

FALL 2010

PROFICIO

.....
HELPING, ADVANCING, MAKING PROGRESS IN PHYSICAL THERAPY



Department of Physical Therapy

PTRS
& Rehabilitation Science

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



Stepping
into the *Future*
of Research

CALENDAR

October

Oct 29-31, 2010

National Student Conclave Cherry Hill, New Jersey

Network with students and practitioners from across the nation who share your interests and your outlook for the profession. Explore job opportunities and new technologies. Encounter experienced APTA members and get tips to polish both your résumé and your interviewing skills. Discover your niche in physical therapy through interactive seminars led by the profession's best and brightest, including sessions highlighting nine clinical areas. Interview prospective leaders and elect new representatives for the Student Assembly Board of Directors and Nominating Committee. Search "Events" at www.apta.org for more information.

February

February 9-12, 2011

APTA Combined Sections Meeting New Orleans, LA

The Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) focuses on programming designed by all 18 of APTA's specialty sections. This spectacular event brings together more than 7,500 physical therapy professionals from around the nation for five stimulating days of exceptional programming, networking opportunities, and an exhibit hall filled with products and services to keep you and your practice on the cutting edge. Search "Events" at www.apta.org for more information.

March

March 25-27, 2011

National Postdoctoral Association Annual Meeting NIH Campus, Bethesda, MD

The NPA Annual Meeting is the largest meeting and networking event in the postdoctoral community. Each meeting is highly engaging and productive for postdoctoral scholars, administrators, and other individuals working to enhance the postdoctoral experience.

May

May 16, 2011

Research Day SMC Campus Center

Save the Date! More details on this annual event will be available in the Spring newsletter.

June

June 8-11, 2011

APTA Annual Conference National Harbor, MD

The Annual Conference and Exposition of APTA is the national event for physical therapy. Professionals from across the country will gather at the Gaylord National Hotel and Convention Center in the National Harbor, Maryland, during PT 2011 to:

- Engage in extraordinary programming from nationally and internationally recognized experts
- Participate in hot topic debates
- Network with colleagues and APTA leadership
- Investigate the newest products and services
- Observe the APTA House of Delegates in action
- Enjoy the camaraderie of old and new friends
- Advocate for your profession Capital Hill

Search "Events" at www.apta.org for more information.

June 19-23, 2011

World Confederation for Physical Therapy Conference Amsterdam, Holland

Every four years WCPT hosts a scientific congress showcasing advancements in physical therapy research, practice and education. This spectacular event brings together more than 3,500 physical therapists from around the world. Make plans to join us in 2011 as the Royal Dutch Society for Physical Therapy (KNGF) hosts the congress in Amsterdam. The venue is the Amsterdam RAI Exhibition and Congress Centre, which is easily accessible from all directions. It has its own train station and is less than 10 minutes from Schiphol Airport by rail. Visit <http://www.wcpt.org/congress> for more information.

APTA of MD Continuing Education Courses

February 17 & 23, 2011 - Fred Weiss, MD, DPT, will teach two three-hour courses on Cross Sectional CT and MRI Imaging of the Brain and Spine: Implications for Rehabilitation at University of Maryland Medical Center.

March 15, 2011 - Karin Seeley, PT, and Laura Johnson, PTA, will hold a three-hour program on Power Wheelchairs at Kernan Hospital. For information on all 2010/2011 courses, see <http://www.aptamd.org/continuingeducationlistings> APTA of MD Online Education Courses Online courses through partnerships between the MD APTA and DavisPT network, as well as Educata, can be found at <http://www.aptamd.org/onlinelearning>.

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Letter from the Chair



Greetings,

I am delighted to be back from one year of sabbatical leave as of September 1st!

During this past year, I completed a fellowship with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Science & Technology Policy at the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB). The new understanding I have for how health policy is made and how the National Institutes of Health (NIH) operate will benefit our department, school and

campus. I look forward to sharing these experiences as we work together to continue the excellence that is PTRS!

While away from PTRS, Dr. Mark Rogers successfully led the department, during an extremely busy and productive year. Dr. Rogers will continue to lead the department's research efforts as Vice Chair for Research and Director of the Graduate Program, along with his new responsibilities. In addition to being awarded two NIH R01s and US Dept. of Education/NIDRR post-doctoral training grant (as well as others), Dr. Rogers is starting major institutional service as a member of the School of Medicine's APT (Appointments, Promotion and Tenure) Committee and major national service as a regular member of an NIH review panel. He is a shining star for our department as we continue to support him to meet several large commitments on behalf of PTRS. Please join me in thanking Dr. Rogers for an outstanding year!

We are sincerely appreciative for Dr. Ellen Wruble Hakim's continuing strong leadership of the professional programs, for Angel Jackson's excellent oversight of student affairs and the major extensions of these responsibilities with our entry students, Karen Sack for her meticulous attention to the details of our department's administration, and to our wonderful faculty and staff for the day-to-day operations of the department.

Again, I am very pleased to be back, but very appreciative of the opportunity after 11 years as chair, to completely immerse in something totally different. The experience has given me new perspectives and new appreciation for all that is wonderful about PTRS. For the next year, I will continue to work for NIBIB/NIH one day per week following up on initiatives begun during my sabbatical. This on-going collaboration will continue to provide national exposure and access for our community.

Looking forward to speaking with each of you soon so please keep in touch....

Sincerely,

Mary M. Rodgers, PT, PhD, FAPTA

George R. Hepburn Dynasplint Professor and Chair

Stepping INTO THE Future OF Research

BY CAELIE M. HAINES



Principal Investigator Dr. Mark W. Rogers spots for a research subject in his study on lateral stability and falls in aging.

Each year, one out of every three adults over the age of 65 takes a fall; within this age group, falls are the leading cause of injury death. This is according to the latest statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Last year, Mark W. Rogers, PT, PhD, FAPTA, was awarded the department's first R01 grant, funded by the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) National Institute on Aging (NIA), to continue his studies on the neuromechanical basis of impaired balance leading to falls in older people. That was followed this September with a second R01, also funded by NIA.

"The first study is a continuation of some of our previous studies looking at the neuromotor and biomechanical reasons that people seem to be most vulnerable to losing their balance and falling in the sideways or lateral direction," says Dr. Rogers. "As we get older, it appears that the lateral direction is a particularly problematic direction for keeping balance. So the question is why is that? We have some specific hypotheses that we're testing."

