

Getting to Know Your TOTA Student Reps

Natalie Pravinkumar – OT Student Rep



Where do you attend school?

I am currently a student in the OTD program at the University of Texas at El Paso.

What is your favorite thing about OT?

My favorite thing about OT has to be its potential! It's so exciting that OT services can be used in such a wide variety of settings, but the field itself has an amazing potential for growth. Even within treatment planning, there is so much potential for creativity and personalization based on the patient, which is something that sets OT apart from other healthcare professions.

What do you hope to achieve as an OT practitioner?

As an OT practitioner, I want to help spread awareness for the benefits of OT – many people could gain from OT services, but they just don't know it yet! I believe there are so many possible settings for OT outside of the hospital, clinics, and schools. My personal passion is to introduce OT as standard care for emotional and physical trauma survivors, particularly survivors of human trafficking. At the core, my desire is to be an OT practitioner who can empathize with her patients and find ways to create interventions that are meaningful and beneficial given their situations.

Describe yourself in one word

Hard-working

Favorite movie quote?

It's not a movie, but here's a quote from my favorite TV show *The Office*:
"And I knew exactly what to do. But in a much more real sense, I had no idea what to do" – Michael Scott
 This quote is in the back of my mind every day.

Favorite sport, pastime, or hobby

In my free time, I like to go to the gym and bake. However, my favorite hobby is watercolor painting, especially painting landscapes! I learned how to paint while recovering from a knee surgery that required me to decrease my physical activity, and now painting is one of the most relaxing things for me.

What Disney character are you?

I like to think of myself as a princess, specifically Princess Jasmine. Then I took the (widely acknowledged as highly accurate) BuzzFeed quiz which revealed that I am most like Hades from *Hercules*. I'm not sure how I feel about that...

Marvel or DC

Probably Marvel, but I do a terrible job at keeping up with all the movies.

Starbucks or Local coffee house

Local coffee always! Shout out to Kinley's, my favorite coffee shop in El Paso and great study spot.

Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, LinkedIn, or Twitter

Instagram

Spotify or Pandora

Spotify

Do you have a pet?

Yes! I have a super adorable, three-legged dog named Petey. His favorite things to do are going on a car ride, taking naps while tucked into bed, running away from me at the park, and getting neck scratches.

If you could redesign the food pyramid without health consequences, how would it look?

The base of the pyramid would be fruits, with desserts as the next level. Those are the two most important parts of my modified food pyramid!

Maygen Smith

OTA Student Rep



Where do you attend school?

San Jacinto College South

What is your favorite thing about OT?

My favorite thing about OT is seeing how this profession changes people's lives for the better!

What do you hope to achieve as an OT practitioner?

I would like to help our clients maintain their independence. I would also like to assist in building the research on neurological conditions.

Describe yourself in one word

Ambitious

Favorite movie quote?

"There's been trials and tribulations, you know I've had my share. But I've climbed the mountain, crossed the river And I'm almost there!" — Disney's *The Princess & the Frog*

Favorite sport, pastime, or hobby

Track and Field and Basketball (women and men) and favorite hobbies are cooking and writing poems.

What Disney character are you?

Stitch

Marvel or DC

Marvel

Starbucks or Local coffee house

My house

Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, LinkedIn, or Twitter

Instagram: may_the_goddess_
 Facebook: Maygen L. Smith

Spotify or Pandora

Pandora

Do you have a pet?

Two dogs: a pitbull XL and a miniature schnauzer

If you could redesign the food pyramid without health consequences, how would it look?

I would add chocolate!!

