From the Desk of the Chair

Hello alumni and friends of the program,

After one (very) full year as Chair of the School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, I continue to embrace all that originally attracted me here. At first blush, I could see that the multifaceted nature of UMPT had a lot of great things going on: state of the art education (entry-level and post professional); cutting edge research; impactful service activities (here and abroad); exemplary clinical care within the Nora Staale Evert Clinic (NSE), and New Directions (ND); and terrific student engagement. My Montana experience this past year has also been enhanced by the amazing sights, sounds and smells of Missoula and the region. I am frequently seen taking pictures as I pinch myself in disbelief that I actually live here. But as remarkable as all the surroundings are, they cannot compare to the people of Montana that have embraced me and my family during this year. The University and specifically the UMPT family continue to be an unparalleled resource. This past year has given me an even greater appreciation of the talents and contributions that UMPT students, staff, faculty and alumni are making. Within this newsletter, you will get a glimpse of some of these people and what has been accomplished over the past year.

A few highlights to be found in this newsletter include an update from Sue Ostertag on what UMPT clinical services are all about (page 4). You can also read on page 3 of the important educational experience that students have in providing Pro Bono services via the Student Run Clinic and more about the changes to our clinical education program, as well as enjoy some of the photos of alumni mentoring our UMPT students on page 5.

On pages 6 and 7, you can get caught up with the news from a few of our alumni, including a feature on 2000 graduate, Ben Wobker. We are thrilled with the fact that one of our 2016 graduates, Alyssa Schock, was honored this past year with national recognition (page 4). And, of course, our faculty and students have been busy. On page 8 you can learn of the Interprofessional trip Jenn Bell led to Ethiopia. On page 9, you will see that James Laskin participated in a State Department sponsored trip to Laos.

Great things are happening in the Motor Control Lab (page 10) and with the Neural Injury Center and we had a fantastic showing at CSM where faculty, students and alumni made their contributions (page 3). Sambit Mohapatra’s interesting research efforts can be found on page 9 and details about our new continuing education series offerings, in conjunction with our efforts to create a PT Orthopedic Residency, are described on page 10. Be sure to also check out the new program offerings within the post professional DPT on page 10.

Also within the newsletter, we included information about our faculty changes. You will learn of Dr. Chuck Leonard’s retirement after many years of superlative service to UMPT (page 3) and the departure of Ryan Mays from our team (page 11). They will be sorely missed. Please also note the recognition of retired faculty member, Rich Gadjoisik, who passed away this year. (page 9) On a more positive note, we are happy to announce that Beth Ikeda, although retired from the day to day operations at UMPT, has been recognized as Professor Emeritus – Congrats Beth on an honor well deserved. We look forward to filling the faculty vacancies created by retirements with valuable new faculty members – stay tuned.

I am honored to be part of this group. I invite you to learn more about the multifaceted initiatives, as well as our team members, inside this newsletter. As you enjoy these articles, please consider sharing some of your personal experiences or the experiences of others for future issues. As I begin my second year, I look forward to another exciting year at UMPT in this wonderful place that I now call home. I would like to thank each of you for supporting me during my inaugural year, as well as for the support you give to a School that will continue to live up to the reputation that you helped build.

Anita

Dear School of Physical Therapy Alumni & Friends,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and enjoying your summer. Thanks for your support, interest and dedication to UMPT over the past year. Donations of all sizes from you and your fellow UMPT alumni and friends make a significant difference in the quality of education and training that our students receive and we ask you to consider making a gift this year. A list of generous donors to UMPT is located in this newsletter and we hope to see you on the list next year.

You can continue UMPT’s strong tradition of supporting our current students by donating online at http://www.supportum.org/health. In the comments section of the online form please indicate that you’d like your gift designated to the School of Physical Therapy. Thank you!

If you’d like additional information about how you can support UMPT please contact me. My number is (406) 243-4222 and my email is mark.schleicher@mso.umt.edu. I look forward to hearing from you.

All the best,
Mark Schleicher
Director of Development and Alumni Relations
College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences
The School had a great showing at this year’s APTA Combined Sections Meeting held in Anaheim, CA February 18-20. Many of the 3rd year students took leave from their final clinical experience and joined the nearly 11,000 others from the physical therapy community to take part in the professional and social opportunities. The UMPT Saturday evening social included a lively gathering of faculty, alumni and students. UMPT faculty, students and alumni contributed significantly to the educational offerings with a number of presentations, including the following:

**POSTER Presentations:**

- **Long-term Effects of Mild Traumatic Brain Injury to Human Balance Control.** Adriana Degani; Maria Santos; Charles Leonard; Alessander Santos
- **Effects of a Balance-oriented Yoga Program to Human Postural Control.** Aurora Martin; Maria Santos; Adriana Degani; Charles Leonard; Alessander Santos
- **Differential Influence of Knee Pain with Activity on Patient-Reported Versus Performance-Based Long-Term Outcomes after Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction.** Mizner RL, Elias ARC.
- **When Knee Pain is Not Just Knee Pain:** Differential Diagnosis of Spine-Related Lower Extremity Pain. Christine Schaurte, John J. Mischke
- **Users’ Experiences with the Student Assessment and Feedback Tool (SAF-T): A Novel Clinical Experiential Evaluation Instrument.** David Levison; Jennifer Bell; Eric Folkins.

