A celebration of scholarship in research for more than two decades, the 24th Annual Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Gersten Day Guest Professorship is proud to welcome Professor Emeritus Jacqueline Wertsch, MD, from the Medical College of Wisconsin, as this year’s keynote speaker on June 17, 2011.

Dr. Wertsch, who is recognized nationally for her excellence in teaching and research, was the recipient of the 2007 National Excellence in Teaching Award from Kessler New Jersey Medical School and the AAEM Distinguished Researcher Award in 2003. Funded continuously for over 25 years for her research, Dr. Wertsch has appointments with the Medical College of Wisconsin, Northwestern University in Chicago, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and Marquette University.

Dr. Wertsch's presentation, “Rethinking CMAPs and SNAPs”, will take place at noon following a presentation by faculty researcher Jennifer Stevens-Lapsley, PT, PhD. At the close of the day, residents and fellows will have the opportunity for an informal seminar with Dr. Wertsch.

This year’s event will be held on Friday, June 17, 2011, from 8 am until 2 pm at the Ben Nighthorse Campbell Native Health Building in the Shore Family Auditorium on the Anschutz Medical Campus (AMC).

Following breakfast and the welcome hosted by Dennis Matthews, MD, Professor and Chair of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, the seven graduating residents and fellows will present their research which brings together three years of work.

After the conclusion of Gersten Research Day activities, Graduation will be held in the evening at the Denver Tech Center Hyatt Regency to recognize graduates and to announce the Academic Teaching Award, the Golden Goniometer, and the Jerome Gersten Clinical Teaching Award.

Visit our new website! - www.cupmr.org

Learn more about the services we provide and our clinical staff by visiting our updated website!

For academic colleagues, find out more about the latest news and events. Check us out frequently for the latest news, education events and updates!
I am pleased to announce the resurrection of the PM&R newsletter, Range of Motion. As many of you remember, the department newsletter was a quarterly publication that provided a diverse array of information and updates about our faculty, residents, staff, and programs. We aim to provide this same service going forward in an electronic format, starting with the Spring 2011 edition and encourage feedback and ideas from all of you for future publications.

The last few years have brought about tremendous growth for our department. New faculty and staff have joined our physician groups at The Children’s Hospital, University of Colorado Hospital, and the VA as well as our Physical Therapy Program and Assistive Technology Partners Program. We have seen substantial growth in our various clinical practices as well as our research and educational programs. In June 2010, the Department completed our Self Study for Academic Program Review which entailed taking a detailed look at our clinical, educational, research, and service operations over the last seven years. Areas of success were identified and celebrated, and areas for improvement are being addressed and prioritized. It was very interesting to see how much the department has changed and grown from the previous review. I am certain we will continue to grow and excel because of the committed and passionate faculty and staff.

This edition will feature the new faculty, staff, and residents who have joined PM&R over the last two years as well as a few highlighted stories, events, and accomplishments. I am looking forward to our annual Gersten Day and resident graduation celebration on June 17th and encourage everyone to attend. The day presents a great opportunity to catch up with faculty and staff and wish our graduating residents success in their future endeavors.

This edition also includes stories on the Physical Therapy Program’s annual trip to Nicaragua, the new PhD in Rehabilitation Science program, updates from Assistive Technology Partners, and faculty promotions and research achievements. With the ever expanding size and complexity of the department, it is more important than ever to provide updates to our faculty and staff as well as opportunities for collaboration and sharing ideas. I encourage all faculty and staff to find ways to get involved in department committees, attend faculty meetings, and participate in the resident lecture series. Please feel free to contact the department with ideas for future stories, program updates, hospital updates, and key dates for any events on the horizon so we can be sure to help get the message out to our various local and national colleagues and communities.

I want to express my sincere appreciation to the faculty, staff, fellows, and residents for their continued commitment to our department and I look forward to a strong finish to another successful year.

