

F[O]CUS

*School of Physical &
Occupational Therapy*

2020/2021



SPOT Alumni
Transforming Society

Celebrating
Accomplishments

MADE
by McGill



Focus on Transformation

Laurie Snider,
OT, erg., PhD
Director & Associate Dean

FEATURES

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Transformation can be defined in different perspectives. It can be defined as a thorough or dramatic change in form or appearance, as in: the landscape has undergone a radical transformation. Or as a metamorphosis during the life cycle of an animal. In physics, it is defined as the induced or spontaneous change of one element into another by a nuclear process.

Transformation has been conceptualized in rehabilitation as a transcendent experience, a rebirth process, and a meaning-making process. Transformative learning involves critical self-reflection as the engine for transforming values, beliefs, knowledge, and feelings and discovering the new meaning of daily life following a catastrophic injury or illness. As stagiers at SPOT, our students experience a double helix of transformation, both through the acquisition of their own clinical learning and skills development and through the changes seen through the eyes of their patients made under their guidance and advocacy for progress to recovery, wellness and integration.

During these many months of the pandemic, the interweaving of knowledge and competencies our students have gained in the classroom (virtual and physical) with the actual frontline of health care delivery, so essential to their growth and professional development as future health professionals, has continued unabated. Over the course of the professional programs, each of these students will be transformed from novice to competent new graduate. This has been made possible by the common will of our clinical supervisors, themselves dealing with the tough realities of health care infringing on their daily lives during the time of COVID-19. At times we worried that we would not succeed. But thanks to our remarkable community we did

not fail. Pivots to the use of telerehabilitation during clinical placements gave windows to doors that the pandemic had slammed firmly shut. Our debt of gratitude to our colleagues is huge and heartfelt. And so, transformation in rehabilitation, while not necessarily nuclear, is a powerful and uplifting force.

This November, the Edith Aston McCrimmon lectureship will be given by Anne Kinsella OT, PhD from the McGill Institute of Health Sciences Education. Dr Kinsella will address themes of transformation in rehabilitation. You'll be able to ZOOM in to join us and to share her reflections. In the meantime, be well. Stay safe.

Research Funding

- **\$153M** for duration of grants - **\$125M** operating grants and **\$28M** equipment grants
- **9** grants on average per research faculty member
- **53%** research faculty hold salary awards including:
 - **13 FRQOS** Research Scholar Awards and
 - **2 CRC** (Canada Research Chairs)

Publications

- **189** peer-reviewed publications
 - Trainees authored or co-authored **124** of those publications
- **24** book chapters, commentaries, editorials and blogs
- **9** editorship contributions to peer reviewed journals

Disseminating Knowledge

- **246** conference presentations and invited talks including:
 - Trainees were involved in **56%**
 - **19** plenary addresses, **7** keynote addresses

COVID-19

- **10** COVID-19 related grants totaling **\$400K**
- **4** publications related to COVID-19

SPOT FOCUS 2020/2021

School of Physical & Occupational Therapy



Editor
 Sarah C. Marshall, PT MSc

Contributors
 Sarah C. Marshall, PT MSc
 Monica Slanik

Design & Layout
 McGill Communications and External Relations

SPOT
 Davis House
 3654 prom Sir-William-Osler
 Montreal, QC Canada
 H3G 1Y5
www.mcgill.ca/SPOT

Comments and inquiries are welcome:
sarah.marshall@mcgill.ca

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McGill University is situated on the traditional territory of the Kanien'kehà:ka, a place which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst nations. We recognize and respect the Kanien'kehà:ka as the traditional custodians of the lands and waters on which we live, work, play and meet today.

Sara Saunders,

OT, PhD
OT Director



A transformative year for the OT program

The past year has been an incredible year of transformation for the Occupational Therapy Program. The pandemic compelled students, staff and faculty to engage in different ways of interacting, working, teaching and learning. Our clinical education team and master's research project supervisors worked hard to adapt to the ever-changing public health directives. Although at times very challenging, these experiences allowed us to envision new possibilities for a future curriculum.

Our responsibility towards equity, diversity, and inclusion was also a driving transformative force. To give the structure and space needed for discussion of these issues, we initiated the REPAIR (Reconfiguring (for) Equity, Praxis, Accountability, Inclusion and Reconciliation) Committee, led by Hiba Zafran. OT faculty members also engaged in sessions on anti-oppressive pedagogies delivered by Saleem Razack from the Social Accountability and Community Engagement office (SACE - Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences) and included the SPOT Scholars' Rounds led by Marie-Lyne Grenier (OT) and Sarah Marshall (PT). These events challenged our biases and built our knowledge and awareness, giving us tools to reflect on our contexts.

As we look ahead to the coming year, we thank our students, faculty, staff and clinical community for their flexibility, creativity and most of all, their teamwork.

Une année transformatrice pour le programme OT

La dernière année a été une année de transformation incroyable pour le programme d'ergothérapie. La pandémie a obligé les étudiants, le personnel et les professeurs à s'engager dans

différentes manières d'interagir, de travailler, d'enseigner et d'apprendre. Notre équipe de formation clinique et nos superviseurs de projets de recherche à la maîtrise ont travaillé fort pour s'adapter aux directives de santé publique en constante évolution. Bien que parfois très difficiles, ces expériences nous ont permis d'envisager de nouvelles possibilités pour un futur programme d'études.