**PLATFORM Presentations:**

- **Mechanical and Neuromuscular Changes with Jump Training Following ACL Reconstruction.** Elias ARC, Mizner RL.
- **Pitfalls to avoid in Qualitative Research.** Anita M. Santasier, Susan Wainwright, Patricia McGinnis, Kim Nixon-Cave

Dave Levison, PT, MHS, was awarded promotion to Clinical Associate Professor. Also this past year, Dave became the Director of the College’s Curriculum and Interprofessional Work Group. To help move this initiative forward, he was part of a team of UM and MSU faculty to attend a three-and-a-half-day workshop on Interprofessional Education (IPE) in Seattle at the University of Washington in August. This training has been developed by The National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education. The training targets emerging leaders in IPE and collaborative practice and will provide content, skills, and strategies for facilitating and coaching IPE teams within the College and the University system.
Dr. Charles Leonard, scientist, inventor, businessman, author, teacher/mentor, retired this summer after 26 years at UM’s School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science.

Chuck got his start in physical therapy by getting his Master’s degree in PT from Duke University. He then went on and earned his PhD in Neuroscience from The Medical College of Pennsylvania. He also started and ran a successful private practice for many years.

Eventually, Chuck headed overseas and completed his post-doc at the Nobel Institute of Neurophysiology at the University of Sweden’s Karolinska Institute in Stockholm. It was after that in 1990 that he accepted a faculty position in the Department of Physical Therapy at UM.

An avid outdoor recreationist, Chuck readily settled into the Montana life-style. He was an accomplished rock climber and whitewater kayaker. As a faculty member, he quickly established himself as a productive scientist and exceptional educator. Over his career at UM, he founded the Motor Control Laboratory; traveled the world providing professional continuing education to hundreds of clinicians; developed and patented several medical instruments; and began a medical device company where he oversaw the manufacture and marketing of the Myotonometer, a device to measure muscle tone. He also found time to author the book, The Neuroscience of Human Movement, and he had dozens of manuscripts published.

Chuck and his wife Melissa plan on splitting their time between living in Missoula and Mexico during retirement. Thanks Chuck for all your contributions over the years to UMPT and the University of Montana.

UMPT

STUDENT RUN Clinic

In 2008, a few Doctor of Physical Therapy students began seeing patients on a pro-bono basis under the auspices of UMPT’s Student Run Clinic (SRC). Over the years, with a growing appreciation of the number of Missoula citizens that lack access to needed physical therapy and other health care services, the SRC expanded by providing rehabilitation and wellness services with an emphasis on patient education and home programs. The Mission of the Student Run Clinic is to provide a service learning opportunity for students while addressing the needs of the uninsured and underinsured individuals in the Missoula community.

The UMPT Student Run Clinic utilizes an innovative model to provide quality care. To meet the great need and to promote self-management, the frequency and duration of care is pre-arranged in 3-week blocks, with each patient seen once per week by pairs of second and third year PT students overseen by a licensed physical therapist. These students, supervised by Audrey Elias, PT, PhD, deliver affordable treatments to people in the Missoula area. Typically, 12-16 DPT students will provide care in the SRC each semester.

As of spring 2016, more than 300 patients have been seen in the Student Run Clinic since its inception. Each new team of student administrators works to improve the clinic and its programs. The SRC also provides an opportunity for interprofessional education. PT students teamed up with Clinical Psychology students to offer PACE – Practicing Activities of Change and Empowerment – to the clients attending SRC. This initiative primarily focuses on chronic pain and techniques to control and alleviate chronic pain. PT students also constructed a relationship with the Doctor of Pharmacy students, who provide pharmacy consultations to SRC clients in need of this service. Additionally, a collaboration was established to refer patients to The DeWit RiteCare Speech, Language, and Hearing Clinic located on campus for individuals who require the services of a speech-language pathologist.

The SRC boasted a 100% client satisfaction rating in the last year. One client stated that her treatment from the clinic made her “feel positive to go forth in life!”

Audrey Elias, DPT, Ph.D. Supervisor of the SRC
EXCELLENCE...it’s a word heard frequently on campus and throughout our profession. This word kept coming up in my thoughts and in the discussions I have had with colleagues, students and patients when I began the process of developing a “brand” for the UMPT Clinic, a task I was charged with this year. How difficult, I thought, to come up with a phrase or a logo or a few words that can capture all we do, represent, strive for and accomplish through the UMPT Clinic. But then it became very clear to me while on a recent road trip over the mountains to Great Falls that the UMPT Clinic is indeed EXCELLENCE IN MOTION.

EXCELLENCE in patient care...provided by our Clinical Faculty and our students using the best available evidence balanced with patient preferences and clinical experience to obtain outstanding patient outcomes.

EXCELLENCE in customer service....thanks to our Billing Manager Sharon Johnson, the Front Desk/Clinic Manager Ken Thompson, and our New Directions Gym Coordinator Molly Blair.

