

Welcome to this week's edition of



# ***The Chair's Chatter***

**5/14/13**

---

## **Greetings!**

**Things are really hopping this week as we welcome the Class of 2013 back to PTRS and prepare for their graduation! Lots of exciting news included for this memo, so enjoy!**

*Mary*

Mary Rodgers, PT, PhD, FAPTA, FASB  
George R. Hepburn Professor & Chair  
Dept. Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science  
University of Maryland School of Medicine  
100 Penn Street, Rm. 131A  
Baltimore, MD 21201-1082  
410-706-5658 fax: 410-706-4903  
[mrogers@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:mrogers@som.umaryland.edu)  
<http://pt.umaryland.edu>



Congratulations to everyone on another successful Research Day! The event was an excellent day of engaged presenters, faculty, staff, alumni and students. The level of participation and attendance was impressive. Thank you to the entire team that participated in the planning, preparation and execution of this annual affair.



Congratulations also to the **Class of 2013** as their excitement builds in anticipation of this week's culminating events.

Graduates are welcome to showcase the Department's facilities to their families on Thursday and Friday.

We wish all of them well as they begin their PT careers!!



Please join me in welcoming Ms. Chinwe Ekejiuba to the PTRS department. Chinwe Ekejiuba, MBA, officially joined the PTRS department today on Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup> as an Accountant in the departmental Business and Accounting Office. Chinwe brings to this position over five years of accounting experience. She comes to us from The Amenowon Foundation, a non-profit organization located in Washington, DC. Her previous experience includes an accounting position at Baltimore Healthy Start, Inc., a not-for-profit incorporation located in Baltimore to administer the planning and implementation of the original federal health start infant mortality reduction initiative. Chinwe earned her MBA Degree from Towson University. Stop by Room 109 and welcome Chinwe to the department!

---

---



Kaci-DeWitt-Richards (class of 2014) will appear on the TV show, "The View," on May 16 at 11:00 am. The View is a national program geared towards women with several familiar regular participants such as Barbara Walters, Whoopi Goldberg, and Joy Behar.

Kaci will talk about her personal story of losing weight by an active lifestyle and healthy diet (70 pounds). For her, it is "a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to share my story with millions of other women and promote some of the major values of our profession."

---

---

# THIS



# WEEK!!

---

---

**TUESDAY, May 14** - the DPT Class of 2013 was given access to Scorebuilders, a 4 hour long mock version of the NPTE. Upon completion of the exam, students were provided with a detailed report of their performance on the various sections of the examination. After taking the first on-line exam, students have 30 days in which they can access the exam again.

**THURSDAY, May 16** - **PTRS Pre-Commencement Ceremony**

- Faculty are asked to arrive no later than 2:15 pm to line up for the procession
- Ceremony begins at 2:30 pm. Will conclude by 4:00 pm
- Location: School of Nursing Auditorium, 655 W. Lombard Street
- Light refreshments will be served in the MSTF Atrium immediately following the ceremony.

**FRIDAY, May 17** - **UMB Graduation Ceremony**

- The procession will begin promptly at 1:15 p.m. and depart from University Plaza for the short walk to the Arena. This will ensure that everyone arrives at the Arena no later than 1:30 p.m. in order to line up by school to march into the ceremony.  
<http://www.umaryland.edu/commencement/students/academic-procession>
- Participants will walk along the south side of Baltimore Street.
- Campus police will escort the procession to the Arena, with added security at each of the three intersections.
- Ceremony begins 2:00 pm
- Location: The First Mariner Arena - <http://www.baltimorearena.com/>  
201 W. Baltimore Street, Baltimore, MD 21201
- No tickets required – Open Seating



**The World Is  
Yours To Conquer**

---

---



---

---

### ***Nationally Recognized Scholar***

One DPT student was recognized for her potential to make significant contribution to public health and was named a Paul Ambrose Scholar. This award was given to only 35 health profession students in the nation. The program prepares recipients to address population health challenges at the national and community level with leadership and organizational skills in public health education.

The graduate is: Stephanie Stover!

### ***Research Competency***

Twelve students prepared and presented poster presentations for the PTRS Research Day (in May), which is attended by scholars, community, alumni, students, faculty and staff. The translational case presentation topics ranged from low back pain to balance and vestibular disorders. Students received mentorship from PTRS faculty, Drs. Reicherter, Film, Gordes, Glickman, Conroy, Kalil, Savin, Horn, and McCombe-Waller. Graduates who participated were:

- Lizzie Cavanaugh-Broad
- Bonnie Gilbert
- Pam Knopp
- Katie Millet
- Amy Morlock
- Liana Sved
- Dennis Tom-Wigfield
- Shannon Liu
- Josh Vogel
- Kristen Brewer
- Camille Reuter
- Samantha Sadtler

### ***Global Service***

Four graduates volunteered (and paid) to travel to Suriname in a PTRS cross-cultural global initiative. The experience connected physical therapy student colleagues in Suriname with PTRS students, expanded cultural awareness of health care practices and needs in a developing country, and broadened personal cultural competence. The faculty sponsor and mentor was Dr. Leslie Glickman.

Graduates who participated were:

- Camille Reuter Grezlak
- Samantha Sadtler
- Cara Staniszewski
- Ashley Kneale

### ***Charitable Contributions***

Each year DPT students, along with faculty member Dr. Vinny Conroy, participate in Swim Across America. This charity raises money for cancer research and treatment. In honor of a PTRS staff member who is a breast cancer survivor, the team moniker is King Crabs. Last year the team raised loads of money for the charity from family and friends. Then they swam like crazy to meet their goal. Over the last three years the event has raised over \$1 million. There are too many to name from this class over the 3 years they have been here, but they know who they are!

### ***Superstorm Sandy Heroes/She-ros***

Like many others who were affected by Superstorm Sandy last year, DPT students were not immune to the storm's fury. But several who were in clinical internships when Sandy struck were determined to provide care to their patients. They rode out the storm, staying safe, but were back to clinic treating patients as soon as they could. Dr. Anne Reicherter, Director of Clinical Education, remembers this time well. Graduates who participated include:

- Jessica Ugabor
- Joshua Harmon
- Jessica Eichorn
- Ashley Kneale
- Josh Vogel

### ***Life Goes On...***

Then there are the graduates who were really brave--they got married or had babies while in the program:

- Colleen Potter Howard, married
- Camille Reuter Grzelak, married
- Ashley Baker Rogers, married
- David Lee (wife, Julie) had baby girl, Chloe
- Jon Coulson (and girlfriend) had baby boy



***And Classmates Got Engaged*** (yes, engaged to each other)  
Kyle Atwell and Cara Staniszewski

