

PT Receives the 2017 Regents' Award

The Board of Regents (BOR) of the University System of Georgia selected the Department of Physical Therapy for the 2017 Regents' Teaching Excellence Award for Departments and Programs.

"This award recognizes our faculty's contributions to our students and to our university through outstanding teaching," says Andrew Butler, acting department chair. "Our faculty and students contribute to key components of our mission at Georgia State, which is to educate leaders in the field of Physical Therapy and to excel in community engagement."

The Georgia State PT program was chosen unanimously for the department's emphasis on service-learning and community engagement. Known for multiple community outreach efforts including the long-running Farm Worker Family Health Program in South Georgia and the Nicaragua Study Abroad, PT received Carl Patton Community Service awards for each program in 2012 and 2016 respectively.

In addition, the BOR committee was won over by the Doctor of Physical Therapy graduates high pass rate on state licensure exams. The DPT program holds a three year 98 percent average pass rate.

The department formally receives the award at the May Board of Regents' meeting

PT Professor to Lead Specialty Analytics Training for Faculty

Dr. Gordon Warren, Distinguished University Professor, is heading the new Lewis School SRMA (Systematic Review/Meta-Analysis) Initiative. The initiative, designed to help jump-start clinical and tenure-track faculty in the publication and grant-writing processes, uses statistical methods to combine and summarize the results of multiple quantitative studies.

The SRMA Initiative aids faculty in identifying studies that answer a well-formulated research question and in

Dear PT alumni and friends –

Exciting things are happening in Physical Therapy and we just couldn't wait to share them with you. Our first spring DPT graduates finish in early May and we are selecting a new class to begin the following week. We've been chosen for a prestigious teaching award never before awarded to a Lewis School unit and rarely to any Georgia State University unit. Our students recently returned from another productive Study Abroad in Nicaragua, also a major factor in our selection for the aforementioned teaching award. Of course our faculty and students continue to present research at conferences throughout the U.S.

Warm regards,

Dr. Andrew Butler, Acting Department Chair

extracting the data needed for meta-analysis. A meta-analysis is then done to combine the numerical results of those studies into a summary measure and to also help explain why study results often vary from one study to the next. A SRMA can result in a conference presentation or a manuscript submitted for publication. It can also assist faculty plan and justify new research, such as when preparing grant proposals.

"The goal [of the SRMA Initiative] will be to jump-start faculty in the publication and grant-writing processes," says Dr. Andrew Butler, associate dean for research.

Students Present Research at CSM

Two DPT student research groups were selected to present their poster "The use of vibration therapy for increasing bone architecture in patients with spinal cord injury: a systematic review and meta-analysis" at the annual American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) Combined Sections Meeting in February. The students, Beriah Yisrael, James Connelly, and Ethan Jackson, were led by Dr. Anne Lorio.

A second pair of DPT students, Mariah Hernandez and Alondra Scarbough, will present their poster “How clean is your S.O.A.P. note? A retrospective study on student and clinician perceptions and outcomes of student and clinician perceptions and outcomes of student documentation during clinical internships.” The study is led by Dr. Carla Huggins and Dr. Anne Lorio.

First PT Alumni Scholarship to be Awarded

Caroline Beegle, SPT, Class of 2017, is the first recipient of the PT Alumni Scholarship. The Class of 1975, which is spearheading this scholarship fundraiser, decided to award the first scholarship this year while continuing the efforts to reach the endowment goal of \$75,000. Hear Caroline talk about the scholarship in her own words at <https://vimeo.com/204604452>.

PT Study Abroad Provides Continued Care in Nicaragua



More than a dozen DPT students recently returned from the annual Nicaragua Study Abroad. These third-year students traveled to a rural coffee farm in Los Robles to provide physical therapy treatment to the workers their families and the community.

Students taught exercise classes to adults to help improve flexibility and prevent repetitive motion injuries. They also conducted physical assessments of local children and taught yoga to the kids using

mats and a program book provided by the 2016 DPT class.

In addition to the physical therapy the students offer, the team performs a couple of construction projects each year. The 2017 team painted walls with mosquito deterrent and laid a cement floor. They also visited an addiction recovery center in Jinotega, provided PT assessments for some of the residents and took the time to tour a local hospital. The week concluded with a little sightseeing in the picturesque town of Granada before boarding a flight in Managua for the United States.

See more on the DPT Nicaragua program at Tumblr (<http://nicaorbust2017.tumblr.com/>) and YouTube (<https://youtu.be/27uDSGtFUZk>).



Kudos

Dr. Andrew Butler, associate dean for research, has been recognized by the editors of Journal of Hand Therapy for writing one of the five most highly cited papers “A meta-analysis of the efficacy of anodal transcranial direct current stimulation for upper limb motor recovery in stroke survivors.” The paper was first published in 2013 and continues to be cited.

Dr. Anne Lorio has been appointed a member of the Neurology Section Special Interest Group Programming Committee for the Physical Therapy Association of Georgia (PTAG). She is also a guest professional for The Matter of Balance program. Evidence-Based Aging Services Coordinator Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services.

Alumni News

Three physical therapy alumni from the Class of ‘75 participated in the recent APTA Combined Sections Meeting in San Antonio. Rebecca Crouch, PT, CCS, presented two educational sessions “Preventing Readmission with COPD: Transitioning from Acute to Home Care” and “Preventing Re-Admission With Heart Failure: Transitioning from Acute Care to Home Care.” Pat Flemming, PT, DSc, GCS, presented posters on “Investigating the Sensitivity of Various Methods Determining G-codes for Claims-Based Outcomes Reporting” and “Utilization of an Instrumented Cane in a Neurological Physical Therapy Clinic.” Pat was co-author with Christina Durrough, PT, NCS and Valery Hanks, OTR and as co-author with Joshua Wade, MS, respectively. Nancy Righi, who works in management of post-acute facilities in Charlotte, North Carolina, also attended.

In the Media

Yu-Ping Chen, PT, Robot helps kids with cerebral palsy build muscle control, Fox 5, November 28, 2016.