Hope your summer is off to a great start! The Division of Physical Therapy continues to move forward, with faculty and students distinguishing themselves through research, clinical excellence, and service, even as we continue our search for a new permanent division director. The search committee hosted campus interviews for the two top candidates in May and hopes to make a final selection later this year.

Our faculty members are actively engaged in research that will contribute to the profession’s evidence-based treatment body of knowledge and ultimately improve patient care. As you’ll read in this newsletter, their efforts have resulted in funding and recognition, and I am confident additional positive outcomes from their hard work will manifest in the coming months and years.

The University Physical Therapy (UPT) clinic has moved to a new location that provides more space and improved, customized facilities. Led by Dr. Michael McMorris, Assistant Director of Faculty Clinical Practice, UPT successfully navigated the April launch of EPIC, a new software system adopted by UNC Health Care that integrates medical records, scheduling, and billing. We are thrilled with the ongoing development our Orthopedic Residency program, which had its first participant complete the clinical component in January (see page 3). The division is now working collaboratively with UNC Health Care for a new clinical location.

Our students and faculty continue to serve the people of North Carolina and the world through commendable projects like PT Outreach: Guatemala and the Tyrell County Interdisciplinary Service Program (see page 7). Dr. Vicki Mercer, who has a long history of community service including the Tyrell County program and falls prevention outreach, has been accepted to Class V of the Thorp Faculty Engaged Scholars, a significant honor that will help her take her research and community engagement even further.

Gabrielle Scronce, DPT Class of 2014, has joined with students from two other disciplines and received a Community Engagement Fellowship to help establish a mentoring experience between people with aphasia and graduate students (see page 7). This fall, Scronce will also become the first DPT student to enter the Human Movement Science PhD program.

As you’ve no doubt learned through news reports, we continue to be challenged by state budget cuts. The efforts of our PT Board of Advisers and the generous support of our alumni and friends have been crucial to maintaining the core activities of the division. This newsletter highlights some of the ways donor contributions have directly impacted our faculty and our students, and we are extremely grateful for your support. We hope you can join us at the Alumni and Friends Weekend in October (see below for details). Until then, have a safe and happy summer.

Warm Regards,

Lisa Johnston, PT, MS, DPT, Interim Director and Associate Professor

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Register Now for the UNC Physical Therapy Alumni and Friends Weekend October 18, 2014 www.alumni.unc.edu/physicaltherapy

The UNC PT board of advisers is excited about this opportunity to reconnect and have some fun. Planned activities include:

- Welcome from the UNC PT Director
- Division Updates: UNC Division of PT Education Today, University Physical Therapy clinic, PT Research at Carolina
- Lunch before the UNC vs. Georgia Tech Game at the Hampton Inn & Suites Chapel Hill-Carrboro/Downtown
- UNC vs. Georgia Tech, Kenan Stadium. (A limited number of tickets are available for alumni via online registration)

For a full schedule and to register, visit www.alumni.unc.edu/physicaltherapy

2014 PT Alumni Panel

Plummer Joins UNC PT Faculty

By Meredith S. Bennett

Like many in her field, Dr. Prudence Plummer’s interest in physical therapy began in high school in relation to sports and sports-related injuries. Her uncle was a professional Australian Rules football player and she had the chance to interact with the team’s physiotherapist. However, it wasn’t until her undergraduate physical therapy training that she discovered her true calling—neurological physical therapy.

“As a student I had the opportunity to work with patients who had brain injuries and other neurological disorders, which I found intellectually stimulating, challenging, and very rewarding,” she said.

Her growing interest in neurology caused her to develop a curiosity for understanding more about how the brain works. She is motivated to discover new and better ways to improve the quality of life for people who have suffered strokes and to train and inform the newest generation of researchers and physical therapists. Last fall, Plummer brought her expertise and passion for neurological physical therapy to UNC Chapel Hill, joining the Division of Physical Therapy faculty.

Originally from Australia, Dr. Plummer completed her undergraduate through PhD physical therapy education there, but chose to come to the United States for her post-doc in order to diversify her experience and “spread her wings a little bit.”

She completed post-doc fellowships at the University of Florida and UCLA before joining the faculty at Northeastern University in Boston, where she remained for five years.

Dr. Plummer said she was attracted to UNC’s Division of Physical Therapy because of the close-knit collaborative research environment in addition to the combination of opportunities for research and instruction.