Notre responsabilité envers l'équité, la diversité et l'inclusion a également été une force motrice de transformation. Pour donner la structure et l'espace nécessaires à la discussion de ces questions, nous avons lancé le comité REPAIR (Reconfiguring (for) Equity, Praxis, Accountability, Inclusion and Reconciliation), dirigé par Hiba Zafran. Les membres du corps professoral d'OT ont également participé à des sessions sur les pédagogies anti-oppressives données par Saleem Razack du bureau de la responsabilité sociale et de l'engagement communautaire (SACE - Faculté de médecine et des sciences de la santé) et ont inclus les rondes de bourses SPOT dirigées par Marie-Lyne Grenier (OT) et Sarah Marshall (PT). Ces événements ont remis en question nos préjugés et renforcé nos connaissances et notre prise de conscience, nous donnant des outils pour réfléchir à nos contextes.

Alors que nous envisageons l'année à venir, nous remercions nos étudiants, nos professeurs, notre personnel et notre communauté clinique pour leur flexibilité, leur créativité et, surtout, leur travail d'équipe.

Liliane Asseraf-Pasin,

PT, PhD
PT Director



As we begin a second year during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it is important to reflect on the things that have gone right over the past 17 months: two undergraduate PT cohorts and one group of MSc(A)PT students have graduated on time, with a second group of PT Master's students now entering their final months of the program.

The transition to remote lectures (both synchronous and asynchronous) went as smoothly as could have been hoped, with only a two-week hiatus from classes at the end of the 2019-20 academic year. Hands-on clinical skills labs were able to resume in the summer of 2020 and proceeded safely and without major interruptions during the 2020-21 academic year. Everyone at SPOT - students, staff, TAs, clinical instructors, clinical supervisors, and faculty - should be proud of what we have achieved together.

The upcoming school year, with a return to more on campus teaching and the opportunity for students to benefit more thoroughly from the McGill experience, is certain to have its ups and downs. The safety measures that were so essential to the success of our on campus teaching last year will remain in place and the needs of our students and staff will remain a top

priority. Most of the McGill community has been vaccinated against COVID-19, but this does not mean that we will let our guards down. We will continue to adapt, and we will continue to excel!

Alors que nous entamons une deuxième année pendant la pandémie de COVID-19 en cours, il est important de réfléchir aux choses qui se sont bien passées au cours des 17 derniers mois : deux cohortes de premier cycle en PT et un groupe d'étudiants à la maîtrise qui ont obtenu leur diplôme à temps, avec un deuxième groupe d'étudiants à la maîtrise qui entrent maintenant dans leurs derniers mois du programme.

La transition vers les cours à distance (à la fois synchrones et asynchrones) s'est déroulée aussi bien qu'on aurait pu l'espérer, avec seulement deux semaines d'interruption des cours à la fin de l'année académique 2019-2020. Les laboratoires de compétences cliniques pratiques ont pu reprendre à l'été 2020 et se sont déroulés en toute sécurité et sans interruption majeure au cours de l'année universitaire 2020-21. Tout le monde à SPOT - étudiants, personnel, assistants enseignant, instructeurs cliniques, superviseurs cliniques et professeurs - devrait être fier de ce que nous avons accompli ensemble.

La prochaine année scolaire, avec un retour à plus d'enseignement sur le campus et la possibilité pour les étudiants de profiter davantage de l'expérience de McGill, aura certainement ses hauts et ses bas. Les mesures de sécurité qui étaient si essentielles au succès de notre enseignement sur le campus l'année dernière resteront en place et les besoins de nos étudiants et de notre personnel resteront une priorité absolue. La majorité de la communauté mcgilloise a été vaccinée contre la COVID-19, mais cela ne veut pas dire que nous allons baisser la garde. Nous continuerons à nous adapter, et nous continuerons à exceller!

Isabelle Gélinas, OT, PhD Director, Graduate Program



Although COVID-19 has interfered with many of the academic and research activities in the Graduate Program over the past year, I am impressed by the dedication and resilience of our and graduate students, support staff and faculty.

They have been able to overcome the challenges they have faced and transform these challenges into opportunities to innovate in their research projects and teaching responsibilities. This year, one major accomplishment in the Graduate Program was a significant revision to the research masters and doctoral program curriculum. These changes will ensure that the educational requirements of our students, who need to learn about both quantitative and qualitative methodologies, are better addressed.

Developed for the clinical community, our two online graduate certificate programs (Chronic Pain Management, and Driving Rehabilitation), continue to attract health care professionals from Quebec, Canada and abroad who seek high-quality evidence-based training in these fields of practice. We are also continuing our successful collaboration with the Alan Edwards Centre for Research on Pain to promote successes in pain education and research and with the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec to offer bursaries to students enrolled in the Graduate Certificate in Driving Rehabilitation.

Bien que COVID-19 ait interféré avec de nombreuses activités universitaires et de recherche du programme d'études supérieures au cours de la dernière année, je suis impressionnée par le dévouement et la résilience de nos étudiants diplômés, du personnel de soutien et du corps professoral. Ils ont su surmonter les défis auxquels ils ont été confrontés et transformer ces défis en opportunités d'innover dans leurs projets de recherche et leurs responsabilités d'enseignement. Cette année, l'une des réalisations majeures du programme d'études supérieures a été une révision importante du programme de maîtrise en recherche et du programme de doctorat. Ces changements permettront de mieux répondre aux exigences éducatives de nos étudiants, qui ont besoin d'apprendre à la fois sur les méthodologies quantitatives et qualitatives.

