

CURRICULUM VITAE

Michelle Ann Suarez

BUSINESS ADDRESS: Occupational Therapy Department
Western Michigan University
1903 West Michigan Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
(269) 387-8467
michelle.a.suarez@wmich.edu

EDUCATION:

Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences
Western Michigan University
June 2012

Master of Occupational Therapy
Eastern Michigan University
June 1999

Bachelor of Science, Psychology/Sociology
Eastern Michigan University
April 1996

CERTIFICATION/LICENSES:

Michigan Occupational Therapy Licensure

National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Professor, Occupational Therapy Department
Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
Awarded Fall 2024

Interim Director, Unified Clinics
Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
May 2024- current

Interim Director, Unified Clinics
Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo, MI
March 2023- August 2023

Co-Director of Resiliency Center for Families and Children
Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo, MI
January 2022- Present

Western Michigan University Occupational Therapy Faculty
Kalamazoo, MI
Awarded tenure in spring 2016
Fall 2011-Present

Western Michigan University OT Clinical Research Coordinator
Kalamazoo, MI
Fall 2020- present

Western Michigan University Marion R. Spear Clinic Coordinator
Kalamazoo, MI
Fall 2016- Spring 2020

Western Michigan University Autism Evaluation Team
Kalamazoo, MI
April 2015-Summer 2017

Western Michigan University Term Clinical Faculty
Kalamazoo, MI
Fall 2009-Summer 2011

Western Michigan University Part-Time Faculty
Kalamazoo, MI
Fall 2008-Fall 2009

Bronson Outpatient Pediatric Occupational Therapist
Kalamazoo, MI
Fall 2007-Fall 2008

Livingston Educational Service Agency
Livingston County, Michigan
Fall 2001-Winter 2007

Pediatric Occupational Therapist Mary Free Bed Hospital
Grand Rapids, Michigan
Fall 1999 - Summer 2001

AWARDS AND HONORS

Presented Keynote Speech for Michigan Occupational Therapy Association
Annual Conference
Mackinaw Island

Fall 2023

Michigan Occupational Therapy Association Award of Excellence
Fall 2021

Sabbatical Leave for Spring 2020 to start OT pediatric trauma intervention at Unified
Clinic
Spring 2020

Lee Honors College Faculty Fellow
Spring 2018

Guest Co-Editor of the Open Journal of Occupational Therapy
Summer 2017

OJOT Editorial Board Member
2012- Present

Inducted into Phi Kappa Phi National Honors Society
Spring 2014

IHS Department Graduate Research and Creative Scholar, WMU
2011/2012

One of several posters awarded a WMU Research Poster Day award
Spring 2011

Janet Pisaneschi Prize for best Research Practicum Presentation
Summer 2010

Graduated from the Eastern Michigan University Honors Program
April 1996

Regents Scholarship recipient for four years, EMU
1992-1996

Recipient of first annual study-abroad scholarship, Eastern Michigan University
1993

PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE

Occupational Therapy Courses Taught

OT 2020 Orientation to OT

OT 2020 Orientation to OT Online

OT 3700 OT Process in Physical Dysfunction

OT 3810 OT Practice for Children and Adolescents

OT 4750 Level I Fieldwork Supervision

OT 4820 Level I Fieldwork Supervision

OT 5300 Sensory Integration and the Child

OT 6600 Research I in Occupational Therapy

OT 6650 Research II in Occupational Therapy

OT 6300 Advanced Clinical Practice

OT 7100 Independent Study in Occupational Therapy

OT 6001 Foundations in Occupational Therapy

OT 6101 Occupational Analysis and Evaluation in Childhood

OT 6201 Occupational Interventions and Outcomes in Childhood

Clinic Development and Teaching

Co-Director of Resiliency Center for Families and Children
Spring 2022 – Present

Coordinated the WMU Marion R. Spear Occupational Therapy Clinic
Fall 2016-Spring 2020

Supervise the Northeastern Elementary School Clinic
OT 4820 Practicum II (Level 1 Fieldwork)
Fall 2018- present

Supervise the Skills for Living Clinic
OT 4700 Practicum II (Level I Fieldwork)
Summer 2016- Present

