These past months have been busy and energizing for a number of reasons. I am pleased to share some highlights.

**CURRICULUM** ► In June we will matriculate our first class into a new curriculum that includes a year-long paid internship (a year of supervised and mentored clinical education - see page 3). We are the third school in the nation to make this change to meet the evolving demands to deliver quality, cost effective, patient-centered care. We expect our doctor of physical therapy students to complete their education and to hit the ground running in their first job. We believe that a year-long internship will be extremely beneficial in developing competent, entry-level clinicians who are able to meet the demands of the present health care delivery systems. We modeled this curriculum in large part after that of the MGH Institute of Health Professions, where our colleagues implemented a similar model 20 years ago, with great success. Jenny Rodriguez, Director of Clinical Education, and I are meeting with leadership in clinics and hospitals in Colorado and around the country to establish internship sites.

**SCHOLARSHIPS** ► Another focus of our efforts has been scholarships and we are beginning to reap the rewards of some serious efforts. Our immediate goal is to annually provide considerable scholarships to matriculating and continuing students in order to offset the cost of their education. Our long-term goal is to develop a robust scholarship endowment that can provide such support in perpetuity. This year was our most successful to date. To give context, during the past 14 years, we provided support to students who completed their clinical experiences in rural areas of Colorado through the Rural Scholarship. In addition, last year, we were able to provide two of our incoming students with substantial funding through the Posner-Mayer Scholarship and the PT Program Scholarship. Also this year, we have received substantial funding from University Physicians Inc. (UPI) and from the National Western Stock Trust, which together will support several more students. This coming year we will be able to provide 12 scholarships, totaling $80,000. These scholarships acknowledge our commitment to: diversity; to practice in rural areas; and to merit scholarships (see page 7). This marked increase in our ability to provide scholarship support is due to several large donors and increased giving by alumni to our scholarship funds. Your continued financial support to our incoming and continuing students is greatly appreciated.

**HONORS** ► A number of our faculty distinguished themselves this past year, receiving honors and awards through American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) and other organizations for their research and scholarship (see page 2). Faculty successfully competed for grants totaling $1,800,000, that support the innovative research of the CU PT Program. In addition, graduate students in the PhD in Rehabilitation Science Program have had remarkable success in competing for awards from a variety of foundations and training grants (see page 5). These are just a few of the highlights from the past year. We would be delighted if you join us for our next Alumni Reunion in September (page 8). It will be an exciting time for you to connect with former classmates, current faculty, and students to learn more about the activities and new initiatives of CU PT. I welcome your questions and feedback at any time. You can reach me at 303-724-9375 or by email at Margaret.Schenkman@ucdenver.edu.

**Margaret Schenkman, PT, PhD, FAPTA**
Professor and Program Director
Associate Dean for Physical Therapy Education
2013-2014 Honors & Awards

Amy McDevitt
Rose Excellence in Research Award (co-author), Journal of Orthopaedic & Sports Physical Therapy

Paul Mintken
Rose Excellence in Research Award (co-author), Journal of Orthopaedic & Sports Physical Therapy

Mary Jane Rapport
Catherine Worthingham Fellow, American Physical Therapy Association; Bud DeHaven Award, Pediatrics Section, American Physical Therapy Association

Jenny Rodriguez
Stanford Award from the Editorial Advisory Board, Journal of PT Education

Jennifer Stevens-Lapsley
Excellence in Research Award, Geriatrics Section, American Physical Therapy Association
Jack Walker Award, American Physical Therapy Association

Tami Struessel
Fietelberg Journal Founder’s Award, Education Section of the American Physical Therapy Association

Appointed or Elected Offices and Advisory Groups

American Physical Therapy Association – National

Cindy Armstrong
President, Hand Rehabilitation Section

Lisa Dannemiller
Region II Director, Section on Pediatrics

Wendy Kriekels
Co-Chair, Neurology Section Regional Program Committee
Vestibular Special Interest Group, Podcast Committee

