As I approach my one year anniversary at Northeastern University, I am excited to launch this newsletter detailing the achievements and landmarks of the past year. These include: the celebration of the 100th anniversary of Cooperative Education—a unique feature of our program, our first White Coat Ceremony, expansion of global learning opportunities, integration of an electronic medical record system in our clinical courses, high fidelity medical simulation, and expansion of our minor concentrations for undergraduate students. This fall we welcome Christopher Cesario as our new ACCE and Dr. David Nolan as Clinical Associate Professor. We are expanding our faculty and are presently searching for two tenure-track positions in orthopedics and adult neurology, an additional ACCE and a new clinical faculty member who is a specialist in cardiopulmonary or neurologic physical therapy. We continue to develop our partnerships with clinical sites to expand novel clinical educational opportunities. I feel very fortunate to be a member of Husky Nation and hope to hear from alums and friends about their accomplishments and opportunities for reconnecting with NU. Please send us your news for our next Newsletter edition. The contact person is Annetta Doegolia at a.doegolia@neu.edu. I hope to see you at our Alumni Event at CSM in New Orleans!

Dr. Maura Iversen, Professor and Chair

Greetings from the Chair

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Dr. Maura Iversen, Professor and Chair

Dr. Harris Receives Coveted Fulbright

Associate Professor Meredith Harris was selected to receive two Fulbright awards, a short term Specialists Award and the Fulbright Scholar Award, to research the benefits of physical therapy and exercise in people with HIV. “This is the dream of a lifetime. To be honored with the selection of two awards in one year is simply amazing.” She will be collaborating with the faculty at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in Port Elizabeth.

New Chair Awarded Two NIH Grants

Professor Maura Iversen received a R03 grant from the NIH-NIAMS entitled, “Activity Prescriptions in Rheumatoid Arthritis: Toward Personalized Counseling”. The purposes of this study are to examine the relationship between physical activity participation and disease activity; to characterize prognostic factors associated with physical activity participation and to identify profiles of RA patients who successfully engage in physical activity and those who do not. Dr. Iversen believes understanding the relationship between disease activity such as flares and remissions, and physical activity participation among people with RA will enable practitioners to better educate and promote patients’ health and well-being through increased physical activity.

Professor Iversen also received an R01 grant from NIH-NCACM together with colleague Dr. Chenchen Wang at Tufts entitled, “Tai Chi for Osteoarthritis”. This project compares the relative cost effectiveness of community-based Tai Chi with standard outpatient Physical therapy on physical and psychological outcomes in persons with knee OA. This project is one of many NU research initiatives conducted with our NCRC research partner, Tufts New England Medical Center. Dr Iversen notes, “I am pleased to receive these two grants which build on my research interests in comparative effectiveness, patient adherence and evaluation of exercise to help persons with arthritis manage their disease”.

Special points of interest:
- Accredited since 1928. One of the oldest Physical Therapy programs in the country.
- 2010 marks the 100th anniversary of Cooperative Education - our hallmark.
- Unique International Cooperative and Academic Learning Experiences
- Integration of LMR into the classroom
- 2 points of entry into the program
  - Freshman admittance
  - Post Bacc admittance
On June 14, 2010, the Department held its first White Coat Ceremony in the Curry Student Center. Our keynote speaker, Joan Drevins, PT, MS, CCS, Education and Research Coordinator Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA spoke to the students about professionalism and patient-centered care. Eighty students recited the PT Oath and received their White Coats marking their transition into the professional portion of the DPT program. The first 2 years of the program consist of basic science classes, the 3rd and 4th years contain clinical science and clinical decision making courses and the last 2 years focus on practice pattern-based instruction.

A hallmark of our program is the integration of experiential and didactic education whether through the use of standardized patients, communication and interaction with community consultants, participation in service learning projects and engagement in research with our faculty. Congratulations students!

Northeastern University’s Physical Therapy Department is pleased to announce that we will be hosting our second Clinical Instructor Education and Credentialing Program, on October 16-17, 2010.