At UNC, Dr. Plummer is a mentor and advisor for the Multiple Sclerosis Education Track, a two-year program that seeks to produce PTs with a thorough understanding of how to treat MS patients. Two second-year students are accepted into the curriculum track each year. She is also an assistant professor, teaching classes that are smaller and more diverse than those she has encountered elsewhere, which has allowed her to develop closer relationships with her students.

As a researcher, Dr. Plummer is driven by the questions that continually surface. She describes her passion for research as “gradually working on a problem that I may never solve because each time I answer one piece of it, I find that there is more that I still don’t understand and need to explore.”

Dr. Plummer is on the tenure track, so she doesn’t have time for much else outside of her research and teaching, but she says that she is fortunate enough to love her job and is “quite happy to work on it outside of normal working hours.” When she does find some spare moments, she is a wine-enthusiast, loves cooking and movies, and aims to take advantage of North Carolina’s beautiful weather by working on her golf game.

UPDATE: In June, just before the newsletter went to press, Dr. Plummer received word that her NIH R21 grant proposal, “Real-world assessment of dual-task performance after stroke,” had been funded. The grant will provide $275,000 in direct costs over two years. Co-investigators for the project are Drs. Carol Giuliani (UNC), Lori Altmann (University of Florida), and Bijan Najafi (University of Arizona). The study will examine stroke survivors’ ability to walk in real-world environments. Look for more information on this exciting research in future PT publications and e-mails.

Private Support Helps to Advance UNC PT Faculty Research

UNC Physical Therapy faculty members Drs. Prudence Plummer, Michael Lewek, and Debbie Thorpe secured a grant earlier this year from the UNC School of Medicine translational science initiative along with private funds from a recent gift to the Division of Physical Therapy from the St. John Charitable Trust to purchase a new piece of research equipment that will allow them to study the metabolic demands of activity on study participants faced with a range of physical disabilities. The state-of-the-art Cosmed K4B2 portable metabolic measuring unit is equipped with GPS tracking and will allow the UNC PT faculty team to measure the metabolic parameters of participants in a variety of settings. Drs. Lewek, Thorpe, and Plummer plan to use the new equipment (shown below) in research projects in the areas of adult onset stroke and cerebral palsy.
Gisselman First to Complete UNC Orthopedic Residency

By Meredith S. Bennett

As the first person to complete UNC’s Orthopedic Residency, Angela Gisselman says that the program acted as an excellent professional springboard. “I highly recommend it to therapists who want to accelerate their careers in a more specialized manner,” she said.

When UNC announced that it was looking for internal candidates for the new residency program, Gisselman jumped at the prospect. “I’m always seeking opportunities to learn, grow, be challenged, be critiqued, and gain more skills,” she said.

Gisselman earned her DPT from Duke University and then worked for a year and a half before beginning the residency. Apart from her desire to grow her skill set so she could provide better care for her patients, Gisselman said that she was interested in this particular program because she knew that her mentors would be people she “highly admired for their clinical reasoning and expertise.”

The program is largely clinic based, meaning that she didn’t attend many classes, but received clinical mentorship and completed a variety of learning modules that included studying research literature and directly interacting with physicians.

Gisselman completed the clinical portion of the residency program in January 2014 and submitted her final case project in the spring. She now works at the UNC Wellness Center in Meadowmont. She said the diversity of skills and perspectives that she developed through the residency is unparalleled, and the program allowed her to develop valuable professional connections with many physicians in the UNC system.

Her ultimate goal is to teach and the residency program put her closer to that by enabling her to host students as a clinical instructor. “I really see the residency as propelling my knowledge and skill set in that I can better serve my students, too,” Gisselman said.

UNC Orthopedic Residency

The UNC Division of Physical Therapy and UNC Health Care collaborated to establish the Orthopedic Residency with the goal of providing superior, comprehensive specialist training to licensed physical therapists to meet the needs of North Carolina. This 12-month program enables physical therapists to train under the guidance of a diverse group of expert clinicians at University Physical Therapy and UNC Hospitals. In addition to didactic study, residents receive one-on-one mentorship from expert clinicians and participate in a variety of unique learning experiences. The residency allows licensed physical therapists to fast track their professional development and prepare to sit for the Orthopedic Clinical Specialist exam. For more information, visit www.university-pt.org/residency-program.