Daniel Malone
President, Cardiovascular & Pulmonary Section
Program Chair, Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Section

Paul Mintken
Research Committee, Orthopedic Section

Mary Jane Rapport
Federal Affairs Liaison, Section on Pediatrics

Jenny Rodriguez
Research Committee, Education Section

American Physical Therapy Association – Colorado Chapter

Nancey Bookstein
Co-Chair, Ethics Committee

Lisa Dannemiller
Professional Development Committee

Robyn Gisbert
Co-Chair, Mentoring Committee

Sharon Jordan
Professional Development Committee

Jenny Rodriguez
Nominating Committee

Amy McDevitt
Co-Chair, Nominating Committee
Governmental Affairs Committee

Paul Mintken
Director at Large

Eric Sawyer
Nominating Committee

Jennifer Stevens-Lapsley
Co-Chair, Research Committee

Tami Struessel
Research Committee, Student/New Graduate Mentoring Committee

Professional Activities and Leadership Positions

Cindy Armstrong
General Coordinator, Denver Hand Special Interest Group
Board Member, Rocky Mountain Hand Surgery Society

Amy McDevitt
Member Research Committee, American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapists (AAOMPT)

Paul Mintken
Chair, Task force working towards the standardization of manual therapy language for the American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapists (AAOMPT)
Research Committee, American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapists
Editorial Board Member, PTNow.org

Margaret Schenkman
Editorial Board Member, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

Jennifer Stevens-Lapsley
Program Director, Health Volunteers Overseas, Nicaragua
Dear Friends,

I want to take this opportunity to update you on changes in clinical education that we feel will improve the experience for both our students and our clinical instructors. In 2010 the clinical education team went through a strategic planning process and developed a new mission, vision, and objectives to meet changes both in healthcare and the physical therapy profession.

After an extensive period of research and debate, the CU Physical Therapy Program decided that moving the clinical curriculum to a year-long paid internship in the third year of the DPT program is the best option to meet educational goals and clinical demands of the future. We have been working with a national group of 15 programs, which are also moving towards the year-long internship model, to develop performance measures and resources for clinical instructors. We believe this is the future of physical therapy education and are excited to bring this innovative approach to our program.

In response to this change, the clinical education team has also revised clinical experiences in the first two years of the curriculum to better prepare students for the third year internship. In both the first and second year, students will visit clinics for an Integrated Clinical Experience, which is a two-week period, where students work in teams to apply new knowledge in the clinical setting. Additionally, first year students will have an 8-week clinical experience, and second year students will have a 10-week clinical experience.

In the process to revise our delivery of clinical education, we have also been working to enhance our partnership with clinical instructors. We have developed a stronger infrastructure with an online portal to house resources and training materials for clinical instructors. We offer discounts on the clinical instructor credentialing course and update courses taught by CU Physical Therapy faculty. Our goal is to support our clinical instructors by keeping them up to date on changes in physical therapy education, and to fully prepare them to educate students in the clinical setting.

We are currently recruiting clinical sites for our year-long internship that starts in 2016. Additionally, we are recruiting clinical sites for the shorter clinical experiences in the first and second year. We are looking for clinical sites both inside and outside of Colorado. We think this is a natural partnership that will benefit community clinics with high quality interns, while providing an outstanding clinical education for students.

If you are interested in becoming a clinical instructor in any capacity, I would love to have a conversation with you. Please contact me at Jenny.Rodriguez@ucdenver.edu or (303) 724-9344.

Sincerely,

Jenny Rodriguez, PT, MHS

Learn more about CU PT clinical education by visiting our web site at: medschool.ucdenver.edu/pt
CU PT Student Lives in Refugee Community

When he’s not studying for exams, second-year doctor of physical therapy student, Derek Enns spends his time helping his neighbors. Enns lives in a neighborhood off East Colfax that is populated with Burmese refugees. These refugees spend 10-15 years in refugee camps before getting the opportunity to make a better life for their children in the United States.

