Class of 2016 Graduation

Celebratory graduation events for the Class of 2016 began with the Division of Physical Therapy Education Convocation on Friday morning, May 6, in the Truhlsen Events Center at UNMC. The members of the Class of 2016 and their guests were warmly welcomed by Program Director Dr. Joe Norman. Class President and UNMC Student Regent Andrew Shaw gave the student address. Alpha Eta Society inductees, LEND participants, research contributors, and recipients of the Service, Professionalism, and Leadership awards were recognized. Elliot Tapprich, DPT, President of the UNMC Physical Therapy Alumni Committee, was also on hand to congratulate the graduates and encourage future participation in the UNMC PT alumni committee.

The students also participated in the College of Allied Health Professions Convocation on Friday evening at the Holland Performing Arts Center and the UNMC Commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 7, at the Baxter Arena.

Congratulations, Class of 2016!
College of Allied Health Professions Forms New Engagement Council

Alumni representing each of the professions in the College of Allied Health Professions (CAHP) met in November and voted to form a single, all-inclusive CAHP Alumni Engagement Council. The group will meet quarterly.

The former “chapters,” including physical therapy, will become committees within the larger single organization.

CAHP alumni are invited to participate in future council meetings and activities.

If you have any questions or are interested in participating in the council, please email alumni@unmc.edu or call Kat Hamilton in the Alumni Relations Office at 402-559-1063.

The 2017 U.S. News & World Report ranks the UNMC College of Allied Health Professions’ Physical Therapy Education program 28th in the nation – up from 34th in 2012.

Shanghai Sino-U.S. Health Science Initiative

In 2010, the Shanghai Sino-U.S. Health Science Initiative (SSUHSI) began with a Memorandum of Understanding signed by UNMC and the Chinese Scholarship Council in China. A four-year dual-degree program, in which students earn a Master of Science and a Doctor of Physical Therapy (MS-DPT), was developed. The goal of this program is to cultivate more Physical Therapy educators in China and foster physical therapy rehabilitation in the health care system. Dr. Joseph Siu has served as the Director of this program since 2012. The program accepts one to two students from China each year.

Our second student from China to complete the UNMC MS-DPT Program in Physical Therapy is Yanlong Li, Class of 2016. Dr. Li will be returning to China later this year to pursue either a faculty position in Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation or take on a lead management role in a rehabilitation hospital.

We currently have six Chinese students enrolled in the SSUHSI program and two new students scheduled to begin in the Fall 2016 semester.
Student Research News

Student Research

On March 5, 2016, UNMC Physical Therapy Education students Haley Hansen and Abby Regier (both PT2s) each presented a poster at the 47th Annual Midwest Student Biomedical Research Forum (MSBRF). The conference, co-sponsored by UNMC and Creighton University, is specifically designed to give graduate students and health professions students a venue to present their research.

The title of Abby’s poster was, “Self-efficacy and Social Support for Weight Loss Behaviors in Rural Women.” Her faculty mentor was Pat Hageman, PT, PhD, FAPTA.

The title of Haley’s poster was, “Minimal Detectible Change in Dual Task Cost for Older Adults With and Without Cognitive Impairment.” Her faculty mentors were Dawn Venema, PT, PhD, and Joseph Siu, PhD.

Haley was awarded first place in the poster competition in the medical student category (which includes all health professions students). As a result of her placing, Haley had the opportunity to present the

see STORY 1 pg 5

Qualitative Study on Fall Risk

PT2 student Caleb Schantz and his faculty mentor, Dr. Katherine Jones, gave a presentation titled, “Eliciting Patient and Caregiver Perceptions of Fall Risk in the Hospital,” at the Methodist Health System Interprofessional Research Day on April 21, 2016. As part of her team-based research to decrease inpatient fall risk, Dr. Jones mentored Schantz to conduct a qualitative study with Methodist nurses to determine how patients perceived interventions that were intended to decrease their risk of falls. Schantz’s analysis revealed that what a health care provider actually does with patients, rather than verbal education, improves trust and most directly impacts a patient’s perception of being safe from falling.

