This year the university and department have continued to grow and change. I am pleased to announce the arrival of our new Dean Dr Terry Fulmer as well as two new tenure track faculty, Drs Ann Marie Flores, Amee Seitz and a clinical faculty member, Dr Maureen Watkins and Dr Matt Nippons.

The PT clinical teaching labs in our state-of-the-art building, Beharkis Health Sciences Center, are being outfitted with a camera and video relay system to enhance teaching. All faculty have access to Tegrity, a system for delivering classroom lectures synced with slides. We have also expanded and renovated our PT Research labs to include a new Center for Cancer Survivorship Studies, a Neurocognitive Lab, a Neurorehabilitation Lab and a Biomotion Lab. We welcomed Swiss students for our inaugural physical therapy exchange program and held a Dialogues In Diversity Course in South Africa. Our next issue will present more about exciting innovations this fall and spring.

Greetings from the Chair, Dr Maura Daly Iversen

Save the Date!
3 NU Faculty presenting at the
2011 APTA of MA Annual Conference

Saturday November 5, 2011

- David Nolan PT, DPT, MS, OCS, CSCS
- Trevor Winnegge PT, DPT, MS, OCS, CSCS

Current Concepts in Managing Knee Dysfunction
And
Maureen Watkins PT, DPT, MBA, LMT

The Pelvic Floor & the Female Athlete

NU Hosts the APTA Section on Pediatrics IDEA Conference

The Department was the proud host of the IDEA Conference sponsored by the APTA Pediatrics Section on July 15 and 16, 2011. The conference attracted 100 attendees from the continental United States and Guam. In addition, Associate Clinical Professor Ann-Golub Victor and 5 PT students attended. The conference updated pediatric clinicians on application of law to their practice and how best to serve clients. Several renowned speakers presented including Stephen J Bagnato from University of Pittsburgh, Toni Doty, from Kent State, Susan Effgen from University of Kentucky, Irene McEwen from University of Oklahoma, Toby Long from Georgetown University, Mary Jane Rapport from the University of Colorado and Nate Thomas from Federal Government Affairs of the APTA.

Program Chairperson Wins Prestigious Award

Dr Maura Daly Iversen, Professor and Chairperson of the Physical Therapy Department has been named the 2011 Distinguished Scholar by the American College of Rheumatology, Association of Rheumatology Health Professionals. This award will be presented during the opening ceremony of the Annual Scientific Meeting of the American College of Rheumatology on Nov 5, 2011. This accolade acknowledges her contributions to expanding knowledge about interventions for clients with Rheumatic diseases and improving treatment outcomes.
Members of the NU community received awards at the 2011 APTA Annual Conference this June in Washington, DC. Sonya Larrieux, Assistant Clinical Professor, was presented the Minority Faculty Development Award and received funds to support her dissertation research in health disparities for the PhD in Law, Policy and Society. Li Li DPT, Class of 2011 was awarded the Minority Affairs Scholarship for her advocacy work with the Chinese community both here and in her native China. The NU PT Club was recognized for their fundraising efforts for the Marquette Challenge. During the 2010-2011 academic year they raised $3,000.
"People overlook what a strong voice students can have. But with so many of us enrolled nationwide, we have the power to make a big difference," says Abby Reid, Class of 2012. "In school, we learn about the many flaws and injustices in today's health care system. Just because we are not yet practicing physical therapists (PTs) does not mean that our opinions on such issues will be ignored."

“These issues--such as changes in Medicare reimbursement rates and student loan forgiveness--will affect many of those students as soon as they graduate. The sooner we become involved in advocating for our rights as professionals, as well as for our patients' rights, the smoother the transition will be once we graduate and become part of the 'professional' world," Reid says. "If we want to see change by the time we are practicing in the field, we need to begin now. It's time we stop relying on other people to make the changes we want to see and start doing something proactive about it ourselves. To advocate for one's profession is as much as an "inalienable right as voting, the students noted. It's critical to explain that the profession is still evolving, and they can help in determining its direction, they say."

