Lynne Murphy, EdD, OTR/L

Lynne Murphy, EdD, OTR/L is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy. She earned her EdD in Instructional Technology from Towson University in Towson, Maryland in May 2016 and joined the faculty at ECU in July 2016. She is an occupational therapist with 30 years of clinical experience in many types of physical rehabilitation, including acute care, in-patient and out-patient rehabilitation, industrial rehabilitation and ergonomics. While continuing her clinical practice, Dr. Murphy taught at Towson University from 1998-2016, earning the rank of Clinical Associate Professor. Her research interests include the development of clinical reasoning in OT students, outcomes of equine-assisted therapies, and social and ADL participation of stroke survivors. And she remains a Baltimore sports fan (go Orioles and Ravens)!

What do you like best about working at ECU?

I have the privilege of working with great colleagues and have found ECU to have many valuable supports and resources as I continue to develop my research. I also have enjoyed establishing some community relationships. It’s been a fun year exploring ECU athletics, living in a college town, and enjoying eastern NC.

What do you find most exciting about your research and its potential?

I am excited about the opportunities to collaborate in research. I am working through EOSA (Engagement and Outreach Scholars Academy) to further explore how equine-assisted therapies can benefit adults, primarily with a focus on mental health and recovery from illness. It’s a good day when research takes me out to a ranch! And I’m looking forward to bringing some of my students into collaborative projects with faculty and students in CSDI. There are great opportunities to learn from each other.

What excites you about teaching?

I love working with new students who are excited to become occupational therapists and playing some role in their personal and professional development. Those relationships are so valuable as students become skilled clinicians and researchers. I enjoy developing those relationships with future colleagues, and teaching helps me pass on what I love about my profession.

What do you hope students take away from their experiences from working with you on your research?

I hope our students develop a life-long love of learning. There is always something new to contribute and learn. I hope students see graduation as an opportunity to pursue their passions without grades attached, rather than completing their education.
What is your favorite teaching or research moment?

I love seeing alumni who have been working, when they seek me out to tell me something that we did in a class or lab together made a difference for them. It’s truly gratifying when a former student has made the connection between class content and having a positive impact on a patient, or in exploring research opportunities in their own practice.