Développés pour la communauté clinique, nos deux programmes de certificat d'études supérieures en ligne (Gestion de la douleur chronique et Réadaptation à la conduite) continuent d'attirer des professionnels de la santé du Québec, du Canada et de l'étranger qui recherchent une formation factuelle de haute qualité dans ces domaines de pratique. Nous poursuivons également notre collaboration fructueuse avec le Centre de recherche Alan Edwards sur la douleur pour promouvoir les réussites en éducation et en recherche sur la douleur et avec la Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec pour offrir des bourses aux étudiants inscrits au Certificat d'études supérieures en réadaptation à la conduite automobile.

Matthew Hunt, PT, PhD Director of Research



The depth and reach of research conducted by SPOT faculty and students continues to grow.

In 2020, SPOT researchers published 189 peer reviewed papers, held \$153 M in grant funding, engaged with a wide range of stakeholders and partners, and made contributions to inform policy and practice. A few illustrative examples of projects initiated in the past year are the creation of a Canadian Concussion Network (I. Gagnon), a study of COVID-19 policy responses for youth with disabilities and their families (K. Shikako-Thomas), development and evaluation of applications for mobility assistive devices (P. Archambault) and co-construction of an innovative homelessness prevention intervention (L. Roy). Along the way, we hosted activities to support researchers at SPOT, including Idea Incubator sessions to test and refine early-stage ideas, and a MasterClass to share experiences of fostering a sense of community in lab and research teams.

I will soon be stepping down from my role as Research Director. It's been an excellent experience. I've enjoyed the opportunity to engage more closely with research being conducted by my SPOT colleagues, and to collaborate with the members of the Research Committee and the Directors' Council. I extend my thanks to Erin Douglas, SPOT Research Coordinator, for her engagement and steady support over the past years, and to Melanie Baniña who held the coordinator role for parts of 2019 and 2020.

Would you like to learn more about SPOT research? You can follow us on twitter [@ResearchInRehab](https://twitter.com/ResearchInRehab) or write to Erin at researchcoordinator.spot@mcgill.ca.

La profondeur et la portée des recherches menées par les professeurs et les étudiants de l'École continuent de croître. En 2020, les chercheurs de l'École ont publié 189 articles évalués par des pairs, ont détenu 153\$ millions de subventions, ont collaboré avec un large éventail d'intervenants et de partenaires et ont contribué à éclairer les politiques et les pratiques. Quelques exemples illustratifs de projets lancés au cours de la dernière année sont la création d'un Réseau canadien sur les commotions cérébrales (I. Gagnon), une étude des réponses politiques COVID-19 pour les jeunes handicapés et leurs familles (K. Shikako-Thomas), le développement et évaluation d'applications d'aides à la mobilité (P. Archambault) et co-construction d'une intervention innovante en prévention de l'itinérance (L. Roy). En cours de route, nous avons organisé des activités pour soutenir les chercheurs de l'École, notamment des sessions d'incubateur d'idées pour tester et affiner des idées à un stade précoce, et une MasterClass pour partager des expériences de promotion d'un sentiment de communauté dans les équipes de laboratoire et de recherche.

Mon mandat de directeur de recherche termine prochainement. Cela a été une excellente expérience. J'ai apprécié l'opportunité de m'engager plus étroitement dans les recherches menées par mes collègues de l'École et de collaborer avec les membres du comité de recherche et du conseil des directeurs. Je remercie Erin Douglas, coordonnatrice de la recherche SPOT, pour son engagement et son soutien constant au cours des dernières années, et à Melanie Baniña qui a occupé le rôle de coordonnatrice pendant une partie de 2019 et 2020.

Vous souhaitez en savoir plus sur la recherche à l'École ? Vous pouvez nous suivre sur Twitter [@ResearchInRehab](https://twitter.com/ResearchInRehab) ou écrire à Erin à researchcoordinator.spot@mcgill.ca.

11th Edith Aston-McCrimmon Lecture 2020 *Luca “Lazylegz” Patuelli*

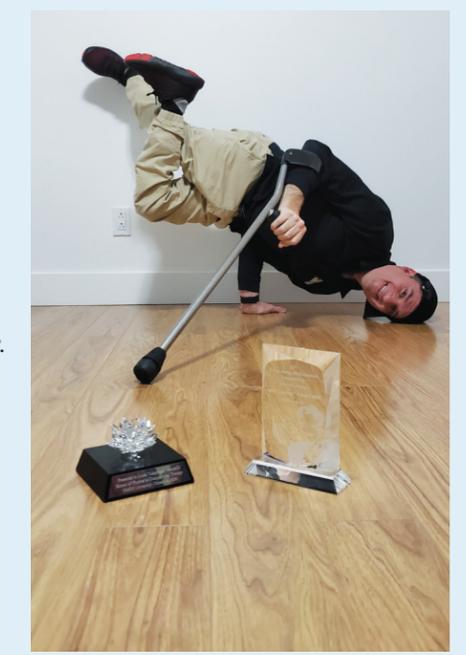


On November 5, 2020, the School was thrilled to invite break-dancer Luca ‘Lazylegz’ Patuelli, to the 2020 edition of the Edith Aston-McCrimmon Lecture.

