

Allied Health Sciences Research Quarterly Newsletter

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Department of Allied Health Sciences, UNC Chapel Hill
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From the Office of the Chair

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Welcome to this first issue of our new, *AHS Research Quarterly*! The creation of this newsletter is just one sign of the renewed energy and attention that Dr. Grace Baranek has brought to our growing research community since her appointment as our Associate Chair for Research. In looking back through my records, I found my first communication to the DAHS faculty about our research. It was just 10 years ago, and I wrote to explain that my number one goal for our department was to increase our research productivity, and specifically our externally funded research. (Our department's total extramural support for the direct costs of our research in 2001 was just \$125,133!)

In these intervening ten years, you have worked individually, and collectively, to significantly change that picture. We began in 2001 by surveying our faculty about their research interests, and what they perceived to be barriers to obtaining external funding for their research. Along the way, we have tried to support your efforts - at first through a series of 'brown bag' lunch meetings to share information about research resources available to our faculty; and in 2005, we were finally able to support our first, dedicated Grants & Contracts Specialist -- a position now filled most ably by Wesley Winkelman.

Today, as I meet with you and your students, I sense an emerging culture of interdisciplinary research among our faculty, doctoral students and the growing number of AHS post-doctoral fellows. But, I have also sensed the need for more focused attention and effort from my office to make sure that we are doing everything we can to encourage and support our DAHS research community. So, last year I began talking with Grace about the possibility of taking on her new role.

Even though she cannot yet devote as much time to this role as we would both like, I am already impressed with her vision for the future of our department's research support and productivity. I have heard from many of you who are as excited as I am to have Grace in this new position; and look forward to hearing her reports and recommendations on how my office can better support all of you.

Lee K. McLean, Ph.D.
Associate Dean and Chair



*Lee McLean, Ph.D.,
is the Associate
Dean and Chair for
Allied Health
Sciences*

*This newsletter can also be
downloaded at any time
from the following link:
<http://www.med.unc.edu/ahs/for-faculty-staff/research-support-services>*

From the Office of Associate Chair for Research

It's an honor and a privilege to step into this new role as Associate Chair for Research in the Department of Allied Health Sciences. The creation of this office by Dr. McLean was inspired by our faculty's shared vision for producing the highest quality research and scholarship across our seven Divisions. I am excited to work with all of you to promote a strong and collegial research culture, harness our myriad individual and collaborative strengths, promote national and international recognition of faculty scholarship, and build an infrastructure to facilitate successful programs of research across our respective fields in the allied health sciences. The first three months on the job have proven to be a steep learning curve for me - I've focused on getting better acquainted with each division's faculty and research culture, as well as specific goals and needs. Wesley Winkelman, our grants administrator, has been invaluable to me as I muddle through administrative procedures and supports for research at the department and University levels. I have been especially impressed by the diversity of research foci and the significant accomplishments of our productive faculty. This impressive work is the impetus for the first Research Quarterly newsletter, designed to share the many achievements of our wonderful faculty. Please join me in this celebration. I commend each and every one of you for your contributions to our department and look forward to working with you.



Grace Baranek, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, has been appointed as Associate Chair for Research for Allied Health Sciences

Research News

Jennifer Craft Morgan joins AHS Research Team



Jennifer Craft Morgan, Ph.D.

The Department of Allied Health Sciences is excited to announce the addition of Jennifer Craft Morgan, Ph.D. to the Allied Health Sciences research team! Jennifer's primary role will be to support the development of new grant proposals through consultation on methods and statistics. Jen is currently the Associate Director for Research at the Institute on Aging, and a lead principal investigator for the Evaluation of the Jobs to Careers: Promoting Work-Based Learning for Quality Care Program. Jobs to Careers is a national initiative of Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in collaboration with the Hitachi Foundation and seeks to establish systems that train, develop, reward, and advance current frontline health and health care workers to improve the quality of care and ensure the quality of services provided to patients and communities. She previously served as a co-investigator on the now-complete Better Jobs, Better Care Applied Research project (STEP UP NOW) and currently serves as the Associate Director for the on-going intervention program WIN A STEP UP (Workforce Improvement for Nursing Assistants: Supporting Training, Education and Payment for Upgrading Performance). Jennifer's substantive interests include medical sociology, gender stratification, evaluation research, health care workforce, and the sociological study of work and careers over the life course.