Sincerely,

Dennis Matthews, MD
Chair & Professor, Dept of PM&R

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**SCHEDULE**

**GERSTEN DAY 2011**

8:00  Breakfast
8:15  Welcome by Dennis Matthews, MD Professor & Chair, Dept of PMR
8:30  Kevin Berry, MD
8:50  Megan Nelson, MD
9:10  Carter Sigmon, MD
9:30  Peter Torberntsson, MD
9:50  Jason Friedrich, MD
10:10 Wendy Lin, MD
10:30 Mod Chowanadisai
10:50 Break

11:05 Jennifer Stevens-Lapsley, PT, PhD
11:30 Buffet Lunch
12:00 Jacqueline Wertsch, MD
1:00 Break
1:15 Resident Discussion w/ Dr. Wertsch
2:00 Adjournment
Gersten Grads 2011

Congrats to our Class of 2011!

Kevin Berry, MD
PGY-4

Carter Sigmon, MD
PGY-4

Peter Torberntsson, MD
PGY-4

Carrie Jones, MD
Peds/Rehab Combined

Megan Nelson, MD
PGY-4

Jeromy Cole, MD
Pain Medicine Fellow

Jason Friedrich, MD
Pain Medicine Fellow

Montida Chawanadisai, MD
Pediatric Rehabilitation Fellow

Wendy Lin, MD
Pediatric Rehabilitation Fellow

Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
Therapists to Managua

When the opportunity arose to travel 2,200 miles to Nicaragua to share their talents, eight faculty and graduate students, including Dr. Mary Jane Rapport and Dr. Lisa Dannemiller from the University of Colorado Physical Therapy program, were ready and eager to join forces with local Nicaraguan organizations to visit facilities serving underprivileged children with disabilities.

A partnership for continuing education with the University of Managua was developed through the work of Dr. Jennifer Stevens-Lapsley. Its reach into local communities across the country of Nicaragua speaks to the effectiveness of what has now emerged into an annual sojourn.

According to Drs. Rapport and Dannemiller, when a child with a disability spends her entire day in a crib, she is unable to feel like a part of her own family. Challenges such as this are what inspired the theme for this January’s trip. The topic “Clinical Decision Making and Practical Interventions in Pediatric Physical Therapy” was offered to clinicians, faculty, and student physical therapists through the University of Managua.

Pediatric physical therapists were introduced to a step-by-step intervention process through hands on developmental screenings of children with their parents. Expert Diane Brians was also onsite to provide support for learning about the PVC technology methods she has developed for young children with disabilities.

The ongoing challenge is in providing services to families that make a real difference when the healthcare system, the educational system, and the culture do not support state-of-the-art care and are all operating under trying economic conditions. Dr. Dannemiller’s greatest hope is that this course helped to “raise awareness that there may be other options.”

Video from the trip...
Board of Regents Green-lights Ph.D. Rehab Science Program

The Colorado Department of Higher Education and Board of Regents approved the creation of a new Ph.D. Program in Rehabilitation Science at the University of Colorado. Rehabilitation Science is an interdisciplinary field of study that integrates knowledge from the basic and clinical sciences to improve our understanding of human movement, physical function, and disability across the lifespan.

The Rehabilitation Science Program is designed for students who currently hold an undergraduate or advanced professional degree in a health, science, or engineering field of study, and are seeking graduate level education to conduct independent research that will advance the knowledge and practice of rehabilitation medicine.

The Rehabilitation Science Program will be administered through the Graduate School and the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus (AMC). Coursework and research training will be offered at AMC, Auraria, and Boulder campuses in five areas of specialization: applied cellular physiology, exercise and cardiopulmonary physiology, motor control, biomechanics, and lifespan studies.

This interdisciplinary approach will prepare students to conduct collaborative and translational research by integrating knowledge from multiple perspectives ranging from the molecular to the systems level to solve complex problems of physical disablement. Enrollment for the Rehabilitation Science Program will begin in Fall 2011.

For more information about training and mentorship opportunities in the Rehabilitation Science Program, please contact the Program Director: Katrina Maluf, PT, Ph.D. at katrina.maluf@ucdenver.edu.

News from ATP

For more, visit assistivetechnologypartners.org!

