



UCF Physical Therapy



News from the Program in Physical Therapy • Department of Health Professions • College of Health and Public Affairs
Fall 2004

Celebrate Physical Therapy's 10-Year Anniversary

Join fellow alumni on November 6, 2004, to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the Program in Physical Therapy at UCF with a walk down memory lane. The day will begin with a tour of the physical therapy facility and will move to tailgating at the Florida Citrus Bowl followed by the homecoming football game, with the Knights playing Ohio.

The group will meet in the atrium of HPA I on UCF's Orlando campus at noon. After a tour highlighting the latest additions to the facility, the group will head off to the Florida Citrus Bowl to enjoy a tailgating extravaganza.

The event is \$10 per person and is open to alumni, family and friends of the physical therapy program.

For tickets and to RSVP, please contact Dr. Scott Harp, sharp@mail.ucf.edu, or call 407-823-3458.

Program Receives Another Stamp of Approval

The Program in Physical Therapy has been reaccredited from 2004 to 2014 by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

Reaccreditation of UCF's program confirms that its students are "receiving an education that prepares them to provide safe, competent, effective patient care," reported the commission.

While the commission routinely gives multi-year accreditation, program Director and Associate Professor Gerald Smith said he has never heard of a program being accredited for a ten-year period. "CAPTE gave us a major stamp of approval," Smith said.

The accreditation process is considered a valuable service to students, the public, academic institutions and the profession. It begins with a comprehensive "self-study," in which the program documents all of its facets, including faculty qualifications, scholarly productivity and teaching effectiveness; student outcomes on national licensure boards and work-related outcomes; employer surveys; budgets and resources; and the curriculum, according to Smith. In addition, a team of institutional leaders conducts an in-depth evaluation of the program during a site visit. Smith said the program completed this process in 2003.

He learned in May that it had been reaccredited by the commission, beginning in April 2004.

Congratulations 2004 Physical Therapy Graduates!

Erica Bird	Clifford Exantus	James Namvar
Dana Blankenship	Miranda Goings	James Palmer
Renee Bowen	Michael Gordon	Bridget Pine
Dayna Browman	MaryJo Jerome	Scott Riley
Ammie Bryant	Zack Johnson	Heidi Ryen
Jason Bryant	Dena Kelly	Alison Searl
Leann Crockett	Pablo Lamacchia	Adam Shaw
Ryan Davis	William Lutz	Carmen Trujillo

2004 Graduation News

Graduation was July 30, 2004. The following program awards were presented at the graduation banquet.

Elba Torres was awarded Physical Therapy Clinical Instructor of the Year. She was nominated by students as a clinical instructor who exemplifies the role of mentoring students in the clinic. She is employed by HealthSouth Sea Pines Hospital in Melbourne, Fla.

Heidi Ryen was named the Student Clinician of the Year, an award given to a student who demonstrates excellent clinical skills and professionalism during the clinical internships.

James Namvar received the Student Excellence Award, an award that is voted on by students for a classmate who demonstrated outstanding leadership and served as a role model for the class. Namvar was also named the Program in Physical Therapy Outstanding Student of the Year.

Other News

The physical therapy class of 2005 hosted a continuing education course, "New Looks at the Lower Extremity," in July 2004. Students raised almost \$3,000 for the class and would like to thank those who attended for their support of the program. Future continuing education courses for 2005 are being planned. Please submit an e-mail address to ptalumni@mail.ucf.edu to receive advance notice.

October is National Physical Therapy Month. The program has planned events throughout the community. Please send notice of any future events to ptalumni@mail.ucf.edu for posting in future newsletter editions.

New Faculty

The program would like to welcome two new adjunct physical therapy instructors who each began instructing a therapeutic exercise course this fall.

William J. Hanney, DPT, PT, ATC. Dr. Hanney is employed at Health First Palm Bay Outpatient Medical Rehabilitation in Palm Bay, Fla.

Dan Olsen, MHS, PT, ATC. Mr. Olsen is a manager with HealthSouth Rehabilitation on University Avenue in Orlando, Fla.

Alumni Notes

(all degrees are in physical therapy unless otherwise noted)

NEW! In the coming weeks, the college will launch an online form allowing alumni to submit their "Stay Connected" information electronically. Visit the Alumni and Friends section of www.cohpa.ucf.edu to notify us of your updates, news and notes.

1994

Ellen (Pearson) Timm, B.S., is a staff physical therapist for Brooks Health Systems in Jacksonville, Fla. In 1997, she initiated and launched the Spinal Cord Injury Support Group of Jacksonville, which she continues to chair. She married John F. Timm in October 1999 and gave birth to a daughter in November 2002 and son in February 2004. The family currently lives in a 1913 home they restored in 2002.

1995

Joanne (Wolfe) Elfring, B.S., is self employed and lives in Ocala, Fla.

Mark Ellison, B.S., is a senior physical therapist at Roper Hospital in Charleston, S.C., and recently completed the "World's Toughest Footrace," which consists of 150 miles through the Sahara Desert.

Sandra Elizabeth Harkins, B.S., is a certified lymphedema therapist and works at Florida Hospital Home Care in Orlando. She will be presenting home-care lymphedema research at the National Homecare convention in October 2004 in Phoenix, Ariz. She has three children — Brandon, 7, Meagan, 4, and Austin, 2.

1996

Tricia (Rogers) Steffy, B.S., is a staff physical therapist at Arnold Palmer Hospital and has started a private aquatic physical therapy program for children. She married David Steffy in 1997 and gave birth to her daughter, Jordan, on October 6, 2003.

1997

Barbara (Repa) Hallman, B.S., B.S. in health services administration, has two children, Holly, 3 ½, and Cole, 1 ½, and expected to deliver her third child in July 2004.

Terry Shepherd, M.S., opened her own private practice in November 2002 in Merritt Island, Fla. She was previously the executive director of CCC Physical Therapy for six years.

1998

Patricia I. Gaettens, B.S., works at Orlando Regional Medical Center as a physical therapist.

1999

Jennifer Oswald Bargo, B.S., B.S. in health services administration ('97), is a physical therapist for Brevard County Public Schools in Viera, Fla. She was married in April 2003 and expected to deliver a baby boy in August 2004.

Angela Pittman Burrows, B.S., is a per diem physical therapist at HealthSouth and Wuesthoff Hospital in Melbourne, Fla.

Erin Rice-Smith, B.S., is a certified lymphedema therapist and works as a physical therapist at Bon Secours Venice Hospital in Venice, Fla. She married in 1999 and gave birth to two boys, one in 2001 and the other in 2004.

2001

Scott Shepard, B.S. in health sciences ('00), M.S., is a certified strength and condition specialist and works as an outpatient therapist at Orlando Regional Healthcare. His first child, Kylie, was born in September 2003.

2002

Patricia Escalera Burgener, M.S., and **Paul Burgener, M.S.**, were married May 1, 2004. They are both staff physical therapists at EnduraCare and they reside in Savannah, Ga.

2003

Dana Sullivan, M.S., is a staff physical therapist at Florida Hospital.

College Homecoming Reunion and Open House

Join Dean Belinda McCarthy at the dedication of the college's new sculptures. The event will feature complimentary admission, college tours, hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

November 5th, 6-8 p.m., UCF Orlando campus, in the courtyard between HPA I and II (located on the northeast side of campus, park in the east parking garage).

Please RSVP by sending an e-mail to kwolczan@mail.ucf.edu or by calling 407-823-4577.

The UCF Alumni Association's Hullabaloo event will take place at 8:30 p.m. in the Student Union immediately following the Homecoming Reunion and Open House.