Grant Helps Fund Development of Hamstrings Muscle Stretching Prototype by Interdisciplinary Team

Researchers with the UNC Department of Allied Health Sciences (DAHS) and the North Carolina State University (NCSU) Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering have received $25,000 in seed grant funding from the Rehabilitation Engineering Center (REC) to further development of a hamstrings muscle stretching device prototype.

The project, titled “Development of a Hamstrings Muscle Stretching Device for Older Adults and Individuals with Neurological Disorders,” is under the direction of co-principal investigators Dr. Vicki Stemmons Mercer and Dr. Richard Faldowski, both Associate Professors with DAHS, and Dr. Russell King, Professor and Director, and Dr. Ron Aman, Research Scholar, with NCSU. Dr. Kendra Heatwole Shank, a 2013 graduate of the UNC Occupational Science PhD program; Gabrielle Sronce, UNC DPT Class of 2014; and Austin Isaacs and Spencer Thompson, NCSU Engineering graduate students, are also assisting with the research.

Several studies have demonstrated the effectiveness of static stretching programs for increasing the range of hamstrings muscle extensibility, but many older adults and individuals with neurological disorders are unable to achieve an effective hamstrings muscle stretch and thus cannot obtain the benefits that these stretches provide. Researchers with this project seek to further the development of a prototype hamstrings muscle stretching device that will assist these individuals.

2014 Human Movement Science Research Symposium

The 11th annual Human Movement Science Research Symposium was held February 21, 2014, at UNC Chapel Hill. Students, faculty, researchers, and clinicians from across the region attend the symposium each year to present and discuss current research. The American Society for Biomechanics (ASB), Tekscan, and Don Joy Orthopedics were sponsors of the event. Dr. Irene Davis of the Harvard Medical School delivered the keynote address “Benefits and Pitfalls of Barefoot & Minimal Footwear Running.”

Mercer Selected for Faculty Engaged Scholars Program

Dr. Vicki Stemmons Mercer, Associate Professor, has been selected for Class V of the Thorp Faculty Engaged Scholars (FES) program. The FES program brings together faculty from across campus to engage in a two-year experiential, competency-based curriculum designed to advance their engaged scholarship. Scholars participate in sessions in community settings to learn from Carolina faculty and their community partners. While developing individual projects, each class of scholars forms a learning community along with the faculty and community course directors to support one another’s projects and community partners.

Dr. Mercer will be focusing on further development and expansion of the Community Health and Mobility Partnership (CHAMP) project. CHAMP is a falls prevention program that Dr. Mercer began in McDowell County in western North Carolina in 2009. The purpose of the program is to improve balance and mobility and decrease risk of falls in older adults.
The Department of Allied Health Sciences (DAHS) hosted its annual Student Scholarships and Awards Brunch on November 9, 2013, in Chapel Hill. The following Division of Physical Therapy students, and the donors who supported their scholarships and awards, were recognized at the event.

The Sara Fowler Anderson Scholarship in Physical Therapy
The Sara Fowler Anderson Scholarship in Physical Therapy was created thanks to the generous commitments of her husband Dr. Ted Anderson and their daughters, Megan Anderson Phillips and Lauren Anderson Bean, as well as Sara’s family, friends, and colleagues. A 1981 graduate of the UNC Chapel Hill PT program, Sara Fowler Anderson’s career spanned three decades prior to her death in 2012. She enjoyed providing services to a wide spectrum of those in need of physical therapy, from infants and children in early intervention programs to seniors in retirement facilities, from those requiring home health care to those receiving inpatient care.

Recipient: Chenin Delaney Duclos, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Diversity Scholarship in Physical Therapy
Established by a generous gift and commitment from Betsy Crawford (UNC DPT Class of 2009) and supported by other alumni and friends, this scholarship seeks to increase the diversity of students pursuing physical therapy careers.

Recipients: Marian Thomas, Apex, North Carolina
Alexis Ann Williams, Raleigh, North Carolina

Louis and Eleanor Duquette Human Movement Science Annual Scholarship
Awarded annually to a student enrolled in the Human Movement Science Doctoral Program, this scholarship was established by Colonel Thomas L. Duquette (’91) in honor of his parents, Louis and Eleanor Duquette, who instilled the virtues of hard work and the value of education in all of their children.

