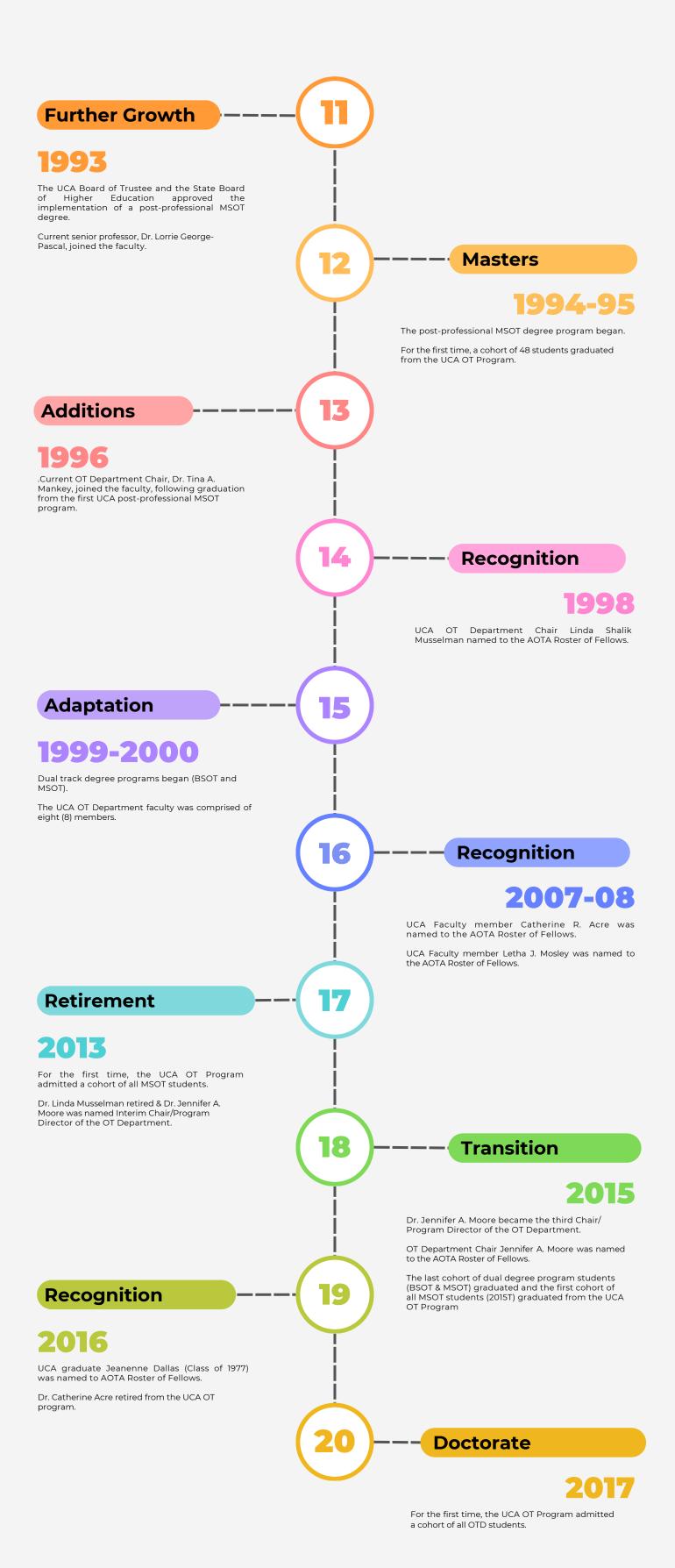


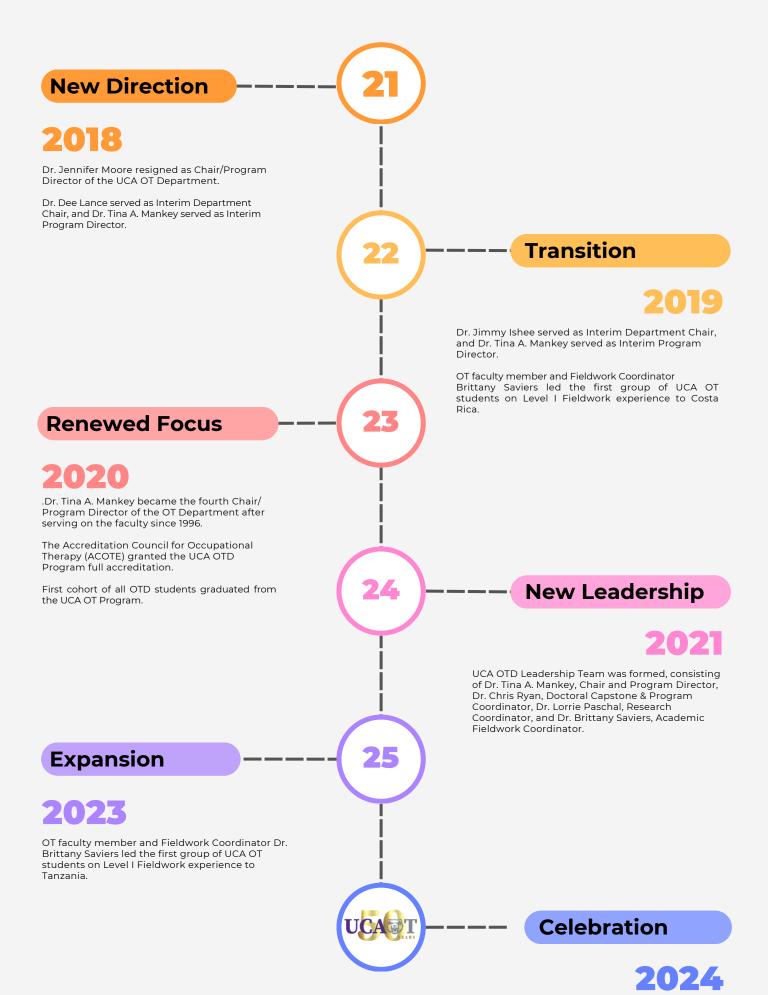
The University of Central Arkansas Occupational Therapy Department

