband internet connection is required. For minimum system requirements, visit the following page:

Zoom - <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362023-System-Requirements-for-PC-Mac-and-Linux>



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### Professional Development Units (PDUs) | MyOTLicense

PDUs will be entered into your MyOTLicense cloud-based PDU tracking ‘filing cabinet.’ (Must be an OTAC member or MyOTLicense subscriber. This service is available only to OT/OTA licensees.)

**To earn PDUs, registrants must complete the post event survey that is emailed out within one week following the event.**

**About MyOTLicense.** MyOTLicense is a secure, cloud-based, easy-to-use virtual information and management tracking tool to help occupational therapy practitioners manage their professional information: licenses, certificates, memberships, professional development. You can think of MyOTLicense as your professional virtual electronic filing cabinet. **This program is complimentary for OTAC members. Nonmembers can subscribe to the service.**



### Symposium Disclaimer

This Symposium is sponsored by OTAC for the purpose of professional development. The material presented is not intended to represent the only or the best methods appropriate for the occupational therapy and/or medical condition or professional development issues being discussed, but rather is intended to present the opinions of the presenters, which may be helpful to other health care professionals at arriving at their own conclusions and consequent application. Attendees participating in this professional development education program do so with the full knowledge that they waive any claim they may have against OTAC and its representatives for reliance on any information presented during this educational event.

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**Why OTAC Symposia?** To support OTAC Core Value 7 – Professional Development: To provide quality education and resources to advance the knowledge, skills, and continued competence of occupational therapy practitioners.

**About OTAC.** OTAC is a nonprofit, 501c6. This means that end-of-year net revenue is retained for operations and benefit of the members and is not distributed to private owners. It is governed by an elected, noncompensated Board of Directors and hires a professional association management team.

**OTAC Mission Statement.** OTAC is the collective voice that serves, promotes, and supports the profession of occupational therapy.

### UPCOMING VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