EXCELLENCE in DPT student instruction....guided and facilitated by the Clinical Faculty and patients themselves as we provide a clinical site for each class of DPT students in the 2nd year spring and 3rd year fall semesters.

EXCELLENCE in movement...representing the vision of the APTA and profession for physical therapists to be identified as Movement Specialists as evidenced by the use of observation skills, new technology, research labs and collaborative efforts with our campus and Missoula colleagues.

EXCELLENCE in interprofessional education...hosting interdisciplinary internships and experiences for other professional and undergraduate level students. This fall Torrye Hart, an MSW student, begins a practicum experience that will continue through spring semester, working primarily with clients of the New Directions Gym and the Student Run Pro Clinic through the UMPT Clinic. Pharmacy students and faculty assist with patient care and education by providing consultations to our patients and gym clients. Undergraduate students from across campus continue to work, volunteer, and obtain formal internship experience through New Directions Gym and the UMPT Clinic.

EXCELLENCE in MOTION.... putting the practice of excellence and all that it represents into the patient outcomes and experiential learning promoted through the UMPT Clinic.

As always, I welcome any questions and conversations about the clinical services and clinical education that we provide through the UMPT Clinic and New Directions Gym. Please contact me directly at susan.ostertag@umontana.edu or call my office at: 406-243-2517.

UMPT STUDENT RECEIVES National Award

The School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science is very proud to announce that Alyssa Shock was selected as a 2016 recipient of the APTA’s Minority Scholarship Award: Physical Therapist Student Scholarship. Each year APTA honors outstanding PT students who demonstrate participation in activities and services, the potential for superior achievements in the profession of physical therapy, the appropriate display of professionalism as a future physical therapist and academic excellence. Award recipients were recognized with a ceremony and reception June 9, at APTA’s NEXT 2016 Conference and Exposition in Nashville, Tennessee. Alyssa, who graduated in May, plans to return home to St. Ignatius, MT and practice.
UMPT’s Clinical Education team consists of Jenn Bell, PT, ScD, COMT - Associate Director of Clinical Education; Kim Mize-Humphrey, PT, DPT, Assistant Director of Clinical Education; Heather Mincey, Administrative Associate for Clinical Education; Dave Levison, PT, MHS, Director of Clinical Education, and of course all our wonderful clinical instructors.

We are thankful for our current and past clinical instructors who selflessly offered their time and expertise to mentor UMPT students. It is very important work. The clinical education of physical therapists is also challenging work. There are a lot of dynamic issues that impact the ability to provide the number and quality of clinical experiences that students need. Our clinical education team here at UMPT recognizes this and has made moves to lessen the burden on students and our clinical instructors. First – we decreased the number of full-time clinical experiences from 4 to 3. This 25% reduction in the number of clinical placements should take some pressure off clinical sites. This also reduces the cost and hassle to students as they do not have to plan and pay for the travel and living arrangements associated with an out-of-town placement.

We are able to reduce our full-time clinical experiences to 3 by increasing the clinical hours students spend in our clinics on campus. The additional integrated clinical experiences that are replacing the full-time experience that was eliminated utilize the 2:1 (students to CI) collaborative model and occur during the spring semester of the 2nd year and fall semester of the 3rd year. These integrated clinical experiences are designed to result in better learning and improved preparation for when students engage in their last 2 full-time clinicals.

We also listened to our students and CIs who have been asking for a clinical education assessment tool that wasn’t so lengthy and tedious to complete. We developed and are now using the Student Assessment and Feedback Tool, otherwise known as the SAF-T. The results from surveys of CIs and students have been extremely positive and were presented at APTA’s Combined Sections Meeting this past year. Currently, the SAF-T comes in a word document format. There are plans in the works to have the tool converted to a web-based platform to make it even more efficient for the user.

If you are interested in becoming a CI, let us know. We are fortunate to have a dedicated group of alumni who serve as clinical instructors. We support the experience of a Griz mentoring another Griz. Here are a few pictures of UMPT alumni who partnered with a student this past year.

2016 CI of the Year Award Recipient

Each year, UMPT solicits nominations from students for CI of the Year Award. Each year we receive numerous nominations of very deserving clinical instructors. Truth be told – all our CIs are deserving of recognition. But only one is singled out each year. This year’s winner is Marie Isles, nominated by Alyssa Schock while she was doing her final clinical at Community Medical Center in Missoula. Maria (2010) (left) and Alyssa (2016) are another Griz mentoring Griz duo!
What brought you to Missoula?

Originally I was set to play football (QB) and run track but suffered a number of concussions my senior season and never quite recovered prior to fall of 1994. Unfortunately I was not part of the team that won the National Championship that year.

What do you remember most about your days at UMPT and living in Missoula?

I think about Missoula every day. What strikes you most is the accessibility of recreation, unrushed conversation with friends, and great beer. In terms of the PT program, I fondly remember the ability to meet with faculty and have them embrace your enthusiasm for your newly chosen career path.