Founder of Finicky Feeders at the WMU Unified Clinics
Fall 2012- Present

Supervise the Children's Trauma Assessment Center
OT 4820 Practicum II (Level I Fieldwork)
Fall 2012-Fall 2016

Supervised the WMU Pediatric Clinic
OT 4750 Practicum I (Level I Fieldwork)
Fall 2012-Spring 2013

Invited Lectures/Workshops

Suarez, M. (Series of workshops: October 16, November 20, January 15, February 19 and March 19, 2024). Building a Brain: Regulation Roadmaps for School Success. Kalamazoo Communities in Schools. Kalamazoo, MI.

Suarez, M. (October, 2023). The Power of Occupation in Well-Being, Resiliency and Mental Health. Mi OTA State Conference Keynote Speech. Mackinaw Island, MI.

Foster, T. & **Suarez, M** (January 20, 2023). Regulation Roadmaps: Adding Sensory Smarts to your Toolbox. Full day workshop for St. Joseph ISD

Suarez, M. (2022). Facilitating Regulation in the Classroom. Workshop for Portage Public Schools.

Suarez, M.A. (2018). Trauma and Sensory Processing. A SECRET Clinical Reasoning Tool for Optimal Engagement. Michigan Speech, Language and Hearing Association

Fuller, R., Nettleton, W., ... **Suarez, M.** (2018). Opioid Listening Session Panel with Fred Upton.

Suarez, M. (Spring 2014, Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2018). Food Selectivity and Sensory Processing. OT 5300.

Suarez, M. & Sloane, M. (Spring 2014). Neurobiological & Neurodevelopmental Impact of Traumatic Stress & Prenatal Drug/Alcohol Exposure. Workshop for KRESA Early Childhood Conference with Dr. Mark Sloane

Suarez, M. A. (2014). Baby Steps: Building Relationships to Facilitate Mother-Infant Co-Regulation. W.K. Kellogg Racial Healing Planning Grant Symposium.

Suarez, M. A. & Sloane, M. A. (2014). Focus on Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome in the early childhood education setting. KRESA Early Childhood Conference.

Suarez, M. (Spring 2014). Sensory Processing Disorder in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, SPPA 6570

Suarez, M. (Spring 2014). Functional assessment lecture on the normal curve and interpreting standardized assessment, OT 3760

Suarez, M. (2013). OT 6610 Introduction to Statistical Analysis Software SPSS

Suarez, M. A. (2013, Fall). Barbara Rider Panel Presentation: The Brain Lab: Identifying an Underlying Physiological Process Associated with Food Selectivity in Children with ASD.

Suarez, M. (2012). SPPA 2000 Sensory Integration and Development of Fine Motor and Gross Motor Skills in Childhood

Suarez, M. (2009, 2010, 2010, 2011). OT 3810 Oral Motor and Feeding Dysfunction

Suarez, M. (2007). Treatment of sensory feeding disorders. Workshop for Livingston Educational Service Agency parents and professionals

Suarez, M. (2000). School System Sensory dysfunction and outpatient treatment techniques. Workshop with Mary Free Bed co-worker for Grand Rapids Intermediate

MENTORED STUDENT RESEARCH

Honors Thesis Chair: Understanding the Impact of Education Strategies to Improve Knowledge of Occupational Therapy
In Progress

OTD Research Mentor: Qualitative Investigation of the Experience of Co-Occupation for Foster and Adoptive Parents
In Progress

OTD Research Mentor: Investigating a Psychometric Property of the Occupational Regulation Questionnaire Using Retrospective Chart Review
In Progress

Dissertation Committee Member: Occupational Therapist's Perception of Autonomy Support During Feeding Interventions with Children: An Exploratory Qualitative Study.
Fall 2023

Honors Thesis Chair: Incorporation of Neurodiversity in Pediatric Occupational Therapy
Fall 2023

OTD Research Mentor: Caregiver Co-Regulation Coaching Pilot Chart Review.
Spring 2023