When Enns decided to come to the CU Physical Therapy Program he asked the director of Project Worthmore, Frank Anello, to find housing for him in a community that could use his help. Anello placed him in the East Colfax neighborhood. Enns helps the refugees adapt to life in the US by teaching important skills, like how to use public transportation, pay bills, and buy groceries. “It’s actually relaxing to come home to something different, something more community oriented,” Enns said. “It’s close-knit because they’re all in a strange situation. And they’re all struggling in their own ways.”

Last fall Enns won the 9Who Care Award from 9News, which honors outstanding volunteers in the Denver community. Enns’ commitment to community and helping others is evident and we are honored to have Enns as a member of the CU PT community.

Marquette Challenge Award

Each year DPT students compete in the Marquette Challenge, a fundraiser to support research through the Foundation for Physical Therapy. The Foundation for Physical Therapy funds research that evaluates the effectiveness of physical therapist interventions. Students organized courses taught by Dr. James Elliott, assistant professor in the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University in Chicago, and a course taught by Dr. Robert Manske, professor and chair for the Department of Physical Therapy at Wichita State University. This year CU Physical Therapy students contributed a total of $6,670 to the Marquette Challenge.

University of Colorado Pediatric PT Residency Program

**Kelsey Miller,** DPT, will join the University of Colorado Pediatric PT Residency Program as the 2014-15 resident. She is graduating with the DPT Class of 2014 in May. Kelsey grew up in SE rural Colorado, and graduated from CSU with honors in 2011 before entering the CU PT Program. She has been an exceptional student throughout the DPT program and was actively engaged in many learning opportunities, research, and service.

**Jim Hedgecock,** DPT, is completing the residency and will transition to a position as a second-year post-doctoral PT LEND fellow with JFK Partners. He will continue to work with young children and their families as an Early Intervention provider through ENRICH, while participating in research projects, clinical opportunities, and interprofessional experiences.

Rehabilitation Science PhD Program Graduate Student Awards

**Andrew Kittelson,** DPT: Foundation for Physical Therapy Promotion of Doctoral Studies I Scholarship ($7,500)
Adopt-a-Doc Award, APTA Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy ($2,500)
UC Denver, National Institutes of Health, Integrative Physiology of Aging T32 Pre-doctoral Training Awards ($22,700)

**Ryan Marker,** DPT: UC Denver, National Science Foundation, GK-12 Transforming Experiences Graduate Fellowship ($40,500)
Foundation for Physical Therapy Promotion of Doctoral Studies I Scholarship ($7,500)

**Bahar Shahidi,** DPT: Foundation for Physical Therapy Promotion of Doctoral Studies I Scholarship ($15,000)
Christiansen Receives Career Development Research Grant

CU Physical Therapy associate professor, Cory Christiansen, PT, PhD received a career development research grant from the Comprehensive Opportunities in Rehabilitation Research Training (CORRT). CORRT is a multicenter career development program for physical and occupational therapists.

Christiansen is developing a clinical trial that is focused on a new model of collaborative-care for patients with dysvascular transtibial amputation. The primary goal is to determine if this intervention improves performance-based and participant-reported measures of physical function. The second aim is to determine if the rehabilitation program improves daily physical activity, compared to standard of care, for participants with dysvascular transtibial amputation.

Christiansen says that the main question is, “What can we do, right after amputation, to get people more effective at managing their health condition?” The exploratory aims are to determine the efficacy of the intervention for promoting health self-management. Participants in the clinical trial will report self-efficacy for managing chronic disease, motivation for exercise, and health-care resource use. Christiansen hopes to identify factors that are predictive of physical activity level and disability 24 weeks after intervention.

CU PT is one of nine universities in the consortium that explore contemporary research topics important to fostering diverse rehabilitation interests. CORRT provides funding for new investigators to acquire the research skills necessary to become independent investigators in diverse rehabilitation approaches. The consortium is supported by the National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development / National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, and the National Institutes of Health.