After graduating, you returned home to Redmond and took a job in an out-patient clinic and eventually started a private practice with another PT in 2002. Then in 2010 you went out on your own and you and your wife started Lake Washington Physical Therapy and now employ 8 other PTs and numerous other staff. What are some of the key things that have led to your success?

I think the biggest keys to success are putting great people around you, failing, and asking questions. As an entrepreneur you need to realize early that you do not have all the answers but getting to know great people in different niches that do is critical. In terms of practicing I want to be the worst PT in my facility. I work hard to push our PTs to be great, provide learning opportunities, and foster a foundation of clinical education.

We know you have a special interest in working with athletes, especially runners, and that you and another PT invented an app to help runners improve their cadence. What inspired you to do this and what can we tell us about your app?

Long story of how both Chris Johnson and I met as well as our like mindedness on this project. The short of it was that we were at my 40th birthday party and we were enjoying an adult beverage talking about our plans for 2016. I had told him I was going to take some time off with our new baby, do some writing, and possibly create an app for iPhone. He then promptly showed me his phone and the articles and ideas he had been putting together. We married the ideas that moment. Happenstance always interests me; life zigs and zags are both fascinating, gut wrenching at times, and what makes you feel alive. Chris could have easily chosen not to make the drive over to the party and the app never would have happened. The app simply helps runners stay in their desired chosen cadence. When you fall outside of your cadence the phone kicks in a metronome at the rate corresponding to your goal. It also gives you real-time feedback on the screen showing what your numbers are. We have had so much fun hearing from clinicians and runners all over the world.

You have a long history of supporting clinical education, not only taking UMPT students, but others. What is your philosophy with regard to taking students and providing this important and valuable service?

Students are critical to a practice’s success. I cannot urge my colleagues and peers enough to take physical therapy students. We start the process early in getting high school students shadowing. When they return during college we have spots for them reserved for volunteering. After completion of college they come back and work as a rehabilitation aide while they apply to schools. I am proud to say that 4 of our PTs currently have made that full journey through our farm system. Like a proud father I also have over 50 former volunteers/aides/students that are now currently practicing PTs.

What else would you like to share with the hundreds of UMPT alumni, students and friends?

I have seen many interns and PT students over the years and I cannot get over what a great experience I had at UM, both in undergrad and PT school. I think Missoula and the PT program have a fantastic work/life balance which is a good guide for the remainder of your career. I miss Missoula every day and look forward to my return visits each year. Being a part of a great university is really a special thing for the current staff and professors. As alums it is critical to help promote our profession to the best of our abilities.

L to R: Ben Wobker, Heidi Biehl, and first year student Sam Gunderson

To learn more about Ben’s running app go to runcadence.net


You can contact Ben at BenWobker@LakeWashingtonPT.com

Learn more about his practice at http://www.lakewashingtonpt.com/index.html

Paul O’Brien (2014) is working as an independent contractor with Rocky Mountain Home Care in Billings through August. He has plans after that to launch the mobile food vendor, Noodles O’Brien.

Kyle Stewart (2010) is working for TAI West Kennewick and is an APTA certified CI.

Aaron Leonard (2014) is still working at Life’s Work PT in Portland, OR. Life’s Work is an outpatient ortho clinic specializing in chronic pain. Aaron was promoted to clinic manager and director of clinical education.

Callyn Bihr (2012) is still at Peak Performance Physical Therapy in Missoula. She received her Lymphedema certification December, 2015. She is planning on becoming LANA certified as well. Her son Maikol is 16, driving and working at Krispie Kreme, and Gabriel is 4, starting kindergarten in the fall and is super smart, probably from the three months of PT school he attended when he was first born.

Jessica Malouf (2008) opened Mainstay Physical Therapy (www.mainstaypt.com) in April in Fort Collins, CO. She treats dizziness, imbalance, headaches and facial paralysis. She will be taking a competency course in pediatric vestibular rehabilitation in November to eventually treat children as well as adults.

Marcie (Townsend) Viet (2009) started working for the Sioux Falls school district with the birth to three program. In September she and her husband welcomed their son Briggs Douglas to their family. In April 2016 they purchased their first house in Sioux Falls, SD.

Mandi (Reimers) Murtaugh (2009) presented a Complex Case in the Women’s Health Section at APTA’s Combined Sections Meeting in Anaheim this year.

Emily Herndon (2006) was recently featured in the Missoulian’s 20 under 40 business spotlight. Emily purchased Plains Physical Therapy 8 years ago and recently moved into a new 4000 sq.-ft clinic to meet the needs of her growing practice. She currently has 2 UMPT alumni working with her, Noah Bray (2013) and Curt Hammill (2016).

Eric Kruger (2007) is currently in his third year of a Health Psychology PhD at the University of New Mexico. His research interests include behavioral interventions to improve the treatment of pain. He hopes to bring components of these psychological interventions to the practice of physical therapy in order to improve the care of patients with pain. The two major interventions he has been focused on are motivational interviewing and acceptance and commitment therapy. At APTA’s 2016 Combined Sections Meeting, he gave a presentation titled: “Improving Patient Recovery through Effective Communication and Managing Expectations.”