Abby attended Student Conclave last year and is actively involved with legislative issues on a local and national level.

**Hooding and Pinning Ceremony Carries on and Expands An NU Tradition**

We were delighted to hold our annual Pinning and Hooding ceremony for the eighty-four members of the class of 2011 on May 5th in Blackman Auditorium. Faculty, family and friends gathered to celebrate the accomplishments of the class and to launch them on their physical therapy careers. This event is traditionally held the afternoon before graduation and allows us to celebrate with students and their loved ones in an intimate and personalized ceremony. The students selected Dr Prudence Plummer-D’Amato, Assistant Professor to be their faculty speaker. Student speakers were Christopher Joyce and Kathryn Moran. A lovely reception followed the event in the Curry Student Center ballroom.

This event is part of a long tradition of honoring our newest alumni. The first Bouve Pining ceremony was held in 1955. The pin, which is unique to Bouve College serves as an symbol of welcoming them into the profession of Physical Therapy. Graduating students become part of a long tradition of caring and service to patients and the community. With the transition to the DPT degree in 2007 we added the placement of doctoral hoods over the students academic gowns in preparation for the formal University graduation the following day.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2011. WE ARE VERY PROUD OF YOU!**

from

**THE NUPT FACULTY**
Northeastern University announced that Dr Terry Fulmer will become the new Dean of Bouvé College of Health Sciences beginning Oct 1, 2011. She is an accomplished scholar who was elected to the Institute of Medicine in 2010 and was most recently the Erline Perkins McGriff Professor and Dean of the College of Nursing at New York University.

“As dean of Bouvé, Terry Fulmer will combine her vision, passion and energy to take the college to new heights,” said President Joseph E. Aoun. “Her appointment will also strengthen our signature focus on health — a major theme of Northeastern's teaching and research.” Fulmer will succeed Dr Stephen Zoloth, the founding Dean of the Bouvé College of Health Sciences. Under Zoloth’s leadership for more than 10 years, Bouvé achieved new levels of excellence, including a broad range of new undergraduate and graduate offerings and vastly expanded research programs. The PT faculty congratulate Dr Fulmer and look forward to working with her to continue our growth and innovation.

**NU Congratulates Our Faculty On Achieving Their Clinical Specialization**

We would like to congratulate two of our faculty for achieving their clinical specialization certification awarded by the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties Board at CSM, February, 2012.

**Dr Diane Fitzpatrick**, Associate Clinical Professor, received Board certification in Geriatrics. **Dr Alycia Markowski**, Associate Clinical Professor, received Board Certification in Orthopedics as well as being a Fellow in the American Academy of Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapy.

Through this initiative the department provides financial support and release time to faculty to pursue specialization. Next year, two more faculty will be supported to prepare for the exam.

**Faculty Grants**

**Dr Ann Marie Flores** has joined us from Vanderbilt University Medical Center where she led and developed the Rehabilitation Oncology Program in the Department of Orthopaedics & Rehabilitation. Her research focuses on cancer survivorship, women's health and health disparities. She is the Principal Investigator of the Southern Community Cancer Survivorship Study (NCI/NIH #1R21CA137483-02). The study targets breast cancer survivors in the southern United States with special emphasis on physical and functional well being. She has received funding from the National Cancer Institute/National Institutes of Health, Susan G. Komen for the Cure, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, University of Maryland System, and the U.S. Department of Education.

**Dr Plummer-D’Amato** received a $308,000 4-year new scientist Development Grant from the American Heart Association to conduct a randomized controlled trial entitled, “Training dual task walking after stroke: effects on attentional and locomotor control”. The grant involves collaboration with Dr. Dagmar Sternad, Dr. Bijan Najafi, and the outpatient physical therapy department at New England Rehabilitation Hospital in Woburn, MA. The study will compare the effects of single-task and dual-task gait training on attention allocation and locomotor performance in community-dwelling stroke survivors.