Bodine presents Down Syndrome Conference


The Linda Crnic Institute for Down Syndrome, Global Down Syndrome Foundation and Eunice Kennedy Shriver Nat’l Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) hosted the conference, the first of its kind. The conference aimed to address the lack of a national Down syndrome medical registry and biobank by bringing together database and biobank experts with Down syndrome experts.

ATP to host Wheelchair Seating Seminar

Kelly Waugh, PT, MAPT, ATP, will be presenting a unique, intensive 2 day seminar titled “Wheelchair Seating for Postural Control and Function” on July 21-23, 2011. This unique course emphasizes client centered assessment and problem solving, with optional third day hands-on practicum.

Visit the ATP website for more details: www.assistivetechnologypartners.org

SWAAAC Team’s Perkins receives recognition from appreciative family

Chris Perkins from the ATP SWAAAC Team was honored by Joshua Gonzalez and his family for “going the extra million miles out of her way” in making lives easier and filled with happiness.
Faculty

Rachel Brakke, MD (UCH) | Dr. Brakke joins the department after completing her residency at the prestigious University of Washington and, most recently, the Pain & Sports Medicine fellowship here at the University of Colorado.

Kim Sawyer, PNP (TCH) | A certified pediatric nurse practitioner for Rehabilitation at Children's Hospital, Kim Sawyer works primarily with children with Cerebral Palsy, Spina Bifida, Spinal Cord Injury, Traumatic Brain Injury, and developmental delays.

Richard Weir, PhD (Bioengineering, PMR) | Dr. Weir’s research covers all aspects of the mechatronic design and control of artificial hand/arm replacements. His current projects include a number of artificial hand design projects.

Ryan Stephenson, DO (VA) | Dr. Stephenson serves as director of PM&R consult service and an outpatient physiatrist at the Denver VA. Clinics include electrodiagnostic medicine, amputee specialty care, musculoskeletal medicine and neurologic rehabilitation.

Eric Sawyer, PT, DPT, STC (PT) | A licensed Physical Therapist in Colorado since 1998, Eric Sawyer is also a Board Certified Specialist in Orthopedic Physical Therapy, Advanced Credentialed Clinical Instruction, and certified in Sports Therapy.

Mike Pascoe, PhD (PT) | Dr. Pascoe joins the Physical Therapy Program after completing his dissertation in neurophysiology at the University of Colorado (Boulder) and is excited to begin teaching clinical anatomy to PT & PA students this summer.

Wendy Kriekels, DPT (UCH) | A Sr. Instructor with the PT Program, Wendy provides extensive experience in treating individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury, Balance & Vestibular Disorders, Stroke, Parkinson Disease, Multiple Sclerosis, Spinal Cord Injury, complex medical conditions, and general pediatrics & geriatrics.

Lisa Dannemiller, PT, DSC (UCH) | A Pediatric Certified Specialist, Lisa teaches most pediatric content in the Doctor of PT Program. She is beginning a research project using a metronome program with children with autism and motor impairments.

Allison Franklin, DO (VA) | A board certified Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Physician, Allison joins us after serving in the Army, most recently stationed at the Army Surgeon General’s Office working on and developing policies involving Polytrauma Rehab, Pain, and Musculoskeletal care.

Anne Stratton, MD (TCH) | After completing dual pediatrics and physical medicine & rehab residencies, as well as a fellowship in pediatric rehab here at CU, Anne practices at Children’s Hospital. She enjoys seeing a variety of pediatric rehabilitation patients from concussion and brain injury to neuromuscular disease.

Nancy Cutter, MD (VA) | Assistant Prof. Dr. Cutter serves as Director of Spinal Cord Injury Medicine, Medical Director of Traumatic Brain Injury and Director of the Polytrauma program at the VA.