Courtney O’Rear (2008) passed the NCS exam she took in March. She also recently became a Certified Brain Injury Specialist (CBIS) too! She is currently working in Colorado Springs and is the Lead Therapist at Capron Inpatient Rehabilitation. She misses Missoula, but loves it in Colorado with her husband, kiddo who will be a senior this year, and their one year old lab, Uli, who they adopted last year.

Morgan Denny (2006) and her husband, Justin, live in Portland. They founded STAND (Sustainable Therapy And New Development) about 1.5 years ago in order to grow and build the work they have been doing in Haiti. They have had two super successful volunteer trips recently. They returned a few weeks ago from the most recent trip where the team treated around 1800 patients in two weeks! That included seven amputees who received prostheses for the first time, people receiving treatment from the general medical team, kiddos with neurodevelopmental problems, and just straight up orthopedic stuff, like low back pain. Morgan also taught several orthopedic lectures at a local nursing school. Their group is working to train and employ locals to keep the doors of the clinic open full time so that northern Haiti can have improved access to rehabilitative services. They can be found on facebook: STAND: The Haiti Project, on twitter: @STANDHaiti, Instagram: StandHaitiProject. website: www.StandHaitiProject.org.

Jenna Kokes (2012) returned to her family roots in the beautiful Methow valley where she and her husband Bret purchased Winthrop Physical therapy, in Winthrop, WA. Her clinic is very unique in that, besides serving the general population, they also see a large number of athletes for a small town clinic, including Olympic level cross country skiers. Their business also includes a full-service gym.

Justin, live in Portland. They founded STAND (Sustainable Therapy And New Development) about 1.5 years ago in order to grow and build the work they have been doing in Haiti. They have had two super successful volunteer trips recently. They returned a few weeks ago from the most recent trip where the team treated around 1800 patients in two weeks! That included seven amputees who received prostheses for the first time, people receiving treatment from the general medical team, kiddos with neurodevelopmental problems, and just straight up orthopedic stuff, like low back pain. Morgan also taught several orthopedic lectures at a local nursing school. Their group is working to train and employ locals to keep the doors of the clinic open full time so that northern Haiti can have improved access to rehabilitative services. They can be found on facebook: STAND: The Haiti Project, on twitter: @STANDHaiti, Instagram: StandHaitiProject. website: www.StandHaitiProject.org.
A TRIP TO ETHIOPIA – A STUDENT’S EXPERIENCE IN INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

By Carmen Luke, SPT.

This past May I was given the opportunity to travel to Gondar, Ethiopia, as part of a college-wide interprofessional group. This was the first time I had traveled outside of the country other than to Canada for a high school band tour roughly ten years ago. I was both very excited and extremely nervous before I left. I had read about Ethiopia and spoken with one of the professors from the University of Gondar who had visited UM, but still wasn’t really sure what to expect when I got there.

Our group spent three weeks in this African country observing their health care, experiencing their culture, and eating their spicy and flavorful food. Some of their medical resources were what we in the US would consider obsolete or lacking. This included an external fixation device on a child’s lower leg that was so large he could not use crutches for fear of hitting the rods on obstacles, or femur fractures being treated with traction instead of surgery. But their resourcefulness was truly inspiring. In spite of the lack of resources, the staff of the hospital had a lot of success in treating patients from across the country.

On our first day in the clinic we saw everything from patients that had suffered a stroke while out working in the fields to people who had been in taxi accidents and had skin grafts that covered their entire right leg. We helped the University of Gondar PT students with techniques and skills we brought with us from our education. In return, they taught us to be more resourceful when it came to working in an environment with limited resources.

This trip was phenomenal and I am very glad I went. Not only did I learn about another country and how to provide treatment with very few resources, but I also believe I contributed to the education of the PT students at the University of Gondar. I hope this opportunity continues to be available to other students in the future so they have the chance to broaden their horizons like I did.

INTERPROFESSIONAL GLOBAL HEALTH EDUCATION in Ethiopia

This May, a group of faculty and students from the College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences journeyed to Gondar, Ethiopia, to further the University of Montana’s collaboration with the University of Gondar. Dr. Jenn Bell of the School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science led the interprofessional group during their 3-week stay. Other faculty participants included Donna Beall from the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Darin Bell of the Family Medicine Residency Program, along with Jacqueline Brown from the Department of Psychology, College of Humanities and Science. The faculty were joined by three Doctor of Physical Therapy students, three students from the PharmD program and a Family Medicine Resident.

The PT students, guided by Dr. Jenn Bell, had the opportunity to work side by side with the University of Gondar’s physiotherapy faculty and students. The students spent their days seeing patients in the clinic and wards with the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year Gondar PT students. The program at the University of Gondar is a 4-year bachelor’s program. UMPT students were able to learn how to cast children with clubfoot and worked with many very complex patients including numerous patients who had sustained gunshot wounds, children with microcephaly, and complex neurological injuries. The students were also challenged by the limited resources available to the patients in the clinical setting as well as in the community. Dr. Bell lectured to the University of Gondar 3rd and 4th year students. She gave two lectures on HIV and AIDS, an update on current research related to foot and ankle injuries, and a lecture on non-musculoskeletal causes of joint pain. The UM PT students assisted Dr. Bell by reviewing foot and ankle exam techniques and presenting clinical medicine cases to the students.

