

From-the-Dean

Dietetics and nutrition faculty member **Danielle Christifano, Ph.D.**, [was elected](#) president of the U.S. chapter of Developmental Origins of Health and Disease. The large international organization is comprised of researchers who study the effects of early developmental exposures on health. Congratulations.

A paper by occupational therapy faculty member **Adriana Queiroz, Ph.D.**, [was published](#) in the journal SciELO Brazil. It is titled "Collective Building of a Leisure Understanding in Territorial Mental Health, by Occupational Therapists: A Qualitative Study" and is an important resources because it is one of very few studies of its kind in this field. Nice work.

KU physical therapy students **Courtney Goetz, Ellie Kohl, Lydia Pemberton** and **Elizabeth Steger** presented during the fall retreat of the Training Program in Neurological and Rehabilitation Sciences at KU Medical Center, also known as the summer [NIH T32 program](#). Kohl was awarded Best Presentation by a Summer Trainee for "Vestibular Function and Head Control During Falls in Older Adults" during the event held on October 31, 2023. Great job.

A recent issue of Kansas Alumni magazine features [an article](#) about **Jessica Whitfill Johnson, Au.D.**, a 2021 graduate of our doctoral program in audiology. It details her path from childhood hearing loss to helping people facing hearing challenges of their own today. The article also highlights the Department of Hearing and Speech, including comments from **Tiffany Johnson, Ph.D.**, and **Lauren Mann, Ph.D.** Well done.

Please be safe, and thank you for all that you do.



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