DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE PROGRAM,

Welcome to your annual glimpse of our dynamic and flourishing program. To begin, let me report on our most precious resource: our people. It has been a year marked by additions and subtractions, with a new baby, a new faculty member and new clinicians, along with the resignations of a staff member and a faculty member. We are looking forward to integrating all these changes in the coming semester.

Our latest, and smallest, addition made her entrance on April 26, 2017. “Baby Bell” Makena joins sister, Kaia, in the household of our own Jenn Bell with hubby, Darin. (Page 9) We are overjoyed to have a new baby in the department and look forward to growing older with Makena in our midst. As I write this, UMPT addition #2 is traveling across the country to become our newest tenure track faculty member. (Page 5) Rich Willy will arrive any day now with his wife, Elizabeth, and 3-year old son, Liam. Rich will be a strong asset complementing our musculoskeletal teaching team and enriching the work of the Movement Science Lab. We are excited to welcome Rich and his family to our faculty group. Also joining the team in a new capacity is a familiar face. UMPT addition #3 is our own Audrey Elias, (Page 4) who will start this fall on faculty as a full-time Clinical Physical Therapy Instructor. In this capacity, she will function in three different, yet integral, capacities. In the UMPT Clinic, Audrey will treat patients and mentor our students during their Integrated Clinical Experiences (ICE), complement our stellar musculoskeletal team in the classroom, and continue to grow her important research. Addition #4, Phil Hagemen, will join us this fall as our inaugural Orthopedic PT resident. (Page 9) We are excited to begin our candidacy year and we know that Phil is the perfect person for this position. Addition #5 played a big role in our clinic and our classroom this past year. Troy Adam (UMPT Class of 2016) is a sought-after clinician and teaching assistant extraordinaire. The patients, faculty, and students appreciate his expertise, insight, and dedication in these multiple venues. Each of these individuals will play an integral role in our program and we welcome them into the UMPT family. You are certain to hear about their successes in newsletters to come.

Sadly, with these additions also come losses. After 17 years at UM, our own Heather Mincey (page 3) has chosen to exchange her long daily commute from Seeley Lake for a job in her own neighborhood school district. Although we miss her terribly, both personally and professionally, we are thrilled for the new life she leads and are quite jealous of her extended lake time and fishing prowess. We eagerly await her replacement and greatly appreciate the work of the administrative team in our office, Caitlin and Kathy, as well as the Dean’s office, Jen Geist and Tim Edwards, who have gone above and beyond to keep our school running smoothly while we work to fill this vacancy. In addition to Heather, Sambit Mohapatra has also made a large geographic swing. Sambit and his wife Shash will begin this fall on the East Coast as Sambit continues his academic career at the University of Vermont’s PT program. We wish them well and will miss all the good that Sambit has done here at UMPT in his short, but productive, three years. Our search committee has some interesting candidates to fill both of these positions. I look forward with excitement to report on the successful candidates in our next newsletter.

I would be remiss if I only reported on additions and subtractions, as the fabric of our very core is sustained by our existing faculty and staff enabling both stability and growth. Caitlin Malinak and Kathy Frantzreb in the School, Ken Thompson in the Clinic and Molly Blair in New Directions are steadfast and tireless in their efforts to seamlessly manage these important entities. Dave Levison, Jenn Bell and Kim Mize-Humphrey continue to maintain excellence in our clinical education program while capitalizing on growth opportunities. (Page 7) Our research labs remain both innovative and productive. Output can be seen in the individual work (page 9) of Ryan Mizner and Alex Santos, as well as their students and colleagues. We are particularly excited to announce that James Laskin, a mainstay on our faculty for the past two decades, recently added Fulbright Scholar to his list of accolades! (page 3) We applaud this accomplishment and will miss him in day-to-day operations this academic year as he travels to Laos, Thailand, and Poland for his sabbatical. The UMPT Clinic is bustling with patients all day and students all afternoon. Jake Mischke, Jaclyn Carson, Troy Adam, Jenn Bell and Audrey Elias, under the direction of Sue Ostertag, simultaneously take care of the health needs of our patients and the learning needs of our students – the School is enriched by this interdependence. New Directions continues to also function in a multifaceted role: service to our clients and education for our students as well as a productive research center. And of course, our students provide both our reason for being and the roots of our future. As we congratulate our graduating Class of 2017, we welcome our incoming Class of 2020 and continue the cycle of life as we have come to know it at UMPT. I am honored to be part of this group. I invite you to learn more about our 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.

Planning is underway for faculty/staff/alumni gatherings once a month on campus to help grow our relationships with one another. Keep on the lookout for an announcement on our Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/umphysicaltherapyschool) for our monthly informal get-togethers. By this time next year we hope to have a few pictures for the newsletter.

As I begin my third year as Chair, I look forward to another exciting venture at UMPT in this wonderful place that I now call home. I would like to thank each of you for the support you give to a School that will continue to live up to the reputation that you build.

ANITA M. SANTASIER, PT, PhD, OCS,
Chair and Associate Professor
I’ve just finished my third year as Dean of the College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences and first as head of the UM Health & Medicine Initiative (UMHM), an initiative I’ve had the pleasure of moving forward with the assistance of selected faculty and dean colleagues at UM. I appreciate the opportunity to use this forum to review where we are as a College but also UMHM. The more you know about both the College and the initiative, the better you can help us advocate for UM as the key place to be for both prospective students and faculty members.

As you may be aware, UMPT continues to prosper and that is well articulated throughout this newsletter. The other professional programs in the College continue to do well and we continue to grow offerings across all of the Schools, from a new PhD program in Public Health to joint degrees and new certificates in all of our Schools. Our tDPT curriculum has exceeded 2000 students since starting in 2008. We’ve also been approved by the Board of Regents to develop a unique MS in Occupational Therapy with our colleagues at MSU-Billings. Because of the limited number of programs that can be accredited each year, we likely wouldn’t see students until the winter of 2020, but we’re excited to develop the first public program in Montana to meet a critical shortage in the region. UMPT will be an integral collaborator in this effort.