Recipient: Elizabeth Eve Hibberd, Charlotte, North Carolina

Interim Director of the Division of PT Lisa Johnston and Elizabeth Hibberd

Thorpe/Mitchell Diversity Leadership Development Awards
The Thorpe/Mitchell Diversity Leadership Development Awards seek to increase the diversity of underrepresented minority students in the diagnostic and therapeutic disciplines in the UNC Department of Allied Health Sciences. The awards honor Dr. Robert L. Thorpe and Dr. Brenda Mitchell, who are passionate about mentoring and encouraging others to excel and achieve their highest goals.

Recipients: Alexis Ann Williams, Raleigh, North Carolina (Division of Physical Therapy)
Lucia Lopez Fischer, Porto Alegre, Brazil (Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences)

Physical Therapy MS Curriculum Scholarships
The National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Greater Carolinas Chapter, provided funding to establish the UNC Physical Therapy Multiple Sclerosis Scholarship Curriculum for students who will specialize in working with individuals with MS.

Recipients: Heather Lynn Eustis, North Granby, Connecticut
Catherine Leigh Jacobs, Raleigh, North Carolina
Joe William Miller, Mount Airy, North Carolina
Audrey Celeste Osinski, Troy, Michigan

Kaye Gooch (Executive VP, National MS Society, Greater Carolinas Chapter), Heather Eustis, Joe Miller, and Lisa Johnston

Charlotte Money Beatty Memorial Scholarship
Family, friends, and colleagues of Charlotte Money Beatty created this scholarship in her loving memory after her passing in 1993. The scholarship is open to all students with particular attention being given first to minority students and second to students expressing a desire to pursue a career in pediatric physical therapy.

Recipient: Jaime Lynn Emel, Downingtown, Pennsylvania

The Class of 1964 Physical Therapy Annual Scholarship
The Class of 1964 Physical Therapy Annual Scholarship is awarded to a deserving Carolina Physical Therapy student through the generosity of Miriam Danzey and other members of the Class of 1964.

Recipient: Stephanie Lynn Lawson, Wise, Virginia

Brian Beatty, Jamie Emel, and Lee Beatty.
G. Wayne and Tanya B. Long Annual Scholarships in Physical Therapy

G. Wayne and Tanya B. Long of Wilmington, NC, graduated from UNC Chapel Hill in 1978 and now own Well Care LLC, a Wilmington-based home health care company. The Longs have made commitments to UNC to support physical therapy and nursing students. Scholarship recipients are selected based on financial need and scholastic achievement, with preference given to those interested in home health care.

Recipients: Deborah Michelle Kenner, Boca Raton, Florida
Jessica Nicole Skeeter, Chesapeake, Virginia

Max Asher Gitterman Pediatric Physical Therapy Student Scholar Award

The Max Asher Gitterman Pediatric Physical Therapy Student Scholar Award was established by Amy and Daniel Gitterman in honor of their resilient son Max Asher. The Gitterman Award is presented annually to a student who has expressed an interest and commitment to pediatrics in the UNC PT program.

Recipient: Ryan Christopher Rubio, Greensboro, North Carolina

Interim Director of the Division of Physical Therapy Lisa Johnston, Gabrielle Scronce, Rose Hamm, and DAHS Associate Dean and Chair Stephen Hooper

Rose and Dave Hamm Annual Scholarship for Clinical Excellence in Physical Therapy

This scholarship honors David Hamm, Jr., MD, the late husband of Rose Hamm (UNC PT Class of 1969). Dr. David Hamm was well known for his genuine, compassionate care, his diagnostic skills, and his integrity. The Hamm Scholarship is awarded to an in-state student with financial need and promise for future clinical excellence in the PT profession.

Recipient: Gabrielle Scronce, Vale, North Carolina

In addition to being recognized as the Hamm Scholarship recipient, Gabrielle served as student speaker at the brunch.

Mabel M. Parker Physical Therapy Annual Scholarship

This scholarship was established through the generosity of Gladys ('62) and Robert Hart of Hilton Head, S.C. Mabel M. Parker had a long and distinguished career at UNC. Her accomplishments included managing clinical education for students, developing a protocol for integrating public health principles into the curriculum, serving as acting director of the program twice, and co-directing a grant to develop a method to evaluate stroke patients. Parker passed away in January 2011.