Visiting Scholars

The Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy recently hosted a visiting scholar from New Zealand. Valerie Wright-St. Clair, Ph.D., MPH. from the Auckland University of Technology (AUT) School of Rehabilitation and Occupation Studies is co-director of the research Cluster for Active Ageing at AUT. During her time at UNC she met with members of the faculty and individual doctoral students, sat in on a first year OT class discussing one of her papers, and presented some of her research at a Brown Bag lunch. Her talk was entitled "The 'who I have been,' the 'who I am now,' and the 'who I will be': An occupational story of living in advanced age."

Upcoming Events

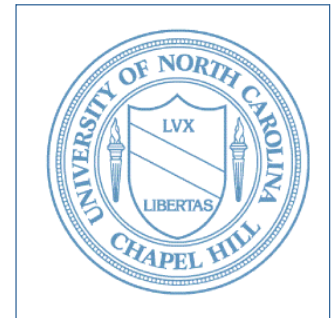
Annual Scholarships and Awards Brunch in November

The Department of Allied Health Sciences will celebrate its students and donors at the 2010 Scholarships and Awards Brunch on Saturday, November 6th from 10 a.m. to 2.p.m. at the Rizzo Conference Center in Chapel Hill. For more information on this exciting event, please visit the following link at:

<http://www.med.unc.edu/ahs/annual-scholarships-and-awards-brunch-in-november>

First Annual Mitchell Symposium Announced

The Division of Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy is pleased to announce the first annual Mitchell Symposium. The Mitchell Symposium is named in honor and memory of Dr. Marlys Mitchell, the founder of the Master's program in Occupational Therapy at UNC-Chapel Hill, and her husband, Earl, who is and was a great supporter of Marlys' work and of occupational therapy. The Symposium is made possible through a new fund, initiated by a generous donation made to the Division by Drs. Ruth Humphry and Bruce Carney, with the intent that future Symposia will be supported through ongoing donations to the fund. The inaugural Mitchell Symposium will feature visiting scholar Dr. Mary Lawlor, ScD, Professor at the University of Southern California who is known for her work in ethnographic research, interdisciplinary models of service delivery, pediatric occupational therapy, and maternal and child health. She will present a public lecture, entitled Health Disparities and Cultural Competence: Bridging Clinical Worlds and Life at Home, sharing her findings from a longitudinal study of interdisciplinary urban ethnographies funded through MCHB and NIH. More information about the Mitchell Symposium will be made available on the new research events calendar once specific dates are confirmed.



Excellence in Scholarship

Betsy Crais Receives Distinguished Alumnus Award from Vanderbilt

Vanderbilt University's Department of Hearing & Speech Sciences presented Elizabeth Crais, PhD, Professor in the UNC-Chapel Hill Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences (pictured right), with the Judith S. Gravel Distinguished Alumnus Award. The Judy S. Gravel Award is given annually by the faculty at Vanderbilt University Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences to recognize alumni career excellence.



For the full announcement, please visit the following link at <http://www.med.unc.edu/ahs/news/crais-receives-distinguished-alumnus-award-from-vanderbilt-university>

Mike Lewek Receives Margaret L. Moore Award

UNC-Chapel Hill Division of Physical Therapy Assistant Professor, Michael Lewek, PT, Ph.D., (pictured left, Page 4) has received the 2010 Margaret L. Moore Award for Outstanding New Academic Faculty Member from the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA). Named in honor of Margaret L. Moore, the founding director of

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill received \$803,390,675 in research funding for the 2009-10 fiscal year.

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UNC's Division of Physical Therapy, the award recognizes an outstanding new faculty member who is pursuing a career as an academician and has demonstrated excellence in research and teaching as exemplified by Moore's professional career.

For the full announcement, please visit the following link at <http://www.med.unc.edu/ahs/news/lewek-receives-margaret-l.-moore-award>

Sue Coppola Named to AOTA Council

Sue Coppola, MS, OTR/L, BCG, FAOTA, (pictured right) Associate Professor in the Division of Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy has been elected by the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) membership to serve a four year term as the US Delegate to the World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT). In this role she represents the AOTA to the WFOT Council and work to advance practice, research and education in occupational therapy. WFOT is the key international representative for Occupational Therapy to the World Health Organization and other international groups.



Grace Baranek Appointed to American Occupational Therapy Association's Research Advisory Panel

Grace Baranek, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, has been appointed to the Research Advisory Panel of the American Occupational Therapy Association and American Occupational Therapy Foundation. This advisory committee will be making recommendations to further research, and translation of science to education and practice, in keeping with national research priorities for the profession.

