

Director of the Board to fulfill the officer role of President

Rachel A. Roberts, OTD, OTR/L

Dr. Roberts received her Bachelor of Science degree in Occupational Therapy from the Medical University of South Carolina in 1996 and her post-professional Doctor of Occupational Therapy degree from Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions in 2017. Dr. Roberts clinical background encompasses a variety of practice settings that span the adult population. She currently serves as program director of the occupational therapy assistant program at Southeastern College in North Charleston, SC and continues to practice PRN in the Home Health setting. Dr. Roberts has served on the South Carolina Occupational Therapy Association (SCOTA) board as Vice President (2015-2019), President-Elect (2019-2020), and President (2020-2022). In her role as Vice President, she ensured quality, evidence-based courses were offered to practitioners across the state. As the current President, she was integral in the establishment of the South Carolina Occupational Therapy Foundation (SCOTF) and transition of SCOTA to a trade association. She assisted with writing the bylaws for the SCOTF and the SCOTA, in addition to the Standard Operating Procedures to clearly define each role of the Executive Committee. In addition to serving as President, she is filling the vacancy of SCOTA administration, allowing her to manage all business aspects of the association. Dr. Roberts's dedication to the viable practice of OT in the state of South Carolina is evident in her commitment to serving across roles within SCOTA. She looks forward to continuing efforts to increase benefits to SCOTA members in the role of President.

Director of the Board to fulfill the officer role of Treasurer

Nancy Carson, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

Dr. Carson has been an OT for over 35 years and has over 25 years of academic experience as faculty at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). Her primary focus is mental health practice along with population/public health approaches including health promotion and wellness. She received her clinical training in occupational therapy from MUSC and completed a PhD in Public Health (Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior) at the University of South Carolina. She also serves as the Associate Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs in the College of Health Professions at MUSC. In 2016, she was named to the Roster of Fellows by the American Occupational Therapy Association for significant contributions to the continuing education and professional development of members of the association. She has been a long-time member of SCOTA and AOTA having served previously as SCOTA treasurer for a term of 4 years. She is currently serving as the treasurer and is completing a 2-year term. She also served SCOTA previously as the Lowcountry District Chair.

Special Interest Section-Mental Health & Wellness

Amanda Sammons, DSc, OTR/L, ATC

Dr. Sammons received her BS in Athletic Training from West Virginia University in 2008. She went on to receive her MS in Occupational Therapy from Shenandoah University in 2010 and her Doctor of Science in Occupational Therapy from Baylor University in 2012. Mandie served as an Active-Duty Army OT for 8 years (2011 – 2019). Her clinical expertise is in hand therapy and behavioral health. Mandie has provided OT behavioral health services in inpatient psychiatric wards, intensive outpatient programs, and outpatient clinics. Mandie also has experience with the Army's Holistic Health and Fitness program (H2F) and Resilience Training. The concepts of these programs embody the principles of OT with the focus on optimizing a person's physical and mental abilities through using evidence-based practice to improve one's well-being and performance. In August 2019, Mandie transitioned her OT career into academia. She is currently working as an Assistant Professor and the Academic Fieldwork Coordinator at the Medical University of South Carolina. She continues to be passionate about the importance of mental health care and the vital role that OT serves in the psychiatric community. Mandie is also motivated to advocate for OT's role in psychosocial care, wellness, and resiliency for all individuals.

Monica Keen, OTD, OTR/L

Dr. Keen is currently an adjunct instructor at Presbyterian College and will be joining the faculty full time in May of 2022 as an Associate Professor. She is the Doctoral Capstone Coordinator and comes to Presbyterian College with 32 years of clinical experience. Currently, she is a school-based practitioner at Dorchester School District Two. Dr. Keen has served in this capacity for 27 years. She is also an adjunct instructor at the Medical University of South Carolina, Baylor University, and she is a contributing faculty member at the University of St. Augustine. She has also worked in mental health at the Institute of Psychiatry at the Medical University of South Carolina, acute care, and has also worked in nursing home settings. She owns a private pediatric practice and employs two therapists. She has authored two separate chapters for colleague's books: one on school-based and infant mental health and the other on handwriting. Dr. Keen has done one webinar for OccupationalTherapy.com where she presented her Capstone work on OT being a part of an interprofessional team member for mental health in school aged children. She will be doing another webinar in February 2022 on Covid 19 and the impact it has had on school- aged children.

Dr. Keen graduated with her bachelor's degree in Occupational Therapy from the Medical University of South Carolina and in 2008 she earned her master's degree from Boston University. In 2019 she graduated with high honors with her clinical doctorate degree from the University of St. Augustine. She is passionate about Occupational Therapy and has a distinct interest in mental health, trauma-informed care, and pediatrics, particularly autism.

Mental health is a passion for Dr. Keen. Her capstone was on occupational therapy serving as a member on an interprofessional school team to address mental health issues in school-based practice. The findings of her research were sobering and have ignited a desire to discover ways to re-establish OT as a recognized mental health provider. Serving as the Mental Health

representative on the SCOTA board would provide opportunities to educate at the local and state level regarding the role occupational therapy plays in addressing mental health within the profession. It is vital for occupational therapy to return to its roots and embrace the powerful part mental health plays in our holistic practice.

Currently, she resides in Summerville, SC and is a proud mom to two amazing adult daughters. She has two adorable Boston Terriers (Bubbles and Boomer), she loves college football, enjoys running and hiking, and being in the sun by the pool or beach is a favorite past time.

Open positions for appointment by the Board of Directors after the Annual Elections

Midlands District Chair

Piedmont District Chair

PeeDee District Chair

Awards and Nominations Chair

Special Interest Section Chair-Hand Therapy & Work Programs

Special Interest Section Chair-Technology & Accessibility