



College of Health &  
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# Florida International University Physical Therapy News

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## FIU Alumni Leading the Way! Directors of Rehabilitation

**Linda Dachs**, MS, PT, is a member of the first Physical Therapy Class of **1975**. Linda is currently the Director of Rehabilitative Services at Palmetto General Hospital in Hialeah, FL. She oversees physical, occupational and speech therapy services for adult, geriatric and pediatric acute care. Linda also is head of the Hyperbaric and Wound Medicine Center and the Diabetes Center that is certified by the American Diabetes Association. Linda has served on the Advisory Boards for both FIU and MDCC. She is also a member of the APTA/FPTA since 1975 and has served as an Assembly Representative for the Southeast District since 1999. Her Master's degree is in Health Services Administration from Nova Southeastern University(1985).

**Rey Jaffet (1994)** served as Director of Sports Medicine and Head Athletic Trainer at FIU for 14 years until he joined the HealthSouth Rehabilitation Corporation, where he currently serves as the Manager

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## Welcome to Our New Faculty Member: Lisa Roberts

**Lisa Roberts**, PT, MS, GCS, was appointed to the position of Clinical Assistant Professor in August 2005. Lisa is a board certified specialist in Geriatric Physical Therapy. She is also an item writer for the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties.

Lisa earned a Bachelor's of Health Sciences in Physical Therapy from the University of Florida and a Master's in Elder Care Administration from Nova Southeastern University. Currently, Lisa is enrolled in the transitional DPT program at the University of St. Augustine.

Lisa serves as the faculty advisor to the Physical Therapy Student Association at FIU. An active member of the Florida Physical Therapy Association, Lisa is Secretary of the Southeast District.

Lisa has lectured on various topics in physical therapy at the national, state, and local levels. At FIU, she teaches neurological and cardiopulmonary rehabilitation, and wellness. Her professional interests include administration, complimentary therapies, geriatric issues, cardiopulmonary care, and neurological disabilities.



## A Message From Our Chairperson: Dr. Helen Cornely

Greetings from FIU Physical Therapy. Our program is measured in part by the success of our alumni. It is with pride that we honor Dr. Eric Shamus, FIU PT Class of 1992, as the 2005 recipient of the FIU Distinguished Alumnus Torch Award. We also honor our own Dr. Mark Rossi as recipient of the Touro College Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award. This fall, we welcomed 46 new and very talented Masters PT students and we are extremely proud of our graduating Class of 2005. The third annual Evidence-based Practice Research Program being held on December 14, is going to be one of our most exciting ever. Students are presenting on topics extremely relevant to physical therapy practice: falls in transit, relation of ankle mobility and falls, knee torque characteristics, and physical therapy among persons from different racial and ethnic groups. This is an annual event held each December. We invite and welcome the physical therapy community to come and see first hand the exceptional quality research done by our graduating Class of 2005.



Physical Therapy Faculty

## Faculty Activities

### Publications

**Elbaum L**, Maring J. A comparison of the Early Intervention Developmental Profile (EIDP) gross motor scores to the Peabody Developmental Motor Scale-2 (PDMS-2) gross motor scores in an early intervention population. *Pediatric Physical Therapy*. Accepted for publication.

**Haskins AR**, Kirk-Sanchez N. Recruitment and retention of students from minority groups. *Physical Therapy*. Manuscript accepted for publication, January 2006.

**Haskins AR**, Kirk-Sanchez N. Do licensure exam pass rate requirements for accreditation of physical therapist education programs disproportionately impact programs with a high proportion of students from racial and ethnic minority groups? *Physical Therapy*. 2005. Abstract. Available at: <http://www.ptjournal.org/abstracts/pt2005/abstractsPt.cfm?pubNo=PO-RR-15-E>. Accessed August 9, 2005.

**Haskins AR**. Rehabilitation and discrimination. In: Royeen M, Crabtree JL, eds. *Culture and Rehabilitation: From Competency to Proficiency*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson/Prentice-Hall; 2006:17-36.

