Physical Therapy Education

Students Connect with State Senators

On Tuesday, February 6, 2018, 57 representatives from UNMC’s doctor of physical therapy (DPT) Class of 2019 joined UNMC faculty in attending a Legislative Day Breakfast, hosted by the Nebraska Physical Therapy Association (NPTA), as part of an experiential learning opportunity in their Practice Management course.

Based upon their hometown and current residences, UNMC students represented more than half of the unicameral’s 49 districts. Students visited with Senators and staffers from their respective districts, listened to presentations from Senators Howard and Lindstrom, and received recognition during their visit in the gallery in the unicameral chamber.

DPT student Anthony Rost commented how “memorable it was to have such accessibility to our Senator (Mark Kolterman),” noting that he and his fellow students felt “it was clear that the Senators truly want to hear from their constituents to work toward improvements in policy.”

NPTA Secretary and UNMC Assistant Professor, Dr. Sara Bills remarked, “Legislative Day provides the students with an early experience in advocacy for their future patients and their profession. I was proud to witness the UNMC students demonstrating exceptional professionalism and a high level of engagement with the Senators and staffers!”

Continuing Education Course - Location Added!

Due to the high level of interest in the Lumbar Spine Manual Therapy Management course scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, August 25-26, the Division of Physical Therapy Education has added a location in Kearney, Nebraska. This course has been approved for 16 contact hours by the Nebraska Physical Therapy Association.

The course instructor, Jeff Moore PT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT, MTC, Cert. SMT, will lead the course from Omaha, giving his lectures and lab demonstrations to both campuses simultaneously. Attendees at the Kearney location will utilize the new physical therapy lab space in the Health Science Education Complex at UNMC-Kearney and will have a highly qualified lab assistant on site for in-person feedback during the lab portions of the course.

This format will allow attendees to experience how the Division of Physical Therapy Education is utilizing technology to deliver content to our entry-level students between the Omaha and Kearney campuses. Based on the total number of attendees at each site, additional lab assistants will

see STORY 2 pg 8
On October 26, 2017, at UNeMed’s Annual Research Innovation Awards Banquet, Ka-Chun (Joseph) Siu, PhD, and Jung Hung Chien, PhD, received a New Invention Notification award to develop the Mobile Motion Capture Analysis System. This invention was selected to be one of the featured technologies in the 2017 UNeMed Annual Report (page 15).

In addition, Dr. Siu received two other New Invention Notification awards, one for software development for a Portable Camera Aided System, and another for a Hybrid Airway Management Trainer.

Siu and Chien, along with students Chenfan Gui and Zhuo Wang, conducted two arms of 12 studies in an international study on Orthostatic Tremor.

In the first study, two immersive 360 video environments were selected to challenge the patients and see if such immersive environments could provoke and magnify the clinical symptoms to be detected using surface electromyography (EMG) analysis.

In the second study, an APP was developed to measure postural sway and changes during walking with these patients in Nebraska Medicine. The APP aims to make motion capture technology outside a dry laboratory and be more portable in the future.

See the story on KETV here.

Siu and Chien were also selected as finalists at the Institutional Development Award (IDEA)-Clinical and Translational Research (CTR) superstar competition.

“Our pitch was well-received at the annual IDEA-CTR meeting in October and we were honored to be among the top three finalists,” said Siu.

Their project was titled, “A mobile application for enhancing health care access for older adults in rural and isolated areas.”

The IDEA program was established by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in 1993.
As evidenced by the list below, UNMC was well-represented at the meeting. Faculty members Patricia A. Hageman, PT, PhD, FAPTA, and Elizabeth Wellsandt, PT, DPT, PhD, OCS, won the Poster Research Award for the Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Section.

Tessa Wells, PT, DPT, GCS, was recognized for receiving her Geriatric Certified Specialist certificate.

UNMC Representation at the APTA’s Combined Sections Meeting

The American Physical Therapy Association’s annual Combined Sections Meeting was held in New Orleans, Louisiana, February 21-24, with more than 14,000 physical therapy professionals in attendance.

UNMC Division of Physical Therapy Education’s faculty presentations at CSM

Platform presentations:


Poster presentations:


Educational session/presentation:

Other Scholarly Activity:
Johnson GC, Christensen M. Benign chondromyxoid fibroma of the iliac crest. Journal of Orthopaedic & Sports Physical Therapy, 48(2), Feb 1 online.


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Second Associate Director Named

Assistant Professor Betsy Becker, PT, DPT, CLT-LANA, has been named an Associate Director in the Division of Physical Therapy Education.