Through UMHM, the University of Montana aspires to improve the educational connection with health care delivery systems and is seeking ways to help better meet current and future workforce needs. I’m networking health education, research, and service programs across the campus and we’re leveraging that expertise into partnerships with the medical community. We are working directly with the hospitals and our residency program to make that happen while expanding opportunities for students. I’d love for you to join our community of learners simply by visiting the UMHM website [www.umt.edu/umhm](http://www.umt.edu/umhm) and registering yourself at the bottom of the landing page. Then you’ll receive periodic updates and be able to see how we are engaging students across the campus.

It’s an honor to be able to serve in this capacity and move our ideas forward. I hope when you are in the area you’ll plan to stop by. We’re only as strong as our alumni and friends.

Reed Humphrey, PhD
Dean and Professor

DEAR UMPT ALUMNI & FRIENDS,

Looking at all the great content in this newsletter I’m reminded, once again, of the incredible quality of UMPT’s students, faculty and staff. A lot of this success can be attributed to engagement and support from alumni and friends. Thank you for the support, interest and dedication to UMPT. Contributions of all kinds make a significant difference in the quality of education and training that our students receive and we ask you to consider a making a gift again this year. A list of generous UMPT donors is located in this newsletter and we look forward to seeing you and all your classmates on the list next year.

You can continue UMPT’s strong tradition of supporting our current students by donating online at [www.supportum.org/health](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 (from student scholarships to research support) please contact me directly. My email is mark.schleicher@umontana.edu and my number is (406) 243-4222. I look forward to hearing from you.

Be well,

Mark Schleicher
Director of Development & Alumni Relations
College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences

UMPT HONORS RECENTLY RETIRED PROFESSOR CHARLES T. LEONARD

This past year, in recognition of retired professor Dr. Charles T. Leonard’s outstanding scientific contributions, UMPT faculty voted to name the Motor Control Laboratory (MCLab) in his honor. The MCLab was founded by Dr. Leonard in 1990 and has been the center for nationally and internationally recognized work in the fields of motor control, neuroscience, and physical rehabilitation. The Dr. Charles T Leonard MCLab continues to be a hub for students and visiting faculty to join UM faculty in scientific research.
Other countries. The Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program is administered as an understanding between the people of the United States and those in other countries. This is a brand new award and James is 1 of 5 recipients. Professor Laskin is also the first Fulbright Scholar assigned to Laos. The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program operated in more than 160 countries worldwide.

As you may know, James has a long history of international engagement with a focus on Southeast Asia and Poland. Highlights include:
- Hosted Bartosz Molik, PT, PhD and his family from the Jozef Pilsudski University of Physical Education, Faculty of Rehabilitation, Warsaw, Poland who spent his Sabbatical (2006-2007) at UM.
- Awarded Faculty Exchange to Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai, Thailand for the 2009-10 academic year.
- Facilitated 3 student Study Abroad activities for UMPT students (2010, 2012, 2013)
- In the spring of 2012, UMPT hosted Peanchai Khamwong PT, PhD, Dept. of PT, Associated Medical Sciences to teach Thai Massage to our students and conducted a CEU course for MT clinicians
- As part of a 2-week research opportunity James was the Keynote speaker at the 4th International Conference of Prof. Andrzej Seyfried Physiotherapy Ideas. Warsaw, Poland, October, 2014
- Last summer James hosted Busra Aktis, SPT a senior in the Department of Physiotherapy & Rehabilitation at Bahcesehir University, Istanbul, Turkey, for a 10-week research and clinical exchange

A major highlight of James’ time in Thailand this coming year will be the arrival of 9 UMPT students on December 28th. In addition to the planned cultural and tourist activities, they will be spending New Years at a tropical beach on the island of Koh Kut (Kood); in collaboration with the faculty and students in the Department of Physical Therapy, Chiang Mai University, the UMPT students will be learning about physical therapy practice in Thailand, visiting a vast array of clinical settings, taking classes in acupuncture and Thai massage, as well as teaching a class on using English in clinical practice.

James will remain in Asia through April 2018, at which time he will relocate to Warsaw and the Jozef Pilsudski University of Physical Education, Faculty of Rehabilitation. Besides continuing to work on several of the projects begun in Thailand, he hopes to initiate a community-based project, “Using a Motivational Interviewing Approach to Physical Therapy Practice Centered Tobacco Cessation” in collaboration with UMPT Clinical Associate Prof. Dave Levison PT, MHS.

We wish James a fond farewell and look forward to hearing about his travels upon his return.

UMPT THANKS HEATHER MINCEY FOR NEARLY A DECADE OF DEDICATED SERVICE
We were fortunate for so long to have Heather Mincey, Administrative Associate, be a part of the front office team at UMPT. This spring, Heather took employment in her hometown with the Seeley Lake Elementary School District. Heather was with UMPT for 9 years and previous to that, worked many years in the University’s financial aid office. While with UMPT, Heather skillfully managed the School’s accounting duties, purchasing and travel processes, and was an integral part of the Clinical Education team. Also notably, she somehow routinely managed to successfully navigate the 120 mile round-trip commute back and forth from Seeley Lake. Not only was she extremely successful at herding cats, she was even better at driving in all kinds of weather, avoiding large ungulates and dodging oncoming tourist traffic for all those years. We miss Heather, but are glad she has only a 5-minute drive to work now. All of UMPT thanks Heather for her years of excellent service and dedication.
We welcome Audrey Elias PT, PhD, as the newest faculty member to join UMPT.

Dr. Elias was selected through a national search to fill the position of Clinical Physical Therapy Instructor. Although the bulk of her responsibility will be within our UMPT clinic mentoring students and treating patients, she will also play an important role in our school as both an educator and scholar. Audrey is an alum of our program, completing her DPT degree in 2009 and earning her PhD in Interdisciplinary Studies at UM in 2015. While completing her PhD, Audrey also had responsibility as an adjunct instructor and clinician. Prior to coming back to Missoula to work on her PhD, Audrey completed an orthopedic residency through Therapeutic Associates and became a board-certified orthopedic clinical specialist while practicing at a TAI clinic in Port Angeles, WA.

Dr. Elias will formally join the School this Fall following completion of a post-doctoral fellowship with the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada and the University of Montana Flight Laboratory.