These studies, which also involve faculty member Michelle Prettyman, DPT; Post-doctoral Fellow Dr. Don Yungher; Research Associate Woei-Nan Bair; PhD students Mario Inacio and Judith Morgia; and collaborators in the University of Maryland Claude D. Pepper Older Adults Independence Center, directed by Dr. Andrew Goldberg, use a robotic device to pull participants into a controlled fall state, so that they have to take

a step in order to recover their balance. Infrared cameras capture sensors on these patients to see how they move their feet – and thus their base of support – and where their center of mass is moving in a dynamic way.

"This is problematic as we get older, because stepping responses become shorter, they may be misdirected, and there are a number of problems in the sideways direction with crossing our limbs one in front of the other to catch our balance that lead to collisions between the limbs, so one literally trips over oneself and falls," says Dr. Rogers. "The mechanistic underpinnings as to why we think this occurs is the focus of the recently received grant, which is a clinical trial to test very specific intervention ideas meant to improve lateral balance function and prevent falls in older people."

In this newest study, the robotic system will cause the fall state to become more and more challenging as testing progresses. "We're referring to it as high-intensity step training or high-intensity balance training, a concept which is still very novel in the field worldwide. We are among the first groups to put this into a randomized controlled trial to test these interventions," Dr. Rogers says. "There is also a focus on strengthening the hip muscles, which direct the limbs into stepping in the sideways direction. The combination of those two approaches, high-intensity induced step training together with specific muscle training for the lateral direction, we believe will be an effective means to



Sandy McCombe Waller is testing transcranial magnetic stimulation to assess cortical excitability.

improve these functions and prevent falls.”

So far, our research studies have been going well. “Exposing people to these different types of balance perturbations over and over, in a progressive way, so they adapt and improve is something that we and others have been able to demonstrate,” explains Dr. Rogers. “As we get older we retain the capacity to adapt our movements and balance responses, even though they are beginning to degrade. We can train them back to certain levels of improvement, showing the residual capacity of the brain and the neuromuscular system to respond to that kind of training.”

The muscle training part of the study involves more traditional physical therapy, teaching people exercises to improve muscle strength using progressive resistive strength training and other activities that emphasize weight bearing,” Dr. Rogers says. “These will specifically challenge the muscles that we think are critical to maintaining lateral balance.”

Although the positive outcomes of these trials are rewarding, the R01 grants also offer important scientific validation. “National Institutes of Health funding mechanisms are one of the benchmark standards of excellence for research impact,” Dr. Rogers reveals. Being part of such a research-oriented medical school makes this success even more important. “When you are at a level-one research university, part of the mission is to generate new knowledge, to advance fields of specialization and help lead those directions,”



A test subject adjust his steps.

explains Dr. Rogers. And it is within our professional mission in physical therapy to provide high-quality research underpinnings for the clinical practice of physical therapy. We need to produce the evidence that says the things we do with our patients are effective and are leading to the kinds of outcomes we think they’re leading to. That’s a reality of the times.”

This evidence of success also plays a crucial role in recruitment. “We hope in time it will not only enhance the quality and visibility of our already excellent and recognized research program, but attract others to want to come and join us here on the faculty. Maybe we can lure some of the best and brightest away from other places to build our expanding group of successful scientists and researchers,” says Dr. Rogers with a sly smile.

The Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science is also growing its own research talent through the PhD Program in Physical Rehabilitation Science, which recently celebrated its tenth anniversary. A small program that only admits two or three per year, it attracts students from a wide variety of backgrounds, not only in physical therapy, but in areas like engineering

and kinesiology. “They receive high-quality research and didactic training in the field in general and in specialized areas depending upon the research questions they’re pursuing in their doctoral dissertation work,” explains Dr. Rogers.

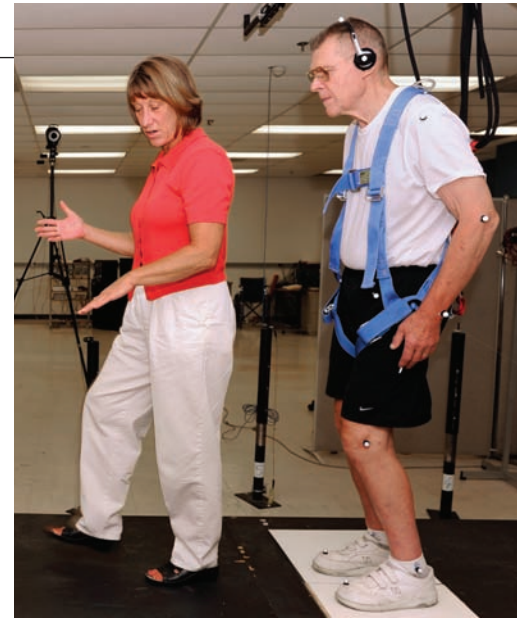
Matt Scherer, a member of the U.S. Army who moved through the program in only three and a half years, recently successfully defended his dissertation on a topic of great relevance to him and his fellow veterans. “He looked at the effect of combat blast injury on military personnel’s responses to stimulus stimulation,” says Dr. Rogers. “One of the consequences of these blast injuries is that they affect a number of functions related to the inner ear mechanism concerned with balance, eye movement, and head and eye coordination. This is one of the first studies to quantify some of these injuries and impairments directed at rehabilitation approaches.”

Doug Savin, who will defend his dissertation this fall, so impressed the department that he has been offered a faculty position upon completion of his PhD. “So he has incentive to finish,” Dr. Rogers jokes. “Doug has been an exemplary doctoral student and a real leader in our program. He makes major contributions, as

FEATURE STORY

Prettyman provides instruction to a research subject.

Postdoctoral Fellow Rob Creath tests a high-accuracy eye-tracking device with Research Coordinator Krista Nazelrod.



well, to our professional doctor of physical therapy program, teaching and interacting with our DPT students. And he's received funding from the VA to support his PhD studies, which concern adaptation training for people who have experienced a stroke and how to remodel some of their walking behavior through training."

With their success, Matt and Doug join the recognized researchers on our faculty who continue to blaze new trails in physical therapy research. "It's a very exciting time," says Dr. Rogers. "We have studies looking at postural instability and gait problems that people with Parkinson's disease have. A very serious problem is freezing of gait, where people attempt to start walking but they feel as if their feet are literally glued to the ground. They can't move, and they may stay in that frozen state for minutes; there have even been reports of people remaining there for hours. Ultimately they would fall, of course, or somehow otherwise get off their feet. And even in the course of normal walking, a sudden hesitation in walking stride can lead to a period of inability to continue to progress walking. Difficulty with turning while walking is another common situation where people with Parkinson's disease freeze that post-doctoral fellow Rob Creath, PhD, is currently investigating."