**Dr Lorna Hayward** was awarded a grant of $20,200 from the Kenneth B. Schwartz Center Fund of Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH). The title of the grant is "Creating a Culturally Competent and Inter-professional Aware Health Care Environment within the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital." The grant will enable patients to share their stories about their experiences with care at SRH. The stories will become a DVD that will be used in an educational module designed to assist with the training of culturally competent and compassionate care givers.
South Africa: Dialogues in Civilization.

This year we instituted our first Dialogues in Civilization Course. Dr Diane Fitzpatrick (PT) and Adam Thomas (AT) organized an interdisciplinary group of 29 students from Northeastern University, and spent four weeks in South Africa. This new venture is part of NU’s emphasis on global education combined with our traditional emphasis on experiential learning.

The course was designed to familiarize students with the history, culture and traditions of South Africa through the use of lectures, personal interactions and experiences, in the cities, townships, government and health facilities. Community service with guided reflection and journaling was also part of the learning experience. Students learned about infectious diseases, chronic health conditions, and health disparities which affect the citizens of South Africa. There was a special focus on HIV/AIDS and TB.

The service component of the trip provided many opportunities for students to work with healthcare organizations in South Africa. For example, the students worked with Students’ Health and Welfare Centres Organization (SHAWCO) at the University of Cape Town Medical School. It is a student run NGO, whose mission is to improve the quality of life of individuals living in the developing communities within the Cape Metropolitan Area. They provide services which are delivered by volunteer doctors and other medical workers. The students assisted in caring for patients in mobile and stationary clinics for evening care in the townships and collaborated with students from the University of Cape Town. Our partners in South Africa were very positive about the experience an our students report this was a life changing event that gives new meaning to professional values and personal beliefs.

Recent Alumni Achievements

Heather Whiting, a 2011 DPT graduate of Northeastern, is starting her year-long residency in September through the Functional Manual Therapy Foundation. She will be completing her residency at Elite Health Services in Old Greenwich, CT under the mentorship of Brad Gilden. The program includes one on one mentorship hours each week, taking post graduate continuing education courses through the Institute of Physical Art (IPA), live patient demonstrations and community service all culminating with a test in her hometown of Steamboat Springs, CO for her certification in functional manual therapy. She must also sit for her OCS certification within one year of completing the residency.

David Cimino, a 2011 DPT graduate is a resident in the sports residency program at Howard Head Sports Medicine Center in Vail, Colorado. During this 14 month program, he will participate in clinical rotations focusing on different aspects of Sports Rehabilitation, attend lectures and conferences with specialists from around the globe and engage in research. He will also participate in emergency first response and on-field management at high school athletic events; on-mountain coverage at professional ski/snowboard competitions; as well as biking and trail running race coverage. He will work with the head strength and conditioning coach for Ski Club Vail, treating skiers on and off the mountain throughout their training. At the end of the year he will be eligible to sit for the Sports Clinical Specialist exam.

Matthieu Newton, DPT, 2008 has begun his training to become a physician at the University of Rochester Medical School. Matt is following through on his goal to become an orthopedic surgeon. On the other hand, he loved being a Pediatric PT at Johns Hopkins Medical Center so who knows? Matt is pictured here in his white coat ceremony this past summer.
Faculty Hiring News: Welcome Amee, Matt and Maureen

Amee L. Seitz, PT, PhD, DPT, OCS

Amee Seitz is joining the university as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Physical Therapy. She received her B.S. in Physical Therapy from Ohio University, her post-professional M.S. and clinical doctorate from the MGH Institute of Health Professions, and her PhD in Rehabilitation and Movement Science from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Dr. Seitz is a licensed physical therapist and board-certified orthopaedic clinical specialist. She completed post doctoral work in Rehabilitation Sciences at the University of Kentucky and at the Shoulder Research Laboratory at Massachusetts General Hospital. Her research interests are in the neuromuscular and biomechanical mechanisms of shoulder disorders and associated rehabilitation outcomes. We look forward to Amee’s contributions to teaching, service and her contributions and growth in our new Biomotion Lab.