The theme was “Mentorship” as it relates to rehabilitation science and practice, and this Canadian dancer, choreographer and motivational entertainer has been recognized for his leadership in mentoring for decades.

For nearly 20 years, Luca “Lazylegz” Patuelli has performed in over 35 countries, for a total audience of over a million spectators, including those at the Opening Ceremonies for the 2010 Paralympic Games in Vancouver, BC. He has appeared on *Ellen*, *So you Think You Can Dance*, and *Tout le monde en parle*. He is a founding member of the international ILL-ABILITIES dance crew, an all-star team of some of the world’s best differently-abled dancers.

Patuelli, born with Arthrogryposis, a neuromuscular disorder affecting the bones and joints of the body, led the enthusiastic participants of this Edith Aston-McCrimmon Lecture in an exploration of the meaning of mentorship and leadership (see images). Keeping an open mind allows a person to adapt to many situations and find solutions despite feelings of vulnerability or uncertainty. This adaptation, in turn, spawns the persistent determination to see possibilities rather than challenges, breeding the creative thinking that allows people to overcome any obstacle. This is the philosophy of the “No Excuses, No Limits” program and the personal mantra of Luca “Lazylegz” Patuelli.



The 11th edition of the Edith Aston-McCrimmon Lectureship was held online, in November, 2020.

Participants enjoying the dance lecture (left) and striking a pose (right), with Luca “Lazylegz” Patuelli (second row, middle image)

SPOT-light on SPOT Alumni

In light of the challenges resulting from the pandemic, we wanted to highlight some of the great things that alumni of the School of Physical & Occupational Therapy (SPOT) have been doing to make the world a better place, remotely. Please find here brief snapshots of the stories of four alumni from different generations who have been making a big difference to the health of Canadians especially during recent months.



Amanda Grilli (MSc(A)PT 2016)

Since graduating in 2016, Amanda has been working as a physiotherapist and certified lymphedema therapist, helping those touched by cancer to live well. Early on in her career, Amanda saw a gap in the continuum of cancer care; many

cancer survivors were not receiving the education, guidance, and care that they needed to overcome their cancer-related side effects and live well beyond cancer. Despite the growing recommendations for physiotherapy during and after cancer, awareness and accessibility to the specialized service was limited within her community.

To bridge this gap in care, Amanda spearheaded a multidisciplinary cancer rehabilitation program across sixteen private clinics in the greater Montreal area. Further, she has given numerous talks on cancer rehabilitation and has been involved in many initiatives in hopes of ensuring coordinated cancer care for all. Amanda is also proudly on the executive of the Oncology Division of the Canadian Physiotherapy Association, a role that allows her to further advocate and advance the practice of physiotherapy in oncology.

Still concerned by the fact that many may not have access to rehabilitation services, in 2020 Amanda launched The Pink Pros (www.thepinkpros.com), an online community to provide educational resources, exercises and self-care practices for women affected by breast cancer. Amanda hopes to educate and empower women to take an active role in their recovery, so that they can improve their quality of life during every stage of their cancer journey. Helping women to reclaim their well-being, is what drives her passion for the field and her devotion to providing education both in clinic and online. Amanda is currently practicing in Manhattan, NY.



Sam Benamron (BScOT 2003)

Sam graduated from McGill in 2003. He opened his first Occupational therapy clinic 6 months after finishing school. He started as the only Occupational Therapist in the practice. That practice has now grown to

a group of over 70 health care professionals including, Occupational therapists, Physiotherapists, Massage therapist, Psychologists, Doctors, Acupuncturist, nurses and support staff throughout Montreal. Sam manages four Occupational therapy Clinics, two physiotherapy clinics and two medical clinics. One of the clinics, PhysioVerdun, became an advocate for inclusive hiring in 2017 and currently has 3 neurodiverse employees. In 2020, PhysioVerdun, won "le Prix a part entière: Coup de Cœur du jury" from L'Office des personnes handicapées du Québec for its involvement in inclusive hiring. A 23-minute documentary entitled "Included" was filmed at the PhysioVerdun location and highlighted the work that the three neurodiverse employees do. This film was shared across Canada and even won a special mention at the Canada Shorts Film Festival. Sam has been a guest lecturer at McGill and has given talks about inclusion within the workplace in Montreal and in Toronto. Sam is also the recipient of the award: Long-term service in the school of Physical & Occupational Therapy in clinical education from McGill.



Lucie Denoncourt (BScOT 1992)

Lucie is an OT McGill Alumni and has specialized in vocational return to work programs since 2001. She is a clinician and owns AAPP, a private vocational rehabilitation clinic in Montreal. Lucie works with two

other McGill OT Alumni, Carlie Déjoie (2010) and Melanie Akettia (2009). Since 2015, AAPP has developed online remote rehabilitation services offered to clients in Quebec, where specialized mental or physical health vocational rehabilitation programs are not available. There was a need, and they were proactive and creative to serve these clients. When COVID-19 emerged in March 2020, and in-person therapies were not allowed, they were able to convert all OT rehabilitation services quickly and efficiently online. In fact, their programs grew in demand, as few remote OT programs were available to clients with mental health needs! Clients were seen via a videoconference platform by an OT, for a weekly session to continue rehabilitation and support during this very difficult time. Kinesiologist Ludovic Godefroy, was very proactive as well, offering remote kinesiology training. AAPP's administrative assistant, Lucie Francoeur (McGill, 1990), offered essential help and support to the team, keeping programs running smoothly and efficiently. AAPP never skipped a beat during COVID-19 and they were there to support clients through this very difficult time. Lucie says she is, "Very proud of this accomplishment and to be part of this excellent team."