This program is recognized and approved by the Board of Directors, American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) as a Clinical Instructor (CI) Education and Credentialing Program and is sponsored by the New England Consortium of ACCE’s. The program addresses issues of planning and preparing physical therapy students for their clinical education experiences and developing learning experiences and supporting on-going learning through questioning and effective feedback. Evaluation skills are discussed, as well as the identification and management of students with exceptional situations. The program also includes information on legal implications for clinical educators, including issues presented by ADA legislation.

The Department has initiated a partnership with MEDITECH to integrate the use of electronic medical records into the physical therapy curriculum. During the spring, paper cases from clinical courses were uploaded into the MEDITECH system along with x-rays and CT scans to bring cases to life. The system also includes a full pharmaceutical formulary. “While it effort to build the PT documentation system and upload cases, I am very pleased with the results” noted Dr Iversen. “The staff at MEDITECH were wonderful to work with and were able to accommodate every request I had while developing the case repository”. In August, four faculty were recruited to attend the MEDITECH training; the following week the LMR system was launched. Through this collaborative effort, the department received ten laptops and WOWs (portable laptop systems) to use in lab. Students’ reactions were very positive. The department plans to expand the use of LMRs throughout the curriculum with continued faculty education this fall and spring.

The PT Department is proud to announce that eight of our students were selected by the Office of Student Affairs to join the "100 Most Influential Seniors." Students selected for this honor must exhibit personal commitment to enhancing student life; self-motivation to make the Northeastern experience the best it can be; ability to influence peers and campus in a positive manner; be academically successful; demonstrate effective time-management skills and excellent interpersonal skills and ability to collaborate with fellow students, faculty, and/or administrators on issues of interest.

The students selected for this honor and pictured with President Auon include: Anna Padilla, Ally Jodoin, Mike Roncarati, Josh Avery, Marissa Kampfhammer, Chris Joyce, Christa Rocco and Maggie Goldberg
Cooperative Education (Co-op) Celebrates 100 Years

“This professionally, I learned to work with a large group of therapists, nurses, and doctors and how to manage my time better. Personally, I learned that I could handle a lot more difficult patient diagnosis then I thought I could. I have become increasingly comfortable in the acute care setting.”

Celia

This year marked the 100th anniversary of Cooperative Education (Co-op), a unique program which allows students to alternate between periods of academic study and employment. We are proud that we are the only physical therapy program that offers this opportunity.

Students entering as freshman work as a Physical Therapy Co-op/Aide for 2 six month periods during their 3rd and 4th years of study. Transfer and post baccalaureate students complete 1 six month cooperative experience.

These work opportunities allow students to participate as employees in national and international facilities that offer physical therapy. Students are able to work as part of the health care team and acquire hands on experience to augment the experiences they gain from clinical affiliations. Students report that these experiences contribute to knowledge that translates into better communication and clinical skills. These opportunities also support success in the classroom, awareness of expectations of the program and the profession of physical therapy.

Recent International Physical Therapy Cooperative Experiences.

- NeuroFit Clinic Barrio Escalante in San Pedro, Costa Rica
- Western Cape Rehabilitation Centre, Capetown, So Africa
- Nepal Orthopedic Center, Kathmandu, Nepal

PT Students Go Global

MEXICO: Drs. Lowe, Charette and Hayward along with 23 5th year physical therapy students traveled to Mexico City and Cuernavaca to engage in service learning combined with cultural immersion and Spanish language instruction. The Bouve Physical Therapy Team received an award from Mayela Aleman de Adame, wife of the governor of the State of Morelos and President of the state system for Integral Development of Families (DIF) for their work with elders and orphaned children.

ECUADOR: During March Spring break 13 students traveled to Quito, Ecuador to provide PT services at For His Children Orphanage. Students and faculty developed programs for the children to be implemented by staff for future care.

