

Bethke, Donna

From: Rodgers, Mary
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To: SOM PT Local Users; SOM PTRS DPT Class of 2014; SOM PTRS DPT Class of 2015; SOM PTRS DPT Class of 2016
Subject: The Chair's Chatter



August 20, 2013

The Chair's Chatter



Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science

Greetings!

As the end of summer approaches, we have lots of news in PTRS!
Many thanks to Donna Bethke and Alex Ganzermiller for the new format.
Enjoy!

Mary

Mary Rodgers, PT, PhD, FAPTA, FASB
George R. Hepburn Dynasplint 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
<http://pt.umaryland.edu>



Publications, Events & Workshops

Mark W. Rogers, PT, PhD, FAPTA, Professor and Vice Chair was among the co-authors on, "One step, two steps, three steps more ... directional vulnerability to falls in community dwelling older people," in *Journals of Gerontology, Biological Sciences*, May 17, 2013. He also co-authored, "Early and unintentional release of planned motor actions during motor cortical preparation," in *PLoS One*, 7;8(5):e63417, 2013 May. Dr. Rogers also co-authored "Stepping in Persons Post-Stroke: Comparison of Voluntary and Perturbation-Induced Responses," in *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation* Jul 16, 2013 [Epub ahead of print]. Additionally, Dr. Rogers presented, "Postural Instability and Falls in Parkinson Disease," at the Parkinson's Disease Foundation International Symposium in Sydney, Australia, June 14, 2013.



Mary Rodgers is shown with co-authors Jill McNitt-Gray and Ian Russell (from the University of Southern California) at their poster: Russell I, Brown K, Munaretto J, Gunderson L, Wagner E, Furumasu J, **Rodgers M**, Requejo P, Mc-Nitt-Gray J. Assessing mechanical demand imposed on the UPPER EXTREMITY During Manual wheelchair propulsion IN Realistic Contexts. *International Society of Biomechanics Conference*, Natal, Brazil, August 4-9, 2013.



Student Updates



All 57 DPT graduates from May 2013 have taken the NPTE. 55 Students passed the exam!! This makes the PTRS first time NPTE pass rate for 2013 = 96.49%!!!! (PTRS 2013 Mean Score = 682.58) All US 2013 NPTE Candidates = 90.94% (All US 2013 NPTE Candidates Mean Score = 674.76)

Graduates of the DPT Class of 2013 are licensed in Arizona, Colorado, Ohio, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Maryland.





2nd year students (**Jennifer White, Ashley Thornton, Ciara Pickles, Kelly Hardgrove, Kerri Tompkins, Kristen Barron, Kathryn Pall, Brian Koziol, Taylor Riley, Kiersten Marsheck, Chelsea David, and Cathy Tran**) attended Visitor's Day at the 25th annual Mid-Atlantic Burn Camp, August 8th The camp is directed by **Linda French, PT** (Adjunct Faculty) and **E. Tonas Kalil, PT, DPT, MGA** (Assistant Professor).



Welcome Back!!!! Our 3rd year student, **Samantha DuFlo** is back safely from her internship in Malawi.



Faculty Updates & Announcements

Dr. Larry Forrester was appointed Director of our PhD Program starting July 1, 2013. Here Dr. Forrester shares his vision for the department's PhD Program:

The PhD program in Physical Rehabilitation Science (PRS) is entering its 15th year with a record of success in meeting the stated aim of "training researchers capable of advancing the field of physical rehabilitation in order to improve the lives of people with functional impairments." One of my top priorities is to sustain this high level of excellence and gain a reputation as one of the top research training programs in the rehabilitation field. We have a talented faculty and the abundant laboratory resources needed to fulfill this aim. That said, our program relies



heavily on external grant funding to attract and support high quality students over the 4 years (or more) that are typical for completing the coursework and dissertation phases of the PhD. For the PRS program to build on its past success, we will have to meet serious challenges posed by reductions in federal research and training dollars. Toward this end we plan to compete strongly for NIH and NIDRR training grants that will complement the limited 2-year stipends provided through the University's Graduate Program in Life Sciences. Another aspect of fueling our growth is to expand the marketing of our program to attract the best students. Exciting opportunities are emerging from the recent efforts to increase research and educational connections among the University of Maryland campuses. A good example of this is seen in new collaborations between PTRS faculty and engineering programs at UMCP and UMBC. I would like to see this expand and help place us at the forefront of training scientists who are well-grounded in established rehabilitation principles, and who at the same time can apply rapidly evolving technologies to develop the evidence-based therapies of the future.



Dr. Linda Horn, Assistant Professor, is now a faculty member of the Mini-Med School. Offered as a public service by the University of Maryland School of Medicine, Mini-Med School is a series of tuition-free classes designed to help Baltimore residents improve their health and well being. The idea to host a Mini-Med School program at the University of Maryland grew out of a desire to reach out to the residents who live in the communities surrounding the School of Medicine. In addition to providing the public with important health care information, the goal of the University of Maryland's mini-med school is to raise the public's awareness of biomedical research and the importance of enrolling in clinical trials. Mini-med school helps us to give a lay audience a better understanding of the basic terms and concepts used in the biomedical sciences, the processes involved in science and the importance of research to modern society. Mini-Med School is presented in cooperation with the [National Institutes of Health](#) and the [Association of American Medical Colleges](#).

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University of Maryland School of Medicine, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science,
100 Penn Street, Allied Health Building, Baltimore, MD 21201
410-706-7720 Phone / 410-706-6387 Fax