Gloria Gilbert (BScPT 1967)

Don't Go to the Ouch (www.dontgototheouch.com) is a free educational website, emphasizing control of pain. Alumna Gloria Gilbert developed the site to guide a person through a series of steps about how to stretch,

strengthen and build endurance - without going to the Ouch! Four videos are accessible through the Resource page of the website and on You-tube.

Given the possible complex psychological and physical dimensions of a patient with persistent pain, treatment currently often occurs in an interdisciplinary clinic. Providing useful and practical resources to the clinician working in the community, may assist with improved treatment of a potentially complex situation.

With both patient and provider having access to the written and visual resources, the provider can better focus on individual treatment goals - reducing the time needed for re-assurance, repetition and explanation of the physiotherapy program.



Name-Tag Ceremony 2020

The 2020 Name-Tag Ceremony took place on April 27, 2021, delayed due to the pandemic.

Presentations were made by student speakers and clinical guests, on the theme of Mentorship. Dr. Laurie Snider, Director and Associate Dean of the School of Physical & Occupational Therapy stressed the importance of recognizing the occasion: "This nametag ceremony marks a seminal milestone on your journey towards your goal to become occupational therapists and physical therapists. We stand together on the cusp of an essential part of your educational process: the beginning of your clinical placements."

Words of Congratulations

Dr. Laurie Snider, erg., OT, PhD, Director and Associate Dean

Dr. Sam Benaroya, Associate Vice-Principal and Vice-Dean, Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences

Guest speakers on the theme of Mentorship

OT Clinician: Odrée Martin-Mailhot, erg., MSc(A)OT

PT Clinician: Lynn Gillespie, pht, MSc

OT student speaker: Dahlia Haddad

PT student speaker: Brandon Azimov

- » **Lynn Gillespie**, pht, MSc, "An effective mentor is inspirational, patient, non-judgmental and available. He or she challenges you, respects you, has time for you and expects you to take the lead in the partnership." [top left in image]
- » **Odrée Martin-Mailhot**, erg., MSc(A)OT, "The mentor prepares you for the *"real thing"* while guiding you to discover the *"real you" as an OT.*" [top right in image]
- » **Brandon Azimov**, as a mentor, "my supervisor made me realize that even though we have latex gloves on, non-verbal communication is still important. Even though we have a mask on, verbal communication is still important. Even though we have a face shield on, eye contact is still important to optimal communications." [bottom left in image]
- » **Dahlia Haddad**, "I would like to start of by saying, my last words spoken in Hosmer House were "COVID has nothing on us, our wheelchair assessment is definitely happening tomorrow! As my OT self started reflecting on this past year, I realized that we really are mentors to each other." [bottom, centre, in image]

EXCELLENCE THROUGH GROWTH



L'EXCELLENCE PAR LE RAYONNEMENT

Name-Tag Ceremony 2021

The 2021 Name-Tag Ceremony took place on April 15, 2021.

Presentations were made by student speakers and, exceptionally, M2 students, to reflect on the theme of Transformation. Thank you to leadership, past and present students for their heartfelt words of encouragement, inspiration, and congratulations.

Words of Congratulations

Dr. Laurie Snider, erg., OT, PhD, Director and Associate Dean

Dr. David Eidelman, Dean and Vice-Principal, Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences

Guest speakers on the theme of Mentorship

OT M1 students: Nicole Drinkwater and Ananya Nagar

PT M1 student: Brandon Azimov

OT student speakers: Katherine Bibic and Alex Dam

PT student speaker: Amy Gan

- » **Nicole Drinkwater** and **Ananya Nagar** [middle row, middle and right], Experiences in student placements (stage) highlight the opportunities to learn from your partners and how that is instrumental in helping you grow and transform as a therapist and as a person.
- » **Brandon Azimov** [bottom row, left], Student placement (stage) is the time to make mistakes and it's important to embrace them and learn from them. It was during my last stage that I realized how much I have transformed since starting my first sone a year ago.
- » **Katherine Bibic** [top right in photo] and **Alex Dam** [middle, top in photo], "It is now our turn to believe in ourselves. It is our time to be the leader that embraces a holistic view of people and advocate for justice. It is our time to be the friend that those around us would turn to when they need guidance and reassurance.
- » **Amy Gan** [middle row, left], on the theme of Transformation, "I have explored my own self-development, including how I think of my traditional name as well as my involvement in different nonacademic activities like justice-centered rehab."



The Convocations of 2020 & 2021

Convocation 2020 and 2021 were held remotely due to the pandemic. Each year, over 300 SPOT grads celebrated, each in their own way, and shared some images and thoughts with us. Graduates of the Bachelors, Applied Masters, Masters and PhD programs told us what achieving this milestone meant to this excellent cohort of SPOT graduates and award winners.



Stephania Palimeris explains that “Receiving an award acknowledges my dedication as a clinician and researcher in the field of rehabilitation for the elderly population and reaffirms my passion and drive to this professional career path I have chosen.”

Another scholar **Ahlam Zidan** explains that coming to McGill in January 2020 was difficult, “I had left my family and my whole life behind in Libya, in order to pursue my dreams and ambitions, not just those related to the field of rehabilitation but also personal goals to be a productive person in society.”