PGY-2 Residents July 1, 2010

David Coons, MD
Amy Kanallakan, MD (Peds/Rehab Combined)
Elizabeth Knight, MD
Mark Miedema, MD
David Stone, MD

Pain Medicine Fellows July 1, 2010

Jason Friedrich, MD
Jeremy Cole, MD

Pediatric Rehab Fellows July 1, 2010

Montida Chowanadisai, MD
Wendy Lin, MD

Research Assistants

Kelly Santo, MA (PMR) | Kelly Santo hits harder than James Harrison and handles adversity better than Ben Roethlisberger! In other words, Kelly is a die-hard Steelers fan and native of Pittsburgh who provides research assistance throughout the department.

Maggie Reineke, BS (PT) | Maggie joins our department after graduating summa cum laude with a B.S. in Psychology. Her primary focus on campus includes technical writing, 3-D motion capture and EMG data collection for gait studies in the Interdisciplinary Movement Sciences Lab.

Staff

Neal Metzler (PMR) | Neal Metzler joins the department as the I.T. and Communications Manager, assisting with technology needs, marketing and web presence. His background includes tech support, media production, graphic design & social media marketing.

Kristen Karlik, BA (PT) | Kristen joins the Physical Therapy Program as an Administrative Assistant upon her return to the US after playing volleyball overseas. Her responsibilities include creating and maintaining the course schedule for three concurrent DPT classes, oversight of lab facilities, event coordination, financial duties and administrative support to the PT program.

Christina Wessling, BA (ATP) | Christina Wessling joins the department as an Administrative Assistant with over 20 years of administrative experience. In addition, her background also includes human resources, accounting and communications. She most enjoys witnessing the progress and success made with each client that visits Assistive Technology Partners.

Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
Faculty in Motion

GRANTS


Katrina Maluf, PT, PhD. (PI) Stress-evoked muscle activity in occupational myalgia. Sponsored by National Institutes of Health R01.

Cory Christiansen, PhD. (PI) Improving Function After Knee Arthroplasty with Weight-Bearing Biofeedback*. Sponsored by Foundation for Physical Therapy.


The Department Research Proposal Review Committee has been meeting on the 4th Wednesday of the month in the Academic Office 1 Building and is a great forum for faculty to present potential research proposals. A number of faculty have presented throughout the year and found the feedback and conversation constructive and helpful. If you are interested in presenting a proposal, contact Amit Jha, MD at jha.amit@ucdenver.edu or 303-724-1040.

PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Victor Chang
“Physical Pain Generator Recognition and Treatment”, RMAOEM 2011 Conference Feb. 4th-5th, 2011, Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, CO
“Neurologic Impairment”, Division of Workers’ Compensation Level II Accreditation Program, April 1st, 2011
“Rehabilitation of Traumatic Brain Injury”, American Association of Neuroscience Nurses, April 9th, 2011

Dr. Jeanne Dise-Lewis
“TBI in Children”, Traumatic Brain Injury Conference Friday, March 4th, 2011, covering how to understand the sequelae of moderate-severe TBI on child/adolescent development, and understanding effective treatment approaches for the learning and behavioral disorders associated with Pediatric TBI.

Department Advisory Committee Updates & Promotions

Deborah Hayes, PhD was appointed as Chair of the Department Advisory Committee as of January 1, 2011. Dr. Hayes holds the Kelley Family/Schlessman Family Scottish Rite Masons Chair in Childhood Language Disorders and is the Co-Chair of the Bill Daniels Center for Children’s Hearing at The Children’s Hospital.

In her twenty years with PM&R, Dr. Hayes has served the department, The Children’s Hospital, and the School of Medicine in many facets including a position on the SOM’s Faculty Promotions Committee. Faculty who are approaching their deadlines for promotion or who just have general questions regarding promotion at the University may contact Dr. Hayes at 720-777-6424 or via email at hayes.deborah@tchden.org.

Congratulations to these additional promotions in the department!

Venu Akuthota, MD
Professor

Jeanne Dise-Lewis, PhD
Professor

Heather Ene, MD
Associate Professor

Paul Mintken, DPT
Associate Professor

Parkinson Association of the Rockies presents

Sunday, June 19th 2011
@ Washington Park in Denver

REGISTER OR DONATE ONLINE!

A walk to support those with Parkinson’s who have touched our lives.

Click Here or Visit
http://events.parkinsonrockies.org