Division of Physical Therapy Education Participation in e-Learning Showcase

On Thursday, April 21, PT2 students Jena Mizner and Jamie Straube, along with their faculty advisor, Assistant Professor Sara Bills, DPT, presented their e-Learning module, “Good Vibrations: Interpretation of Fremitus and Percussion in a Chest Examination,” at the UNMC E-Learning Showcase.
Faculty Awards and Activities

**Katherine Jones Receives Excellence in Research Award**

**Katherine J. Jones, PT, PhD, Associate Professor in Physical Therapy Education,** is the recipient of the 2016 UNMC College of Allied Health Professions’ Excellence in Research Award. This award recognizes significant research contributions and addition to the knowledge of the clinical, scientific, and/or educational community.

Dr. Jones was recognized at the annual College of Allied Health Professions Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, May 4, 2016. During the ceremony, Dr. Jones also gave a short presentation, “Coordination within Multiteam Systems Improves Organizational Learning.”

**Pat Hageman Named Catherine Worthingham Fellow**

**Patricia Hageman, Ph.D., Professor in the Division of Physical Therapy Education and Karen Linder Distinguished Professor for Women’s Health in the College of Allied Health Professions,** has been named a Catherine Worthingham Fellow of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA).

It is the APTA’s highest membership honor, to “inspire all physical therapists to attain the high level of professional excellence and impact in terms of advancing the profession.”

**Siu Winner**

At the 2016 Medicine Meets Virtual Reality (MMVR) meeting April 7-9 in Los Angeles, **Joseph Siu, PhD,** presented two posters about recent virtual reality research on behalf of his research team. One of their posters was selected as a winning poster at the conference (see below).

**UNMC Faculty Members Contribute to Online Resources for Stroke Rehabilitation Professionals in Nebraska**

UNMC Division of Physical Therapy Education faculty members **Katherine J. Jones, PT, PhD,** and **Kathleen Volkman, PT, MS, NCS,** are both a part of the Nebraska Stroke Advisory Council (NSAC), an interprofessional coalition of stroke experts who collaborate to improve stroke care in Nebraska. The NSAC Rehab Task Force has now listed Information on Standardized Assessment Tools used by stroke rehabilitation professionals on its website. This listing provides the following:

- a variety of tools used by PTs, OTs, SLPs and nurses
- tools from all levels of the ICF model
- tools which are evidence based
- links to the tools on other databases
- listing by alphabetical order of the tool name
- listing by purpose of the tool if you don’t know the name

The NSAC Rehab Task Force has also listed information on Specialized Rehabilitation Services used by stroke rehabilitation professionals on its website. Here, you will find:

- tools from all levels of the ICF model
- tools which are evidence based
- links to the tools on other databases
- listing by alphabetical order of the tool name
- listing by purpose of the tool if you don’t know the name
Funfitness

On Friday, May 20th, on the campus of Creighton University, physical therapy students from the class of 2018 volunteered for Funfitness. This fitness-screening event, developed in collaboration with the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), was created for Special Olympics athletes. PT students screened the athletes for flexibility of the hamstring, calf, shoulder rotator, and hip flexor muscles; strength of the trunk, upper extremity, and lower extremity; balance using a single leg stance and functional reach test; and aerobic fitness using a step test, walk test, and wheel test. Participants, families, and coaches were also educated on the importance of these aspects on overall fitness and taught exercises to help with identified areas that could benefit from improvement.

Joint Effort

The 20th annual Joint Effort Volleyball Tournament hosted by physical therapy students from UNMC and Creighton was held on February 26. The 64-team bracket competed at the Nebraska Elite Sports and Fitness Complex in Omaha from 5:00 p.m. Friday evening to 5:00 a.m. Saturday morning. A total of $5,469.71 was raised for the Nebraska Arthritis Foundation, which helped support their annual Walk to Cure Arthritis event.

Joint Effort co-chair and UNMC physical therapy student Jamie Straube said, “At UNMC we are provided with incredible volunteering opportunities to build relationships and promote health in Omaha and the surrounding areas. These experiences teach valuable lessons and build important skills that can’t be learned from a textbook. It’s great to be part of a physical therapy program that values community involvement.”