Honors Thesis Chair: A Secret Tool for Parents and Teachers.
Spring 2022

Honors Thesis Chair: A Secret Model for Regulation in Preschools.
Spring 2022

Honors Thesis Chair: Understanding the impact of Occupational Therapy on a family with a young adult with autism.
Fall 2022

OTD Research Mentor: Understanding Self-Regulation Using the Occupational Regulation Questionnaire with Children ages 3-14 years.
Spring 2020

OTD Research Mentor: Examining the Relationship between Sensory Processing and Childhood Weight Concerns.
Spring 2020

Honors Thesis Chair: Resource for Parents with Children Born with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome
Fall 2020

Honors Thesis Chair: Creating a Safe Space at an Urban Elementary School
Fall 2020

Master's Thesis Committee: APLSC and DPSC: Social Pragmatic Communication of Children with Autism

Honors Thesis Committee: Finicky Feeders: The Importance of Understanding Feeding History
Fall 2019

Master's Thesis Committee: Emotion Detection through Facial Feature Analysis: Towards Digital Support for Children with Autism.
Spring 2019

Honors Thesis Committee Chair: A qualitative study of OT student experiences with faculty mentorship during didactic undergraduate coursework at WMU: A pilot study,
Spring 2017

Honors Thesis Committee Chair: Living with Autism: Services and Opportunities Following Secondary Education
Spring 2017

Honors Thesis Committee Chair: Food Selectivity: A guide for parents. Spring 2017

Honors Thesis Committee Chair: Camping for children with CP. Spring 2017

Master's Thesis Committee: Language Profiles of Children who Have Experienced Complex Trauma & Comorbid Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, Fall and Spring 2016-2017

Post Professional Master's Thesis Chair: Investigating Student Approaches to Learning with Structured or Unstructured Collaboration, Fall and Spring 2015-2016

Independent Study Chair: Treatment for Addressing Food Selectivity in Autism: Description and Single Case Study Report, Spring 2015

Honors Thesis Committee Chair: An Overview of Sensory Processing Disorder: Use of Sensory Integration Theory, Spring 2014

Honors Thesis Committee Chair: ASD and Food Selectivity: It's Impact on Nutrition and Quality of Life, Fall 2013

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Publications

Suarez, M., Lehman, K.M., & Hyter, Y.D. (in review). Sensory processing and behavioral implications for children who have experienced trauma. *OT in Mental Health*

Suarez, M. & Messelink, C. (2024). Neurodevelopmental Impact of Post-Traumatic Stress. In Y. Hyter (Eds.), *Language Research in Post-Traumatic Stress* Routledge. (Book Chapter)

McCoy-Powlen, J.D., Gallen, D.B. & **Suarez, M.A.** (2024). Hand Development. In A. Wagenfeld & J. Kaldenberg (Eds.), *Foundations of Pediatric Practice for the Occupational Therapy Assistant*. Slack. (Invited chapter)

Ciolino, C., Hyter, Y., Suarez, M. & Bedrosian, J. (2021). *Perspectives SIG 1 Language, Learning and Education*, https://doi.org/10.1044/2020_PERSP-20-00136. (Peer Reviewed)

Suarez, M.A. (2021). Just Right Challenge Feeding Protocol: Case-report for guiding clinical reasoning and future research in food selectivity treatment. *Occupational Therapy in Health Care*. (Peer Reviewed)

Suarez, M.A., Schoen, S., & Kaye, M. (2021). Using single subject research design to document changes in pediatric occupational performance. *AOTA Children and Youth Special Interest Section Practice Connections, May, 2021*. (Peer Reviewed)

Atchison, B. & **Suarez, M.A.** (2022). Introduction to Trauma and Considerations within the Occupational Therapy Practice Framework. In A. Lynch, R. Ashcraft & L. Tekell (Eds.), *Promoting Healing through Meaningful Occupation: A Trauma Informed Care Manual for the Occupational Therapy Practitioner*. AOTA Press. (Invited chapter)

Suarez, M. A., & Shangraw, K. (2021). Autism Spectrum Disorders. In B. Atchison & D. K.Dirette (Eds.), *Conditions in Occupational Therapy: Effect on Occupational Performance* (6th ed.). Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer. (invited chapter)

