

## Faculty Bio

Name: Michael A. Pizzi, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

Title: Associate Professor

School and department: Program in Occupational Therapy, Dominican College

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Dr. Pizzi was awarded the Award for Excellence in the Advancement of Occupational Therapy and was one of the youngest therapists to have the honor of becoming a Fellow of the American Occupational Therapy Foundation (FAOTA), given to those who demonstrate scholarship, leadership and service to the profession. He was recently guest editor of the Special Issue on Childhood Obesity and the Special Issue on Health, Well-Being and Quality of Life for the American Journal of Occupational Therapy.

Dr. Pizzi teaches OT theory and practice, health and wellness, community-based practice and Maturity courses. He developed the first childhood obesity occupation and client-centered assessment which has been utilized nationally and is undergoing psychometric testing and is being used in research in the US and Israel. He has also developed the Pizzi Health and Wellness Assessment (PHWA) and the Pizzi healthy Weight Management Assessment (PHWMA) which have been utilized in several research studies and was presented at AOTA 2014-18. Besides writing and research, in 2014, Dr. Pizzi was selected for the Executive Board of the Leaders and Legacies Society (LLS) Steering Committee. He has published many peer reviewed journal articles and chapters on topics including HIV rehabilitation, hospice, entrepreneurship, and childhood obesity and was a forerunner in these areas. There are over 100 lectures, workshops and keynote addresses focusing on advancing occupational therapy practice in the area of health and well-being to his credit. Dr. Pizzi co-edited the OT textbook "Occupational Therapy in the Promotion of Health and Wellness" which is used internationally. He believes in developing a spirited and collaborative teaching environment where students can actively learn, utilize their creativity, and apply knowledge for the betterment of society. Dr. Pizzi takes great pride in mentoring future clinical scholars. He currently serves as a reviewer of the American and Australian OT journals, is a reviewer for OT in Health Care and on the editorial board of the International Journal of Occupational Therapy.