OUR Foundation HISTORY Marion Quinney Ross was chosen to lead the effort to establish an occupational therapy (OT) program at UCA. Mrs. Ross received her M.A. and OT Certification from Columbia University in New York City. She was the first Black person to head a department at UCA and led the OT Department for twenty-one (21) years. **Purpose** The Conway Human Development Center (HDC) and Baptist Health provided funding to supplement university resources for the development of the UCA OT Program. The UCA OT program was developed with the following purpose: "The objective of the professional curriculum in occupational therapy is to provide learning experiences that will qualify its graduates to assume the professional responsibilities essential to the pursuit of occupational therapy in its several areas of **Admission** specialization. In addition to the attainment of academic knowledge and skill required to perform professional duties, students are directed toward the development of competence of living in our democratic society, and for functioning effectively in a society where in health care practices are rapidly changing." Seven (7) students were granted admission to the UCA OT Department, the first academic program in occupational therapy in the State of Arkansas. The students were admitted at the junior level to complete a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in OT. Admission standards: **Application** • Completion of 60 hours of general education requirements Completion of personality and interest tests Personal interview Minimum GPA of 2.0 In addition to Mrs. Ross and Dr. Jasper McPhail, The UCA OT Department made its initial Director of the School of Health Sciences, there application for accreditation of the OT Program was one more full-time member of the OT and was granted provisional accreditation by the faculty, Ms. Mae Jackson, and one part-time American Medical Association (AMA) in faculty member, Ms. Alice Bowker. collaboration with the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA). **Accreditation** On the recommendation of the Accreditation Committee of AOTA, the UCA OT Department received full accreditation from the AMA Council on Education. Recognition UCA OT Department Chair Mrs. Marion Quinney Ross was named to the AOTA Roster of Fellows. Growth The UCA OT Program admitted a cohort of 28 students. **Development** UCA graduate Kenneth John Ottenbacher (Class of 1975) was named to the AOTA Roster of Fellows. The UCA OT Program faculty was comprised of five (5) members. A cohort of 22 students graduated from the UCA OT Program. Change Mrs. Marion Ross retired as Chair of the UCA OT Department. Dr. Linda Shalik Musselman, a former student of Mrs. Ross in Ohio, became the second Chair & Program Director of the UCA OT Department. Dr. Musselman was the first UCA OT faculty member to hold a doctorate degree. **Transition**

The UCA OT Department began exploring the possibility of offering a Master of Science (MS) degree for OT.

For the first time, the UCA OT Program accepted a cohort of $48 \ \text{students}.$





Current vision

Our vision is to make a positive impact by facilitating occupational participation of diverse people, populations, and communities.

Current mission Through an intentional investment in relationships, our program prepares communityengaged occupational therapy practitioners, scholars, and advocates for interprofessional collaboration in traditional and emerging practice settings.

Current admissions standards – two tracks

1) Freshman admission (See uca.edu/ot/apply/ for details.)

- 2) Regular admission
- Cumulative GPA of 2.75 minimum based on a 4.0 scale or at least a 3.0 GPA on the last 60 hours of course work on a 4.0 scale
- Submit GRE General Test and Analytical Writing scores
- Complete all occupational therapy prerequisite course work, with a grade of C or better, by the end of the fall semester prior to the spring graduate OT program application deadline
- Complete the online application through OTCAS
- Complete a baccalaureate degree by May of the year of planned enrollment

Current faculty

OT faculty comprised of twelve (12) full-time members: Five (5) tenure track positions plus the Chair/ Program Director who is tenured and six (6) clinical positions. Additional staff include one (1) program support specialist, ten (10) adjunct faculty members, and countless volunteer practitioners & community leaders.