

**Bethke, Donna**

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**From:** UM SOM PTRS <dbethke@som.umaryland.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 08, 2014 4:12 PM  
**To:** Bethke, Donna  
**Subject:** The Chairs' Chatter -1.8.2014



January 8, 2014

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# ***The Chairs' Chatter***



**We hope that all of you had a great holiday break  
and are staying warm in this cold!**

**We had some good news during the holidays, and today we welcome the President of the American Physical Therapy Association for a visit!**

**Best wishes to all for the New Year!**

***Mark & Mary***

## **Department News**



**Congratulations to Dr. Jill Whitall for receiving a Maryland Industrial Partnerships (MIPS) grant entitled "A Tele-medicine System targeting Training, Outcomes Assessment, Personalized Feedback and Social Interaction for Physical Rehabilitation: Validity and Feasibility study in Individuals with Chronic Stroke". Dr. Whitall was approved for funding for one year with \$100,000 total costs. This is collaborative with a company called Rehabtics and Dr. Sandy McCombe Waller and Dr. Roy Film as Co-Investigators.**



**CONGRATULATIONS AND WELL DONE!**



**Paul Rockar, Jr, PT, DPT, MS, APTA President visited the department on Wednesday, January 8, 2014.**

Dr. Rockar presented APTA information to students, faculty, and staff. Students were given the opportunity to ask Dr. Rockar questions regarding the future of the Physical Therapy profession. He received a tour of the PTRS labs and classrooms. Dr. Rockar expressed his appreciation of the high quality education and research programs at PTRS.

Paul Rockar Jr. received his Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Therapy from the University of Pennsylvania in 1975. He received a Master of Science degree in Orthopaedic and Sports Physical Therapy from the University of Pittsburgh in 1981 and a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree from Temple University in 2007. Dr. Rockar is currently the CEO of UPMC Centers for Rehab Services, one of the largest networks of community-based comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation services in Western Pennsylvania. In addition to the large network of outpatient offices the organization also provides services in a variety of hospital and long term care facilities.

Dr. Rockar has been a member of the American Physical Therapy Association since 1975. He is currently the APTA President and previous to his election as President he served as Vice President for three years and as a Board member for four years. Prior to his involvement at the national level he was President and Treasurer of the Pennsylvania Physical Therapy Association. He is also currently on the Board of Directors of the ALS Association of Western Pennsylvania. He has also held Adjunct Faculty positions at the University of Pittsburgh, Duquesne University, and Slippery Rock University. Some of his accolades include being named a University Scholar and Legacy Laureate at the University of Pittsburgh where he and his wife, Judith, have established an endowed scholarship. He was also awarded the Carlin-Michels Achievement Award by the Pennsylvania Physical Therapy Association and the State Legislative Leadership Award by the American Physical Therapy Association.





**Dr. Sandy McCombe-Waller** has been appointed by the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties (ABPTS) to the Specialty Council on Neurologic Physical Therapy for a four-year term beginning January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2017. This is a prestigious appointment in recognition of Sandy's national profile and outstanding content expertise in neurologic physical therapy.



**CONGRATULATIONS & WELL-DONE!**

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## Announcements



### Rehabilitation Science Research Seminar

The Research Seminars are concluded for the semester. They will resume after the MLK holiday.

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You are cordially invited to attend the  
*PTRS Alumni and Friends Reception*

Held during the CSM annual meeting in Las Vegas, NV



Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2014

6:30 – 8:30 PM

Venetian Hotel: 3355 S. Las Vegas Blvd

Murano Room 3204



*Please register by Thursday, January 29<sup>th</sup>*

*All those who pre-register will receive two complimentary drink tickets*

Questions? Call 410.706.5742



## Abstract Submission Timeline



7<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Biomechanics will begin taking application submissions November 15, 2013 Through January 15, 2014. Podium Presentations will be limited, so please submit early to the continuous review process. This meeting occurs once every four year!

For additional meeting deadlines, visit <http://pt.umaryland.edu/research.asp> and select the "Research Events Calendar" pdf file.

## Reminders



Have news to share?

Please send all updates and pictures to **Donna Bethke**, [dbethke@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:dbethke@som.umaryland.edu). Your update needs to be submitted by Monday at 5 PM for that week's issue, otherwise it will be included in the following week.

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