Dr. Elias has multiple research initiatives. She will continue her clinical research into intervention strategies to reduce risk of osteoarthritis following lower extremity injury. Her interdisciplinary post-doctoral work focuses on utilizing bipedal animal models and dynamic ultrasound techniques to examine the control of the lower extremity and trunk during descending gait through the lifespan. Recently, Audrey was the recipient of a traveling fellowship award from the APTA Section on Research that allowed her to gain experience in best practices for utilizing dynamic real-time ultrasound in research.

Dr. Elias will teach in the musculoskeletal management track in the School of Physical Therapy, particularly in management of spinal pain and dysfunction. She will be heavily involved in mentoring students through the Integrated Clinical Education Program in the UMPT Clinic, as well as the Orthopedic Physical Therapy Residency.

Both Dr. Elias and her husband, Joran, enjoy trail running, alpine and cross-country skiing, and biking. Their 5-year old son, Ciaran, enjoys regaling adults with esoteric information about dinosaurs and planets and building ever more elaborate Lego spaceships. Dr. Elias also teaches tap dancing at the Downtown Dance Collective and is an enthusiastic gardener and part of the leadership committee of the Northside Community Garden.

We are thrilled to have Audrey join UMPT faculty!

After much planning and effort, the University of Montana Orthopedic Physical Therapy Residency Program began August 1, 2017. The residency program is currently considered a Candidacy Program and will soon be fulfilling the criteria necessary to become an Accredited Program through the American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education (ABPTRFE). The program is devoted to empowering physical therapists to become excellent clinicians and educators. The Orthopedic Residency Program will serve as a catalyst for strengthening current relationships between UMPT and the University, the community of Missoula, and the state of Montana in improving healthcare in our region.

Phil was born and raised in Omaha, NE. He went on to earn an undergraduate degree from Rockhurst University in Kansas City, MO and returned to Omaha to attend Creighton University, where he graduated in May with a Doctorate of Physical Therapy degree. Phil comes to us having completed a 16-week rotation in outpatient orthopedics at the University of Illinois Hospital and Health Sciences System and another rotation in outpatient orthopedics at Makovicka Physical Therapy in Omaha. Phil has been honored with many awards, including the inaugural Judith R. Gale Clinician Award given to the Creighton student who demonstrates the greatest potential for developing clinical excellence in physical therapy. He was also the recipient of the Creighton Alumni Centennial Scholarship and the Creighton Physical Therapy Faculty Scholarship. Phil is a student member of the Sports and Orthopedic sections of the American Physical Therapy Association.

Outside of physical therapy, Phil’s interests and hobbies include running, biking, hiking, spending time outdoors, reading books and the newspaper, listening to podcasts, and cooking new vegetarian recipes. UMPT is very excited to have Phil join our team for the one-year residency. As a part of the residency, he will treat patients in the UMPT Clinic, lab-assist in the DPT curriculum, and take courses through the University of Montana Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapy Series.

The 2017 Northwest Intermountain Consortium (NIC) of Clinical Education Programs annual conference will be held in Boise, ID November 3-4th. The NIC conference is free to clinical partners of all the participating universities. The Friday evening programming will feature Key Note Speaker Terry Nordstrom, MA, PT, EdD, on Best Practices for Clinical Education in the 21st Century, followed by 5 slides in 5 minutes of 5 presenters addressing the topic of: Reshaping PT Clinical Education – “What if...?”

Saturday’s programming will feature two UMPT faculty. Jenn Bell, Associate Director of Clinical Education will be a co-presenter on a morning multi-session offering on the topic of Improving Clinical Education through Formative Feedback. UMPT’s Director of Clinical Education, Dave Levison, will present Saturday afternoon on the topic of Using Motivational Interviewing Concepts in Clinical Education to Improve Student Learning Outcomes.

For more information on the rest of the programming and registration: visit www.nicweb.org or email david.levison@umontana.edu
The School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science is pleased to announce the hiring of Richard Willy, PT, PhD, as our newest tenure-track Assistant Professor. Dr. Willy is a nationally respected running biomechanist with more than 20 peer-reviewed manuscripts published in top-ranked sports and biomechanics journals that have had more than 500 citations. He is a sought-after speaker with over 50 scientific presentations and 20 invited symposiums at professional meetings all over the world.

Dr. Willy’s research focus is on developing clinically relevant evaluation and intervention strategies to reduce the risk of lower extremity injury in groups such as soldiers, wildland firefighters, and recreational runners. We are particularly excited to add his skill set of using real-time data processing of walking and running, using a split-belt treadmill instrumented with force plates that couples with our video-based motion-analysis system. He has well-cited clinical trials where this retraining has been effective for the treatment of anterior knee pain in runners. Dr. Willy also has published findings from computer modeling techniques to determine knee and Achilles tendon loads during sport tasks. He is looking forward to involving the Missoula running community in his research.

Dr. Willy will teach in the musculoskeletal practice track for the School. He will also contribute his expertise as a consultant and mentor within our NSE Physical Therapy Clinic and our new Orthopedic Physical Therapy Residency.

In giving back to the profession, Dr. Willy is an active member in the APTA, American College of Sports Medicine, and the American Society of Biomechanics. His service includes time as a member of the executive committee of the Biomechanics Special Interest Group for the APTA’s Section on Research and on the Scientific Review Committee for the APTA’s Sports Section.

Dr. Willy earned his PhD in Biomechanics and Movement Science at the University of Delaware in 2011. He trained under the renowned running biomechanics scientist Dr. Irene Davis, a Fellow of both the American College of Sports Medicine and the American Physical Therapy Association. Dr. Willy completed both his B.S. in Sports Science and his Master of Physical Therapy degrees at Ohio University and practiced as an orthopedic physical therapist for 8 years before pursuing his PhD. Dr. Willy’s time in the clinic included managing several clinics — in Ohio, West Virginia and Colorado — and passing his board certification as an orthopedic clinical specialist.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Willy and his family to Missoula and the UM campus. Dr. Willy is excited to be coming back to live in the Rocky Mountains, close to his family in Colorado. Both he and his wife, Elizabeth, enjoy running, cycling and hiking. They have a 3-year old son, Liam, a passionate bug collector, who they are excited to raise in Missoula.