Dr. Becker earned an MPT degree in 1999 from the UNMC Physical Therapy Education program and a DPT degree through the University of South Dakota in 2014. She joined the Division of Physical Therapy Education as an Assistant Professor in January, 2013. Prior to that, she served as the Program Chair of the Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Southeast Community College in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Dr. Becker will oversee the administrative components of the legacy curriculum, student success, clinical education and their associated committees.

Associate Director Kathleen G. Volkman, PT, MS, NCS, continues to oversee the administrative components of admissions, policies and procedures, the new curriculum, and their associated committees.

Retirements

Kim Marlatt to retire after 25 years with UNMC

Kim Marlatt, PT

After 25 years of faithful service to UNMC’s Division of Physical Therapy Education, Kimberly J. Marlatt, PT, is retiring her position as part-time Clinical Coordinator.

Kim is a 1984 graduate of the UNMC physical therapy program. Her work experience has been in the rural setting, practicing in small hospitals and nursing homes from 1984-1991. She currently owns a private practice in Gordon, Nebraska.

As Clinical Coordinator, Kim primarily assisted in the development and coordination of clinical education in rural Nebraska. In addition, she has been involved in public awareness and recruiting activities as well as pre-Physical Therapy student development activities. Kim also worked closely with the Rural Health Opportunities Program (RHOP).

PT program director, Joe Norman, PhD, said, “Kim has been dedicated to the success of the RHOP Program from its inception and served as a mentor and role model for the students in the Physical Therapy RHOP Track.”

Kim began her tenure at UNMC during the early phases of RHOP, working with the late Dr. Jay Drucker at Chadron State College. The RHOP program has since expanded to include Wayne State College and Peru State College.

“Kim is the energy behind the success of RHOP” said Professor Pat Hageman, PhD, “providing valuable mentorship to students, connecting vital stakeholders from communities and practices, and leading growth of a high quality physical therapy workforce for the state of Nebraska.”

Kim serves as an excellent example to our students and other physical therapists. As a member of the American Physical Therapy Association, she has been very active on the state level, serving on the Executive Committee of the Nebraska Chapter APTA from 1985-1992. She also served as President of the Nebraska Foundation for Physical Therapy from 1990-1999.

“The value of Kim’s contributions cannot be overstated,” said Kyle Meyer, PhD, dean of the college of allied health professions. “For 25 years she has represented the perspectives of physical therapists serving our rural communities, and inspired countless students to this important calling.”

Kim and her husband, Tim, have two children and reside in Valentine, Nebraska.
M.A. Ray retires after 41 years

M.A. Ray has been at the front desk helping physical therapy students and faculty since 1996.

In 1996, Pat Hageman, PhD, was the PT program director. She said, “M.A. is known as the smiling face of the program, where all who enter find a warm welcome and friendly assistance. We’ll miss her!”

The past 22 years have brought a lot of change and M.A. has kept up with it all. Over 900 PT students have graduated from the program in that time. Faculty, staff, and directors have come and gone and the School became a College. Her job morphed and technology took a few duties off her plate and added various others.

“M.A. has been a tremendous asset to the PT program, and the CAHP for over twenty years. Her steadfast contributions have contributed to our growth and advancement.” said Kyle Meyer, PhD, dean of the College of Allied Health Professions.

M.A.’s plans for retirement include taking some down time, visiting family, and playing with grandkids.

Students

PT presents at 49th Midwest Student Biomedical Research Forum

On February 17, 2018, representatives from the UNMC Division of Physical Therapy Education attended the 49th Midwest Student Biomedical Research Forum at Creighton University.

PT1 student Chun Feng, PT faculty member Joseph Siu, PhD, and postdoctoral research associate JC Chien, PhD, participated, along with students slated to begin the DPT program in August. Those four, currently enrolled in a Master’s degree program through the Medical Sciences Interdepartmental Area (MSIA) at UNMC, were Chenfan Gui, Jiani Lu, Zhuo Wang, and Yuhang Zhang.

Zhuo Wang received third place in the oral presentations category for her presentation, “The Plantar Vibration Affects the Strategies Involved in Multiple Obstacles Negotiation.” Dr. Chien received the Sigma Xi Award of Merit in the same category for his presentation, “Mastoid Vibration Affects the Walking on Dynamics of Gait Parameters in Young Adults While Walking on an Inclined Treadmill.”

This year’s forum featured more than 140 oral and poster presentations with representation from seven states and Canada.

Presentations are listed on the next page.