Beyond the clinic and classroom, the group had the chance to visit local schools to see how special needs children are integrated into the classrooms. They also explored how Community-Based Rehabilitation works to improve the inclusion of children and adults with disabilities in schools, the health care system and community. The group was able to make many home visits and trips to see various levels of health centers (from one room health extension sites to a 500-bed referral hospital), and learn how people in rural villages and larger cities access care. Being immersed in the local culture, the students and faculty were able to better understand the complex relationship between poverty, wellness, and religion in Ethiopia and how that drives the way people seek care from traditional healers, priests, and health care providers. It was a great opportunity for the students to learn from other students, health care providers and faculty. Overall, the trip helped to further establish opportunities for ongoing collaborations between UM and the University of Gondar across many disciplines.
We want to thank Ryan J. Mays, PhD, MPH, MS, for his contributions to the School for the past 3 years. Dr. Mays will be taking a position at University of Minnesota’s School of Nursing. Dr. Mays has been a Research Assistant Professor in the School and Director of the Montana Peripheral Artery and Cardiac Exercise (PACE) Laboratory with the International Heart Institute and St. Patrick Hospital, where he was doing funded research aimed to improve the health outcomes of patients with peripheral artery disease (PAD). Ryan will be missed and we wish him and his wife the best in their future careers.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
JAMES LASKIN visits LAOS

From March 12th through April 4th, 2016, James Laskin was part of a Montana delegation engaged in a US State Department-sponsored sport diplomacy initiative in Laos. This adventure, SportsUnited: 2016 Sports Programming Initiative for Laos, was the result of a successful grant submission by the Mansfield Center at UM. The initiative included putting together a 6-person team from Missoula and coordinating plans with Laotian partners.

Though greatly separated by distance, Montana and Laos have a surprising number of commonalities. Both share mostly rugged mountainous terrain, are landlocked, and are relatively isolated. Companion industries include agriculture, timber, forestry, electricity generation, and mining. Both have environmental concerns related to water, deforestation, eco-tourism, and recycling. Each is home to significant communities of Native peoples. One thing unique about Laos is that it is the most heavily bombed country, per capita, in history. From 1964–1973, the U.S. conducted massive aerial bombardment in Laos to disrupt North Vietnamese supply routes, dropping more than two million tons of bombs. An estimated 30% failed to explode, resulting in the world’s largest contamination from unexploded ordinances. Villagers are regularly injured by accidental contact; 40% of those disabled are youth.

The team’s primary activity was conducting two “train the trainers” workshops, one in the capital city of Vientiane and the other in the rural province of Phonsavan. These workshops involved teaming up with representatives of 20 different national and local partner groups whose focus included: disability inclusion, youth empowerment, gender equality, women’s rights, and healthy aging. Dr. Laskin’s specific role was to introduce concepts of empathy towards disability and the implementation and adaptations of games and activities for people with disability.

Dr. Laskin’s specific role was to introduce concepts of empathy towards disability and the implementation and adaptations of games and activities for people with disability.

James reports that though he already had a strong affinity for Southeast Asia and its people, this trip strengthened his bond and led to the creation of a proposal for a full year sabbatical based in Bangkok.

UMPT Collaboration with Montana State University

Sambit Mohapatra, PT, PhD, Assistant Professor in the School, is currently working on a funded project through the Montana University System Research Initiative. This clinical research is titled “Developing novel neurotechnologies to address cognitive function in adult patients with neurodegeneration.”

Sambit is a co-investigator on this grant and will be working with the study’s Principal Investigator, Matthew Byerley, MD, Director of MSU Center for Mental Health Research and Recovery. This is a $1.46 million award from the State with four primary objectives (for more information please visit http://mus.edu/research/Funded/MentalHealth.asp). Sambit will lend his expertise in a specific type of non-invasive brain stimulation called Brainsway Deep Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation as an intervention in individuals with mild to moderate Alzheimer’s disease. This clinical trial will take place in the Western Montana Mental Health Center, Butte, MT.

Dr. Mohapatra also hosted Hyunhwa “Henna” Lee, PhD, APRN, PMHNP-BC for a visit to campus and the Motor Control Lab this summer. Dr. Lee, an Assistant Professor at the School of Nursing at the University of Nevada – Las Vegas, has been collaborating with Sambit for her recent Clinical and Translational Research – Infrastructure Network (CTR-IN) Visiting Scholar award. One of the aims of their work is to detect early markers of neurodegeneration after traumatic brain injury using peripheral blood markers and non-invasive brain stimulation.

From March 12th through April 4th, 2016, James Laskin was part of a Montana delegation engaged in a US State Department-sponsored sport diplomacy initiative in Laos. This adventure, SportsUnited: 2016 Sports Programming Initiative for Laos, was the result of a successful grant submission by the Mansfield Center at UM. The initiative included putting together a 6-person team from Missoula and coordinating plans with Laotian partners.