Suarez, M.A., Bush, E. (2020). Pilot study of the Just Right Challenge Feeding Protocol for decreasing food selectivity. *Open Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 8(2), 1-9. <https://doi.org/10.15453/2168-6408.1648> (peer reviewed)

- Suarez, M. A.,** Horton-Bierema, W., & Bodine, C. E. (2018). Challenges and Resources Available for Mothers in Opiate Recovery: A Qualitative Study. *The Open Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 6(4). <https://doi.org/10.15453/2168-6408.1483> (peer reviewed)
- Edwards, S. J., Gallen, D.B., McCoy-Powlen, J.D., & **Suarez, M.A.** (2018). Hand grasps and manipulation skills: Clinical perspectives of development and function. Thorofare, NJ: Slack Incorporated.
- Suarez, M. A.** (2018). Feasibility Exploration of Electrodermal Response to Food in Children with ASD Compared to Typically Developing Children. *The Open Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 6(1). <https://doi.org/10.15453/2168-6408.1336> (peer reviewed)
- Suarez, M.A.,** (2018). Laboratory food acceptance in children with Autism Spectrum Disorder compared to typically developing children. *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*. (peer reviewed)
- Suarez, M.A.** (2017). They said: We are all in this together. *Open Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 5, 2.
- Atchison, B. J., & **Suarez, M. A.** (2017). Interprofessional Practice and Education: Multiple Lenses Bring a Sharper Focus. *The Open Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 5(3). <https://doi.org/10.15453/2168-6408.1434>. (peer reviewed)
- Suarez, M. A.,** & Shangraw, K. (2016). Autism Spectrum Disorders. In B. Atchison & D. K.Dirette (Eds.), *Conditions in Occupational Therapy: Effect on Occupational Performance* (5th ed.). Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer. (invited chapter)
- Suarez, M. A.,** & Atchison, B. (2016). Intellectual Disability. In B. Atchison & D. K.Dirette (Eds.), *Conditions in Occupational Therapy: Effect on Occupational Performance* (5th ed.). Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer. (invited chapter)
- Suarez, M.A.** & Crinion, K. (2015). Food choices of children with autism spectrum disorders. *International Journal of School Health*. (peer reviewed)
- Suarez, M.A.** (2014). Multi-component treatment for food selectivity in children: Description and Case Report. *Nutrition in Clinical Practice*. (peer reviewed)
- Suarez, M.A.,** Koole, H.K., & Jackson, J. (2014). Pilot interprofessional education program for OT student pediatric practice readiness. *OJOT*. (peer reviewed)
- Suarez, M.A.,** Atchison, B.J., & Lagerwey, M.D. (2014). Phenomenological Examination of the Mealtime Experience for Mothers of Children with Autism and Food Selectivity. *American Journal of Occupational Therapy* (peer reviewed)

Suarez, M.A., Nelson, N.W., & Curtis, A. B. (2014). Longitudinal Follow-up of Factors Associated with Food Selectivity in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. *Autism*_Nov;18(8):924-32. doi: 10.1177/1362361313499457. (peer reviewed)

Suarez, M.A., Nelson, N.W., & Curtis, A. B. (2012). Associations of Physiological Factors, Age, and Sensory Over-Responsivity with Food Selectivity in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. *Open Journal of Occupational Therapy, 1*, 1. <https://doi.org/10.15453/2168-6408.1004> (peer reviewed)

Suarez, M. A., & Nelson, N. W. (2012). Sensory processing patterns in children with autism spectrum disorders: Impact on daily activities and family life. *Pediatric Clinics of North America, 59*, 1, 203-215. (invited article)

Suarez, M. A., & Atchison, B. (2012). Intellectual Disability. In B. Atchison & D. K.Dirette (Eds.), *Conditions in Occupational Performance* (4th ed.). Baltimore: Williams and Wilkins. (invited chapter)

Presentations

Suarez, M. (accepted, 2025). The Power of “Co-Flow” in Caregiver-Child Interaction: Creating Resiliency and Well-Being in Families and Children with Regulation Challenges. American Occupational Therapy Association Conference.