In addition, associate professor Sandy McCombe Waller, PT, PhD, NCS, and professor Jill Whitall, PhD, are continuing their studies of arm training and control in patients with stroke. They currently have two funded studies: one funded by NIH's National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research to examine bilateral and unilateral combination approaches to improve functional use of the arm and hand; and one funded from a University of Maryland seed grant to study the mechanisms of motor preparation and planning for reaching with the paretic arm in standing. This latter study looks at the relationship between arm function and postural control. In

addition to arm training, Drs. Whitall and McCombe Waller have funding through NIH, the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, and the Maryland Industrial Partnerships to study gait training in patients post-stroke and with Parkinson's disease, on and off the treadmill, utilizing rhythmic auditory cueing to facilitate improvements in qualitative features of gait and to promote carryover from treadmill to overground walking.

Associate professor Larry Forrester, PhD, and colleagues are conducting lower-limb robotic training and gait-training studies involving patients with chronic stroke, with the aim to rehabilitate patient's walking abilities. Assistant professor Lauren Jones-Lush, PhD, is working collaboratively with Dr. George Wittenberg at the Veterans Administration's Maryland Exercise and Robotics Center of Excellence, directed by Dr. Richard Macko, where they are developing some very interesting and sophisticated upper-limb rehabilitation programs that use robotics to challenge the use of the limbs and direct those limbs into the sorts of movement opportunities that impact the architecture and functioning of the brain through neuroplasticity. Associate professor Gad Alon, PT, PhD, is conducting an innovative new pilot study to investigate the influence of transcranial direct current electrical stimulation on balance and gait performance in patients with Parkinson's disease.

"These are very exciting areas of research that faculty here are engaged in," says Dr. Rogers. "And it is a very exciting time for research in the department. Our directed theme is in the area of neuromotor control and rehabilitation, principally looking at the neurological aspects of patient problems, but we have strong interests in related fields like biomechanics and motor learning and behavior that form an intricate part of these intervention programs we have developed. So all in all, I think we're covering the bases quite well."

Chair's Sabbatical Report

Mary M. Rodgers, PT, PhD, FAPTA
George R. Hepburn Dynasplint Professor and Chair



My American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Science & Technology Policy Fellowship at the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB) included a variety of activities. My first major assignment was to learn a very thick notebook full of acronyms so that I could communicate in the federal “acronyese” language. Developing an initiative for the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB) on technology for home-based healthcare was my primary project. To gather information for this initiative, I attended MANY related conferences, symposiums, workshops, colloquiums, forums, and summits in the DC area. Identifying opportunities for rehabilitation home health care for personalized and/or preventative health care delivery in the home environment was a primary objective. Activities included identification of needs for technology development and resources available on the topic, assisting in the NIBIB strategic planning process, and advocating for inclusion of rehabilitation home health care for personalized and/or preventative health care delivery in the home environment as an area of high impact for health needing technology development and resources. Organizing the 2010 Workshop on Personal Motion Technologies for Healthy Independent Living that took place June 23-4, 2010 was a real highlight as I worked closely with the National Institute of Aging and the National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research, co-sponsors of this workshop. Currently, I am working on publications based on workshop results.

Identifying areas where increased collaborations between NIBIB and other agencies (i.e. National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research (NCMRR), Health and Human Services Office on Disability) could improve delivery or assessment of rehabilitation was an ongoing responsibility. Representing NIBIB at several related trans-agency groups includes a National Science Foundation (NSF) panel to assess current state of the art and future directions in rehabilitation technology. This panel visited several European labs in October 2010 and will provide a summary workshop at NSF in November 2010. Subsequent publications will be another responsibility of the panel.

Liaison responsibilities included the National Advisory Board on Medical Rehabilitation Research meeting May 3-4, 2010. As NIBIB's liaison to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), I assist NIBIB grantees in translation of their discoveries through FDA approval processes and connecting them with resources. The 2011 State of the Science Conference on Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Rehabilitation Research steering committee is another of my NIBIB liaison responsibilities that will include publications. This conference will take place June 4-8, 2011.

There were a number of major projects I assisted with as a Fellow,

including drafting the NIBIB Health Disparities Strategic Plan, and white papers for NIBIB in the areas of robotics and mobile health. As a non-voting scientific program staff member, I participated in program and division meetings, Advisory Council, and other programmatic activities (Point-of-Care Technologies Research Network, Interagency Modelling Group, NIBIB biomedical informatics group, conferences, workshops, forums, and summits). Presentations included a AAAS talk at the University of Southern California in Oct. 2009 and a talk on career paths at the seminar for the Public Leadership Education Network (PLEN) on Jan. 6, 2010. At the American Society of Biomechanics Conference in Aug. 2010, I participated in panels and disseminating information about NIBIB and AAAS.

The biggest highlight for me was the planning and execution of the “Workshop on Personal Motion Technologies for Healthy Independent Living” held, June 22-24, 2010, Bethesda, MD. Several publications are in progress including those related to the workshop, the NSF panel that will transpire in October, and the SCI conference that will be held in 2011. The manuscript from a summit I helped to organize in 2009 will be published in the November 2010 issue of the Physical Therapy Journal.

Through this fellowship, I expanded my knowledge and understanding of politics, government and the NIH, particularly as each impacts rehabilitation and societal health. Coordinating collaboration across diverse scientific disciplines, expanding and cultivating a professional network for increased effect through contacts both within NIH and other government agencies as well as within academia were important contributions to NIBIB program/policy development and implementation.

In addition to these fellowship activities, I enhanced my leadership abilities to heighten effectiveness and impact by completing the 2009 Leadership Maryland program. Back at PTRS, I served on the committees of three of our PhD students in Physical Rehabilitation Science that graduated during the past year. Writing activities included two publications, two more in process, and a grant to NIDRR (DOE) that got funded with Mark Rogers as Principle Investigator.

During the next year (9/1/10-8/31/2011), I will be continuing my current projects for NIBIB at 20% effort. My priorities for this time period will be to serve as point of contact for FDA/CMS interactions, assist with writing announcements and publications for the technology in the home initiative, participating on the National Science Foundation (NSF) rehabilitation technology panel to assess current state of the art and future directions and representing NIBIB on the 2011 State of the Science Conference on Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Rehabilitation Research steering committee that will include publications.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

Gad Alon, PT, PhD, Associate Professor, has



received a new one-year research agreement for his pilot study titled, "Can transcranial direct stimulation (tDCS) modulate protective stepping and gait perfor-

mance of people with Parkinson's disease?"