CHINA: In July, a team from the NU Physical Therapy program spent two weeks in China with HandReach, a program designed to assist individuals who suffer from burn and other serious injuries. The team worked with young patients who had suffered from a spectrum of severe burns. Professor Lorna Hayward performed clinical examinations and developed interventions for patients along with the assistance of DPT Postbacc student Li Li. Hayward hopes Northeastern can build a lasting partnership with Air Force General Hospital which could serve as a permanent co-op site.

In July, a team from Northeastern University’s physical-therapy program worked with young patients in China who had suffered severe burns.
PT Department Offers Course to Clinicians

The Department of Physical Therapy offered a continuing education course entitled, “Current Concepts in Foot and Ankle Management on Saturday, September 11, 2010 from 8:am-5:00pm. The course, taught by Drs Day and Nolan, was a one-day workshop that included viewing of a cadaver prosecution, hands-on examination lab and video gait analysis geared to all allied health professionals (PT, ATC, OT, Personal Trainers, etc.) and was approved for 8 contact hours by APTA and 8 contact hours by the BOC for athletic trainers. For more information about future course offerings, please visit www.neu.edu/HumanAnatomyLab.

NU Expo Recognizes Outstanding Student Research

Students from the Department of Physical Therapy were well represented at the NU’s Research Expo. Fourteen posters were accepted for presentation, providing an impressive display of research, education, and service projects. Congratulations to all students who participated. Congratulations especially to Drs. Cahalin and Canavan along with their student researchers Dylan Wiwchar and Stephen Clark for winning an award hockey for their project entitled “High-Intensity Inspiratory Muscle Training Improves Skating Performance and Maximal Oxygen Consumption in Division 1 College Ice Hockey Players”. Congratulations also to Dr Holden and her team of engineering students who won an award for their “Cyberglove Project”.

Interdisciplinary Engineering and PT Student Team

Professor Susan Ventura and her interdisciplinary team of students from Physical Therapy and Engineering, were invited to present their R&D project, “Ulcer Risk Evaluation System”, at the annual conference of the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America annual conference in Las Vegas this summer.

PT Faculty Helping Our Veterans and Their Families

As our country is actively engaged in two wars, providing the best care to our returning veterans is more important than ever. APTA of MA is working through the Governor’s Council on Veterans Affairs, with other state-wide groups, including the MA Dept. of Veterans Services, the MA Joint National Guard/Reserve Command, the VA, and the MA Medical Society, to make recommendations for care of returning Massachusetts veterans.

The Yellow Ribbon Program/Operation Total Warrior is a program run by the MA Reserve/National Guard, mandated by Congress, in support of military members and families. APTA of MA is participating in this program where monthly events are attended by hundreds of soldiers and family members in pre and post-deployment phases. Chris Conroy, PT, CSCS and David Nolan, PT, DPT, MS, OCS, CSCS (NU PT faculty) volunteer their time and expertise at each of these events.

The focus of the involvement during the pre and post deployment seminars is two-fold. There are lectures given regarding injury prevention, exercise and wellness. There is also an information table where soldiers and family members can obtain information on resources that assist them in accessing physical therapy. Physical therapists are also available for one on one discussion to answer any specific questions.

Husky Nation Meets Red Sox Nation

Congratulations to our students who won a national competition sponsored by Mike Reinold, PT, DPT, SCS, ATC, CSCS, Assistant Medical Director of the Boston Red Sox (NU PT 1999). Students met at Fenway Park to tour the training facilities and observe Mike in action. For more information on this competition, please see http://www.mikereinold.com/.

State of the Union Address

Students, please be sure to attend the Department of Physical Therapy’s State of the Union Address on September 23, 2010 at 3:00 pm in 200 Richards Hall.

This is a chance for you to meet the faculty (old and new) and hear about new program initiatives.

We will hold a raffle for textbooks and PT items for all attendees.
DPT Graduate Selected for Neurologic PT Residency

Rachel Tabak (DPT class of 2010) has been accepted in the USC Neurology Residency program starting in Fall, 2010. This is a post doctoral program open to only 4 students per year. Congratulations to Rachel for being accepted in to this prestigious residency.