Current Research Grants

- **Cory Christiansen**, PT, PhD: Foundation for Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, $30,000. Early Physical Function during Rehabilitation following Dysvascular Transtibial Amputation; Comprehensive Opportunities in Rehabilitation Research Training (CORRT) / National Institutes of Health, $270,000. Collaborative-care rehabilitation to improve functional outcomes after dysvascular amputation

- **Lisa Dannemiller**, PT, DSc, PCS: Section on Pediatrics, APTA, $10,000. Timing and Rhythmicity for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

- **Jeffery Hebert**, PT, PhD: National Multiple Sclerosis Society / Colorado State University, $6,023 subcontract. Glucose Uptake in Response to Walking in Patients with Multiple Sclerosis;

- **Jeffery Hebert**, PT, PhD & Margaret Schenkmman, PT, PhD, FAPTA: National Multiple Sclerosis Society, $536,295. Vestibular Rehabilitation for Persons with Multiple Sclerosis: Who Benefits the Most?

- **Dana Judd**, PT, DPT: Orthopaedic Section, APTA, $15,000.

- **Katrina Maluf**, PT, PhD: National Institutes of Health, $1.23 million. Stress-Evoked Muscle Activity in Occupational Myalgia

- **Paul Mintken**, PT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT: Orthopaedic Section, APTA, $25,000. Clinical Prediction Rule to Identify Patients with Shoulder Pain: A Randomized Clinical Trial

- **Margaret Schenkman**, PT, PhD, FAPTA & Daniel Corcos, PhD (University of Illinois at Chicago): National Institutes of Health, $2.99 million. Exploratory Study of Different Doses of Endurance Exercise in People with Parkinson’s Disease

- **Jennifer Stevens-Laptesley**, PT, PhD: National Institutes of Health, $2.26 million. Progressive Rehabilitation for Total Knee Arthroplasty (TKA); National Institutes of Health, $425,740. Determination of Pain Phenotypes in Older Adults with Knee Osteoarthritis; National Institutes of Health, $716,144. Early NMES to Improve Quadriceps Muscle Function After TKA; Home Health Section, APTA, $10,000. Improving Activity, Participation and Function After Hospitalization in Older Adults; Rheumatology Research Foundation, Preceptorship for Andrew Kittelson, $2,000. Perception and Pain Neurophysiology in Knee Osteoarthritis.

CU Physical Therapy Faculty Receive Rose Award

CU PT faculty members Amy McDevitt, PT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT, and Paul Mintken, PT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT co-authored the article with Josh Cleland, PT, PhD that received the 2014 Rose Excellence in Research Award. The article was titled *Manual Physical Therapy and Exercise Versus Supervised Home Exercise in the Management of Patients with Inversion Ankle Sprains: A Multicenter Randomized Clinical Trial.*

The Rose Excellence in Research Award is given annually to the authors of the article that has the most significant impact, immediate or potential, upon the practice of orthopedic physical therapy. Seven journals, including *JOSPT*, are screened for eligible papers.
Dear Alumni and Friends,

The CU Physical Therapy Alumni Association Board has been working to integrate our efforts with the PT Program, our faculty, and our amazing PT students to better support our mission. We have been successful in recruiting new Board members, electing new officials, and reconnecting with former graduates to help broaden our approach. We are looking forward to growing even more in the coming months!

Our first responsibility is to help alumni reconnect with their classmates and the CU PT Program. For example, we hosted an alumni reception at CSM in Las Vegas on February 4, 2014. This fall we also invite all graduates to a reunion on the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus September 19-20, 2014. During the reunion we will be hosting the first ever CU Physical Therapy Scholarship 5K Fun Run/Walk on September 20, 2014. I hope you will plan to join us.

