ALUMNI UPDATE

2010
Julie Robertson
was hired in February, 2012 as a full time Instructor and Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education for the developing Physical Therapy Assistant program at the Pendleton Valley Hospital in Pendleton, OR. The program is undergoing the CAPTE accreditation process and hopes to admit students for the fall of 2012. On a personal note, Julie earned her Black Belt in Taekwondo in November 2011 after seven years of practicing the sport and is a certified referee for the Montana Taekwondo Association.

2007
Tasha MacDowell
continues to work in outpatient rehab at Providence, working with orthopedic, vestibular, post-concussive syndrome, and other patients. She is in her second term as an Oregon delegate to the APTA House of Delegates, which sets policy for the profession. The next House meeting is coming up in June, in Tampa, FL. Most exciting of all is she has been appointed by the APTA Board of Directors to a task force to write a new vision statement for the profession.

Courtney (Niesent) Whitall and husband Travis welcomed their little girl, Adilynn Jean into the world on January 7, 2012.

Jason Brumitt
and wife, Kat, welcomed a daughter, Hannah Claire, on April 27, 2011. She was 9 lbs 2 oz. Lynsay currently works at a SNP in Tampa, FL.

IN MEMORIAM

Kathryn Austin, '85, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by loved ones on July 4, 2011 after a four year battle with ovarian cancer. Kathy was born April 24, 1957 in Santa Barbara, California, and raised in Medford, Oregon, where she attended Medford High School. She graduated from the University of Oregon in 1981 with a Bachelor's degree in Biology. She went on to receive her degree in Physical Therapy at Pacific University in 1985. Kathy worked as a physical therapist at PeaceHealth for over 25 years serving as supervisor from 1995-2007. She was one of the few lymphedema specialists in the community, and was highly respected by her professional peers. Kathy touched to therapy. Her wonderful sense of humor comforted patients and peers in difficult times.

Kathy met Greg Ausland, the love of her life, in 1990. They had 21 beautiful years together as husband and wife, best friends and travel companions. Kathy is survived by her husband Greg, mother Mona, son Hayden, daughter Chelsea, eight siblings (Linda, Joanne, Matt, Julie, Susie, Joseph, Janet, and Maggie), brother-in-law Kelly Ausland, sister-in-law Brooke Smith, brother-in-law Scott Ausland, sister-in-law Lya Cook, four nieces, seven nephews and numerous nieces and nephews.

"Tell them to remember me when I was fun-loving and adventurous. Tell them to remember me when I was strong and vivacious."

Thank you!
A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Hello Fellow Alumni,

I didn’t receive many news this year regarding speakers on campus, accomplishments, milestones, etc. for the Alumnus Update section of the newsletter, so please email them to me or your class contact for inclusion in the next newsletter. In addition, I would like to invite the “Bliss from the Past” column, so if you have any old photos from your days in PT school, memories, or anecdotes about the “good old days” please send them to me.

The program has evolved quite a bit over the past several years, with the progression to the DPT program and the Health Sciences campus in Hillsboro, and it would be fun and entertaining to hear stories about the earlier years of the program.

Please note that my email address has changed. You can send all information to juliehobart@gmail.com or jihobart@pacificu.edu. (I apologize to any of you who received spam from my old account; it was a bad couple times.)

Sincerely,
Julie Hobart
Class of 2006

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN GERONTOLOGY FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

The program offers an interdisciplinary education for professionals with particular emphasis on best practice in the services provided to older adults. Whether you work or desire a career in a nonprofit agency, hospital setting, community practice, or private setting, the goal of our program is to prepare you to work in the best possible education in aging. Towards that end, the program offers diverse professional student cohorts from various professions, a comprehensive didactic and discussion curriculum, and assignments that reflect creating change in a work setting, all provided by highly skilled and knowledgeable faculty committed to gerontology education.

Most other gerontology programs consist of existing courses pulled from other majors such as sociology, psychology, biology, and public policy. In contrast, Pacific University’s Gerontology program’s courses are designed solely for this graduate certificate to provide the best-tailored education on aging. I invite you to learn more about our program and would be happy to answer any questions that you may have. I sincerely hope that you consider Pacific University’s Gerontology Certificate in Gerontology for Healthcare Professionals.