The one year award, in the total amount of \$30,000, has been funded by Fisher Wallace Laboratories in New York for the period June 1, 2010 – May 31, 2011. Mark Rogers, Michelle Prettyman, Don Yungher and Lisa Shulman (Department of Neurology), are collaborating with Dr. Alon on the project.

Larry Forrester, PhD, Associate Professor,



and Jose Contreras-Vidal from the UMCP School of Public Health have been awarded a 2010 UMB-UMCP Seed Grant entitled, "Non-Invasive Neural Decoding

of Walking from EEG Signals." The amount awarded will be \$70,000 for the period 6/1/10 – 5/31/11.

Mark W. Rogers, PT, PhD, FAPTA, Profes-



sor and Vice Chair of Research, is the principle investigator on the NIDRR Advanced Rehabilitation Research and Training Grant H133PI00014, entitled "University

of Maryland Advanced Neuromotor Rehabili-

tation Research Training (UMANRRT)." The grant runs from 10/1/10 - 9/30/15, with total costs of \$750,000. On the executive committee for this grant is **Mary Rodgers, PT, PhD, FAPTA**, Professor and Chair; **Jill Whittall, PhD**, Professor; and **Richard Macko, MD**, Professor in the Department of Neurology

Jill Whittall, PhD, Professor, is the principle



investigator on a MIPS Phase I project with Encore Path, Inc. called "Further Development and Testing of the TREADTRAC."

The grant period is 9/1/10 - 8/31/11, with

total costs of \$99,999.

Sandy McCombe Waller, PT, PhD, NCS,



Associate Professor, is the principle investigator on the NIH/NICHD Recovery Act Administrative Supplement Parent Grant R21HD052125, entitled "Combining

Proximal and Distal Arm Training for Patients with Chronic Hemiparesis." The grant period is 8/1/10 - 7/31/11, with total costs of \$81,270.

MEDIA

E. Anne Reicherter, PT, DPT, PhD, Associate



Professor, was featured in a June 16, 2010 article on the website Everyday Health about how physical therapy can ease the pain of fibromyalgia.

Karen Gordes, PT, DScPT, Assistant Profes-



sor; Paula Giegler, PT, PhD, former Assistant Professor; and students Gene Shirokobrod and Kim Dodson published "Initiate Weightbearing Early After Hip Fracture"

in the March 2010 issue of *Lower Extremity Review*.

HONORS

Mary Rodgers, PT, PhD, FAPTA, the

George R. Hepburn Dynasplint Professor and Chair, Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science, graduated from the Leadership Maryland program in December 2009. Leadership Maryland, an independent, educational leadership development organization, educates top-level executives from the public and private sectors about the critical issues, challenges and opportunities facing the State of Maryland and its regions.



Dr. Rodgers is presented with a plaque recognizing her completion of the Leadership Maryland program.

Tonas Kalil, PT, MGA, RT, Instructor, com-



pleted his t-DPT capstone project, which has been approved and accepted. This means Tonas has met all obligations for the DPT degree and has been recommended for graduation. Thanks to Tonas' accomplishment, all core PTRS faculty now hold earned doctoral degrees!

Leslie Glickman, PT, PhD, Assistant Professor,



has accepted a position as Program Director for Health Volunteer's Overseas' (HVO) Physical Therapy Program in Suriname. Dr. Glickman participated in HVO's Suriname Program as a volun-

teer instructor/consultant for the faculty and PT students at the Anton de Kom University in Paramaribo, Suriname in January 2010, and her work there was extremely successful and highly valued by the faculty and students. Leslie will continue in her role as Assistant Professor here in the department, making trips to Suriname as needed.

Marlene King, Executive Assistant, has been



elected to the Staff Senate for the University of Maryland, Baltimore. The university's Staff Senate serves as an advisory shared governance body to the university and to the new

president, Dr. Jay Perman.

WELCOME

Megan O'Connell has joined the department as a new clinical research assistant working in Dr. Larry Forrester's lab. Megan will be participating in clinical research activities that investigate mechanisms of movement rehabilitation in the human motor performance lab. Although Megan is working primarily at the VA, she will be in our building attending lab meetings and other activities as well. She is located in BC-101 at the VA. Her email address is MOConnell@som.umaryland.edu.

NEW ROLES

Karen Gordes, PT, DScPT, Assistant Professor, is stepping down as Director of Clinical Education (DCE) to return to teaching full time. Starting in January 2011, the new DCE will be **E. Anne Reicherter, PT, DPT, PhD**, Associate Professor. We wish both Karen and Anne all the best!

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tDPT program is coordinated by Steven Tepper, PT, PhD

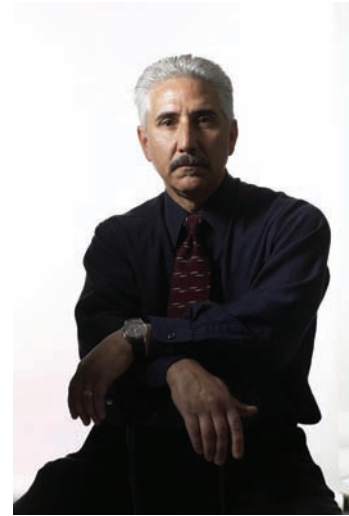


www.health.umt.edu/tdpt

2010

Alumnus of the Year

Jonathan Cooperman
CLASS OF 1979



The 2010 Alumnus of the Year is Jonathan Cooperman, who earned a Bachelors of Science in Physical Therapy from the department in 1979. He also has a Masters of Science in Orthopedic Physical Therapy from Virginia Commonwealth University; a transitional DPT from Northern Arizona University; and a law degree from the University of Akron's School of Law.

His career has taken him to a wide variety of practice settings, including Mercy Medical Center in Baltimore; National Hospital for Orthopedics and Rehabilitation (now Columbia Pentagon City Hospital) in Arlington, VA; and Kent State University in Ohio. "That was very important for my professional career and learning, because almost all of my patients were young and healthy, so it was a good place to make mistakes, because you can't hurt somebody who's young and healthy," jokes Jonathan about his stint at Kent State.

He also liked the variety the job provided. "They had nursing home contracts, hospital contracts, regular outpatient facilities and sports medicine, as well as the campus health center," Jonathan remembers. Soon a better opportunity presented itself, though, working as a surgical assistant. "There was a hospital in Ohio that did not have a residency program, so they used physical therapists as their first assistants in orthopedics," he explains. "So I had tremendous training in that way. Of course, the fact that I had stellar anatomy when I was at Maryland really helped a lot with that!"