Recipient: Morven Ann Ross, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

The Vanessa Louise Hall Memorial Scholarship in Physical Therapy at UNC Chapel Hill

The Division of Physical Therapy received a generous gift and commitment from Louise and Paul Hall of Durham to create an endowed scholarship in memory of their daughter Vanessa who died tragically in 1998 after being accepted into Carolina as a high school senior. Vanessa’s career goal at the time was to become either a physical therapist or a pediatrician. The first Hall Scholarship was awarded in 2009. Over 400 alumni and friends made generous gifts to reach the $100,000 UNC PT Class Challenge Campaign goal in 2013, matching the $100,000 gift from Paul and Louise Hall to build the scholarship endowment to over $200,000.

Recipients: Caitlin Gallagher, Gardnerville, Nevada
Meredith Ellis Haigh, Raleigh, North Carolina

Interim Director of the Division of Physical Therapy Lisa Johnston, Gabrielle Scronce, Rose Hamm, and DAHS Associate Dean and Chair Stephen Hooper

Mabel M. Parker Physical Therapy Annual Scholarship

Gladys and Robert Hart of Hilton Head, S.C. Mabel M. Parker had a long and distinguished career at UNC. Her accomplishments included managing clinical education for students, developing a protocol for integrating public health principles into the curriculum, serving as acting director of the program twice, and co-directing a grant to develop a method to evaluate stroke patients. Parker passed away in January 2011.

Recipient: Morven Ann Ross, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Judy A. White Professional Development Awards

This fund was established in 2006 by an anonymous donor to promote the professional growth and development of Carolina Physical Therapy students and faculty members in honor of long-time faculty member Judy White. In choosing the recipients, the division director gives preference to candidates who share Judy White’s commitment to the profession of physical therapy.

Recipients: Mark Lee Boles, Winston Salem, NC
Deidra Ellen Debnam, Fayetteville, NC
Nicholas Christopher Mang, Hendersonville, NC
Jessica Nicole Skeeter, Chesapeake, VA
Scholarships and Awards Recognition Continued

UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowships
Supported through a generous gift from the UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association, fellowships are awarded to Allied Health Sciences students who, in addition to having financial need and scholastic ability, exhibit characteristics of emerging professional excellence. Six fellowships were awarded for 2013-14.

DPT Recipient: Deidra Ellen Debnam, Fayetteville, North Carolina

UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Community Service Fellowship
Supported through a generous gift from the UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association, the Community Service Fellowship recognizes an Allied Health Sciences student who has demonstrated scholastic ability and emerging professional excellence, as well as exemplary and extensive devotion to community service.

Recipient: Sarah Svetkey van der Horst, Chapel Hill, NC

Rebecca Irene Sande Scholarships
A $757,000 bequest from the estate of L’Vir Sande of Salisbury established this fund in 2002. Income from the fund—named in honor of Sande’s wife, Rebecca—produces scholarships for students with financial need. L’Vir Sande was a pioneer in radiologic medicine who became physically incapacitated and received physical therapy. This experience, coupled with his love of UNC, led him to designate the scholarship for PT.

Recipients:
- Krissy Ayers, Sumnerfield, NC
- Daniel Hamrick Blackmon, Greenville, SC
- Corinne Joell Bohling, Belleville, Kansas
- Jessica Louise Burpee, Griffin, GA
- Jaime Emel, Downingtown, Pennsylvania
- Annemarie Erich, Connellys Springs, NC
- Jeremy Craig Evans, Antioch, California
- Cara Lillian Hehn, Chelmsford, Massachusetts
- Beverly Knight, Raleigh, NC
- James Bryan Mull, Salisbury, NC
- Michael Robert Murray, Charlotte, NC
- Laura Ellee Nickles, Chapel Hill, NC
- Chelsea Jo Parker, Greensboro, NC
- Laura Gray Rapp, Lynchburg, Virginia
- Meredith Taylor Reed, Atlantic Beach, NC
- Jessica Lynn Rolle, Boyds, Maryland
- Michelle Jené Treffer, San Jose, California
- Ryan Rubio, Greensboro, NC

UNC PT Student Recognized for Service to Latina Community

DPT student Sarah Svetkey van der Horst received the 2014 Robert E. Bryan Public Service Award from the Carolina Center for Public Service. The award is given annually to five individuals in the Carolina community who demonstrate outstanding service to the state of North Carolina.

van der Horst and other award recipients were recognized on April 2, 2014, at the annual Public Service Awards celebration, where Chancellor Carol L. Folt commended their commitment to service and to “the betterment of North Carolina and the world.”