The University has partnered with Rehab Essentials to deliver a succinct and efficient tDPT curriculum to advance professional growth, development and opportunities. The tDPT program, powered by Rehab Essentials, brings together a unique community of clinical scholars and delivers the highest quality content by the industry’s leading experts directly to your living room. With full enrollment for the past five cohorts, the UM tDPT has been able to make an impact on the US physical therapy profession. In 2016, the program opened its enrollment to foreign practicing therapists with its mission to provide high quality education to all physical therapists globally while removing the barriers of access and cost. In May of 2017, 130 graduates of the tDPT program returned to Missoula to attend graduation, bringing with them over 200 family members and friends.

UM and Rehab Essentials have expanded their offerings to include three certificate programs: the Rehabilitation Administration Certificate (RAC), the Lifestyle Intervention Health Certificate (LIFE-C), and the Health Science Educators Leadership Certificate (HSEL). The RAC can be taken as a standalone or as an add-on to the tDPT. This certificate provides the knowledge and skills necessary to help health practitioners successfully transition into an administrative role. The LIFE-C program teaches health providers to leverage inter-professional collaboration to deliver real-world solutions for individual and large-scale health promotion and prevention programs. Specifically, LIFE-C focuses on the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to prescribe lifestyle interventions as well as the design and strategy necessary to deliver programs that will decrease the cost of managing chronic disease in our communities. The HSEL graduate certificate program is designed for PT and PTA academic program directors to meet the growing requirements in educational foundations. The program focuses on key requirements of education theory and methods, instructional design, student, faculty and program assessment and concepts in education leadership.

Together, UM and Rehab Essentials are bringing innovative educational solutions to the global community to reduce practice variability and increase consistency of professional and post-professional educational foundations to ensure best practices. UMPT alumni and clinical instructors receive a 5% rebate for any of the educational offerings through Rehab Essentials.

For more information visit - https://health.umt.edu/physicaltherapy/Prospective%20Students/Programs/tDPT.php
UMPT ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT - JAY SHAVER

This year’s Alumni Spotlight features an interview with Jay Shaver, who graduated from UM in 1984 with a bachelor’s degree in Physical Therapy along with 14 other PT students. The class of 1984 was the first fully accredited cohort to graduate with a PT degree from UM. Jay was born in Concord, MA, and raised in Hyrum, UT, and Anchorage, AK. He eventually landed in Montana in 1976, it has been his home state ever since. Jay lives and practices PT in Whitefish, MT. For the past 27 years he has been married to Cathy Relf; they have a daughter Megan who lives in Colorado, working as a raft guide. Jay is currently the sole owner/operator of Northern Physical Therapy in Whitefish, where it is just him and his office manager. Jay’s practice utilizes the McKenzie philosophy and he also has a focus in industrial physical therapy. He recently finished a six-month chronic pain specialist program to serve a developing chronic pain patient base. Of special note, Jay is currently president of the Montana Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association. He is 2 years into his second 4-year term. When he can find the time Jay is an avid backcountry skier, hiker, trail runner, and loves to cook. He also helps care for their 2 golden retrievers and an old cat.

Editor: After graduating from UMPT in 1984, how did you first start your career and how has it progressed over the years?
Jay: First year out of school I worked for Health Focus, at that time the largest PT contract group in the US. I started as a staff therapist in Kingstree, SC, but stepped into a supervisor role in six months, which was a huge mistake. It was too early in my career in a small southern town. I didn’t understand the culture, let alone the nuances of my profession. I worked two more years for Health Focus as a traveler, primarily setting up new contracts before landing the job of rehab supervisor at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish. I then started my private practice, Northern PT, about 12 years ago with a partner.

Editor: What memories of PT school have stuck with you over the years?
Jay: Its less of what I remember and more of how much PT education has changed. We were in the basement of McGill, where the bowling alley had been. It was good enough of a place to learn the profession, but a far cry from the current setting at UM. Unlike today, we had no computers, cell phones, iPads or other advantages of modern technology. I still remember us getting the first camcorder which was about the size of a medium dog and weighed about 20 or 30 pounds; no one really knew what to do with it. I remember writing and rewriting a lot of notes. I have terrible penmanship and even worse spelling, so grading my papers must have been a real chore.

Editor: Since becoming MAPTA president, what have you learned about our profession you didn’t realize or fully appreciate before?
Jay: Until you get involved, it’s hard to understand how many great things happen at the national level. We have an incredibly hard working APTA crew in DC that are experts in all areas of our profession and are vigilant in our vision of progressing the profession. Not that I agree with everything that comes out of APTA headquarters, but that is what an organization needs to be about - different voices, different ideas. Our challenges in Montana are always about five years behind the east or west coasts. We should be able to learn from their victories and losses, and better prepare for our futures here in Montana.

Editor: What advice would you give to newly graduated PT students coming into the profession?
Jay: Become a specialist as soon as you can. I don’t care what you are passionate about, become very good at it. Separating yourself from the crowd will give you a much better chance of getting the job or the future that you want. Also, you need to be a member of our professional association. If you are going to benefit from the work of a few, you need to be part of it.

Editor: What accomplishments are you most proud of over the span of your career?
Jay: I haven’t been impeached yet as MAPTA president, so I am happy about that, which I guess sets the bar pretty low. Otherwise, and I take a little credit for this, we have more members, more people volunteering, and attending the business meetings. It’s good to see PTs and PTAs from around the state sharing their views in person three times a year. We also have a thriving legislative committee, with the Chapter sponsoring legislation last year for the first time in recent years, and with a full docket for the 2019 session. A lot of credit goes to our lobbyist, Melissa Shannon, and Christian Appel, our legislative chair. I am also happy with a change in bylaws that follow the non-profit code for Montana requiring notice of agendas before a meeting. Therapists need to know what is going to be on the agenda. We had a situation a few years ago where PTAs wanted more voting power, the motion was on the agenda, numerous therapists showed up to voice their thoughts on the topic. I wonder if there would have been the same level of conversation had it not been made public two weeks in advance.

I still have two years left in my current term. We should start to see the fruits of our labor in other areas. We now have a state PAC which will make us a more visual political entity in 2019. We have started a more intense grassroots effort to educate the public and legislators on our issues. We have been funding APTA market research for four years, and we have been one of the first states to help students pay APTA dues when they graduate. All of these things are working towards the future, which I think is very bright for MAPTA.