L-R: Yuhang Zhang, Zhuo Wang, Dr. Jung Hung Chien, Chun Feng, Jiani Lu, and Chenfan Gui attend forum
UNMC Division of Physical Therapy Education’s presentations at MSBRF

Podium Presentations:

• Gui CF, Chien JH, Siu KC. Orthostatic tremor affects the balance control not only in standing but also in walking. Midwest Student Biomedical Research Forum, Omaha, NE, February 2018.


• Zhang L, Chien JH, Lu JN, Siu KC. Mastoid vibration affects the walking on dynamics of gait parameters in young adults while walking on an inclined treadmill. Midwest Student Biomedical Research Forum, Omaha, NE, February 2018.

Poster Presentations:

• Feng C, Chien JH, Wagoner C, Volkman K, Siu KC. Effect of different viscous foods and liquids on swallowing sounds. Midwest Student Biomedical Research Forum, Omaha, NE, February 2018.

• Lu JN, Chien JH, Zhang Li, Siu KC. The effect of continuous sloped treadmill walking on dynamics of gait parameters in young adults. Midwest Student Biomedical Research Forum, Omaha, NE, February 2018.

• Zhang YH, Siu KC, Chien JH. Mastoid vibration affects the postural control in healthy young adults during standing. Midwest Student Biomedical Research Forum, Omaha, NE, February 2018.

• Xiao KN, Siu KC, Chien JH. The effect of mastoid vibration on balance control during standing on a moving platform. Midwest Student Biomedical Research Forum, Omaha, NE, February 2018.

Young Athlete’s Program

This semester, PT LEND (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities) trainees including UNMC PT2 students Laura Mitchell, BS; Kassi Williams, BS; and Alyssa Dippel, BA, reinstated the Young Athlete’s program through the Munroe-Meyer Institute (MMI). This program is a sport and play program for children ages 2-7 with and without intellectual disabilities. The goal of this program is to prepare these children for future participation in Special Olympics.

For nearly one hour on Tuesday evenings, participants and volunteers meet at an elementary school in Omaha to work on motor, cognitive, and social skills. First and second year PT students have volunteered their time as one-on-one buddies for the young athletes. Together, they work on sport specific skills like running, jumping, throwing, catching, and kicking.

This program has been a great opportunity for all involved – the children, families, and PT students. The PT students have had a chance to gain hands-on experience working with children of all ability levels, as well as applying information learned in the classroom to real life. Parents and families have been very excited about the re-start of this program. When asked, one parent said, “I love having the students from UNMC involved. They give the younger kids someone to interact with and learn from.”
Joint Effort

This year’s Joint Effort, an overnight volleyball tournament hosted by UNMC and Creighton physical therapy students to raise money for the Nebraska Arthritis Foundation, took place February 9-10 at the Genesis Health Club in Omaha.

UNMC students Cara Cameron, Justine Sebade, Andy Chleborad and McKenzie Vermeire served as UNMC co-chairs for the event. A number of other students volunteered their time and effort to make the 51-person tournament possible. Other students participated in the tournament and played throughout the night.

Several Omaha businesses donated raffle prizes and food for the teams to enjoy and a DJ provided music late into the night.

A total of $7,281.98 was raised for the Nebraska Arthritis Foundation!

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This Newsletter is produced by the College of Allied Health Professions Division of Physical Therapy Education at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

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LUMBAR SPINE MANUAL THERAPY MANAGEMENT

Location: Bennett Hall Lab (Room 4016), UNMC Omaha, and UNMC Kearney, Nebraska
Registration: Registration opens to UNMC alumni and clinical instructors on May 21, and to the public on June 18.
Course Fee:

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Space is limited. Register soon!

Approved by the Nebraska Physical Therapy Association for 16 contact hours.

Lecturer:
Jeff Moore, PT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT, MTC, Cert. SMT

Supported by the UNMC College of Allied Health Professions Division of Physical Therapy Education and the Alumni Engagement Council

For more information:
unmc.edu/alliedhealth/resources/opportunities/pt-ce.html

Story 2 from pg 1
be added as needed to ensure an appropriate student-to-instructor ratio at each location.

"Lab courses often have limited availability due to the lab space needed. By utilizing our resources at both campuses, we will be able to increase the number of alumni and CIs from across the state that may benefit from this course," said Megan Frazee, PT, DPT, OCS, MET, FAAOMPT, Chair of the Division of Physical Therapy Education’s Continuing Education Committee.

Registration opens to UNMC alumni and clinical instructors May 21, and to the public on June 18.