Physical therapy has always come first in Jonathan's life, though, even with his detours into the surgical arena and law school. "I went to evening law school, so I continued to practice physical therapy while there," he reveals. "After passing the bar, I had a decision to make – was I going to practice physical therapy or law or try and do both, which I knew would be very difficult? Physical therapy had been so good to me, so I decided to stay with physical therapy. And then my challenge was – well what do I do with a law degree?"

Jonathan found the answer in teaching. He leads courses and

presentations around the country on legal and ethical issues in physical therapy, which have changed a great deal since he first entered the field. "I think that we are better prepared to deal with the co-morbidities that we see in our patients than therapists were when I graduated," Jonathan admits. "Back then it was like, 'Look, they have this problem, so just treat that problem.' Today's therapists are not only educated but obligated to look at patients with a much longer lens and to address multiple issues."

With this added responsibility comes a larger workload, something Jonathan advises the young therapists he mentors to not let overwhelm them. "Life is too short to be consumed by work," he declares. "But our society asks us to do that. So I advise these young therapists to take a step back and continuously look at the big picture as to how they approach their careers and medicine in general."

That's not always easy to do, though, in a field that has become more and more demanding, with doctoral degrees now the norm for most graduating therapists. "When I got to Maryland, there were still people around who had graduated from the certificate program, when it wasn't even yet a baccalaureate," Jonathan recalls. "Although we have a long way to go, overall we've taken a larger foothold and we've gotten more respect."

This had much to do with Maryland passing Direct Access legislation the year of Jonathan's graduation, which meant patients no longer needed a physician's referral to see a physical therapist. Luckily, PTRS had readied him for the change. "I think I was very well prepared to practice autonomously," Jonathan says. "Even back then, the University of Maryland was a very solid program with a long history and a good reputation. I got a good, basic education in physical therapy that I was very grateful to receive. And I met individuals who have had a large influence not only on my clinical practice but my academic training and, really, the way I live my life."

In Memoriam

Looking Back at Our Friend and Colleague Jim Spinks in the UMB Physical Therapy Class of 1973

There are many things we could remember about the UMB PT Class of 1973 as we look back on it now. We were the first class to double enrollment. We were the first to relax - and eventually abolish - the dress code. We were the first class under then-new Chair Clarence Hardiman, and with his cooperation, we were the first class to initiate a curriculum review committee to create a core learning program.



Jim and Mary Spinks

And we were the first PT class to have Jim Spinks as a classmate.

Jim was rich in humor, in warmth, in athletic prowess, in the enjoyment of simple things, and in staying focused on making a life that helped others. Jim was the kind of person you knew would make the crucial catch when the chips were down in a

close football game, and split his head open doing it. Jim was the kind of guy you wanted on your team, whether it was a pick-up game or running a physical therapy facility. He was the kind of person who, when he walked by, people would comment on his rugged rock-star handsomeness. He was the first to smile and had an easy way of laughing. We just knew from the start that Jim Spinks was the walking, talking celebration of life that many of us could only dream about.

Sadly, Jim passed away far too soon on July 25, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Mary (Warren) Spinks, also a friend and colleague from the PT Class of '73. After they wed in 1975, they established their life

together and their physical therapy careers in upstate New York. With spinal cord injury being Jim's true clinical interest, he started at Helen Hayes Hospital in West Haverstraw, NY. From there, he advanced on to various hospital settings in the capacity of Director of Rehabilitation Services. In 1982 he became the founder and principal owner of Jim Spinks, PT & Associates in Monticello, NY, where he worked to provide physical therapy and home care to countless residents of Orange and Sullivan Counties for many years. He was also a valued instructional consultant for the PT Assistant program at his local community college. Jim and Mary established a second home on the Caribbean island of St. Kitts, volunteering to provide rehabilitation services where there had been none.

Unfortunately, Jim was disabled by a back injury in the 1990's. With resultant chronic pain and physical limitations, Jim retired as an active clinician in 1998. His practice, with many of its original associates, continued on for another 10 years, all the time reflecting Jim's dedication and philosophies regarding patient care.

Jim pursued his interests and extraordinary abilities in many sports over the years as a participant and fan. He was an avid golfer and accomplished SCUBA diver until his physical limitations prevented his participation. He was also into fishing, cooking, and a friendly game of cards.

Jim Spinks was the kinder and gentler version of so many of us. He made lasting friendships with ease, and was and remains in our thoughts as a significant contributor to the kind of professionals we of the UMAB PT Class of 1973 became as a result of his being our friend. We shall remember him always, and miss him dearly.

Respectfully Submitted by Paul Brager, PT, UMB PT Class of 1973.
Paul can be reached at skitimepeb@aol.com.

The assistance and approval of Mary Warren Spinks for this article is gratefully acknowledged.

James Bor, PT, DScPT, Class of 2009 (December) was just selected for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel (LTC) in the Army Reserve. "There is no doubt in my mind that my DScPT degree from UMB had a lot to do with being selected," Jim said.

Lisa Dansberger Duque, DPT, Class of 2009, and wife Catalina Dansberger Duque are

eagerly awaiting the birth of their first child. Catalina is due March 14, 2011.

Lindsey Martin, DPT, Class of 2009, has been working at the VA medical center in DC and has a joint position with Walter Reed specializing in amputee rehab. She is working with the first Vietnam Vet to get the new computerized X2 prosthetic (made by Otto Bock, it's

an upgraded version of the C-leg that is not commercially available yet). I am really enjoying my profession and made it here from all of your help!" wrote Lindsey. "Hope all is well in B'more!"

Logan Cooper, DPT, Class of 2008, and his wife Sarah welcomed Aiden Patrick Cooper on March 10, 2010.

ALUMNI NEWS

Beth (Lawrence) Tarantula, DPT, Class of 2007, married longtime beau Ray Tarantula on January 2, 2010.

Brigid Meyer, DPT, Class of 2006, welcomed daughter Kylee Elizabeth Meyer on November 19, 2009. Kylee joins big brother Shane Edward, age 4.