Malcolm Cutchin appointed to new Research Initiative for Activity Studies at the University of Southern Denmark



Malcolm Cutchin, Ph.D., Professor in Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy (pictured left) was appointed as a part-time associate professor at the University of Southern Denmark in May. He has several lectures scheduled between June 2010 and June 2011. Malcolm is part of a new Research Initiative for Activity Studies at SDU and is collaborating with Danish colleagues to develop several research projects as well as advising doctoral students. For more information, see <http://tinyurl.com/333be7s>. Malcolm also continues to collaborate with several research teams in the Division of Occupational Therapy at Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm, Sweden. Those projects are focusing on various dimensions of aging in place.

Spotlight on Inter-Professional Research Collaborations

Interdisciplinary Project Addresses Life Participation of People with Aphasia

The recent publication of the Life Interests and Values (LIV) cards is a significant milestone in a partnership that began between Speech and Hearing Sciences and Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy in 2003, and currently includes collaboration with the Division of Physical Therapy as well. Principal investigator Katarina Haley, Ph.D. (SPHS) (pictured far left, page 5) is joined by Jenny Womack, MS, MA, OTR/L, SCDSM, (OSOT) (pictured near left, page 5) and Karen McCulloch, PT, Ph.D., NCS, (PT) from UNC-Chapel Hill, as well as Nancy Helm-Estabrooks, Ph.D. of Western Carolina University and Denise Caignon, MS CCC-CLP as co-authors of the instrument. The LIV Cards consist of sets of illustrations depicting various life activities which are used to facilitate the ability of people with aphasia (PWA) to determine their own priorities for therapy intervention goals as well as converse about their valued life routines.

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Research about the LIV Cards has focused on validating the activity card sets, establishing reliability of administration and investigating of the congruence of responses between PWA and their designated friends or family members. The team has received funding in the form of a start-up grant and publication funds from the Department of Allied Health Sciences, as well as a TRACS \$10,000 pilot grant. To date the

interdisciplinary collaboration has resulted in 2 peer-reviewed publications (plus 1 in process), 2 master's theses, 5 state level presentations, 4 national presentations and 2 international presentations. The card sets are now available for purchase at www.livcards.org; however, AHS investigators who work with patients with stroke that may wish to use the cards in their projects are encouraged to talk with Katarina or Jenny or visit the website at

<http://www.med.unc.edu/ahs/sphs/card/LIV%20Cards>.

The Council for Allied Health Sciences in North Carolina

For almost 20 years the Council for Allied Health in North Carolina has worked to connect employers, educational institutions and professional associations while at the same time examining Allied Health workforce issues in North Carolina.

Currently headed by Alisa Debnam, M.P.H. (pictured right), in August 2010 the Council began work on its latest Allied Health Vacancy Tracking Report in collaboration with the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research with funding from the Department of Commerce - Workforce Division and North Carolina Health and Wellness Trust Fund. The grants from the two agencies will allow the Council to continue to build on previous workforce studies that have been done; this work will be accomplished over a two-year period. Ten Allied Health Professions have been identified for job advertisement tracking.



The ten professions include: Physical Therapists, Physical Therapy Assistants, Health Information Management/Technology, Occupational Therapists, Occupational Therapy Assistants, Speech Pathologists, Emergency Medical Services, Respiratory Therapists, Medical Assistants, and Imaging (PET, MRI, CT).

Previous Allied Health Vacancy Tracking Reports include: Physical Therapy, May 2000, Speech-Language Pathology, June 2001, Health Information Management, October 2002, Radiologic Technology, July 2003, Clinical Laboratory Sciences, August 2004, Respiratory Therapy, August 2004, Allied Health Vacancy Report, May 2005, State of Allied Health in North Carolina, May 2005, Allied Health Job Vacancy Tracking Report, August 2006, Allied Health Job Vacancy Tracking Report, April 2007. The first report is scheduled to be completed in May 2011.

For additional information on the Council, please visit their website - www.med.unc.edu/ahs/cahnc or call 919-636-8160.



Allied Health Sciences received \$2,974,867 in research funding for the 2009–10 fiscal year.