van der Horst was selected for the award in recognition of her work founding and directing Amigas en Salud, an exercise and health awareness program that provides free services, such as weekly Zumba class and bimonthly health tutorials, to underserved members of the Latina community. Tutorials offered thus far include Domestic Violence 101 by Compass Center, Healthy Relationships by Planned Parenthood, Contraception by Abigail Liberty (UNC School of Medicine student), and How to Clean and Lift Pain Free by van der Horst. Classes and programs are delivered in Spanish, and facilitated by volunteers, many of whom are current UNC School of Medicine, Social Work, Physical Therapy, Public Health, and undergraduate students. In addition to Sarah’s leadership, the Amigas en Salud’s executive team consists of Romina Boyle (Zumba instructor), Lisa Spees (doctoral student in Public Policy), Stephanie Schmitt (master’s student in Interdisciplinary Health Communication), and Mitzy Gonzalez (master’s student of Social Work).

The program has received support from the Student Action Coalition (SHAC), El Centro Hispano, the Seymour Center, YMCA, Fleet Feet, Footcentric, Farmer Foodshare, and other private donors, and continues to seek assistance to expand and improve its offerings. For more information on Amigas en Salud, visit http://amigasensalud.org.

Photo by Dan Sears, UNC Chapel Hill
A team of 22 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students and faculty from the UNC programs of public health, physical therapy, social work, and nursing spent their spring breaks in Tyrrell County, NC, completing various community health projects. Service work ranged from community health assessments to environmental clean-up to health promotion in homes and at Columbia Middle and High Schools.

The UNC PT Outreach: Guatemala service learning project had another successful year with 13 students, six clinical leadership team members (including alumni and clinical instructors), and two faculty traveling to Guatemala at the end of April. The team provided direct patient care, educational programs for local professionals, and health fairs in two rural communities.

The Carolina Center for Public Service has awarded a Community Engagement Fellowship to an interdisciplinary team of student researchers from the Department of Allied Health Sciences: Tyson Harmon (PhD student in the Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences), Mei-Ling Lin (PhD student in the Division of Occupational Science), and Gabrielle Scronce (DPT Class of 2014; Human Movement Science PhD student, fall 2014). In collaboration with the Triangle Aphasia Project (TAP), the research team will seek to establish a mentoring experience between people with aphasia and graduate students in their three divisions.

“Research has indicated that an important quality of life aspect for people with aphasia is participation in meaningful activities, but that can be difficult to address in therapeutic service-delivery post-stroke,” said Harmon. “We hope to establish an ongoing program whereby people with aphasia can act as mentors to student by sharing their personal recovery experiences and answering student questions. We believe that such a program will be mutually beneficial as it will provide future clinicians with immediate exposure to people with aphasia and give them an opportunity to serve students by offering a personalized perspective of disability and rehabilitation.”

Assessments will be conducted pre- and post- participation in the program to measure impact on quality of life across various domains. The program itself will also be evaluated to determine its contributions to educational, therapeutic, and research goals.

Tyson Harmon, Gabrielle Scronce, and Mei-Ling Lin.

Scronce Named Royster Fellow
Gabrielle Scronce, DPT Class of 2014 and incoming Human Movement Science PhD student, has been offered membership to the Royster Society of Fellows, an honor extended to a select number of students entering graduate programs across the UNC Chapel Hill campus. Fellows receive five years of generous financial support, including stipend, tuition, fees, health insurance and travel, and enjoy unparalleled opportunities for intellectual enrichment, leadership, and professional development. A committee of UNC Chapel Hill faculty decides which applicants will be offered the fellowships based upon their academic performance, research, work, service and life experiences, and their potential for leadership in the future.
Alumni Updates

Lizbeth Rich Albert (’62) decided last fall to give up working full-time and returned to Home Health PRN. “Just can’t stop—love our profession,” she writes.

Miriam Danzey (’64) has downgraded work in SNF to PRN. She is looking forward to 50th reunion of PT Class of 1964 in August 2014.

Carole Langley Balsley (’75) has retired from Rockingham County Schools and lives in Reidsville, NC.

Harriett Loehne (’65), Rose Hamm (’69), Judy White (’69), and Interim Director of PT Lisa Johnston (’00) at the Scholarships and Awards Brunch in November 2013.