Richard L. Archer, DPT, Class of 2003, was recently appointed by the Board of Governors as Executive Director of Fox Chase Rehabilitation & Nursing Center in Silver Spring, MD. In this capacity he is responsible for the daily operations of a comprehensive post-acute rehabilitative center specializing in short term rehabilitation as well as a long term care center. Dr. Archer is a Licensed Nursing Home Administrator in the State of Maryland, the State of Virginia, and the District of Columbia. He holds an amazing seven earned degrees. Additionally, he is a Certified Personal Trainer via the National Academy of Sports Medicine, a Certified Christian Counselor, and the Pastor of The Rhema Church of Greater Washington (<http://www.richardarcherministries.org>).

Anna Borissow, DPT, Class of 2003, started her own practice in Bethesda, MD in 2008. Called Advanced Neuromuscular Physiotherapy, her clients are primarily patients who have fibromyalgia or chronic pain. Anna is also a busy mom, trying to keep up with four-year old Katherine and six-year old Nicholas.

Brian Mielke, DPT, Class of 2003, and his wife Mandi welcomed Jack Rankin Mielke on January 27, 2010.

Todd Cade, PhD, Class of 2002, his wife Ashley and their daughter Lucy welcomed Emily Melissa Cade to the family on January 18, 2010. Todd is currently an Assistant

Professor of Physical Therapy and Medicine at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, MO.

Paul Laine, PT, Class of 1990 sent an update from Florida, where he has been living for the last 15 years. "I began my own outpatient rehab center over 12 years ago, and have had the pleasure of treating numerous personalities, as well as taking part in many community activities and events," says Paul. "I have also written a health column for the local paper for 10 years, and even had CNN do a special at our center two years ago. And my 10-year old daughter recently did a national commercial with Brooke Shields. Also, check in your 4th edition of Florence Kendall's Muscle Testing, pps 53 & 55, and you'll see yours truly with Florence," Paul adds. "If you remember, we were the ONLY class she had taught – was wonderful!"

Kim (Cosgrove) Frock, PT, Class of 1989, welcomed her second daughter, Ella McKenna Frock, on December 11, 2008. Kim is still working at Good Samaritan Hospital in Baltimore, doing rehab on weekends, and would like to hear of any success stories in treating coccydynia from fellow therapists. You can reach her at jkfrock@comcast.net.

Linda Horn, PT, Class of 1985; **DScPT**, Class of 2008, MHS, NCS, is now working for Gen-tiva as the Safe Strides Team Leader in their Towson, MD branch.

Rene Cerve, PT, Class of 1980, has been busy marketing her invention, Tranzboard, a wheelchair-to-toilet transfer system, and is now finalizing plans to begin selling her product in a major medical supply catalogue.

Michelle (Block) Gordon, PT, Class of 1978 and her husband Marty moved to Jerusa-

lem in September 2009. Michelle is teaching Broadway Jazz dance classes and treating a few private physical therapy patients, with plans to eventually work part-time in a clinic and also expand her private home health practice. "Message to my former classmates: I'd love to hear from you especially if you're ever in Jerusalem," Michelle says. "I can be reached at meeshg@gmail.com."

Cheryl Resnik, PT, DPT, Class of 1974, has been working at the University of Southern California for the last 15 years, and was recently appointed Associate Chair of the Division of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy at the school.

Barbara Oremland, PT, M.Ed, Class of 1974, has become a Civil War Lecturer, speaking on the topic of Civil War Medicine. She is also an accomplished Civil War Battlefield photographer and was invited to have a show of her work on Gettysburg this past April at Penn Camera in Baltimore. The show, titled "Visions of Gettysburg," included a well-attended opening reception and a month-long exhibition of her work that received great feedback from the public.

Herschel Budlow, PT, Class of 1962, is celebrating 48 years as a physical therapist. "I have ten more years to complete in order to reach the goal of being an active PT at age 80, as exemplified by my mentor, Bill Neill, ATC, PT," Herschel says. "Having practiced our unique profession in a variety of settings over almost five decades, I am amazed by the growth and maturity of the profession and the skills, competence, and public esteem that today's physical therapists have earned." Herschel has been married for 45 years to wife Barbara, and they have two sons and seven grandchildren.

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STUDENT NEWS

Three third-year DPT Students - Meghan Mulhare, Lindsay O'Steen and Shanna Sibiski - received the Maryland Gerontological Association Student Award for 2010 for their abstract "Framework for Student-Provided Service to Underserved Populations: Interdisciplinary Implementation at a Geriatric Community in Baltimore City". The award was accepted and the poster presentation was held at the Annual Conference of the Maryland Gerontological Association, 6/9/10, Charlestown Retirement Community, Catonsville, MD. The trio's faculty mentors were Paula Geigle PT, PhD, former Assistant Professor; Ellen Wruble-Hakim PT, DScPT, MS, CWS, FACCWS, Assistant Professor, Vice Chair for Academic Affairs & Director of the Entry level Program; and E. Anne Reicherter PT, DPT, Ph.D., OCS, CHES, Associate Professor, all from the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences, as well as Nicole Brandt PharmD, BCPP, Associate Professor of pharmacy practice and science at the School of Pharmacy.



Shanna, Lindsay and Meghan pose in front of their winning poster at the June 9 awards ceremony.



Change the World

Did you ever think you could have a hand in changing the legislature that surrounds your profession? On February 22, 2011, you can get involved in the democratic process by attending the APTA of Maryland's Student Advocacy Day in Annapolis, MD. Join fellow students to help influence issues surrounding your profession. Remember Physical Therapy is a profession, not an occupation! Register today for the Student Day on the Hill at www.aptamd.org/Changetheworld.

With the graduation of the Class of 2010, PTRS's entry-level program has reached the 2000 graduates mark! We have graduated:

1230 BS degrees »»»»»»»»»» 577 MPT degrees »»»»»»»»»» 240 DPT degrees

That's a total of 2047 graduates!

Students from the DPT Class of 2011 took on the Maryland Ravens in a game of wheelchair basketball on May 3, 2010 at the new basketball court at the Southern Management Campus Center. The team may not have come home with the win, but a great time was had by all!



*Alex has the ball,
but making the
basket isn't as
easy as it looks!*



*Lindsey Harris, Corrie Jones and Alex Lyapustin
came to play.*



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Third-year DPT student Jeremy Hannum submitted a video for the Genesis contest, "Why I love being a therapist" earlier this summer. Visit <http://bit.ly/atn0GX> to see Jeremy's entry, called "A Rehab Story," which was a runner up in the People's Choice category.

PhD student Doug Savin received the annual Geriatrics and Gerontology Education and Research Program Graduate Research Conference Award for his poster (and its presentation) entitled: "The adaptability of interlimb coordination during walking in individuals with post-stroke hemiparesis and non-disabled adults (Savin DN, Tseng S-C, Whitall J, Morton).

