

13 January 2017

Re: Jayna Fischbach, OTD, OTR/L

It is with great pleasure that I provide a reference letter for Jayna Fischbach for the Forty under 40 Awards

Dr. Fischbach is employed at Drake University as an Assistant Professor in the Occupational Therapy Doctoral Program on a tenure track line. Jayna graduated from Creighton University with her clinical doctorate (OTD) in 2012. As a student, she took on major leadership roles, not only for the occupational therapy program, but for the College of Pharmacy and Health Professions as the Student Government President, for two consecutive years. As a doctoral student, Dr. Fischbach also worked with the STAR (Sensory Therapies And Research) Center in Colorado as a part of her professional rotation, including: advanced training and mentorship in sensory integration, feeding and swallowing, school-based, and NICU therapeutic intervention; provision of individualized occupational therapy intervention for children of all ages and diagnoses from evaluation through discharge in an outpatient setting; Provision of school-based services to a variety of children in a school for children with behavioral difficulties; development and implementation of a handwriting camp curriculum for two separate small group sessions; served as a teaching assistant to pediatric courses taught at Creighton University, and developed sensory-motor groups for a preschool for children with hearing impairments.

Dr. Fischbach has continued to participate in three levels of advanced training//certification in Sensory Processing Disorders the STAR center. She continues to work toward the goal of developing a research center for the study and treatment of sensory processing disorders in Des Moines with representatives at Child Serve in Johnson and Drake University. Sensory processing disorders include services for individuals on the autism spectrum, which is an underserved community in Iowa.

Following graduation from Creighton, Dr. Fischbach practiced as a pediatric occupational therapist at Cox Health and at TheraCare Outpatient Services in Springfield, MO. Since moving to Des Moines, IA, Dr. Fischbach has continued to work clinically at ChildServ and to volunteer at Courage League Sports. In July 2015, Dr. Fischbach joined the faculty of the developing Occupational Therapy Doctoral Program at Drake University, as one of three original members of the faculty. With her close involvement and recent experience serving on the reaccreditation committee at her *alma mater*, the program was able to successfully receive candidacy status by December 2015. Dr. Fischbach serves on a number of faculty committees including Serves as Chair of several College committees in CPHS at Drake University (OT Admissions, co-chair, OT Faculty Search committee, Chair); Serves as a member of several college committees for CPHS (Academic Affairs Committee, member Athletic Training Program Director Search Committee. Health Sciences Program Advisory Council).

Dr. Jayna Fischbach is a highly integritous person. Years of experience playing sports such as basketball and volleyball, being active on track and field has given her tremendous insight and ability as a team player. As a player, she also served as a team captain. Jayna is the type of person who takes charge and gets to the root of issues, ever mindful of the need to move ahead, and to progress toward a significant goal, within a reasonable time frame. She rolls up her sleeves, participates in the work, but has the ability to direct and redirect actions of others on the team, to move the work forward. She is a natural leader. Some of the qualities of her leadership style are: honesty, she holds herself and others to ethical decision-making; is able to delegate work to others and is mindful of the strengths and work preferences of her peers; is an open communicator, ever transparent in her reasoning, has confidence in her own strengths and abilities; makes appropriate commitments (volunteers for projects at a high level, but does not over-commit); has a positive attitude; is creative and proposes novel solutions to problems; is intuitive and often seeks solutions ahead of a crest of a wave of change; inspires others to work with her on causes and change processes; and approaches others well-crossing language and cultural barriers, pulling people in and encouraging active participation.

Dr. Jayna Fischbach has tremendous leadership potential. She has an ability to deliver results from a position of leadership. She is truly capable and has demonstrated her ability to organize, mobilize and inspire others. She has strength of purpose and is capable of demonstrating the courage of her convictions, persistence and determination. She is a creative problem solver and is able to convince others to try her approach and trust in her leadership. She is self-aware and recognizes her own personal strengths and weaknesses.

As her Chair and Program Director at Drake University, I can affirm that Jayna is someone who is contributing to

Sincerely,



Ann Burkhardt, OTD, OTR/L, BCN, FAOTA

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