Student Presents at Disability Conference

Jessica Gittes, 6th year DPT student presented a poster at the fifth annual “Focus” on Vision Impairment & Blindness Conference in Norwood, MA together with her clinical instructor Bob Tracey, PT, EDCO/WDC and John Maxell, MS, ACSM Certified, Sr. APE Instructor, EDCO/WDC. Ms. Gittes is completing her final clinical affiliation at the Wrentham Developmental Center in Wrentham, MA.

DPT Students Receive University Awards

Lauren Barker and Rachel Tabak were awarded the Sears B. Condit Awards for Outstanding Undergraduate Achievement University-wide awards given to the top 100 students in the senior class

Brianna Boyle received the Boston-Bouvé Faculty Scholarship. This scholarship is presented to an academically deserving student to honor the contributions made by the faculty in the physical education and physical therapy programs during the 1950s and 1960s.

The Elizabeth A. Davey Scholarship was awarded to Kathleen Masters. A scholarship awarded to a PT senior from a Massachusetts community who demonstrates superior academic achievement.

Anna Danilenko receive the Colonel Harriette S. Goodman Scholarship A scholarship awarded to a middler level PT student who demonstrates above-average academic ability and the personal characteristics needed to develop effective relationships with patients

PT Club Attends APTA Student Conclave

Ten 5th year physical therapy students were sponsored by the college to attend the American Physical Therapy Association National Student Conclave (NSC) held October 30 to November 1, 2009 in Miami, Florida. The NSC is the only national conference specifically designed for students of physical therapy and provides clinical seminars to help students explore new areas of practice and to equip students with practical information that is not typically covered in the classroom.

Looking to find an old friend? Check the Alumni directory under your NEU account, go to the HUSKY NATION tab and then in the center column, click ALUMNI DIRECTORY.

Did you know Northeastern University has a wealth of resources available to you at no cost?

Here are some great links to help you out! NU has a ride share program. It can be found under the Experiential Learning/Co-op tab, in the right column.

Looking for off-campus housing? Check out the new NU housing search program:

http://northeastern.edu/offcampus/aptsearchpost/

Looking for a car? Northeastern has a zip car group discount… Get it here: http://www.zipcar.com/northeastern/
David Nolan, PT, DPT, MS, OCS, CSCS:

David received a Bachelors of Science in Physical Therapy from Northeastern University, a Masters of Science with an Orthopedic Specialization and a Doctor of Physical Therapy from MGH Institute of Health Professionals. His research focuses on balance abilities of adolescent athletes and the impact that this performance has on injury prevention. During his graduate studies, he was awarded the Barbara Adams Fellow Award for his leadership and dedication to the profession. David is a ABPTS certified Orthopedic Clinical Specialist and a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist. He joins us as an Associate Clinical Professor and serves as a lecturer in the School of Professional and Continuing Studies in the transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy Program. David is a member of the faculty for the continuing education seminar “When the Feet Hit the Ground Everything Changes” with the American Physical Rehabilitation Network and has lectured nationally on functional biomechanics, gait and lower quarter dysfunction. In 2004, he received the “Excellence in Clinical Teaching” award from the New England Consortium of Academic Coordinators of Clinical Education. David’s areas of expertise include manual therapy, spinal dysfunction, sports medicine and orthopedics. He has worked extensively with patients with amputations, collegiate athletes, elite runners and professional dancers. Welcome Dave!

Christopher Cesario, PT, MBA

Chris Cesario joins our faculty this fall as Clinical Instructor and ACCE. Chris received his Bachelors of Science in Physical Therapy from Northeastern University and his Masters of Business Administration from Boston University. Chris has worked in a variety of settings, spending the majority of time working in outpatient orthopedics. Chris’ clinical interests included sports medicine, strength and conditioning and manual therapy. His most recent work experience was in the Department of Surgery at Brigham and Women’s Hospital as a Senior Project Manager and Financial Analyst collaborating with surgeons and other administrators on financial and operational projects.