Sherman, H., Zion, E., Sauger, E., Pylat, C. & **Suarez, M.** (accepted, 2025). Investigating Psychometric Properties of the Occupational Regulation Questionnaire. American Occupational Therapy Association Conference.

Bammert, A., Bannon, G., Boyle, M., Harahan, W., Huffman, L., Peyer, H., Stapert, C. & **Suarez, M.** (accepted 2024). Examining the Nature and Quality of Co-Occupations between Children and their Foster/Adoptive Caregivers. Michigan Occupational Therapy Association.

Bailey, F., Burch, A., Hansel, A., Heestand, C., Henderson, J., Hutchison, K., TurnQuist, T., Zydorcyk, J. & **Suarez, M.** (2023). Caregiver Co-Regulation Coaching Pilot Chart Review. Michigan Occupational Therapy Association Conference.

Suarez, M.A. & Atchison, B. (2021). Fostering resilience through Caregiver Co-Regulation Coaching for children with complex trauma. Michigan Occupational Therapy Association Conference

Suarez, M.A. & Sloyan, A. (2021). Data driven treatment for food selectivity with the Just Right Challenge Feeding Protocol. Michigan Occupational Therapy Association Conference

Suarez, M.A. (2021). Sensory Processing and Complex Trauma: Tools for Optimal Regulation and Engagement. (peer reviewed). Kalamazoo Wraps System of Care Conference.

- Suarez, M.A.** (2020). Just right challenge feeding protocol. Presentation (peer reviewed). American Occupational Therapy Associated Conference. (accepted and prepared but conference canceled due to Covid-19)
- Suarez, M.A.** (2019). Increasing self-regulation for ADL independence: feasibility and co-regulation curriculum description. Poster (peer reviewed), American Occupational Therapy Association Conference.
- Suarez, M.A.** (2018). Just right challenge food club for finicky feeders: Treatment of food selectivity at the Marion R. Spear Occupational Therapy Unified Clinic. Lecture (invited), presented at the Southwest Michigan Eating Disorders Association.
- Suarez, M.A.,** Frisbie-Yu, S., Sherba, L. & Bush, E. (2018). Multicomponent treatment for food selectivity with single-subject, multiple-baseline data. Poster (peer reviewed), presented at the American Occupational Therapy Association Conference.
- Suarez, M.A.** (2018). Trauma and sensory processing: A SECRET clinical reasoning tool for optimal engagement. Lecture (invited), presented at the Michigan Speech-Language-Hearing Association Annual Conference.
- Ciolino, C., Hyter, Y. D., Bedrosian, J. L., **Suarez, M. A.**, & Skeels, A. (2017). Language profiles of individuals with trauma exposure and comorbid Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders. *American Speech-Language-Hearing Association*.
- Suarez, M.A.,** Frisbie-Yu, S., Scherba, L., Spradlin, P. (Fall 2017). Preliminary Outcome Data for a Multi-Component Treatment for Food Selectivity. Lecture (peer reviewed), presented at the Michigan Occupational Therapy Association Conference.
- Suarez, M.A.,** Bennett, L. (Fall 2017). Baby Steps: Facilitation of Co-Regulation for Play in Mothers and their Infants. Lecture (peer reviewed), presented at the Michigan Occupational Therapy Association Conference.
- Ciolino, C., Hyter Y., Bedrosian, J., **Suarez, M.**, Skeels, A. (Fall, 2017). *Language Profiles of Children who Have Experienced Complex Trauma & Comorbid Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder*. Poster session (peer reviewed), presented at the national American Speech and Hearing Association Conference, Los Angeles, CA.
- Suarez, M.A. (2016).** *Electrodermal Response to Food in Children with Autism Compared to Children who are Typically Developing*. Poster session, (peer reviewed), presented at the national American Occupational Therapy Associated Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Suarez, M.A.** (2014). *Food Selectivity in Children with Autism: Longitudinal Follow-up of Changes in Severity and Associated Factor*. Poster session, (peer reviewed),

presented at the national American Occupational Therapy Associated Conference, Baltimore, MD.