Though greatly separated by distance, Montana and Laos have a surprising number of commonalities. Both share mostly rugged mountainous terrain, are landlocked, and are relatively isolated. Companion industries include agriculture, timber, forestry, electricity generation, and mining. Both have environmental concerns related to water, deforestation, eco-tourism, and recycling. Each is home to significant communities of Native peoples. One thing unique about Laos is that it is the most heavily bombed country, per capita, in history. From 1964–1973, the U.S. conducted massive aerial bombardment in Laos to disrupt North Vietnamese supply routes, dropping more than two million tons of bombs. An estimated 30% failed to explode, resulting in the world’s largest contamination from unexploded ordinances. Villagers are regularly injured by accidental contact; 40% of those disabled are youth.

The team’s primary activity was conducting two “train the trainers” workshops, one in the capital city of Vientiane and the other in the rural province of Phonsavan. These workshops involved teaming up with representatives of 20 different national and local partner groups whose focus included: disability inclusion, youth empowerment, gender equality, women’s rights, and healthy aging. Dr. Laskin’s specific role was to introduce concepts of empathy towards disability and the implementation and adaptations of games and activities for people with disability.

Dr. Laskin’s specific role was to introduce concepts of empathy towards disability and the implementation and adaptations of games and activities for people with disability.

James reports that though he already had a strong affinity for Southeast Asia and its people, this trip strengthened his bond and led to the creation of a proposal for a full year sabbatical based in Bangkok.

UMPT Collaboration with Montana State University

Sambit Mohapatra, PT, PhD, Assistant Professor in the School, is currently working on a funded project through the Montana University System Research Initiative. This clinical research is titled “Developing novel neurotechnologies to address cognitive function in adult patients with neurodegeneration.”

Sambit is a co-investigator on this grant and will be working with the study’s Principal Investigator, Matthew Byerley, MD, Director of MSU Center for Mental Health Research and Recovery. This is a $1.46 million award from the State with four primary objectives (for more information please visit http://mus.edu/research/Funded/MentalHealth.asp). Sambit will lend his expertise in a specific type of non-invasive brain stimulation called Brainsway Deep Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation as an intervention in individuals with mild to moderate Alzheimer’s disease. This clinical trial will take place in the Western Montana Mental Health Center, Butte, MT.

Dr. Mohapatra also hosted Hyunhwa “Henna” Lee, PhD, APRN, PMHNP-BC for a visit to campus and the Motor Control Lab this summer. Dr. Lee, an Assistant Professor at the School of Nursing at the University of Nevada – Las Vegas, has been collaborating with Sambit for her recent Clinical and Translational Research – Infrastructure Network (CTR-IN) Visiting Scholar award. One of the aims of their work is to detect early markers of neurodegeneration after traumatic brain injury using peripheral blood markers and non-invasive brain stimulation.

We want to thank Ryan J. Mays, PhD, MPH, MS, for his contributions to the School for the past 3 years. Dr. Mays will be taking a position at University of Minnesota’s School of Nursing. Dr. Mays has been a Research Assistant Professor in the School and Director of the Montana Peripheral Artery and Cardiac Exercise (PACE) Laboratory with the International Heart Institute and St. Patrick Hospital, where he was doing funded research aimed to improve the health outcomes of patients with peripheral artery disease (PAD). Ryan will be missed and we wish him and his wife the best in their future careers.
A New ORTHOPEDIC CONTINUING EDUCATION Series

The School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science is excited to announce a new and innovative continuing education opportunity. The 1st Annual Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapy Seminar Series will begin this fall. Courses will be held one weekend per month from September through February, 2017.

The course series is designed to use a comprehensive continuing education model to enhance clinical reasoning and orthopedic manual physical therapy skills. Each weekend, participants will be engaged in laboratory/lecture related to the best evidence in orthopedic physical therapy practice.

The series will provide a framework for individuals in preparation for the Orthopedic Clinical Specialty (OCS) Examination. However, the courses are appropriate for clinicians of all levels. Participants may elect to attend the entire course series or sign up for a single weekend course. Courses will be held in the Skaggs Building at the University of Montana School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science. Seats in the courses are limited as the classes are lab-intensive.

Visit: http://health.umt.edu/physicaltherapy/Continuing%20Education/default.php
Email: jake.mischke@umontana.edu

UM’s Transitional DPT Program adds New Faculty & Two Certificate Programs

The transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy program continues to prosper as we look forward to starting the 17th cohort this fall. In partnership with Rehab Essentials, the program brings together the content experts within their respective field and allows professionals to gain the skills required to advance to the doctoring level while still maintaining a work/life/education balance. We are excited to announce that Dr. Joan Mountain-Elliott, of Marymount University, and Dr. Laurie King, of Oregon Health & Science University, have joined the tDPT programs’ faculty. Along with these two integral professionals, the curriculum is also updating courses for this fall including: Screening for Medical Disorders (by Dr. Bill Boissonnault), Medical Imaging (by Dr. Lynn McKinlin), and Coding and Reimbursement (by Helen Pearn).