As Chris states, “I am committed to the clinical education of students and hope to reinforce and promote positive relationships with all our clinical partners. I look forward to meeting all of you and serving Northeastern University, the students and our clinical partners in contributing to the advancement of the DPT program as well as the PT profession”. Welcome Chris!

Susan Ventura received a grant from the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission and the Schwartz Family Foundation to facilitate expansion of a K-12 technology swap program. The program is offered through MassMATCH, the statewide assistive technology program designed to help people with disabilities with the assistive technology they need to improve their access to and participation in activities. Professor Ventura plans to assemble a team of physical therapy students to work with the MA Rehabilitation Commission and Boston area public schools to improve upon a web-based to provide schools with a mechanism inventory available assistive technology and make unused items available for loan to other schools who join the program.

Dr. Sharby received a leadership award for outstanding contributions to the field of mental health. This award was given to the top 25 leaders as part of the 15th Anniversary Celebration of Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance, Boston Chapter. Dr Sharby also received a Distinguished Service Award from the University of Massachusetts, Lowell.

Recent Publications


Recent Publications


**Canavan PK, Cahalin LP, Lowe S, Fitzpatrick D, Harris M, Plummer-D’Amato P.** Managing Gait Disorders in Older Persons Residing in Nursing Homes: A Review of Literature. *J Am Medical Directors Assoc*

Solomon DH, Gleeson T, **Iversen MD** et al. A blinded randomized controlled trial of motivational interviewing to improve compliance with osteoporosis medications: Design of the OPTIMA trial. *Clinical Trials* 2009; Published ahead of print


**Iversen MD.** Integrating patient viewpoints into health care practice and research. *Phys Ther* 2009 89;1266-1268.


Select Faculty Presentations

**Dr. Plummer-D’Amato** was the invited keynote speaker for the Northern California Kaiser Permanente Rehabilitation Symposium on "Differential Diagnosis and Rehabilitation Management of the Adult with Right Hemispheric Dysfunction" (May)


**Drs. Fitzpatrick and Golub-Victor together with Amanda Soule** (6th year DPT student) presented a poster at the Combined Sections Meeting of the American Physical Therapy Association in San Diego, CA entitled: *Risk Management and Evidence Based Practice with Patient Handling*.

**Dr. Iversen** presented to the Danish Advisory Board for Scientific Education on March 1 in Copenhagen, Denmark. She also presented a talk entitled, Evolution and Status of Physical Therapy Education in the United States at the University of Southern Denmark, Odense on March 5th to physical therapy faculty from across the country.

**Dr. Cahalin** presented at CSM on February 18th from 12:30-2:30– “Sternal Precautions – What Do They Do”; on February 19th from 4:00-6:00 pm – “Year in Review” and on February 20th from 11:00-12:30 poster presentation on "Intra-rater Reliability and Concurrent Validity of Hand-Held Dynamometry to Measure Hip Flexor Strength and Endurance".

**Dr. Iversen** presented a workshop on December 2nd entitled, "Preparing New Providers for Community Telehealth: Building Health Care Simulation into Education" at the HRSA sponsored conference at the Innovations in Telehealth: HIT Workshop for HRSA Grantees Regions I, II, III on December 2nd, sponsored by MGH Institute of Health Professions, Partners Connected Health and Partners Home Care and funded by HRSA.

**Dr. Hayward** presented a talk entitled, “Physical Therapy Intervention for the Severely Burned Child” at the Chinese Air Force General Hospital, Beijing, and Hospital Changsha, China in July.
Department of Physical Therapy

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Excellence, Distinctiveness and Innovation.

As a physical therapy student at Northeastern University you will have the unique opportunity to enrich your education with real life experiences in the field of physical therapy through our cooperative education program, one of the largest and most innovative programs in the world. These experiences provide extended exposure to current, state-of-the-art physical therapy practice in world renowned hospitals and clinics across the globe: from Boston to Peru, Hawaii to Costa Rica or Florida to Cape Town, South Africa.

http://www.northeastern.edu/bouve/healthprofessions/dept/PT_Welcome.html