Suarez, M. A. & Grosser, A. (2013). *Finicky Feeders Food Selectivity Clinic: An Innovative OT Fieldwork Experience Focused on the Treatment of Food Selectivity in Children.* Poster session, (peer reviewed), presented at the regional Occupational Therapy Deans' Research Day, Saginaw, Michigan.

Suarez, M. A., Koole, H., Jackson, J. & Layer, R. (2012). *Pilot Interprofessional Education program for Collaboration Readiness of OT Students.* Poster session, (peer reviewed) presented at the regional Occupational Therapy Deans' Research Day, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Suarez, M. A. (2011). *Factors Associated with Food Selectivity in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders.* Poster session presented at the 2011 Western Michigan University Research Day, Kalamazoo (awarded a prize).

Suarez, M. A. (2011). *Factors Associated with Food Selectivity in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders.* Poster session (peer reviewed) presented at the regional Occupational Therapy Deans' Research Day, St. Louis, Missouri.

Suarez, M. A. (2010, July). *Factors Associated with Food Selectivity in Children with Autism.* Paper presented at Interdisciplinary Health Sciences Biennial Research Day, Western Michigan University Kalamazoo (awarded Pisaneschi Prize for best doctoral student presentation in the IHS Department).

Suarez, M. A. (1998) (member of several person panel). *Team Research: Perspectives of Consumers, Students and Faculty.* Paper presented at Alliance for the Mentally Ill and International Association of Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services joint conference, Ypsilanti, MI.

Grant Proposals

\$193,634. Barry County. Substance Use Disorder Services to the Barry County's Adult Specialty Courts.

PI: Degani, Co-PI's: **Suarez** and Kuchenbuch
(In Review)

\$16,500 Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Center of Excellence 2024-2025.

PI: **Suarez**
(Funded Oct 1 2024)

\$50,000 Western Michigan University Experience-driven Education Venture Grant. TechBoost: A technological infrastructure upgrade for experiential learning excellence at WMU Unified Clinics.

PI's **Suarez, Rigley & Degani**
(Funded April 2024)

\$100,000 Eastside Youth Strong. Student Occupations for Academic Readiness (SOAR).

\$20,000 per year since Fall, 2012.

PI (since 2018): **Suarez**

\$4,936,590 Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Bid. Resiliency Capacity Building Center. PI's Suarez, Degani and Cisler.

(Not funded)

\$499,995. Michigan Health Endowment. VitaCare: Valuable Interventions and Therapies for Alzheimer's Disease and Caregiver Respite.

PI: Degani, Co-PI: **Suarez**

(Not Funded)

\$1,820,000. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

Youth Mental health Interprofessional Networking and workforce Development (Y-MIND).

PI: **Suarez**, Co-PI's Degani and Cisler

(Funded Oct 1. 2023)

\$425,000 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA).

Affirming, Accepting, LGBTQIA+ Youth within Families"

PI: Perricone, Co-PI's Suarez and Whitaker.

(Not Funded)

\$750,000. State of Michigan. Resiliency Center for Families and Children. PI for year three of Resiliency Center Funding.

PI: **Suarez**

(Funded Oct. 2022)

\$349,071. Michigan Health Endowment. Caregiver Co-Regulation Coaching.

PI: Suarez

(Not Funded)

\$ 99,963.50. Resiliency Center for Families and Children. Measuring the impact of the

CTAC Neurodevelopmental Assessment for Children who have Experienced Trauma.

Co-PI's **Suarez** and Hyter

(Funded: April 2021-April 2022)

99,841. American Occupational Therapy Foundation. Data Driven Decision Making to guide Caregiver Coaching.

PI: **Suarez**

(Not Funded).

\$9,981 Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award (FRACCA). Measuring the Effectiveness of the Zones of Regulation Curriculum for Increasing Engagement in Activities of Daily Living.

PI: **Suarez**

(Funded: July 2017- June 2018)

\$1751 Sammons Center for Innovation and Research. Smart Wearable Sensory to Detect Hand Movement in Autistic Children.

