



University of Pittsburgh

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June 17, 2013

Rob Oliver
2513 White Tail Lane
White Oak, PA 15131

Dear Rob,

On behalf of the Department of Occupational Therapy and our 1st Year Master of Occupational Therapy (MOT) students, I would like to express our appreciation for your recent participation as a guest speaker in course OT 2100 – Foundations of Occupation Science and Occupational Therapy.

Understanding what client-centered occupational therapy services mean from the point of view of the client's unique personal experience is not only necessary but invaluable, and knowledge that is difficult, if not almost impossible, to gain through lectures or reading clinical textbooks. Your simple, yet powerful message – *"Life is a gift, live it to the fullest"* – which echoes Occupational Therapy's brand message of Living Life To Its Fullest – came across with clarity and sincerity in your presentation and conversation with our 1st Year MOT students. Thank you for sharing your journey and doing so with realism, humor, and honesty.

Although we might wish they did – students do not remember every statement their instructors say. However, we hope there are memorable moments in our students' education that make a notable contribution to their ability to become occupational therapists who contribute significantly to improving the quality of life of their clients. I believe that your presentation is one of those memorable moments for our students and I am confident our 51 MOT students, who started their coursework only a few days prior to their meeting you, will remember your saying those six simple yet profound words that you identify as having changed your life, "What do you want to do?" You and the successes you have achieved will come to mind when the students – future occupational therapists – begin journeys with their clients focused on realizing the person's potential and striving to form a full life by maximizing what they can do.

Thank you for your memorable contribution to our MOT students' education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Denise Chisholm".

Denise Chisholm, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA
Associate Professor and Vice Chair
Department of Occupational Therapy