Learn how to implement change to improve care. Linda Hunt OT.

My goal is to get a better understanding of aging and disability and how they impact each other. Also, I want to learn how psychologists and other healthcare providers can make a difference in the process. I have found it to be helpful to read other clinicians experiences to find myself referring my patients to OT. St. PM now because I know the valuable services that can be provided.” Kelly Green, OT.

www.pacificu.edu/gerontology/

CATHY DAVIS RETIRES; KHEI CASTILLO TAKES ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT POSITION

Cathy Davis, Administrative Assistant for the School of PT, retired in December after six years of service to the department. We miss her, but we are happy to know that she is enjoying her free time, filling it with all the activities that she enjoys.

Khei Castillo has been hired as the new administrative assistant. She is very familiar with Pacific, as she graduated from the College of Arts and Sciences with a degree in biology and worked for the university during her student years. She is quickly getting up to speed with clinical education, and will be providing us with administrative work for our faculty practice. Please help us welcome Khei to the team.

Keep us up-to-date!

Let us know what you and your colleagues are up to.

Name:
Class Year:
Address:
Phone:
What's happening:

2012 Class Listing

Grads

Alumni Update

2012 Faculty News

2012 Class Listing

www.pacificu.edu
NIRCARICA INITIATIVE RECOGNIZED FOR HEALTH PROMOTION FOR ELDERS

Now in its fifth year, the Health Promotion for Elders in Nicaragua project serves an interdisciplinary team of 28 students and faculty from the College of Health Professions to provide direct service to abandoned elders residing in “charity homes” during the holiday break. Given the large number of participants, the group was able to serve an additional home located in the north of Nicaragua, using the same community-based rehabilitation approach used during the previous four trips. Additionally, the team provided education to 16 caregivers who work in the homes to facilitate their ability to understand the conditions that elders experience and culturally relevant care practices. Physical Therapy faculty member Becca Reisch, adjunct faculty Antje Gillard (‘02), and physical therapy students Kelsey Kallioinen (‘13), Talina Marshall (‘12), Lauren Murphy (‘13), and Bethany Lukenes (’13) were among the participants.

Of note this year, the group received an award from the mayor of Granada, Nicaragua. The award was to recognize Pacific University College of Health Professions deans, directors, faculty, staff and students for their on-going service and contribution to the promotion of health and wellness for older adults. The Oregonian highlighted the recognition in the Washington County Community News section of the Oregonian and on OregonLive. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to support the project’s continued efforts, please send a check made out to Pacific University Nicaraguan Fund to Pacific University, 2043 College Way, Forest Grove, OR 97116.

CLASS OF 2013 PT STUDENTS VOLUNTEER FOR SALUD PROGRAM

Melanie Sharpe, Heather Robinson, Timothy Mansour, Eavan Hillis, Lee Sowada, and Ann Houlihan from the class of 2013 volunteered their time over the summer of 2011 to help with the Salud program. Salud is a local winery-powered non-profit founded in 2008 to teach the workers stretches and exercises to help them with their demanding physical labor, consisting of hours spent bending over the grape vines and carrying buckets of grapes at harvest time. The migrant workers are given medical assistance, one hour per week, at a local clinic, and functional independence and inclusion. The PT and OT students were able to experience interprofessional modeling and a rich international exchange with the Chinese care providers. A return trip is planned for this summer. The faculty have submitted a grant to an independent foundation to secure monies to support student and possible alumni travel and are anxiously awaiting to hear back by the end of summer.

CLINICAL EDUCATION NEWS

It was another successful and busy school year in clinical education, as students traveled throughout the Pacific Northwest for internships, as well as to many Rocky Mountain states, Alaska, Hawaii, and Italy. Brett Windsor, Becca Reisch, and Antje Gillard visited numerous sites, including facilities in Montana, Hawaii, and throughout the local area. As always, we enjoyed meeting with clinical instructors (CIs) and students face-to-face.