The fabulous crew of Meghan Mulhare, Gene Shirokobrod, Josh Funk and Ben Hopkins raised \$5,816.00 on the first night of this year's Phon-a-thon in March. It was the biggest one-night total in PTRS Phon-a-thon history! Maureen Ambrose, Ashley Simmons and Amanda Hill followed up the next night with more than \$2800 in pledges.

Annual Fund Results FY10

We are pleased to report on the results of our fund raising efforts for the Department of PTRS. Total annual income in FY2010 was \$77,979, which is a 74% increase from FY2009. Here are some highlights:

- Alumni support more than doubled in FY2010. Contributions from alumni totaled \$53,509 compared to \$24,602 last year. The total number of alumni donors also increased from 300 to 361.
- The annual PTRS Phone-a-thon was conducted on March 22-23. A total of \$10,351 was raised from alumni, \$7,671 for the PTRS Annual Fund and \$2,680 for the PTRS Endowment. This is a 6% increase from 2009.
- Gifts from corporations and organizations added up to \$17,005, a 47% increase from 2009.
- Over \$6,000 was contributed to the department from non-alumni friends. This is an 11% increase over that donated last year.

A large part of this success can be attributed to the creation of a new endowment, the PTRS Strategic Endowment for the Future, which was established to provide operational support to the department in perpetuity. This fund will help stabilize the department's budget in times of economic turbulence and support future program growth. Through a generous matching gift from Jane Satterfield '64 and various appeals throughout the year, over \$35,000 is currently held in the endowment.

Given the uncertain times in our economy, we truly appreciate every gift we received this year, no matter how large or small. Annual fund income is critical for the continuation of our academic, research, and alumni programs. Each year we receive less support from the State of Maryland, and costs are increasing every day. Your annual gifts provide sustained support to help the department bridge the gap, so we can sponsor student activities, purchase new lab equipment, and reach out to our alumni with programs like The Florence Kendall Free Continuing Education seminar. In addition, many gifts support scholarships, academic awards, and research.

We rely on your ongoing support to ensure the future of our programs. Please take advantage of the envelope in this magazine to make your 2010 annual gift early. Thank you!

GIVE NOW!

Make your gift online today. Go to www.fundformedicine.org and click link to Make a Gift to the Fund for Medicine. Be sure to select the Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science from the drop-down menu in the Gift Designation section of your form. Or call us toll-free at 877-FUND SOM.

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Most importantly, a gift annuity gives you the opportunity to make your legacy commitment to the School of Medicine. It's nice to know your generosity can make a difference in the lives of others while also making a difference in your own.

Sample benefits of a \$10,000 Single Life Gift Annuity

Annuity Age at Gift	Age 65	Age 70	Age 75	Age 80	Age 85
Annuity Rate ¹	5.5%	5.8%	6.4%	7.2%	8.1%
Charitable Deduction ²	\$2,526	\$3,397	\$4,096	\$4,785	\$5,532
Annual Payment	\$550	\$580	\$640	\$720	\$810
Tax-free income (cash gift)	\$375	\$415	\$476	\$554	\$656

¹Deduction will vary slightly with changes in the IRS Discount Rate. Assumed rate 2.6%

PLEASE NOTE: Charitable gift annuities are provided through the University of Maryland Baltimore Foundation, INC. The above examples are for educational purposes only and do not constitute an offer to issue annuities where precluded by state law. Donors should always consult with their tax advisors in determining the suitability of making a planned gift.

Report of Gifts | Annual Fund Donations for Fiscal Year 2010

JULY 1, 2009 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2010

The symbol (*) next to a donor's name indicates that the person or organization is a member of our Ironman Club, which was initiated to recognize those who have made a contribution each year for at least three consecutive years. These donors understand that we count on their contributions every year to carry on the tradition of excellence within the department.

Because every donation matters to us, we make every effort to ensure the accuracy of our annual report. The following list includes gifts and pledge payments made between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010. Alumni of the Department of PTRS with multiple degrees are recognized by their most recent degree year. If you believe an omission or error has been made, contact Karen McGuire at 410-706-8688.

Thank you to all who made a donation this past year. Your contribution makes it possible to strengthen our department and improve the quality of education for future physical therapy students.

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PTRS STUDENT runs OFF TO JOIN THE Circus



Greg Powell Never Finished His PT Studies,
but He Has Taken Fond Memories of Maryland
on the Road with Him While Traveling with
the Nitro Circus.



The following interview is from the May 2010 issue of Freerider MX Magazine.

The interview and the photos are being reprinted here with the magazine's permission.

“Special Greg” Powell may often be referred to as Travis Pastrana’s cousin, but the 26-year-old is rapidly making a name for himself as one of, if not THE, most naturally talented athletes on the Nitro Circus Live Tour. FRMX editor Simon Makker sat down with Special to find out how he got so damn good.

Special, you’ve gotta be one of the most buff guys in the world. What’s your secret and how often do you work out?

I work out at least three times a week; it depends if I’m in the rugby season or if we’re busy with Nitro Circus. I’ve got different workouts for different seasons, but I’d say I try and get between three and six workouts a week. On an off-day I don’t do much, maybe just bit of a jog to get the blood flowing, but on a training day I’ll hit the tracks and weights a lot more intensively. I run with my wife a lot and try to keep a good variation of

stuff. Never go to the gym. Save your money – there are plenty of exercises you can do for free.

Good advice. Now is there anything you’ve had a go at and failed, or are you just ridiculously good at everything?

I was pretty successful at undergraduate academics, but when I started studying my doctorate degree in physical therapy at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, I really struggled and I wish I was better at it. It was really hard for me – it took a lot of time, and I think it’s more of an attention issue, as I find it hard to sit down for long periods of time and I kinda found myself itching to get outside and back to my old way of living. When the Nitro Circus thing came along, I decided to join them and leave my studies for the time being.

So you effectively ran away to join the circus... What’s been the craziest moment you’ve had in Nitro so far?

I guess most people will relate to the BMX jump I did in Jamaica. The big ramp off the cliff was really cool, and I’ve got to admit it turned on all my senses. I was there on a beautiful island, there were people all around me speaking in different languages and accents, and I was dumped into the middle of an MTV show with film cameras and crew in my face. Travis was like, “there’s the ramp, and we’re here to jump it. Who’s up first?” I was like “All right, this is me”. It was an awesome experience for sure.

