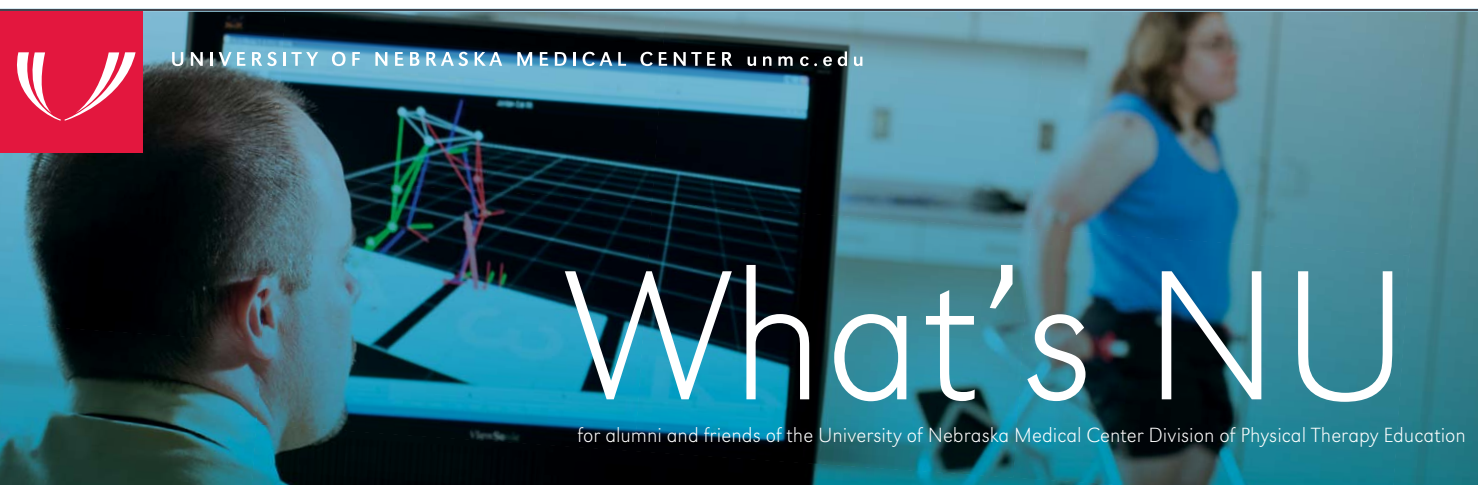


What's NU **GOING GREEN**

In an effort to promote UNMC's **Going Green** initiative, and reduce our footprint on our natural resources, we would like to announce that our future issues of **What's NU** will be available online at unmc.edu/alliedhealth/pt

Please be sure to update your email address to keep up-to-date with the latest issues of **What's NU!**



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What's NU

for alumni and friends of the University of Nebraska Medical Center **Division of Physical Therapy Education**



From the Coastland to the Heartland

It is with great excitement that I write my first Program Director's message. After an exciting, educational journey of interviewing for director positions across North America, I feel blessed that my quest led me to the University of Nebraska Medical Center. As I begin my tenure at UNMC, I am confident that together, we will be successful in growing an already outstanding program to new heights. I am very grateful for the dedication of Pat Hageman, Ph.D., P.T., who led the UNMC Physical Therapy Education Program for 19 years. It was her hard work that laid a firm foundation from which to grow the program. The UNMC PT Education Program faculty, staff, students and alumni will always owe Dr. Hageman much gratitude for building a program that is nationally recognized and respected for producing outstanding physical therapists. Additionally, I want to recognize the efforts of Gib Willett, Ph.D., P.T., who served as interim director for nearly 2 years. During his tenure Dr. Willett diligently worked to sustain the strength of the program, and ensure that UNMC PT students received the highest quality education. I extend my sincerest thanks to Dr. Willett for his wise leadership, and am grateful that he has agreed to serve as the program's Associate Director.

I have been fortunate to be associated with exceptional physical therapy programs during my career; I graduated with my bachelor's degree in physical therapy from Washington University in St. Louis, and for the past 15 years was a professor in the Division of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy at the University of Southern California. In both locations I was influenced by two of the most intellectual leaders in the history of physical therapy, Steven Rose, Ph.D., P.T. at Washington University in St. Louis, and Helen Hislop, Ph.D., P.T. at the University of Southern California. These 2 individuals counseled and motivated me through their actions and words, to boldly move the science of physical therapy forward, to implement innovative ideas for the profession, and to fully integrate physical therapy education and research into the life of the university. I will honor these two wonderful mentors by carrying the torch of ingenuity they passed to me to UNMC!

'Excellence built on Goodness' will be the theme that drives the UNMC Physical Therapy Education Program under my leadership. This theme influenced the development of my long-term goals for the program. Likewise, this will be the premise that guides daily interactions between all faculty, staff and students in

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the program, because as Aristotle said, "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit." However, excellence alone is not enough. I believe that excellence must be pursued in order to produce good for individuals and communities; if it is pursued for individual or programmatic gains, it becomes shallow and fleeting. So together we will engage in excellent research, education, practice and community service, and all the while, making sure that our excellent acts are aimed at doing good for the people of Omaha and Nebraska.

I decided to accept the position at UNMC because I saw that the program was filled with incredible faculty and staff, housed in wonderful facilities, and led by a school administration that is willing to face the future of healthcare with innovation. The firm foundation on which the program was built, in concert

with the exciting environment it "lives" in, creates a fertile ground for a new program director to grow research, education, practice, and community service programs that are truly special.

