



June 2023

Dear Student,

On behalf of Dr. Stephanie DeFranceschi - sdefranceschi@stclaircollege.ca, Chair of the School of Health Science here at St Clair College (SCC), Monica Staley Liang mstaleyliang@stclaircollege.ca, Dean of Health Science and Nursing, the OTA & PTA program faculty and myself, Dr. Phil Rance – Retiring OTA & PTA Program Coordinator, I would like to congratulate you on your acceptance into this program.

We all look forward to you joining us at Chatham Campus to commence the OTA & PTA program in September. This is a two-year program offering theory classes, practical/mandatory lab classes and clinical placements that will help you develop the knowledge and skills to graduate with a diploma from our Occupational Therapist Assistant & Physiotherapist Assistant program.

Included in this package is some important information that I would ask you to carefully review.

First, there is a “Smart Start” document that outlines most, if not all of the important things you need to know as you join us at Chatham Campus.

Placements do not occur until semester 3 so preplacement requirements are not immediately necessary. A list of requirements is available on the St. Clair College website on the OTA & PTA page under the “Placement” tab. You are advised to get the requirements completed early – but not too early because some requirements such as police checks do become outdated and must be no less than six months old throughout the of each block placement in semester 3 and 4.

There is information regarding accommodation of learning needs. If you anticipate that you may need such assistance, again, please contact student services at as soon as you can. Furthermore, it is your responsibility to inform your professors if you require accommodations. This is very important because we want everyone to succeed to the best of their abilities and if you are entitled to accommodations, you must let us know.

Most of our correspondence will be through email and this will need to be through your college email address, it is safer for all concerned. So please, while you may have a social email address, please use your college email, and check it regularly. Remember that you must set up your email account and agree to receive emails from the college before you will get any emails at all. So please do this ASAP.

Lastly, please do not forget the St Clair College Chatham Campus OTA & PTA Orientation 2023. Orientation will take place at Chatham Campus in the HealthPlex on a date to be determined. Please check back with the College Website for updates. Orientation is an excellent opportunity to become familiar with the college and your program. You will also get to meet your peers and some program faculty. There will be ample opportunity for questions and there are workshops available to help prepare you for college life. **If at all possible, I urge you to attend.**

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the college. I will be retiring at the end of this month so please, if you have questions or concerns please reach out to the Chair of Health Science, Dr. Franceschi – sdefranceschi@stclaircollege.ca or the Administrative Assistant to the School of Health Science – Chatham, Ms. Linda Quick – lquick@stclaircollege.ca.

Once again, congratulations on your acceptance into this exciting program and I look forward to being with you on your journey to a meaningful and rewarding career.

Sincerely,

Dr. Phil

Philip A.B. Rance PhD. Reg. PT OTA/PTA Program Coordinator.