We are beginning the phase-in of our new clinical education schedule. The first change that long-term CIs may notice is that this fall (2012) there will be no Internship II—the four-week internship that second years have done in the past. Instead, these students will go out for a six-week internship starting next January (2013). The first ten-week internship will occur in the fall of 2013. We hope that lengthening the internships and re-arranging the course schedule will give second-year and third-year students a longer time period in the clinic to practice their skills, and minimize the disruption that occurs when students leave school for internships mid-semester.

We have continued to provide continuing education opportunities related to clinical education to our CIs as a way of saying “thank you” for the tremendous role that CIs play in the education of our students. The Northwest Intermountain Consortium (NIC) conference was held in Tacoma last November, and many of our CIs participated in the continuing education opportunities offered there. Becca is scheduled to teach the APTA Clinical Instructor Credentialing Course at Pacific in June 2012 and again in November 2012. For registration information and a full list of credentialing courses offered across the country, please visit http://www.apta.org/CECP and click on the events.

Thank you to all of you who serve as clinical instructors and center coordinators of clinical education! You play a huge role in our program, and we appreciate you very much.

STUDENT NEWS

The United Cerebral Palsy Walk Roll & Run event on September 10, 2011 was well supported by Dr. Nancy Cicirello and 10 PT student participants: Nicole Brewer, Johnathan Eng, Kara Hamby, Ann Houlihan, Healan Leite-Ah Yo, Kellie Lewis, Miranda Montejo, Liane Nakamae, and Tracie Nygaard. Jonathan Eng and Nicole Brewer were 2nd place winners in the men’s and women’s divisions.

Talina Marshall ‘12 and Kelsey Imondi ‘12 co-authored “Musculoskeletal Healthcare for Latino Migrant Farmworkers: Interprofessional Collaboration to Provide Service and Education for Healthcare Providers” with faculty Jason Brumitt, PT, PhD and Rebecca Reisch, PT, DPT and recent Pacific PT graduates. The article appears in the current Health and Interprofessional Practice journal. To view the abstract for the article, go to http://commons.pacificu.edu/hijp/vol1/iss1/2/.

Trisha Wilkie PT’S ’13

In August 2012, Trisha will begin an eight-week internship at the Athlone School for the Blind in Cape Town, South Africa. The Athlone School was established to educate blind and visually impaired children and has recently expanded to include students with other physical and cognitive disabilities. It is a highly specialized school and serves students from all over South Africa and Namibia. The main mission of the school is to provide for the underprivileged and children with disabilities so they have necessary tools to live and work independently. The facilities at the Athlone School for the Blind include an interprofessional clinic that provides social, psychological, and medical services. In this clinic, Trisha will help students work through physical barriers to learning so they can be academically successful. She will also work with them to develop strategies and skills to function at their best in their daily lives outside of a school setting.

Kelsey Kallioinen PT’S ’13

During July and December 2011, Kelsey was fortunate to have two experiences with physical therapy in Latin America. These both presented tangible situations and cultural contexts which have further shaped her goals as a physical therapist. She studied medical Spanish and volunteered in the teaching hospital’s rehabilitation clinic through the Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara, México. Here, Kelsey was introduced to the role of therapy in the Mexican culture. During July and December 2011, Kelsey was fortunate to have two experiences with physical therapy in Latin America. These both presented tangible situations and cultural contexts which have further shaped her goals as a physical therapist. She learned that, though the desire to change is quite common, difficulties arise with the depth to which the culture is integrated in society. Kelsey also participated with Pacific University’s interdisciplinary team to serve elders in Esteli, Nicaragua in partnership with the Jesse F. Richardson Foundation. Kelsey joined an interdisciplinary team of students and faculty that visited two elder homes in Nicaragua and worked with the caregivers and nuns to provide present and ongoing care for the elders. The group was presented with an award from the Mayor of Granada during this trip.

STUDENT AWARDS FOR 2012

Alumni Award/Outstanding Graduate: Meredith Brunette

Outstanding Service to the School of Physical Therapy: Jandrea Mueller, Melissa Murray, & Ashley Strand

Director’s Award: Talina Marshall

Valedictorians: Jandrea Mueller

Community Service Award: Chanelle Bruno, Carole Gibson, Kelsey Imondi, Becky Norris, & Camas Wrisky