What’s the worst injury you’ve received with the crew?

I busted my face playing rugby, but I did my MCL trying to keep up with Jolene (Van Vugt) around the motocross track. I was



racing her, but the bike's throttle got stuck on and I had a huge crash.

What's the one time you thought you were going to die?

The first time I went skydiving with Travis, for sure. I can't really explain what happened on the record, because if the authorities hear about it there could be trouble. I will say it was 50-50 though, and I distinctly remember thinking "I actually might die today!" Everything turned out OK, but it was definitely a scary experience.

You mentioned before you play rugby. What's your poison – union or league?

Rugby union.

Good answer.

[laughs] I play on the left wing, and I've played about six seasons or so since I was in high-school in Canada. I love it, and I can't wait to get back and play Sevens this summer. I had the opportunity to hang and train with the Parramatta Eels this week, and their co-captain, Nathan Cayless, impressed me a lot.

Nice work! Is this your first time visiting Australia?

Yep, and so far it's been awesome. My wife is coming over for the Adelaide and Melbourne stops, but Skype works well to keep in contact with her. I've had a lot of contact with her – it's nothing like our trip when we cycled the Continental Divide through the Rockies. We had 30 days straight without talking, but she wasn't too bummed because she knew she wasn't missing out on anything!

How's the Nitro Circus Live Tour going so far?

Man, the show's going great. I've never seen this many athletes, riders, whatever you want

to call them, working together and having that much fun to put on such an adrenalin-pumped show. Everyone feeds off each other. It reminds me a lot of X Games to have that many different types of athletes come together and be a team.

Do find yourself referred to as Travis's cousin a lot?

Yeah, definitely. Most folks know that my Mum and his Dad are brother and sister. Most people know we're cousins. That's part of the deal; he's like a big brother to me and I'm kind of in his shadow. We've been goofing off together for as long as I can remember. He had his freestyle and his racing and now rally, and he's been so successful. It's been such an awesome ride for him, but he never forgets to turn around and say "Hey, Greg, you enjoy this, let's go skydiving. Let's go bridge-jumping." He's worked hard and his success has opened up so many more doors for me to join in the fun, so I owe him a lot and really appreciate what he's doing for me and the rest of the crew.



So there're no sour grapes by not having your own real identity?

It honestly doesn't bother me. I'm kind of

proud and glad that people can appreciate a family bond and how strong that can be. My parents and his parents all support each other in a major way. I've always heard my sister saying growing up that she was "Greg Powell's sister", and I thought "well that's true, and I am Travis's cousin", but I don't mind it by any means.

So who was better at stuff as kids? You or Travis?

It was split straight down the middle. If it came to soccer, baseball, football, and that sort of thing I'd take the lead, but when it came to motorcycles, bicycles and any type of extreme sports he'd lead the way. But we were so competitive that the person following would always be right behind the other. It was a lot of fun.

What are your plans for after Nitro?

On the horizon, we have plans for a Nitro Circus feature movie, most probably in 3D. We're getting right into that as soon as this tour is done, because we need to squeeze it out before we go to New Zealand early next year for the Nitro tour there. Right now we have great momentum, but there might be a time when that stops, so we just have to embrace the moment for now. When it all winds down years down the tracks I can always go back and finish studying for my physical therapy degree. You can always go back to school, and that might be a career I want to pursue a bit later on. But for now we're gonna keep rolling and strike while the iron's hot.

And it's red-hot at the moment, mate. You guys are taking Australia by storm! Thanks for the chat.

No problem. It's been a pleasure.





Congratulations To all of our 2010 graduates!

Doctor of Philosophy in Physical Rehabilitation Science (PhD) – May 2010

Wei Liu

Doctor of Science in Physical Therapy (DScPT) – December 2009

Terry Black

James J. Bor

Doris Yin Kei Chong

Bart Grady Hanson

Lisa Ann Hausfeld

Marek G. Koziel

Kimberly Ann McGarry

Karen Runkles Murdock

Leslea Ann Stamp

Doctor of Science in Physical Therapy (DScPT) – May 2010

Jeremy S. Alter

Brandi R. Brian

Anne-Marie J. Fiala

Sarah A. Jensen

Bradley A. King

Tanya L. Miller

Mary Saloka Morrison

Stephanie A. Walsh

Doctor of Science in Physical Therapy (DScPT) – July 2010

Susan Rittenhouse Weiler

Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) – May 2010

Caitlyn Barr

Bret Bastian

Lindsay Buckingham

Jason Callaman

Patricia Celmer

Kimberly Cherry

Shaina Clemons

Erin Comstock

Lauren Davis

Bridget Eder

Catherine Ennis

Christine Force

Alexander Ford

Danielle Fried

Kathleen Fry

Diana Gersuk

Whitney Griffith

Naomi Gunter

Julie Hannah

Joy Hartley

Katherine Hawk

Jenna Holmes

Lindsey Hunt

Kristin Hutchinson

Kimberly Jacobson

Erin Johnson

Sara Kahn

Tracy Lyon

Gabriel Manoel

Laura Medina

Courtney Mossman

Meghan Musick

Nick Pejeau

Stacey Pokrywka

Amanda Pribyl

Damian Rankin

Kate Reiber

Paul Reuter

Alana Robertson

Natalie Rothemund

Carolyn Russell

Tameka Russell

Manoja Seneviratne

Nicole Silcox

Elizabeth Stauffer

Emily Thompson

Michael Wetmore

Katherine Zappa

Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) – July 2010

Elizabeth Bauman

Doctor of Philosophy in Physical Rehabilitation Science (PhD) – July 2010

Matthew Scherer

Priya Viswanathan

PHOTO GALLERY



Mark W. Rogers, then acting chair of the department, welcomed Dr. E. Albert Reece, dean of the medical school, to the PTRS graduation celebration.



During their orientation, students may feel like they're flying blind, but team-building exercises like this show them they'll always have the support of their classmates to fall back on.



Away from the demands of the classroom, faculty members Ellen Wruble Hakim and E. Anne Reicherter find time to catch up.

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100 Penn Street
 Baltimore, MD 21201



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1. Sandy McCombe Waller and Jill Whittall broke out the regalia for May's graduation ceremony.

2. Don Hobart, Tonas Kalil and Steve Tepper caught up at last year's alumni reception.

3. The Class of 2013 found during their orientation that bopping your classmate over the head is a fun way to bond.

4. Members of the Class of 2010 gathered wherever they could to squeeze in a little more time together before they all went their separate ways after graduation.