Nikki Ow, recipient of the Alice Chan-Yip Multicultural Award, “As the world becomes more and more globalized, health care professionals must be more aware that the fabric of society is made up of different pieces. Each piece with its own meaning and value.”

Ashton Banfield feels, “It is an honour to have my achievements recognized, as someone who had minimal financial support during my academic career.”

Amanda Proietti indicated, “There are many experiences I enjoyed while studying at McGill, creating unforgettable memories and learned lessons that I will carry with me forever.”

Brittany Baranski reflects that, “McGill far exceeded my expectations in providing me with a solid foundation from which to serve my clients.”

Ashley Messias indicates that “I appreciated how close we became as classmates throughout the years in this program. The atmosphere was always open and positive, with everyone helping one another.”

Erin Lamb, a recent OT graduate, says, “As a new graduate beginning to practice, these funds are key for the ability to further my education with courses, conferences, and webinars. Thank you for investing in my future as an OT.”

“Ever since graduating the Occupational Therapy Program, I have worked to support the pediatric population and their family. From my clinical experience came unanswered questions by the literature regarding creative art strategies and their influences on the relationship of a neurodiverse population. SPOT gave me tools and support to navigate this new doctoral adventure, in which I am thrilled and excited,” says **Marc-André Clément** (current PhD student).

William **Murphy-Gelderman**, recipient of the Alice Chan-Yip Multicultural Award, says, “Thank you so much for investing in students and projects that promote diversity and cultural

awareness. It takes time and funds to create opportunities for us students to pursue our passions for equitable social change that promotes cultural diversity and inclusion!”

Emmett Dwyer, “Knowing that my continued passion and link with McGill has been recognized on such a large scale truly makes me feel like I have been provided a pathway for continued growth.”

For **Amanda Lee**, it was, “The people I met along the way (that I most enjoyed about my time at McGill). We had an active student society which has given me great memories to look back on, both in and out of class.”

Susana Cere was proud to attend McGill University’s OT program, for several reasons. “The McGill program uses evidence-based research and empirical evidence as resources of knowledge in OT while promoting critical thinking.”



Spring Clinical Day 2020

We welcomed the opportunity to recognize our outstanding clinical colleagues, mentors and supervisors during the virtual Spring Clinical Awards Ceremony.

Despite the many challenges, our clinical teaching partners have been innovative, dynamic and resourceful. Fully respecting public health guidelines and national accreditation criteria, our OT and PT students have continued their clinician learning in a multitude of different service channels including in-person care, virtual care and hybrid, each necessitating different supervisory models! We continue to thrive through our strong partnerships, creating new practitioner colleagues.

CAOT Fieldwork Educator Award of Excellence (McGill University)	OT	Allana Goodman	Jewish General Hospital
Clinical Excellence	OT	Amelie Bolduc	CRLC
Clinical Excellence	PT	Howell Lin	MUHC
Retirement	Physical Therapy	Rhona Weis Stern	Jewish General Hospital
Retirement	Physical Therapy	Pierre Allard	Jewish General Hospital
Retirement	Physical Therapy	Ann Hetherington	MUHC
Retirement	Physical Therapy	Michel Danakas	IRGLM - Spinal Cord injury program
Retirement	Physical Therapy	Claire Fritzi Perez	McGill / JRH
Retirement	Occupational Therapy	Suzanne Rouleau	Jewish General Hospital
Retirement	Occupational Therapy	Mary Lynn Andriuk	MUHC
Long-term Service	Occupational Therapy	Anne-Marie Brassard	MUHC
Long-term Service	Occupational Therapy	Julia Newman	MUHC
Long-term Service	Physical Therapy	Valerie Vigneault-Corbin	HJR
Long-term Service	Physical Therapy	Karine Marsan	HJR



Spring Clinical Day 2021

We launched a new format for continuing professional development this year: a series of four short webinars addressing topics related to student supervision. These were presented in conjunction with the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences' Development Office focussing on tele-practice.

CAOT Fieldwork Educator Award of Excellence (McGill University)	Mireille Boulos (MUHC-MGH)
OT Clinical Educator Awards of Excellence 2021	Melanie Bazin and Nathalie Carr (MUHC, Montreal Children's Hospital)
PT Clinical Educator Award of Excellence 2021	Guy Razy (Action Sport Physio)
SPOT Community Teaching Awards of Excellence	Physiothérapie Universelle , and CIUSSS ODIM CHSLD Project with Hôpital Sainte-Anne
Long-Term Service Awards	<p>OT: Maria Anastasopoulos (Jewish Rehabilitation Hospital), Laurie Chambers (Peter Hall School), Genevieve Clossey (Jewish Rehabilitation Hospital), Elise Lamy (Villa Medica Rehabilitation Hospital), Caroline Levesque (Peter Hall School), Deborah Pinsky (Summit School), Martin Sevigny (MUHC, Montreal General Hospital)</p> <p>PT: Maria Ambrosio (CIUSSS Centre Ouest - JGH site), Keira Cape (CIUSSS Centre Ouest - JGH site), Sabrina Commodari (CIUSSS Centre Ouest - JGH site), Catherine Edwards (MUHC, Glen Site), Evelyn (Evanthia) Gianopoulos (MUHC - Adult Physical Medicine), Shona Harvey (CIUSSS Centre Ouest - JGH site), Michela Marini (MUHC - Adult Physical Medicine), Sabrina Morin-Chabane (MUHC - Adult Physical Medicine), Irma Pappas (CIUSSS Centre Ouest - JGH site), Julie Valiquette (CIUSSS Centre Ouest - JGH site)</p>
Retirement Awards	<p>OT : Diane Benoit (CISSS Montérégie Ouest -DSMREU), Rena Birnbaum (MUHC -Montreal Children's Hospital), Ada Pagnotta (Jewish Rehabilitation Hospital)</p> <p>PT: Kitty Frommer (MUHC - Adult Physical Medicine), Michael Grosse (MUHC - Glen Site)</p>

Master's Projects Presentations 2020

We are immensely grateful for the collaboration, participation and ongoing support of our alumni.