PI: Abdel-Qader Co-PI: **Suarez**

\$2000 Support for Faculty Scholars Award (SFSA). Phenomenological Examination of the Experience of Mothering from the Perspective of New Mother's in an Opioid Recovery Program

PI: Suarez

(Funded: May 2016-Nov 2016)

\$56,282 BCBS of Michigan Foundation Grant: Optimal Health through Healthy Eating: A Novel Treatment for Food Selectivity in Children with Developmental Disabilities

PI: **Suarez**

(Funded: 2016)

\$74,999 WMU WKKF Racial Healing Planning Grant to support Achieving Academic Readiness for Infants Exposed to Opiates through Co-Regulation: Sensory Integration and the Science of Song

Co-PI's **Suarez** and Roth

(Funded: 2014)

\$9800 University's Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award (FRACAA) to support Identifying an Underlying Physiological Process Associated with Food Selectivity in Children with ASD

PI: **Suarez**

(Funded: 2013)

\$3000 Competitive, Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation (doctoral or medical) Student Award Program to support *Pilot Interprofessional Education Program for Collaboration Readiness of OT Students* research project.

PI: **Suarez**

(Funded: 2011)

Reviewer

Peer Review Letter to Editor in <i>Open Journal of Occupational Therapy</i>	Fall 2024
Peer Review of Article in <i>Open Journal of Occupational Therapy</i>	Fall 2023
Peer Review of Article in <i>Open Journal of Occupational Therapy</i>	Fall 2023
Peer Review of Article in <i>Open Journal of Occupational Therapy</i>	Spring 2023
Peer Review of Article in <i>Open Journal of Occupational Therapy</i>	Fall 2022
Peer Review of Article in <i>Open Journal of Occupational Therapy</i>	Summer 2022
Peer Review of Article in <i>Open Journal of Occupational Therapy</i>	Spring 2021

Peer Review of Article in <i>Open Journal of Occupational Therapy</i>	Spring 2020
Peer Review of Article in <i>Open Journal of Occupational Therapy</i>	Fall 2019
Peer Review of Article in <i>Open Journal of Occupational Therapy</i>	Spring 2019
Peer Review of Article in <i>Open Journal of Occupational Therapy</i>	Spring 2019
Peer Review of Article in <i>Open Journal of Occupational Therapy</i>	Spring 2018
Peer Review of Article in <i>Open Journal of Occupational Therapy</i>	Spring 2017
Peer Review of Article in <i>Open Journal of Occupational Therapy</i>	Summer 2016
Peer Review of Article in <i>Open Journal of Occupational Therapy</i>	Summer 2015
Peer Review of Article in <i>Open Journal of Occupational Therapy</i>	Spring 2015
Peer Review of Article in <i>Open Journal of Occupational Therapy</i>	Spring 2015
Peer Review of Article in the <i>Journal of Visualized Experiments</i>	Spring 2015
Peer Review of Article in <i>Nutrition in Clinical Practice</i>	Fall 2014
Peer Review of Article in <i>Autism</i>	Summer 2014
Peer Review of Article in <i>Open Journal of Occupational Therapy</i>	Summer 2014
Peer Review of Article in <i>Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders</i>	Summer 2014
Peer Review of Article in <i>Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders</i>	Spring 2014
Peer Review of Article in <i>Open Journal of Occupational Therapy</i>	Fall 2013
Peer Review of Article in <i>Autism</i>	Fall 2013
Peer Review of Article in <i>Open Journal of Occupational Therapy</i>	Summer 2012
Peer Review of Article in <i>Topics in Language Disorders</i>	Summer 2011

Peer Reviewed Journal Editorial Board Member

Editorial Board for *Open Journal of Occupational Therapy*
Spring 2012-Present

Founding Member of the Brain Research and Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Lab

Fall 2011- Summer 2024

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Faculty Senate

Spring 2023- Present- 3 year term.

Interim Director: Unified Clinics-

March 2023-August 2023 and May 2024-present

Hosted Debbie Stabenow at Unified Clinics to highlight teaching clinics, medical services and Resiliency Center.

Spring 2023

OT Department Personnel Committee Member

2022-2023

OT Department Search Committee for traditional and clinical faculty

2022

OT Program Evaluation Committee Member

2022- Present

Seach committee member: University Development Officer for College of Health and Human Services.