In future columns I will address my long-term goals in more detail, but for now here are some of my goals as program director: a) develop physical therapy residency programs, b) develop continuing education programs serving practitioners, c) build an interdisciplinary research program focusing on preterm infants and their families, d) develop our nation's first rural PT clinical research network, and e) develop community service programs to reduce disparities in prevention and rehabilitation health in our community. I realize that these are ambitious goals, but I am confident that together we can turn these goals into reality. I know from experience that the

best way to move forward and grow is to do so in a team manner, and I welcome a big, inclusive team. It will take more than the UNMC faculty, staff and students to realize these goals. It will take alumni and community members from all over Omaha and Nebraska. In working to accomplish these goals, I promise that wonderful new relationships will be made, old relationships will be made stronger, and a lot of fun will be had!

I hope that you are as excited and motivated to grow the UNMC PT Education Program as I am. I will need your help, counsel and support for these efforts. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you are interested in joining our team that will do excellent and good actions for all of Nebraska.

All the best to you and yours, Jack



"I wanted to be a part of a clinic that not only helps students get the opportunity to get hands on care with patients, but also have a community involvement that helps individuals access needed healthcare." -Chris Noda

Chris Noda, and Karen Clark, who are all graduates of the UNMC Physical Therapy program. Chalie (UNMC 2009) now works at Immanuel Medical Center, Chris (UNMC 2002) works at Quantum Health Professionals, and Karen (UNMC 1999) works at Mercy Hospital in Council Bluffs. Karen volunteers at both SHARING and GOODLIFE clinics, given her specialization in wound care. The students are deeply appreciative that these volunteers provide their knowledge and time to the students, advising the students about patient examination, evaluation, and intervention, and providing guidance for documentation. As Karen Clarke says, "They (SHARING and GOODLIFE) are an excellent opportunity for the students to get hands on experience in direct patient care and to work with students from other disciplines."

SHARING clinic is continually looking for community volunteers to mentor the students at the clinic. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or would like more information about the clinics, please contact Greg Karst, PT, PhD at 559-6596 or gmkarst@unmc.edu.

committee for "SHARING the Vision," an international conference on student-run clinics that was sponsored by UNMC in 2009. In addition, Suzanne was an invited presenter on student-run clinics at both that conference and at the Health Professions Education Collaborative meeting in Manitoba, Canada.

As the recipient of this prestigious award, Suzanne was honored at the Annual APTA Awards Ceremony in Boston, Massachusetts on June 17th of this year. She also received a monetary award and her name was added to a plaque on display in the PT Education office as the 17th UNMC recipient of the Mary McMillan Scholarship.

Congratulations, Suzanne!

New Director

By: Grace Johnson, PT, MS, OCS

The Division of Physical Therapy Education, School of Allied Health Professions, at the University of Nebraska Medical Center is excited to welcome our new Director, Jack E. Turman, Jr, PT, PhD. His era of leadership officially began July 1, 2010, as he assumed responsibilities from Interim Director, Gib M. Willett, PT, PhD, OCS, CSCS. Dr. Turman brings a unique and experienced background in research and academia. He has been an Associate Professor in the Division of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy in the School of Dentistry, and the Departments of Pediatrics, and Cell and Neurobiology in the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California for the past 15 years. He was both founder and Director of the Center for Premature Infant Health and Development at the USC Keck School of Medicine, and is an internationally recognized developmental neurobiologist. Dr. Turman's research investigations focus on how neonatal brain injury affects feeding, cognitive, and emotional development. He is an active member of the Society for Neuroscience and the International Society for Developmental Psychobiology. Dr. Turman is a graduate of the Program in Physical Therapy, Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, and received his MS and PhD in Kinesiology from University of California at Los Angeles. He is married with 2 boys and is a California native, sharing the same hometown as Assistant Professor, Grace Johnson. (In fact, they worked in the same restaurant while in high school -- he as a busboy and she as a hostess.)

As the tenure of Dr. Turman's leadership begins, the entire faculty and staff of the Division of Physical Therapy Education welcome the beginning of this chapter in our storied program history.

APTA McMillan Award Suzanne Wing Dougherty

By: Greg Karst, PhD, PT

Suzanne Wing Dougherty, a 2010 UNMC graduate in physical therapy, was one of only six recipients of the APTA's Mary McMillan Scholarship Award, which is the highest honor given to entry level students by the APTA.

Suzanne received praise from no less than APTA President Dr. Scott Ward, who wrote: "The annual Mary McMillan Scholarship Award of the American Physical Therapy Association honors particularly outstanding physical therapy students. This highly competitive national award acknowledges students from physical therapy programs who show potential for future excellence in the profession. It is truly laudable that in the past 33 years, the University of Nebraska's Department of Physical Therapy has had 17 Mary McMillan Scholars! This year's "Nebraska" McMillan Scholar, Suzanne Dougherty, reflects the excellence that is University of Nebraska physical therapy education. One of six recipients in 2010, Ms. Dougherty's most enviable academic and community service record demonstrate her commitment to the betterment of society. I commend her for her good work and welcome her future contributions to the profession of physical therapy."

Although Suzanne is an excellent student, we know from experience that it takes much more than academic excellence to win this award. While Suzanne has a long and impressive list of additional activities and accomplishments, I'd like to mention just a few of them here:

Suzanne served as an Executive Board Member and as the Physical Therapy Administrator for the SHARING clinic, a UNMC student-run clinic serving medically underserved residents of South Omaha. She also served as the Physical Therapy Liaison to the planning



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