Your partnership makes it possible, year after year, for master's students to successfully complete their research and present their projects at conferences across Canada. We are also grateful for the continuing

support of all our clinical sites, where much of the inspiration for the research projects is incubated. Click on this link to browse through our master's projects and to find out which clinical sites are involved:

www.mcgill.ca/spot/research-1/researchers-programs/prof-masters-research-student-projects/projects-year



Lavigne-Smee Visiting Scholar 2020

Dr. Agun Maiya was the 2020 Lavigne-Smee Visiting Scholar, an award that provides the opportunity for a high-profile scholar and/or knowledge-holder to visit McGill University's SPOT to give a presentation, followed by meetings with students and faculty members to foster the development of new research collaborations and perspectives.

At the Masters' Projects Presentations in August 2020, Dr. Maiya's presentation was entitled, "What Role for Rehabilitation Professionals in the Context of COVID-19?"

Experiences from India on Functional Limitations, Activity Promotion and Exercise Recommendation." Dr. Maiya highlighted the crucial role of rehabilitation professionals in the acute and post-acute treatment of patients having COVID-19, and reviewed important concepts including the benefits to the immune system of low to moderate intensity exercise. Specifically, the effect of exercise-induced improved leucocyte function, enhancing chemotaxis, degranulation, cytotoxic activity, phagocytosis and the oxidative activity of neutrophils and macrophages.



Dr Maiya joined us remotely from Manipal University in southern India. A physical therapist by training, Dr. Arun Maiya completed his undergraduate degree in 1997 and his Master of Physiotherapy

two years later. Following completion of his doctoral degree in Physiotherapy in 2004 he further completed an MBA in Health Care Management in 2011. Dr Maiya has been a research supervisor to 21 doctoral students, as well as the research supervisor to over 70 postgraduate physiotherapy students. He has led more than 75 national and international seminars and workshops and has had over 30 years of clinical experience in orthopedics, neurology, cardiopulmonary rehabilitation, and other domains of physiotherapy. He is a prolific author of hundreds of articles in peer-reviewed journals. He is presently Full Professor and Dean of Manipal College of Health Professions in Manipal, Karnataka, India.

Dr. Laurie Snider, Director and Associate Dean met Dr. Maiya in February 2020 (see image) at Manipal University in India before travel was restricted, under the auspices of SPOT's Global Health Rehabilitation Initiative.

Each year, alumni, graduates, faculty & staff are invited to celebrate, on the Friday of McGill's Homecoming weekend. In 2020 we honoured reunion years ending in "0" and "5", remotely!

The inaugural Dolly Dastoor Family Research Award was presented at Homecoming 2020. Dr. Dastoor [top row, second from right] and her family members were on hand to congratulate Keven Lee [bottom row, second from left], who was the recipient of this generous award. A career clinical psychologist, Dr. Dastoor brought innovative and compassionate design to patient care, introducing the support group concept to Montrealers living with Alzheimer's Disease. Congratulations to Keven, whose thesis title is 'Moving-with: An ethnography of individuals living with dementia and their carers in the community'. Keven's doctoral supervisor is Melissa Park, PhD [second row, second from left].

The virtual Homecoming gathering brought Zoom-ed in alumni from PEI to Barbados gave us a bit of a jet-set vibe. Indeed we had a lot of firsts to share with these dedicated alumni: the rapid pivot to tele-rehab to safely redirect SPOT's Spring clinical education courses. And, in the face of the pandemic, our global health rehabilitation initiative bringing us to the heart of southern India. And finally, inspiring stories of ASSA, the Community of Hope, a self-sufficient, barrier-free community.

Congratulations to all alumni who celebrated their graduation anniversaries! We had contingents from 2005 (15 years), 1985 (35 years), 1980 (40 years), 1975 (45 years), 1970 (50 years - the golden anniversary), and even from 1960 (plus two friends from 1958)!



Please mark your calendars for Homecoming 2021

Join us online, Friday October 1, 2021, to reunite with classmates from all years, and especially from the years ending in "1" and "6". Details of Homecoming and other special events can be found at www.mcgill.ca/spot/alumni



Tenure has been awarded to **Marie Brossard-Racine, PhD** and to **Tania Janaudis-Ferreira, PhD**, both of whom are award-winning scholars who have been promoted to Associate Professor in recognition of their innovation and excellence in research, teaching and service.

Marie Brossard-Racine, erg., PhD has been awarded a five-year CIHR Tier 2: Canada Research Chair in Brain and Child Development as part of the 2019-2020 (Fall 2020) competition! The program recognizes that diversity is indispensable to research excellence - among the Canada Research Chair recipients 51% are women.