Editor: After completing your term as president, what’s next?
Jay: So much to do - so little time. There are many nonprofits I would like to have the time to work with. I’d like to help develop pro bono opportunities for those who have been left out of the insurance safety net and continue to fight for more affordable health care for everyone. There are non-work things I’d like to do more of, such as long canoe trips, getting an associate’s degree at the Flathead Valley Community College in the culinary arts program, and more time with my wife and dogs.

Editor: What else would you like to share with UMPT alumni & friends?
Jay: It has been a good ride. I never take a day for granted regarding my profession. I can’t imagine what else I could have done with my life that would be so fulfilling. It has also been and is an honor to be the MAPTA president.

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A host of University of Montana PT faculty, students and alumni joined thousands of other PTs, PTA's and students in San Antonio, Texas, the site for APTA's 2017 Combined Section Meeting last February. Educational presentations that faculty and students (bolded) were involved in included:

- **K.B. Foreman and Ryan Mizner**, Platform presentation titled: Decline walking reveals pronounced deficits in physical performance of patients compared to over-ground walking after total knee arthroplasty.
- **Audrey Elias**, 2 hour Educational Session titled: Navigating the Connections between Research and Clinical Practice.
- **JC Christensen and Ryan Mizner**, Platform presentation titled: Real-time biofeedback of knee kinetics corrects pronounced joint mechanic asymmetry during both low- and high-demand walking tasks following total knee arthroplasty.
- **Audrey Elias and Ryan Mizner**, platform presentation titled: Clinical Effectiveness of Jump Training
- **Dave Levison**, Robert Scales and Stephen Hunter, 2 hour Education Session titled: Use of Motivational Interviewing and Risk Stratification to Improve Outcomes.
- **Anita M. Santasier** and **Susan Wainwright** led a 2 hour Educational Session titled: The 1st Annual Kay Shepard Qualitative Research Seminar.

Besides being engaged in the many educational offerings that CSM had to offer, we all enjoyed the River Walk and warm temperatures. UMPT also hosted a gathering at On the Rocks Pub where 3rd year students, faculty, alumni and friends gathered for an evening of conversation, pool playing, dancing and laughs. We hope that you will join the UMPT gathering at next year’s CSM, February 21-24, 2018, in New Orleans, Louisiana. Should be fun!

The UMPT Clinical Education program continues to expand opportunities available for international clinical experiences. In 2015, we sent our first students abroad - three 2nd year students, Anna Gunkel, Sierra Richmond and Allison Molnar spent 8 weeks in Capetown, South Africa. In 2016, another 2nd year student, Hannah Scholter, completed an 8-week sports clinical experience in Capetown as well. We are very excited to have two 2nd years, Jessa Brooks and Elizabeth Choma, completing clinicals in Umbria, Italy during the summer of 2017. This new opportunity for our students to work in a variety of settings and facilities in Italy through Eduglobal Associates will be a great addition to our international program.

For summer 2018, we have two new opportunities for international clinical experiences. Hillside Health Care International operates an outpatient clinic and mobile clinics in rural Belize, and will be working with one of our 2nd year students. Hillside employs local health care providers for regular care of patients and also has American health care providers and students rotate through to provide additional patient care and provider education opportunities. Hillside works with a variety of students from different professions and is always looking for licensed professionals to volunteer to treat patients and supervise students. We can even coordinate with them for you to be paired with a UM student to supervise! If you would like to learn more, check out their website. [https://www.hillsidebelize.org](https://www.hillsidebelize.org).

We are also sending Andrea Gomez, a 2nd year student, to Nicaragua next summer with the Jesse F. Richardson Foundation (JFRF). In collaboration with the Nicaraguan Aging Council, JFRF works to expand PT services to older adults. JFRF is also looking for volunteer clinical instructors who are interested in traveling to Nicaragua to support their program and supervise students. More information can be found at [http://jfrfoundation.org](http://jfrfoundation.org). It is very exciting for UMPT to have increasing opportunities to broaden student education via global health experiences.
HELPING PATIENTS ENGAGE IN HEALTHY BEHAVIORS

This past March, UMPT hosted a 2-day continuing education course titled, “Why Wrestle When You Can Dance? – An Introduction to Motivational Interviewing for Healthcare Professionals” taught by Robert Scales, PhD and assisted by UMPT faculty member Dave Levison, PT, MHS. Over 25 clinicians learned the practical and effective skills for counseling patients who might be ambivalent or otherwise resistive to engaging in more healthy behaviors.

If you are interested in learning more about Motivational Interviewing or hosting a course, please contact Dave at david.levison@umontana.edu. Mr. Levison is scheduled to provide a 6-hour introduction to MI at the MAPTA winter meeting at Fairmont Hot Springs, January 27-28, 2018.

CLINICAL EDUCATION NEWS

WE WOULD LOVE TO ADD MORE ALUMNI TO OUR LIST OF CLINICAL INSTRUCTORS. Consider being a part of the Griz-Mentoring-Griz movement. Contact us today at umpt_clinicaleducation@mso.umt.edu

We are so appreciative of alumni and other clinicians who serve as our clinical instructors. Clinical education is a tremendously important part of the training that goes into our student’s educational preparation. We want to remind all our CIs that by completing a one-page application form, you can become a UM faculty affiliate. Among other things, this will allow you to have remote access to all the UM library databases to access journals. The form and more information can be found at: www.umt.edu/home/affiliateusers/

Besides library access, UMPT alumni and CIs receive discounts on the various professional continuing education courses we host. And many states, including Montana, award CEUs for being a CI if the PT has completed the APTA basic CI credentialing course. For more information click on www.mtrules.org/gateway/RuleNo.asp?RN=24%2E177%2E2105. In addition, UMPT alumni and CIs receive a 5% rebate upon completion of the transitional DPT offered by UM. For more information, click on health.umt.edu/physicaltherapy/Prospective%20Students/Programs/tDPT.php.

We are excited to let everyone know that we have created a new tool to assess student performance called the PAS or Performance Assessment System. Our motivation for developing the PAS was to create a tool that takes less time but still gets the job done. Based on CI feedback so far, it appears that this web-based tool is more efficient than previously used tools and much appreciated by our CIs and students. Contact Dave Levison, Director of Clinical Education at david.levison@umontana.edu for more information.