The PTAA’s second charter is to support the PT Program and its objectives both on campus and in the community at-large. Our main focus in this area has been to support the Program’s fundraising efforts to build endowed scholarships for current and future students. Our membership program has moved from a dues-based system to a donation-based system. Your contribution to PT scholarships qualifies you for membership with our association. I hope you will consider joining the association in supporting scholarships.

Our final role is to support our current students by providing panel discussion sessions to prepare them for upcoming educational and professional demands, ice cream and pizza parties to alleviate stress around exam periods, student event advertising and logistics support, and a graduation party at the end of their student experience to welcome them to the profession. Our student representatives on the PTAA Board are instrumental in coordinating these activities and helping us to provide services that are most beneficial to their individual class needs.

None of these activities are possible without your membership and involvement, so thank you for all of your support! We always need new ideas, fresh perspectives, and alumni participation to meet the expectations of our members, so please contact Brooke Parsons (Brooke.Parsons@ucdenver.edu) if you’d like to get involved.

Pete VanDoren, PT, MS, Class of ’04
President, Physical Therapy Alumni Association

We always need new ideas, fresh perspectives, and alumni participation to meet the expectations of our members.

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION
Are you receiving email announcements?
Update your contact information by visiting: www.ucdenver.edu/alumni/update
First Posner Mayer Scholarship Awarded

Drawing inspiration from her single mother, Aundrea Lucero always knew she wanted to work in health care. Lucero went to college at CU Denver’s downtown campus, worked two part-time jobs, and completed two bachelor’s degrees, to become the first in her family to graduate from college. While in school, she met CU PT faculty member Betti Krapfl at a pre-health career fair and was introduced to physical therapy. When Lucero shadowed a physical therapist, she had an “Ah-ha!” moment and knew that this was what she wanted to do with her life.

Lucero applied and was accepted at CU Physical Therapy Program and was awarded the inaugural Posner-Mayer scholarship. The scholarship, given through an endowment created by Joanne Posner-Mayer, CU PT Class of 1973, supports diversity in physical therapy education. With undergraduate student loans, the scholarship is incredibly meaningful for Lucero, saying, “It’s amazing, I’m so grateful. It’s helping me get to where I want to be in life.”

Lucero is interested in pursuing a career in orthopedic or pediatric physical therapy. In addition, she is passionate about giving back and plans to work in an underserved community upon the completion of her degree.

It’s amazing, I’m so grateful. It’s helping me get to where I want to be in life.

Scholarships
Change Lives

Help us Educate the Next Generation of CU Physical Therapists

Scholarships make a huge impact on students’ ability to choose the direction of their career and on their day-to-day experience in school. You can make a difference! We invite you to help us in our mission to attract top candidates, increase diversity, and place physical therapists in rural and underserved communities.

You can make a contribution today by visiting: www.cuphysicaltherapy.org/donate
CU Physical Therapy Program
13121 E. 17th Avenue, Mail Stop C244
Aurora, CO 80045

Reunion 2014

Find more information and register online at: medschool.ucdenver.edu/pt/alumni

Friday, September 19, 2014

Program Director’s Welcome Breakfast and State of the Program Address
8:30-10:00 am at the Anschutz Medical Campus

Tour of Physical Therapy Program Facilities and Anschutz Medical Campus
10:00-11:30 am at the Anschutz Medical Campus

Lunch and Keynote Presentation by Rebecca Craik, PT, PhD, FAPTA
12:00-1:30 pm at the Anschutz Medical Campus

Panel Discussion: What’s New in Physical Therapy
2:00-3:30 pm at the Anschutz Medical Campus

Reunion Class Dinners

Meet your classmates for a Brazilian steakhouse dinner in downtown Denver. 6:00pm at Fogo de Chao, 1513 Wynkoop, Denver, CO 80202

Saturday, September 20, 2014

CU Physical Therapy Scholarship 5K Fun Run/Walk • 9:00am-12:00pm • Anschutz Medical Campus
CU Boulder Football Game CU vs. Hawaii • Details coming soon…