

Amy Connolly, MS OTR/L, ATP

6042 Elder Rd. Ferndale, WA 98248

(615) 969-8179 • amyconnollyatp@gmail.com

Certified Occupational Therapist, licensed in Washington, and Assistive Technology Professional, certified nationally, with special interest in assistive technology (high and low) and interdisciplinary collaboration. Competencies include implementation of appropriate assistive technologies across the lifespan, human body and behavior, medical conditions and how they affect function, as well as teaching and program development for community and educational settings.

EDUCATION

Boston School of Occupational Therapy at Tufts University, Medford, MA 2012 – 2015
MS Occupational Therapy, Joy Ann Greisen Scholarship Award

Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, NY 2004 – 2008
BA Liberal Arts

Assistive Technology Fundamentals, Rehabilitation Engineering & Assistive Technology Society of North America 2016

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY AND ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY EXPERIENCE

Bellingham School District, Bellingham, WA August 2020 – present
Occupational Therapist, Assistive Technology Support Specialist

- Provide AT services, in the form of collaborative consultation, to a wide range of students (ages 3-21) with high and low incidence disabilities that interfere with learning and access to the educational environment, including remote learning
- Offer learning opportunities to educational professionals, paraprofessionals, students and families
- Assesses for AT needs and target same with appropriate equipment or alternative strategies
- Provide specialized equipment and training on use of same for a wide range of students in the school setting
- Collaborate with Instructional Technology, Administrators, and other staff in developing a systems-wide approach to AT

Edmonds School District, Edmonds, WA August 2018 – present
Occupational Therapist, Assistive Technology Specialist

- As above, in Bellingham, with additional responsibilities of managing multiple funding sources and digital tools for learning
- Implementation of district-wide mobile device management system for several hundred iPads and other assets

Special Education Technology Center, Ellensburg, WA October 2019 – present
Occupational Therapist, Assistive Technology Specialist

- Design and deliver webinars on topics pertaining to assistive technology tools and strategies, e.g. switch-use

The Boston Home, Dorchester, MA 2016 - 2018
Occupational Therapist

- Provided OT services for adults with advanced multiple sclerosis and other progressive neurological conditions in a highly collaborative, multidisciplinary long-term care and outpatient setting
- Identified and optimized appropriate assistive technologies for environmental control, adapted computing, functional mobility, and personal care, trained residents and caregivers in use of same
- Assessed for and provided functional positioning devices for management of spasticity and tone

Tufts University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Medford, MA 2016 – 2017
Teaching Fellow and Grant Project Coordinator, Assistive Technology Innovations

- Coordinated development of new, interdisciplinary course and fabrication lab with seed grant funding
- Presented findings at university-wide teaching and national rehab engineering (RESNA) conferences

Teaching Assistant, Assistive Technology 2015 – 2016

- Supported OT and engineering students, faculty and staff in cross-disciplinary collaborations
- Established fabrication lab for engineering and OT students, as well as disability community

Research Assistant, Social Participation and Navigation (SPAN) 2014 – 2015

- Assisted Gary Bedell, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA in developing intervention to increase social participation among teens with TBI using peer mentoring and web-based technology

Amy Connolly, MS OTR/L, ATP

6042 Elder Rd. Ferndale, WA 98248

(615) 969-8179 • amyconnollyatp@gmail.com

- Lab Aide, OT Practice in Physical Dysfunction* 2014
- Easter Seals Massachusetts**, Boston, MA 2016
Occupational Therapist, Rehabilitation Services
- Provided OT services in diverse settings, such as skilled nursing facilities, day habilitation, and home care
- Open Style Lab**, Cambridge, MA Summer 2016
Fellow, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Created accessible apparel in collaboration with engineers, designers, and end-users with disabilities
- Empower Spinal Cord Injury (SCI)**, Stony Brook, NY 2014 – 2015
Assistive Technology Specialist, Residential Aid and Ambassador
- Designed and fabricated a variety of light tech adaptations to enhance grip and hand function among adults with SCI, create customized wheelchair accessories using readily available materials
 - Supported daily routines of participants at two-week, volunteer-run residential rehabilitation program
 - Organized annual fundraiser featuring adaptive trail riding equipment and activities
- Assistive Device Center at Perkins School for the Blind**, Watertown, MA Summer 2015
Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries, Boston, MA
Level II Fieldwork Student
- Created custom adaptive devices for children and adults with disabilities, i.e. seating/positioning systems, in collaboration with classroom teachers and other professionals to address individuals' needs
 - Designed and implemented groups for adults with development disabilities to promote functional skills
- Pi Beta Phi Rehabilitation Institute at Vanderbilt University Medical Center**, Nashville, TN Fall 2014
Level II Fieldwork Student
- Provided outpatient OT services to patients with neurological impairments, such as stroke, traumatic brain injury, brain tumors, spinal cord injury, Parkinson's and ALS
 - Delivered in-service on maximizing function in the presence of cognitive and perceptual impairments
- Krempels Center**, Portsmouth, NH Summer 2014
Teaching Artist Volunteer – Taught bookmaking to adults with brain injury at community day program
- Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital**, Boston, MA 2013 – 2014
Adaptive Sports Volunteer – Assisted cycling and rock climbing events for individuals with disabilities
- Dr. Miriam Marecek**, Winchester, MA 2013
Personal Assistant – Helped to complete memoir and maintain personal communications, digital and analog, of retired professor and children's book expert with limited hand function due to multiple sclerosis
- Outdoors for All Foundation**, Seattle, WA Winter 2012
Volunteer Coordinator – Recruited and managed 400+ volunteers for therapeutic recreation programs
- Pacific Balance Rehabilitation Clinic**, Seattle, WA Winter 2011
Administrative Assistant – Managed scheduling at busy clinic, coordinated care with insurance carriers
- Swedish Medical Center**, Seattle, WA 2010 – 2011
Art Buddy Volunteer – Made art projects with pediatric patients, supported families and nursing staff

PRESENTATIONS

Fleischer, A. "Students Using Switches: Collaboration is Key" Two-part webinar series. AbleNet University. Fall 2019

Fleischer, A. "Working with Students Using Switches" Course. Edmonds School District. Edmonds, WA. Spring 2019

Amy Connolly, MS OTR/L, ATP

6042 Elder Rd. Ferndale, WA 98248

(615) 969-8179 • amyconnollyatp@gmail.com

Buxton, J., **Fleischer, A.**, Hannon, D., Leisk, G., O'Connor, T., Bedell, G. "Collaboration in Assistive Technology Education: AT Innovations Cross-College Course at Tufts University." Workshop. Rehabilitation Engineering Society of North America (RESNA) Annual Conference. New Orleans, LA. June 2017

Bedell, G, **Fleischer, A.**, LaFavre, M., Wade, S.L., King, J., Turkstra, L.L., Haarbauer-Krupa, J., & Johnson, J. "Social Participation And Navigation (SPAN) for Teens with TBI: Phase 1 development of an app-based coaching intervention." Poster presentation. American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) Annual Conference. Nashville, TN. April 2015.