Anatomical Donor Memorial Service

The 2016 Anatomical Donor Memorial Service was held on April 24th in the Truhlsen Event Center. Students from the physical therapy, physician assistant, and medical programs planned and hosted the event for the families of the donors who graciously donated their bodies to the Anatomical Gift Program. For the program, PT1 student Taylor Walgren provided music on the piano. PT1 Class President Trent Werner addressed the families and students, emphasizing the immeasurable gratitude that UNMC students have for the donors as well as their families. The message and benediction was given by Reverend H. Eduardo Bousson of Nebraska Wesleyan University. The service was concluded with several other student and faculty speeches in addition to several musical performances by students and the UNMC Musical Society.

Haley also presented this work at the APTA NEXT Conference and Exposition in Nashville, Tennessee in June.
July 22, 2016

SHOULD WE BAN THE IT BAND: LOWER EXTREMITY ANATOMY REVIEW

Location: Health Science Education Complex, Kearney, Nebraska
Course Fee: $180 per participant ($50 discount for UNMC Alumni or for Clinical Instructor for UNMC students = $130)
Registration: Registration opens Monday, May 2, and will close Friday, July 8. Participants may select a morning or an afternoon session, though registration is limited.

Approved by the NPTA for 4.0 contact hours.

Lecturer:
Gib Willett, PT, PhD, OCS, CSCS

Anatomy Lab Instructors:
Gib Willett, PT, PhD, OCS, CSCS
Sarah Keim-Janssen, PhD
Ryan Splittgerber, PhD

Hosted by the Division of Physical Therapy Education and sponsored in part by the UNMC Physical Therapy Alumni Committee and the UNMC Alumni Association.

To register and for more information:
unmc.edu/alliedhealth/education/pt/ce.html

Story 2 continued from pg 4
accomplishments that mark a Catherine Worthingham Fellow.”

Dr. Hageman was director of UNMC’s PT program for 19 years, during which it won a university-wide teaching award. She was the first recipient of the UNMC Distinguished Scientist Award in the College of Allied Health Professions. Additionally, Dr. Hageman has served as the only physical therapist on the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Advisory Committee for Interdisciplinary Community Based Linkages.

For more than a decade she’s been part of a series of groundbreaking research-outreach collaborations, with principal investigator Carol Pullen, Ed.D., professor in the College of Nursing, and others, helping rural Nebraska women improve their health.

Wayne Stuberg, Ph.D., interim director of the Munroe-Meyer Institute, is UNMC’s only previous Worthingham honoree. The late Jayne Snyder, D.P.T., who taught physical therapy education at UNMC in the 1970s, also would later earn Worthingham Fellowship recognition after she left UNMC.

Story 4 continued from pg 4
• the Nebraska locations of 12 specialized stroke rehabilitation services
• services listed by county
• contact names and other information for services

So, if you want to look up an unfamiliar stroke-related assessment tool used by PTs, or if you’ve ever wondered,

“What do the MoCA or the NIH Stroke Scale scores mean when I see them documented in the medical chart?”

“What is the closest vision rehabilitation program for my patient in Cuming County, Nebraska?”

“Is there a stroke support group for my patient in Alliance, Nebraska?”

Go to nestrokecouncil.org and click on “For Professionals” > Stroke Rehabilitation.

The NSAC Rehab Task Force also includes:
Cali Carlson, PT, DPT; Teresa Cochran, PT, DPT, GCS, MA; Stacie Christensen, PT, DPT; Amy Goldman, PT, DPT; Lou E. Jensen, OTD/L; Gene McDowell PT, MHS, DPT, CSRS; Erin McMullen, PT, DPT, NCS; Lindsay Nichols, PT, DPT; and Tammy Storer, MS, CCC-SLP.

For additional information, please contact:
UNMC Physical Therapy Education
984420 Nebraska Medical Center
Omaha, NE 68498-4420
402.559.4259
unmc.edu/alliedhealth/education/pt