Harriett B. Loehne (’65) PT, DPT, CVWS, FACCCWS was elected President of the Section on Clinical Electrophysiology and Wound Management (SCEWM) of the APTA, and this year received the Professional Merit Award from the SCEWM. She also Chairs the Task Force for the Petition submitted to the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties (ABPTS) for a PT Wound Management Clinical Specialty. Dr. Loehne recently retired as Clinical Educator of Wound Management at Archbold Medical Center in Thomasville, Georgia, and now has her own consulting company: WISE – Wound & Integumentary Specialty Education.

Marilyn (Spider) Schneider Kellam (’75) is now working for Long Term Care of Virginia providing medical care to in-patients at Lake Taylor Transitional Care Hospital in Norfolk, Va., and at Bayside Health and Rehabilitation Center in Virginia Beach. The best part about this new position is that she is able to spend much needed time with patients listening to their concerns and fears and educating them about their problems and helping them cope with acute illness and long term disability. She is also delighted to have the opportunity to be part of a multidisciplinary team providing care for these individuals and being closer to PT once again. Having come from a background in PT has been enormously helpful in this setting. She continues to live on the Eastern Shore with her husband, Kevin, and is still singing with the Virginia Opera chorus or singing to raise money for charitable causes when time permits.

Mary Rodgers (’76) PT, PhD, FAPTA, FASB, stepped down from her position as Chair in the Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science (PTRS) at the University of Maryland School of Medicine in September 2013 to pursue a temporary appointment from the National Institutes of Health to work at the National Institutes of Biomedical Imaging and Engineering (NIBIB). Rodgers remains on the School of Medicine faculty, continuing her teaching and research activities, and her role as Co-Director of the Pilot Studies Core for the Claude D. Pepper University of Maryland Older Americans Independence Center (UMOAI). During Rodgers’ 15 years of leadership as chair, PTRS rose from an unranked program nationally to earn a spot among the top 10% PT programs in the country; grew its research focus with the initiation of the PhD in Physical Rehabilitation Science; transitioned the Masters in PT curriculum to a Doctor of PT education program; and initiated Doctor of Science in PT, transitional DPT, and DPT/PhD degree programs.

Rear Admiral Penelope Slade-Sawyer (’76) was appointed Director of the North Carolina Division of Public Health in March 2014. The DHHS Division of Public Health is responsible for approximately 1,800 employees and $800 million in state and federal funds each year. A Commissioned Corps Officer in the U.S. Public Health Service, Slade-Sawyer had most recently served as Assistant Surgeon General at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in Washington, D.C. Before becoming assistant surgeon general, she served for seven years as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health, Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, and directed the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Phyllis A. Wingate (’76) is Division President at Carolinas Medical Center-Northeast.

Teresa Faison Hale (‘81) was awarded the 2013 Wake Forest Small Business of the Year by the Wake Forest Chamber of Commerce. Marla Akridge, Wake Forest Chamber President, said “Ms. Hale created Allied Rehab (PT, OT, ST) 27 years ago and has grown this practice into the premier out-patient therapy provider in our region. In addition to offering outstanding therapy treatments, Allied Rehab therapists and employees volunteer in our community and contribute to the overall economic development of our community. Ms. Hale and her building partners invested in a beautiful two-story, 14,000-square-foot downtown building, which is now the gateway to our community on South Franklin Street.”

Leslie Kesler (’83) is Director of Rehabilitation at New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington and has served as member and chair of the North Carolina Board of Physical Therapy Examiners.

Donna Dulin Lampe (’90) received her DPT from Alabama State University in May, 2014.

Clarence Ryan Brackett (’99) received his DPT in 2012.

Catherine Noonan (’10) continues to pay off her student loan interest while watching her principal hold fast. In 2013, she completed a pediatric residency at Duke and a LEND fellowship at UNC and shortly thereafter was married and celebrated all of the above with a few weeks in Thailand. She currently works for Durham Public Schools and will be starting a faculty position at Campbell University in September. She and her husband are expecting their first child (a girl) in June.

Jennifer Toohar (’13) has been accepted to the Neurologic Residency Program at Vanderbilt Pi Beta Phi Rehabilitation Institute and Belmont University.

In Memoriam

Margaret “Peggie” Jeffries McKelvey (’65) of Rock Hall, Md., formerly of West Chester, Pa., died January 5, 2014. She was active with the Chadds Ford Historical Society, Brandywine Gardeners, and the Chadds Ford Women’s Club. She is survived by her husband of 48 years, Kenneth N. McKelvey, two sons, and four grandchildren.