Grants Submitted (July 2010 – September 2010)

Order is listed by Title, PI (Other Key Personnel), Funder:

First Years Certificate Program
Kathryn Wilson, Oberkotter Foundation

2010 Scientific Service Program for Elite Discus Thrower
Bing Yu, USA Track and Field

Validation of a Stochastic Biomechanical Model for
ACL Re-injury
Bing Yu (Paul Weinhold)
National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Preparation of Pediatric Audiologists and Speech-Language
Pathologists to Serve Infants, Toddlers, and School-Age
Children with Hearing Loss
Jackson Roush (Hannah Eskridge, Holly Teagle, Melody
Harrison, Sharon Williams, Stephanie Sjoblad)
US Department of Education

Error Based Learning for Restoring Gait Symmetry
Post-Stroke
Michael Lewek (Carol Giuliani, Patricia Gregory,
Pranab Sen)
National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Preparing Professionals for Leadership Roles in Translational
Research Focused on Children with Disabilities Including High
Need Children
Elizabeth Crais (Harriet Able)
US Department of Education

Pathophysiology of Sleep, Neurological, and
Related Disorders
Mary Ellen Wells, American Society of
Electroneurodiagnostic Technologists, Inc

GSEG 1% Professional Development
Karen Erickson (Gary Bishop, Penny Hatch)
University of Kansas

The Time is Now in PreK: An Early Reading First
Karen Erickson, Richmond County Schools

Pragmatic Language in Autism and Fragile X: Phenotypic
Overlap and Genetic Link
Peter Gordon (Jessica Klusek, Molly Losh, Patrick Sullivan)
National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Susceptibility to and Release from Masking in
Infancy and Childhood
Lori Leibold (Emily Buss)
National Institutes of Health (NIH)

AquaFit_CP: Feasibility of an Aquatic Exercise Intervention
to Promote Physical Fitness, Activity, and Participation in
Youth with Cerebral Palsy
Deborah Thorpe, Drexel University

Getting Ready for School: An integrated curriculum
to help teachers and parents support preschool
children's early literacy, math and self-regulation
skills
Pierce, Patsy, Columbia University

I Notice, I Wonder: A Framework for Developing Higher-
Order Child Language through Enhanced Adult-Child
Interactions
Patsy Pierce (Kathleen Gallagher)
US Department of Education

Advancing Social-Communication & Play
Brian Boyd (Elizabeth Crais, Eloise Neebe, Grace
Baranek, Linda Watson, Samuel Field, Thomas
Leggett), US Department of Education

Motivation and Activity Participation of People with
Schizophrenia: Validation of Measurement Tools with a
Study Sample in North Carolina
Chinyu Wu, New Faculty Development Award (UNC)

Effects of Foot Orthoses on Balance in Older Adults
Michael Gross (Vicki Mercer), UNC TraCS Center

New Grants Awarded (July 2010 – September 2010)

July 2010 - June 2014 (PI: Linda Watson; Co-PI: E. Crais; Key Personnel: G. Baranek, L. Brown, L. Wakeford, S. Reznick) Efficacy of a Parent-Mediated Intervention for One-Year-Olds at-Risk for Autism. US Department of Education. (\$2,515,897).

July 2010 - June 2011 (PI: A. Debnam; Key Personnel: J. Kohls) Council for Allied Health in North Carolina. North Carolina Health and Wellness Trust Commission and the North Carolina Dept. of Commerce (\$90,870).

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July 2010 - December 2010 (PI: B. Yu) 2010 Scientific Service Program for Elite Discus Throwers. USA Track and Field (\$12,000).

July 2010 - June 2011 (PI: K. Erickson; Key Personnel: G. Hanser) UNC-CH Center for Literacy and Disability Studies Involvement in the NC Deaf-B. North Carolina Dept of Public Instruction (\$28,569).

September 2010 - August 2011 (PI: M. Wells) Pathophysiology of Sleep, Neurological, and Related Disorders. American Society of Electroneurodiagnostic Technologists, Inc. (\$5,000)

July 2010 - June 2011. (PIs: G. Baranek & M. Sabatos-DeVito). Eye Tracking Study of Visual Attention and Sensory Hyporesponsiveness in Children with Autism. NC TraCS Institute. (\$2,000).

June 2010 - May 2013. (PI: S. Reznick; Co-PIs: G. Baranek, L. Watson, E. Crais, L. Brown). Using Parent Report to Identify Infants Who Are at Risk for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Autism Speaks. (\$449,856).

Funding Opportunities

IGHID Grant Announcement

The Institute for Global Health and Infectious Diseases (IGHID) and the Office of Global Health in the Gillings School of Global Public Health (OGH) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill announced a fifth round of funding for the Global Health Faculty Research Partnership Grants (GHP) program. Approximately 4-5 grants will be made this year in amounts up to \$5,000.