This past spring, UMPT hosted the APTA’s Credentialed Clinical Instructor Program (CCIP). Credentialed Clinical Trainer and UMPT Affiliated Clinical Faculty member Kim Mize-Humphrey guided the 20+ participants through the 2-day curriculum and assessment center. UMPT plans on partnering with the PTA program at Kalispell Community College to periodically offer the CCIP.

ATTENTION ALUMNI

PLEASE SHARE YOUR ALUMNI NEWS AND NOTES at Kathy.frantzreb@umontana.edu. Send us information on your residency, fellowship, certifications & advanced degree completion to physical.therapy@umontana.edu to use in future newsletters!
In January 2017, Anita Santasier, PT, PhD and Chair of the School, visited APTA headquarters in Alexandria, VA, as one of 16 people chosen to serve on a task force designated to create and carry out a process that will result in a nationwide Educational Research Agenda for physical therapy.

He has worked mostly in northern California for St. Joseph Hospital but has done quite a few travel assignments in California, Idaho and Montana. Last year he had the opportunity to do some international travel for leisure and as a volunteer. His girlfriend and he made medical equipment donations to Kathmandu, Nepal, following the earthquake that struck there in 2015. Their other adventures include hiking to Everest Base Camp, surviving the 8.0 quake in Kaikoura, New Zealand, last year and arriving on April 26th weighing 6# 3oz and 18.5 inches. Other than severe sleep deprivation on the part of the parents, all are doing well. Big sister Kaia is totally smitten with her little sister!

In the 10 years since graduation, Josh Hoopes (class of 2007) has found work in a variety of different settings and locations. He has worked mostly in northern California for St. Joseph Hospital but has done quite a few travel assignments in California, Idaho and Montana. Last year he had the opportunity to do some international travel for leisure and as a volunteer. His girlfriend and he made medical equipment donations to Kathmandu, Nepal, following the earthquake that struck there in 2015. Their other adventures include hiking to Everest Base Camp, surviving the 8.0 quake in Kaikoura, New Zealand, last year in a camper van and volunteering in village schools in Chogoria, Kenya. He recently got engaged and will be settling down in northern California for the foreseeable future. He sends best wishes to everyone out there in the U of M family!

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Clinical Assistant Professor Jenn Bell, her husband Darin and daughter Kaia welcome baby Makena. Makena surprised them all and arrived on April 26th weighing 6# 3oz and 18.5 inches. Other than severe sleep deprivation on the part of the parents, all are doing well. Big sister Kaia is totally smitten with her little sister!

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Clinical Physical Therapy Instructor Jake Mischke and his wife, Mary, recently traveled to Nairobi, Kenya to teach the “Advanced Orthopedics of the Hip and Knee” module of the Kenya Medical Training College Higher Diploma Program through The Jackson Clinics. The module is part of an 18-month program that is taught to 15-20 licensed Kenyan physical therapists that includes 6, 2-week modules and 1:1 mentoring. This is the 6th group of physical therapists to go through the program. The goal of the program is to be self-sustaining (taught by Kenyan Physical Therapists) by next year. An entry-level physical therapy degree in Kenya is similar to an associate’s degree in the United States. The Kenya Medical Training College is hoping to transition to a bachelor’s degree in the next few years using graduates of the Higher Diploma as faculty. Jake and Mary noted that the Kenyan physical therapists were incredibly welcoming and eager to learn. The Kenyan PTs soaked-up all of the information and insight the Mischke’s had to offer. While in Kenya Jake and Mary also traveled to the Masai Mara for a game-viewing safari where they met the infamous Masai tribe and saw a huge number of incredible wildlife. The trip was an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience the Kenyan culture and create relationships with physical therapists on the other side of the globe. The Mischke’s are extremely grateful for the opportunity to help improve healthcare and the quality of life for people in Kenya and look forward to their next trip!

Jaclyn Carson, PT, DPT, Clinical Physical Therapy Instructor, has been accepted into the Physical Therapy Faculty Program at the Parkinson’s Foundation “Train the Trainer” Pilot Program. The program is designed to train PT educators who will educate PT students in physical care for people with Parkinson’s disease to improve care among this patient population. This will include four days of training and an independent project. We congratulate Dr. Carson in this accomplishment. See http://www.pdf.org/physicaltherapy_about for further details.

Chad and Melissa Bunselmeier (class of 2014) were blessed with a little daughter on June 13th. Her name is Jocee Danielle. Chad and Melissa live in Barrow, Alaska. Melissa works in outpatient and inpatient at Samuel Simmonds Memorial Hospital and Chad is a high school math teacher.

In addition to working as the Post Falls school district PT, Thea (Maristuen) Borg (class of 2010) will be teaching the Pediatric section for the PTA program at Spokane Falls Community College starting this coming fall. She will be busy, but she is excited.

Shannon (McCarthy) Sepulveda (class of 2011), DPT, M.Ed., CSCS, WCS welcomed her second child, Bailey, into the world on September 15, 2016. She spent her maternity leave studying for the WCS and is pleased (and relieved!) to say that she passed. She is now the first and only Board Certified Women’s Health Physical Therapist in Montana (but would love to have more join her!). Shannon works at Great Northern PT in Bozeman.

Dusty (Lindeen) Kuglin (class of 2012) and husband, Tom, welcomed baby boy Bridger David on April 20th! Bridger was 6 lbs, 14 oz and 19.5 inches long and born in Helena at St. Peter’s Hospital. Dusty works at Manger-Harrington PT.