Matt Nippins, PT, DPT, CCS

Dr. Nippins is expanding his role in the PT Department taking over as primary faculty in our cardiopulmonary course. He began his career at Northeastern University in 2006 as adjunct faculty teaching in the Cardio-Pulmonary Management course. He is also a Senior Therapist at Massachusetts General Hospital working with cardiac and pulmonary patients.

Matt has 12 years of clinical experience and is board certified as a Cardiopulmonary Clinical Specialist. He is actively involved with the North American Cystic Fibrosis Conference for the past 10 years as a moderator, abstract reviewer, workshop mentor and instructor. He currently serves as one of three mentors in the US for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundations mentorship program. He also works with the Boston Renegades Beep ball team as a volunteer coach and has raised over $110,000 for Cystic Fibrosis Foundation research. He raised the money running in several Boston Marathons in the past 10 years.

Maureen Watkins, PT, DPT, MBA, CMT

Dr. Watkins joins NU as an Assistant Clinical Professor in the Physical Therapy Department at Northeastern University. Since 2004, she has been adjunct faculty specializing in business, women’s health and orthopedic classes.

Maureen has 18 years of clinical experience in a variety of settings. She currently maintains her clinical proficiency as a clinician at South County Physical Therapy and at Saint Vincent Hospital located in Worcester, MA. A licensed massage therapist, she previously owned a massage therapy clinic in Grafton, MA. She is an active APTA member serving as a Central Massachusetts Representative and as a representative for the orthopedic membership committee.

Maureen earned a B.S. and doctorate in physical therapy from Northeastern University and a MBA from Anna Maria College.
**Featured Faculty Presentations**

**Alicia Canali** will be presenting at the World Association of Cooperative Education Conference in Philadelphia, PA in June. **Rose DiMarco** co-authored the presentation. The panel session title: *FIRE WORK: A Multi-faceted International Collaboration between HandReach, Beijing, China and Northeastern University’s Nursing and Physical Therapy Cooperative Education Programs, Boston.*


*Integrating Cultural Competence, Professional Core Values, and Evidence Based Practice: A Blended Service Delivery and CurriculaModel.* **Hayward, LM**, Charrette AL. World Confederation of Physical Therapy Congress, Amsterdam, Netherlands, June, 2011.

**Dr Maura Iversen** presented her research entitled, *Technology Application in Rehabilitation and Wellness* on May 25th-27th at the PETRA Conference in Crete, Greece.


Laura Bradbury, Kirsten Brown, Christine DeMao and their mentor, **Dr. Susan Ventura** have been invited to present their work, *The Assistive Technology School Swap Program in MA,* at the international conference of the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America in Toronto, Canada this June.

**Recent Faculty Publications**


**Iversen MD,** Chudasama N, Losina E, Katz JN. Influence of Limb Length Discrepancy on Function and Satisfaction Following Total Hip Replacement. *J Geriatric Phys Ther* 2011; DOI: 10.1519/JPT.0b013e31820e16dc


Physical therapy students at Northeastern University have unique opportunities to enrich their education through experiential learning. This combines hands-on experience in the field of physical therapy through our Cooperative Education program. We are the only physical therapy program offering this year-long opportunity.

We also offer experiential education and exposure to current, state-of-the-art physical therapy practice in world-renowned hospitals and clinics across the globe. Our global initiatives include opportunities in Boston and the continental United States and Hawaii as well Peru, Costa Rica, China, Cape Town, South Africa, Ecuador, and Switzerland.

There are three opportunities to earn a DPT at NU: as a freshman, as a student possessing a baccalaureate degree and if you are a US licensed PT, we have the tDPT offered jointly by Bouvé and CPS.