The application must be received electronically by Wednesday, December 1, 2010 at 5:00pm at ogh@unc.edu, Subject: Global Health Partnership Grants.

Full details can be found at the following address:

http://www.sph.unc.edu/globalhealth/global_health_faculty_research_partnerships_grants_1135_9145.html

Grants To Support Interdisciplinary Meetings

The National Institutes of Health's Basic Behavioral and Social Science Opportunity Network is seeking research conference grant applications for scientific meetings aimed at building interdisciplinary research teams in basic behavioral and social science research (b-BSSR). Applicants must propose developmental activities that will build the capacity of interdisciplinary teams to accelerate, expand, and/or strengthen fundamental knowledge in b-BSSR as relevant to the nation's health and well-being. Investigators may submit applications to support multiple meetings over a period of up to two years. OppNet intends to commit approximately \$325,000 in total costs in 2011 to fund four to six new grants. Letters of intent are due by November 14, and applications are due by December 14.

Full details can be found at the following address: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-CA-10-017.html>



*Allied Health Sciences
has received \$3,887,051
of external grant funding
between July 1st, 2010
and September 30th,
2010*

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The Allied Health Research Institute (AHRI) Announces Funded Research for 2011

Funding for institutional fellowships and individual research papers focusing on specific research questions will be available by the end of the year. The RFA can be found at the following address:

http://www.theahri.org/assets/pdf/2010_AHRI_Fellowship_RFA.pdf

Awards will be made in January of 2011. AHRI will fund two \$10,000 research fellowships and four \$5000 research papers.

- Research Papers - These projects respond to questions with literature searches, analysis of readily available databases, research synthesis and meta-analysis. The resulting white paper or research paper can be made available to AHRI member institutions or alternatively can be presented at the AHRI website to serve the profession and make AHRI a valuable resource. This is the fastest turnaround option and costs could be modest as well. The projects should take no more than 6 months and the compensation could be around \$5,000 paid to the individual investigator/ consultant.
- Research Fellowships - Through its annual fellowship program, AHRI Fellowships are awarded to faculty and staff from AHRI academic and industry members. These funds are provided to support analyses of industry relevant questions that will facilitate improvements in rehabilitation policy and practices. The projects should take no more than 1 year and the compensation is \$10,000 paid to the institution of the investigator. Per AHRI published policy, only direct project expenses are covered and indirect (facilities and administration) expenses are NOT reimbursed.