As physical therapists compete for healthcare dollars, we have added two key certificate programs to help PTs and healthcare practitioners prosper. The Certificate Program in Allied Health Administration (CPAHA) adds to the tDPT program by focusing on value-based services and leadership roles that PTs need to display as they encounter business decisions in their daily practice. The CPAHA is now in its third cohort, which can be added to the tDPT program or taken as a stand-alone certificate. New this fall is the Health-Focused Lifestyle Intervention Certificate. Reducing the costs of managing chronic disease has become a prime directive for most communities. This time-efficient, cost effective program will provide healthcare professionals with the necessary knowledge and background to become a key player in designing and implementing solutions in the community. This is a six course, 12 credit curriculum delivered on-line over the course of three semesters. The final course is a three day onsite just outside Washington, D.C. occurring at the end of the third semester. For more information – please view our website - http://umt.rehabessentials.com/
POST PROFESSIONAL GRADUATES

FALL 2015
Manel P. Abayon, Woodside, NY
Melcor Anthony R. Adrian, Carlsbad, NM
Fariva Amini, Irvine, CA
Michael Antonio, Orlando, FL
Alena Arat, Lake Worth, FL
Maria Del Carmen Baroma, Olympia, WA
Stephen John Baxter, San Francisco, CA
Deena Rae Beaudet, Orono, MN
Brenda Eliza Cabral, Fremont, CA
Sophie Hsu-Hui Chung, East Brunswick, NJ
Leilane Rita M. Conopio, Herrin, IL
Jairus Bryan P. Defln, Astoria, NY
Charles Dominic Di Santo, Vermillion, OH
Cheryn Rose Orsia Elaisos, Silver Spring, MD
Orphia D. Flynn, Avon, OH
Ma. Theresa S. Fan, White Oak, PA
Arch Tamayo Fruylan, Cypress, CA
Esther M. Frintanilla, Pendleton, OR
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Wageed Giris, Minneapolis, MN
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Russell Gonzales, Springfield, MO
Melissa B. Grajo, Bronx, NY
Nicole Ventas Hodges, Fayetteville, NC
Betsy M. Insular, San Pedro, CA
Matthew Danley Ironside, Wisconsin Rapids, WI
Norman V. Joven, Lanoka Harbor, NJ
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Kim A Schuyler-White, Renton, WA
Ruchi Arpan Shah, Rego Park, NY
Eneida Silva-Collaro, San Juan, Puerto Rico
Ruchi Arpan Shah, Rego Park, NY

IN MEMORY OF Rich Gajdosik

Long time faculty member Richard L. Gajdosik PT, PhD, passed away unexpectedly on December 30, 2015 at the age of 66.
Rich had a long and productive career as a faculty member at the University of Montana that began in 1976 as an Instructor and Clinical Supervisor in the Pre-Physical Therapy Program and ended with his retirement in 2009.
Rich was instrumental in the initial development and accreditation of the program and eventually served as Chair for many years. Rich was well respected nationally for his productive scholarship record and service contributions.
Rich was passionate about mentoring students in research. He served as Chair of the Research Section’s Marilyn Gossman Graduate Student Platform Presentation Series during APTA’s Combined Sections Meeting. Over the years, Rich supported a long list of UMPT students in presenting at conferences.
In Rich’s honor, the School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences has established a memorial fund that will support students with expenses associated with attending and presenting research at APTA’s Combined Sections Meeting and other professional conferences.
You can donate to this fund in two ways. You can mail a check to the UM Foundation at the address below along with a note stating that your donation is for the Rich Gajdosik Memorial Fund.

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Samer Fahmy Tawadros Dawood, Staten Island, NY
Maura Elaine DeShaw, Butte, MT
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Vinit Dubey, Briarwood, NY
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Cheryl Ann Cox Wheelwright, South Weber, UT
Jimmy K. Wong, La Crescenta, CA

SPRING 2016
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Anjanette Y. Ang, Kirkland, WA
Lejane Villanueva Valdez, Port Saint Joe, FL
Cheryl Ann Cox Wheelwright, South Weber, UT
Jimmy K. Wong, La Crescenta, CA
Arlene Dalusag Datu, Tamuning, Guam
Lori Gillet, Bozeman, MT
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Ginette Ann Kerker, Spokane, WA
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Victoria Ann Korb, Canfield, OH
Roger A. Kravitz, Highland Heights, OH
Kristen M. LaCrosse, Avon, OH
Angela Catherine O. Lara, Downingtown, PA
Marguerite Gail Laver, Eugene, OR
Clint Lacwasan Layog, Danbury, CT
Lejane Villanueva Valdez, Port Saint Joe, FL
Cheryl Ann Cox Wheelwright, South Weber, UT
Jimmy K. Wong, La Crescenta, CA

This spring we approved to begin the candidacy process for the UM Orthopedic PT Residency Program. We are officially recognized as a developing residency program on the ABSPTRFE website. Kudos to Jake Mischke for leading this effort.

UM FOUNDATION PO BOX 7159 MISSOULA, MT 59807
Or, you can go to:
http://supportum.org/health
and make a note in the comments box that your donation is for the Rich Gajdosik Memorial Fund.
Rich’s full obituary can be found at:
http://missoulian.com
### Thank you DONORS!

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