Associate Professor Ryan Mizner and the Bridge System (Bodyweight Reduction Instrument to Deliver Graded Exercise) were featured in the April edition of Training and Conditioning. To access the entire article –click on http://training-conditioning.com/content/support-system.
A NOTE FROM PT STUDENT ASSOCIATION CO-CHAIRS

The UMPT class of 2018 wrapped up another year of challenging and rewarding work. We watched as the class above us returned from their final clinicals and presented their posters at the annual Spring Banquet. Many of them already had their licensure exam results and really had something to celebrate! At this point, we all are experiencing a mixture of emotions including gratitude for the two years we have under our belts and disbelief that we could possibly only have one year left. We have been blessed by meaningful friendships within our class that have been fortified by long hours practicing in the basement labs of Skaggs, as well as some fun evenings of unwinding with swing dancing at the Sunrise Saloon or friendly competition in a variety of intramural teams we threw together including volleyball, softball, and inner-tube water polo. Grad school has been a time of late nights and hard work. We are all excited to be getting close to graduation, but none of us want to wish away the time we have left together. We thank all those who have served us in our journey so far and wish all the best in the coming year.

SINCERELY,
Emily Smith and Lizzie Choma

UMPT student Rich Mehlbrech awarded a Department of Veteran's Affairs Health Professional Scholarship Program (HPSP) for Physical Therapy. The purpose of this program is to provide financial assistance to individuals pursuing a program of study leading to a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree. This program will help alleviate the health care workforce shortages in the VA by obligating scholarship recipients to complete a minimum 2-year service at a VA health care facility after graduation and licensure/certification. The Scholarship provides for the payment of a monthly stipend, tuition, required fees, and other reasonable educational expenses, including books and necessary equipment. After completion of their education, participants must serve as a full-time clinical VA employee for a minimum of two years in medical services of the participant’s discipline in an assignment or location determined by VA while participating in the HPSP. Rich, a native of Spokane, WA., plans to do his final internship in the spring of 2018 at the Puget Sound VA in Seattle, with a focus on in-patient rehabilitation, where he will be mentored by UMPT alumni, Virginia Kudritzki (class of 2009), in preparation for his 2-year employment obligation with the VA.

This past year, second year students Kaitlyn Brown, Samantha Gunderson, Chris Shafer, and Sara Taylor, under the mentorship of Dr. Sambit Mohapatra, conducted a research study investigating the potential use of Virtual Reality as a biofeedback device to assist therapists in teaching complicated PNF patterns. This project was conducted with collaboration between the Motor Control Lab and the VAST learning systems at MONTEC. This project was chosen to receive funding (PI- Gunderson, Mentor- Mohapatra) from the Interdisciplinary Collaborative Network, and was awarded the 2017 Collaboration Challenge Research Grant. These students have submitted an abstract which is currently under review for the APTA, Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) scheduled for February of 2018 at New Orleans.

We are pleased to announce that Elizabeth Choma received a $500 award from the ASUM Research & Creative Scholarship Fund Committee this past year. Lizzie has been completing research work on Peripheral Artery Disease with UMPT faculty Ryan Mizner, Anita Santasier and former UM faculty member Ryan Mays. Lizzie was also invited to present “Conservative Treatment for Peripheral Artery Disease” at the 7th Montana Gerontology Society Meeting in Great Falls. This scholarship funding will support her travel for an internship this August at the physiology lab within the University of Minnesota’s School of Medicine with Drs. Ryan Mays and Diane Treat-Jacobson. She will be collaborating with faculty and doctoral students on four PAD related projects exploring the effectiveness of conservative treatment approaches. Upon graduation, Lizzie plans to apply for the University of Minnesota’s geriatric residency training program and then seek PhD training to become an independent clinical scientist.

UMPT student Molly Smith has been chosen to participate in the Ambassador program of Empower Spinal Cord Injury, Incorporated. This is a 2-week volunteer program for students and therapists who wish to expand their knowledge in the area of Spinal Cord Injury and Non-Profit Organizations. Located in Stony Brook, NY, Empower Spinal Cord Injury is a residential program catering to individuals who have had an injury to their spinal cord. The program provides formal PT, OT, and recreational therapy as well as peer mentoring, rehabilitation counseling and informal knowledge-sharing between individuals who are going through similar experiences and challenges. For more information: www.empowersci.org/.
POST PROFESSIONAL GRADUATES

FALL 2015
Melcor Adriano, Carlsbad, NM

FALL 2016
Prinz Coching Acaling, New York, NY

Marilou O. Agdaca, Rock Hill, SC
Keith Edralin Ballaran, Alexandria, VA
Christopher V. Alcantara, Saddle Brook, NJ
Lizette M. Alcantara, Saddle Brook, NJ
Glenn Ancaya, Federal Way, WA
Millicent Joy D. Artuz, Las Vegas, NV
Lesgreen G. Babaran, Harwood Heights, IL
Jan Michael Abergas Balcawo, Kew Gardens, NY
Keith Jill Baes, Cary, NC
Clara Katrina B. Balaman, Franklin Square, NY
Marina Del Carman Baroma, Olympia, WA
Rosana G. Buslon, Salinas, CA
Elena Kim Cabrera, Jacksonsville, FL
Salvador J Cankaettala, New Orleans, LA
Kieu-Phuong Vn Capron, Columbia, MD
Ida Rivo J. Carbo, Carbondale, IL
Ira Baylon Convaclere, Chesterfield, VA
Pericval Co Corpus Jr., Camden-Wyoming, DE
Lorena Corpuz-Cabuslay, Modesto, CA

Josherral Rivera Coteng, Battle Creek, MI
Carlo Magno De Castro, South Plainfield, NJ
Estrelle Romina G. Diaz, Millsboro, DE
Bernard Angeles Espina, Fairlawn Square, NY
Catherine Escobillo-Garcia, Elmhurst, NY
Bina M. Fabricante, Brooklyn, NY
Pavlly Jamerlan Fernandez, Conroe, TX
Jave Garces Filomeno, Stanton, TX
Korina Almece G. Giron, Yorkonya, NY
Jennifer L. Gonzales, Morgantown, WV
Jennifer L. Wu, Baldwin, NY