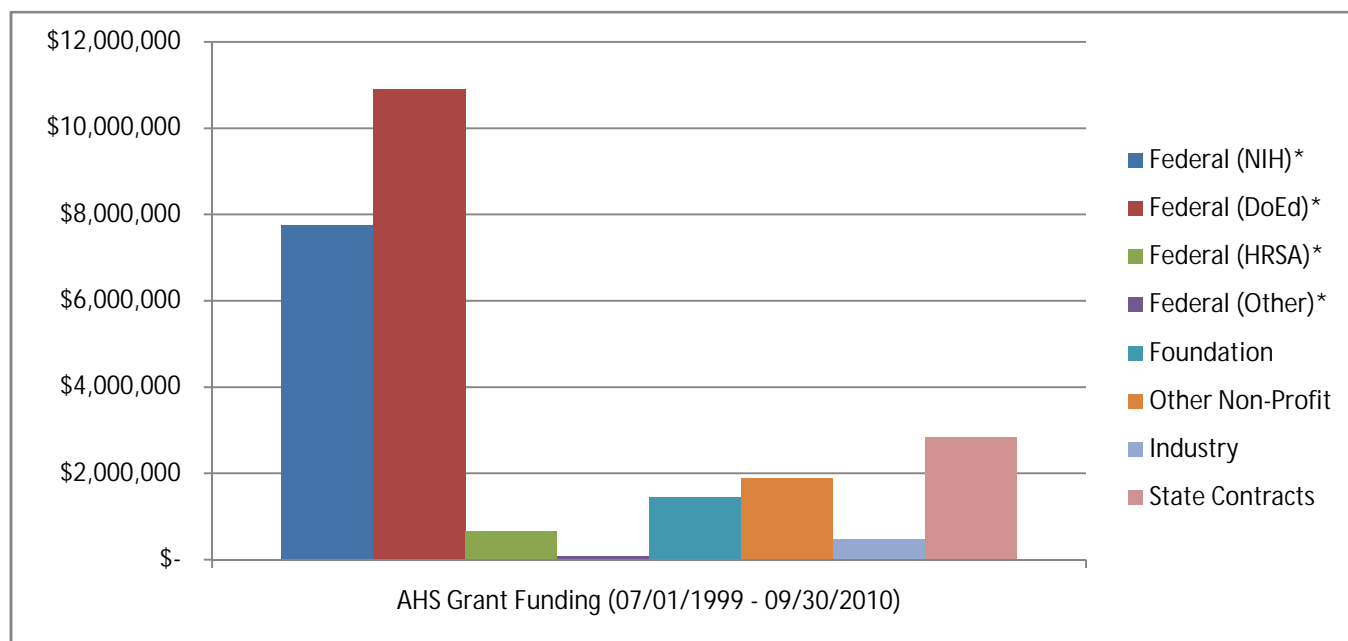
New Faculty and Postdocs

The Department of Allied Health Sciences would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new faculty and postdocs in our department:

Amanda O'Donnell, Clinical/Assistant Professor (SHS)	Mike McMorris, Clinical/Assistant Professor (PT)
Kathleen Ollendick, Clinical/Assistant Professor (PT)	Judy Schmidt, Clinical/Instructor (RCP)
Karla Ausderau, Postdoc (OSOT) (Baranek)	Stephanie Reszka, Postdoc (SHS) (Crais)
Michelle Flippin, Postdoc (starting Decmbr.) (SH) (Crais)	Andrea Dunn, Audiology Research Associate (SH) (Leibold)

Did you know...

... that the Department of Allied Health Science's largest individual funder for grants is the Department of Education? Our grant funding since July 1st, 1999 can be seen in the graph below:



Publications

Boyd, B.A., Baranek, G.T., Sideris, J., Poe, M.D., Watson, L.R., Patten, E., Miller, H. (2010). Relationship between Sensory Features and Repetitive Behaviors in Children with Autism and Developmental Delays. *Autism Research*, 3, 1-10.

Chen XY, Chen Y, Wang Y, Thompson A, Carp JS, Segal RL, Wolpaw JR. (2010). Reflex conditioning: a new strategy for improving motor function after spinal cord injury. *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*, Jun;1198 Suppl 1:E12-21. Review.PMID: 20590534 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

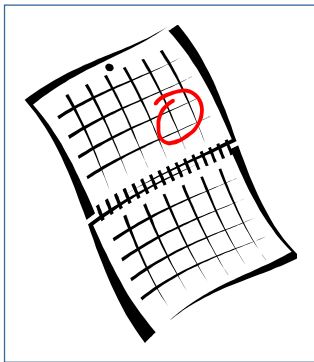
Errickson, SP, Alvarez, M., Forquera, R., Whitehead, TL, Fleg, A., Hawkins, T., Newsom, MC, Schoenbach, VJ (2011). What Will Health Care Reform Mean for Minority Health Disparities? : *Public Health Reports*, Spring

Boyd, B.A., Baranek, G.T., Sideris, J., Poe, M.D., Watson, L.R., Patten, E., Miller, H. (2010). Relationship between sensory features and repetitive behaviors in children with autism and developmental delays. *Autism Research*, 3, 1-10.

Lewek MD (2010). The influence of body weight support on ankle mechanics during treadmill walking. *Journal of Biomechanics*. Sep 18. [Epub ahead of print]PMID: 20855074 [PubMed - as supplied by publisher]

Lewek MD, Breslin R, Hlad L, Lanton A, St John J. (2010). Non-paretic quadriceps activity influences paretic quadriceps activity post-stroke. *Clinical Neurophysiology*. Nov;121(11):1962-7. Epub 2010 May 6.

Watson, L. R., Baranek, G. T., Roberts, J. E., David, F. J. & Perryman, T. P. (2010). Behavioral and physiological responses to child-directed speech as predictors of communication outcomes in children with autism. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*, 53(4), 1052-1064.



Be sure to subscribe to the Allied Health Sciences Research Events Calendar on Outlook! Details are forthcoming!

Links

The Allied Health Sciences Research Support Services page contains useful information and forms for conducting research in Allied Health Sciences and links to funders who support our research:

<http://www.med.unc.edu/ahs/for-faculty-staff/research-support-services>

The Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions serves as a unifying voice and leading advocate for allied health education:

<http://www.asahp.org/>

Contacts

Please contact Wesley Winkelman, Contracts and Grants Manager, for any items you would like to see published in the next newsletter, feedback, or any questions or concerns.

He can be reached at wwinkelm@med.unc.edu or by phone at 919-966-9471.