Spring 2022

Barb Rider Colloquium Committee for Complex Trauma Conference

Fall 2022

Developed and implemented Caregiver Co Regulation Coaching for parents of children who have experienced trauma.

Spring 2020-present

Search Committee Member: Lee Honors College Associate Dean

2018

Fieldwork Advisory Committee: OT Department

2017-2021

Search Committee Chair: Occupational Therapy Department Traditional Track Faculty

2017

Admissions Committee: Occupational Therapy Department

2016-2018

Search Committee Member: Chair of OT Department

2017

Search Committee Member: Grand Rapids Traditional Faculty

2017

Search Committee Member: IHS PHD program faculty

2016

Research Coordinator for the American Occupational Therapy Association Children and Youth Special Interest Section

Fall 2018- Spring 2021

Member and Vice Chair of the WMU HSIRB Committee

Spring 2014- Summer 2021

Member of the IHS PhD Research Comprehensive Exam 1 Committee

Fall 2015-2019

Member of the IPE Portfolio Workgroup, 2013-2014

Member of the Interprofessional Education, Innovation in Teaching and Learning, and Sustainability 2013

Member of WMU Grade and Program Dismissals Appeals Committee

Fall 2012- 2015

Initiated service learning project at Kalamazoo Ready Four's Program for OT 3810

Fall 2012- 2020

Initiated and coordinate "Finicky Feeders" Clinic at the WMU Unified Clinics

Spring 2012- Present

Supervise and instruct OT students who provide treatment for children with severe, health threatening food selectivity.

Chair of Deans' Research Day Planning Committee

Spring 2012

Lead the committee to coordinate and organize the regional 2012 OT Deans' Research Day held at WMU, Kalamazoo.

Serve on student recognition committee

Fall 2009-2022

Search Committee Member: OT Department

2013

Co-Lead effort to develop new policy, interviewed and recommended hire of OT GA's

Summer 2012- 2022

Editorial Board for *Open Journal of Occupational Therapy*
Spring 2012-Present

Co-Chair of Deans' Research Day Planning Committee
Spring 2012

Member of OT Research Committee
Summer 2011-Summer 2012

WMU Student Occupational Therapy Association Advisor
Fall 2010-Present

Served on expert panel for rubric competition at WMU
Spring 2010

Member of Student Recognition Committee
Fall 2009-Present

4-C's "Success for Kids in Childcare Program" Volunteer
Fall 2004-Winter 2006

Canonsburg Challenged Ski Association Instructor
Winter 2004

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Occupational Therapy Association

Michigan Occupational Therapy Association

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Trust Based Relational Intervention Practitioner Training. Karyn Purvis Institute of Child Development.
Summer 2021

Early Start Denver Model. UC Davis. Online course.

Single Subject Research Design Mentorship. Sensory Processing Disorder Foundation, Denver CO
Summer 2015

Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS-2 Modules 1-4 & Toddler Module) Workshop. Sunfield Center for Autism, ADHD and Behavioral Health.
Ann Arbor, MI
March 2015

Biopac Mentorship. Biopac Cooperation, CA
Fall 2014

DIRFloortime Certificate (DIR 201). DIRFloortime, The Interdisciplinary Council on
Development and Learning.
Spring 2014

Advanced mentorship in Sensory Processing Disorders and physiological monitoring devices
at the Sensory Processing Disorder Foundation, Denver, CO
Summer 2013

Biostatistics, Nova Southeastern University Course
Fall 2007

Brain Gym
February 2006

Play is the Way: Engaging Children with Autism
December 1, 2006

Statewide Autism Resources and Training for Centralized Evaluation Team
January 4, 2005

Neurobiological Foundations of Sensory Integration
October 15, 2004

Sequential, Oral, Sensory Approach to Treating Pediatric Feeding Disorders
January 2004

Assistive Technology for Students with Special Needs
May 2003

Best Practice for Students with Autistic Spectrum Disorders
March 2003

Active Learning for Students with Severe Impairments
December 2002

Hand Function and Fine Motor Skill Development
May 2000