SPRING 2017
Eileen Abique, Winston-Salem, NC
Maria Cecilia Alcaraz, Trisno, TX
Michelle D. Alcantara, Delmar, MD
Maria Maria Laza Ambulo, Cedar Hill, TX
Gita Burg Amini, Coral Springs, FL
Lowell Ituralde Aquino, Catonsville, MD
Nina Rici Pedrignal Bacayo, Bronx, NY
Janet Lynn Bader-Davis, Portales, NM
Fatima Concepcion S. Basilio, Yuma, AZ
Gina D. Baumgartner, Maple Valley, WA
Robyn Ruis Berkley, Williamsburg, VA
Chad Alan Bible, Sparks, NV
Katherine Book, Colbert, GA
Cara Kay Booth, Littleton, CO
Brenton Grey Bradley, Bend, OR
Gary Alan Brown, Warren, OH
Kieu-Phuong Vu Capron, Columbia, MD
Christopher Parker Cecillos, Cachapau, IL
Cindy San Estanbre Cecillo, Cachapau, IL
Hali Cole, Jacksonsville, FL
Jennifer Darby, New Fairfield, CT
Maria Deborah de Guzman, San Antonio, TX
Maura Elaine DeShaw, Butte, MT
Joan B. Duca, Lomard, IL
Jared Michael Dunn, Clovis, CA
Sidney M. Espina, Wichita Falls, TX
Karen Jo Flynn, Tallahassee, FL
Karin Kristina Ganonl, Corpus Christi, TX
Praya Bankran, Carmel, IN
Rho V. Garces, Des Plaines, IL
Butch Terence D. Geryo, Ladysmith, WI
Kryssel C. Geryo, Ladysmith, WI
Ilan Golick, Boise, ID
Hailey Gonzalez, Bronxville, NY
Apollo K. Jacilo Jr, North Hollywood, CA
Kathryn Jacques, Anchorage, AK
Melissa J. Jenkins, Columbus, MT
Mathlind Sanjeev Kadam, Jersey City, NJ
Alexandra Marcella Bagaps, Phoenix, AZ
Linda J. Kilponen, Randolph, MN
Shruti Kolet, Fairfax, VA
Alvin B. Lagarto, Eugene, OR
Michael Lee, Dronfield, United Kingdom
Zsazsa Vanessa Lim, Yuma, AZ

2017 DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY GRADUATES
Leigh Bailey, Fort Benton, MT
Nathan Bell, Missoula, MT
Justin C. Brigger, Sheridan, WY
Mackenzie Burn, Island Lake, OR
Sam Coito, Frenchtown, MT
Kaley Edgar, Star, ID
Kiley Eversole, Plainwell, MI
Rebecca Fisher, Laramie, WY
Aleisha Gornick, Missoula, MT
Kathryn Hicks, San Luis Obispo, CA
Taylor Holder, Eureka, MT
Melissa D. Jessop, Hamilton, MT

Greg Johnson, Ellensburg, WA
Jordan Johnston, Post Falls, ID
Christ D. Lee, Missoula, MT
Sylvia Lewis, Cherry, WA
Dustin Thomas Lind, Florence, MT
Carmen Luke, Whitsford, MT
Madeline S. May, Manhattan, MT
Andrew M. Mayer, Missoula, MT
Hannah Millson, Salt Lake City, UT
Abby Mytty, Florence, MT

Jessica Luc, Chicago, IL
Michael Torres Maghari, Douglas, GA
Iram Malik, Longwood, FL
Desiree Ann Mata, Grants Pass, OR
Mahlayana Mirzagha, Sedona, Mountain, GA
Shatu Misra, Highlands, CO
Caroline W. Muguro, Titusville, FL
Amy S. O'Malley, Arlington, VA
Guilberl L. Pacheco, Wellington, FL
Mikhaiel Josef Paredes, Victoria, TX
Janita Rakesh Parikh, Mount Laurel, NJ
Nisht J Patel, Brandon, NJ
Carolyn Swope Peters, Broadway, VA
Joan L. Quinonez, Woodland, WA
Mila Ranovic, Salt Lake City, UT
Idylla Rose Reusalub, Trussville, AL
Rose Anne D. Ronio, Virginia Beach, VA
Wanda Roland, Jacksonville, FL
Jimmy G. Sio, Middle Village, NY
Scott Kevil Stevenson, Madisonville, KY
Emilio Antonio Solares, Hollywood, FL
Olivia Jane V. Tablin, Youngsville, LA
Shari Marie Tanner, Columbia, SC
Timothy M. Therault, Anna, TX
David C. Thomas, Washington, DC
Amanda Lynn Tomeo, Virginia Beach, VA
Jennifer Troub, Bend, OR
Michelle Kimberly Kho Uy, Clifton Forge, VA
Lukia Watanabe, Victoria, TX
Nancy Carol Wolfcoff, San Rafael, CA
Ronnie Yeh, Syosset, NY

SUMMER 2017
Cherry Lindell F. Allegrue, Marysville, CA
Roy A. Allinsub, Southaven, MS
Eucharia Nikechi Anachebe, Fayetteville, GA
Royell Arguelles, New York, NY
Zherina Sisacio Bernardo, Katy, TX
Nina Crisilda N. Evangelista, Columbia, MD
Timothy Russell Evens, Tucson, AZ
Imma Trisha Gallegosa, Chicago, IL
Clarissa Lynn Jacobson, Le Mars, IA
Lumana Joseph, North Miami, FL
Daniel Kapf, Colorado Springs, CO
Muhammad Jawad Khan, Munster, IN
Sally Kpss, Honolulu, HI
Judy L. Kuhn, Milwaukee, WI
Jeanne Labasbas, Ocala, FL
Robby B. Leonard, Landrum, SC
Kuel-Han Lin, El Cerrito, CA
Andy McCormick, Winston-Salem, NC
Hector Melgar, Brentwood, NY
Karen Mueller, Flagstaff, AZ
Kenneth Wayne O'Donnell, Cheyenne, WY
Christopher John Payumo Ortiz, Elk Grove, CA
Aaron Perez, Saint Louis, MO
Marlon G. Pinzon, Turlock, CA
Richard Pires, East Hartford, CT
Anthony James Rapplean, Pepin, WI
Nancy Carol Woelffer, San Rafael, CA

EUROPEAN CANDIDATE

2016

Peh Yao Sion, Youngsville, LA

MAJORITY OF PHYSICAL THERAPY GRADUATES

11
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CONGRATULATIONS TO 2017 GRADUATES IN RESIDENCIES

Congratulations to our 2017 graduates who were selected for residencies.

Nathan Bell (University of Utah)
Leigh Bailey (Johns Hopkins)
Kathryn Hicks (Evidence in Motion)

All are participating in orthopedic residencies.