Tania Janaudis-Ferreira, PhD received the Distinction Award from the Canadian Thoracic Society. The purpose of the award is to recognize a respiratory healthcare professional who is actively engaged in the mentorship of other health-care professionals and who serves as a role model for professionalism and volunteerism.

Kudos!



Isabelle Gagnon has been awarded the REPAR Prix d'Excellence, a prize in recognition of her research in rehabilitation, her leadership and implication in the advancement of rehabilitation science across Quebec.

Keiko Shikako-Thomas: Cerebral Palsy Alliance Visiting Scholar Travel Award

Timothy Wideman: McGill Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Faculty Honour List for Educational Excellence



Nadina Paraschuk, Clinician Education Coordinator, won Ovation Award of Excellence, the Pam Chase Award in 2020.

Aliko Thomas, erg., PhD has been awarded the 2021 CAME Certificate of Merit Award, recognizing faculty committed to medical education in Canadian medical schools.

Stefanie Blain-Moraes, PhD has been honored with a Faculty Teaching Innovation Award. She is "Working alongside people with disabilities to develop assistive technology."

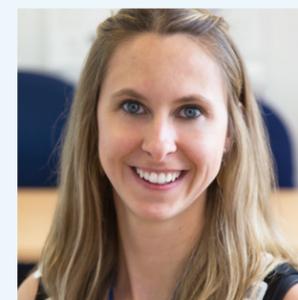


Matthew Hunt, PhD has been awarded the *Rosemary Wedderburn Brown Prize* by the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences. This prize recognizes individuals with outstanding scholarly potential and research excellence in the early stages of their career.

Matthew Hunt is the 2020 recipient of the CPA's Global Health Award, in honour of his efforts in rehabilitation in the global domain.



Sincere congratulations to Canadian Physiotherapy Association (CPA) Centennial Award of Merit recipients, Associate Professor **Dr. Joyce Fung** and retired SPOT faculty member, **Dr. Dorothy Thomas-Edding**.



Welcome to new tenure track faculty: **Mariane Bertagnolli, PT, PhD**.

Dr. Bertagnolli joins SPOT's PT Program as Assistant Professor, with expertise in hypertension, mother-child health, and cardiac rehabilitation.



Caroline Storr, erg., MBA, has been named OT of the Year by The Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists - Quebec (CAOT-Qc). This award recognizes members who have made an outstanding contribution to the profession throughout their career.



200 Years, 200 Stories: Celebrating McGill's Bicentennial

GILLIAN WOODFORD

Did you know that the Faculty of Medicine (now the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences) was McGill's very first Faculty?

And did you know that for nearly 80 years the School of Physical & Occupational Therapy has been an integral part of the Faculty's mission to train health professionals, conduct research, and to serve our community?

Over the next year, we want to share the stories of creativity, curiosity, compassion and perseverance, both big and small, that helped build SPOT and the Faculty. Given the difficult times we have all been living through, it feels particularly important to both celebrate our past achievements and reflect on how we can do even better in the next 200 years.

As part of our storytelling project, called 200 Years, 200 Stories, we want to hear your stories. A story can be as short as 25 words or as long as 1000. A story can also be a photo, sketch, a video or a memento. Or, if poetry is your thing, we would love you to send those too! Tell us about:

- a favourite place to hang out
- an awesome McGill/SPOT staffer
- a sporting victory (or a heartbreaking defeat!)
- a challenge you overcame
- enduring friendships
- adventures in clinical placements... anything that represents a Faculty or SPOT moment for you!

More info [here](#). Please send your memory to bicentennial-bicentenaire.fmhs-fmss@mcgill.ca.

1821 – 2021
MADE
by McGill



The last word goes to ... *you!*

You, our ALUMNI, are our history, and you are over **4000-strong!**

Graduates of the School's PT and OT Programs are located all around the world. As graduates, you have made unique contributions to society, having benefitted from your education at the school. Many have returned for graduate training, others remain connected as clinical supervisors, fulfilling a vital role in the training of future therapists.

DONOR support directed to the School is vital to our educational mission, enabling us to support student events and student travel to conferences (even virtual ones), buy new teaching equipment and provide fellowship support to international graduate students.

IN RECENT YEARS, close to 80% of SPOT alumni who donate, specifically identify SPOT as their target. Thank you very much for this support! This proportion of giving to the School is rising every year; a testament to the value that grads place in their education and the experiences lived at SPOT.

We hope that you will support SPOT's continued success by specifically directing your donation to the School of Physical & Occupational Therapy (SPOT).



You can help McGill make history by directly supporting students in the **School of Physical & Occupational Therapy** in one of three ways:

- **ONLINE** – Simply complete our secure online giving form at: www.alumni.mcgill.ca/aoc/online-giving
- **BY PHONE** – To make a gift by phone using a credit card, call toll free 1-800-567-5175
- **BY MAIL** – To make a gift by cheque, make it payable to McGill University and mail to: University Advancement, McGill University 1430 Peel Street, 3rd Floor, Montreal, Quebec H3A 3T3

REMEMBER to specify **Physical & Occupational Therapy** as your preferred area of support



Dates for your calendar

- » SPOT Events will be held remotely until the end of 2021. For more details check out the events listing here: www.mcgill.ca/spot/alumni
- » October 1, 2021: Homecoming celebrating graduates of years ending in "1" and "6"
- » November 18, 2021: Edith Aston-McCrimmon Lecture

Find out more: www.mcgill.ca/spot/alumni