**Rossi M**, Brown LE, Whitehurst M. Early strength response of the knee extensors during eight weeks of resistive training after unilateral total knee arthroplasty. *Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research*. 2005;19:944-949.

### Presentations

**Elbaum L**. Biomechanics of gait and gait training. Universidad Simone Bolivar. Barranquilla, Colombia, May 2005.

**Elbaum L**, Andrzejewski X. Biomechanical analysis of the front kick with the dominant and non-dominant limb

in the Shito-Ryu style of Karate. XXIII International Symposium on Biomechanics in Sports. Beijing, China, 2005.

**Haskins AR**, Kirk-Sanchez N. Reducing health disparities among members of minority groups. PT 2005, the Annual Conference and Exposition of the American Physical Therapy Association, Boston, MA, 2005.

**Haskins AR**, Kirk-Sanchez N. Do licensure exam pass rate requirements for accreditation of physical therapist education programs disproportionately impact programs with a high proportion of students from racial and ethnic minority groups? PT 2005, the Annual Conference and Exposition of the American Physical Therapy Association, Boston, MA, 2005.

**Haskins AR**. Exploring cultural diversity issues in physical therapy education: a research approach. University of Puerto Rico, School of Health Related Professions, Medical Center Campus, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico 2005.

Gila H, Nicolas-David A, Francis K, **Haskins AR**. Designing a healing garden to achieve physical therapy and occupational therapy therapeutic outcomes: a pilot study. FPTA Spring Conference, Orlando, FL 2005.

### Grants

**Haskins AR**, *Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students*. Health & Human Services. \$24,082, 2005 – 2006.

### Other

**Steve Bernstein**, is teaching “Neurological Diagnosis and Management.” He is also planning to teach “Information and Communications” online in the near future. Steve would like to organize interdisciplinary

“Telehealth” programs for international and rural patients. His latest mission is congregating researchers to validate Telehealth home programs by comparing Telehealth and face-to-face home programs in OT, PT and Speech disciplines.

**Lori Gusman**, DCE, is the new Vice Chairperson of the Florida Consortium of Clinical Educators. She is currently implementing a new electronic based system for managing the clinical education program.

**Willie Haskins** was featured in the November 2005 issue of *PT Magazine*. She described the FIU physical therapy program’s successful efforts in minority student recruitment and retention and made recommendations for physical therapist education in the US.

**Mark Rossi**, was awarded the Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award from Touro College, New York.

**Colleen Rose-St. Prix**, is the Director of Retention and Recruitment and the PT program representative on the Health Careers Opportunity Program Grant. She is the School of Health Sciences representative to the College of Health & Urban Affairs Faculty Assembly Steering Committee.

**Leonard Elbaum** developed and began teaching a Junior level course for FIU Honor’s College entitled “Walking.” Interdisciplinary content includes anatomy and biomechanics of walking, walking robots, psychology and sociology of walking impairments, and a brief history of walks for charity, religious pilgrimages, and significant marches in world history. **Helen Cornely** is also teaching in the Honor’s College.

## Alumni News:

**Karen Amador (2002)** is currently employed at BROG physical therapy.

**Patrice (Simmons) Antony (1980)** is currently a CGS and President of Elder Advocates in Orlando, FL.

**Raymond Beane (1983)** is Director of Rehabilitation Services at the Jupiter Medical Center.

**Orlyne Beauchamp (1975)** is in private practice at the Anderson Area Medical Center.

**Rachel Behar (2000)** is at Miami Children's Hospital.

**Tom Fischer (1989)** is FPTA East Central Region Director and the FPTA board liaison to the private practice special interest group.

**Ivelin Garcia (2002)** is at Parkway Regional Medical Center and recently rode her bike to raise funds for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

**Trish Stemrich-Harris (1979)** is a management consultant for Heartland Rehabilitation.

**Roxana Molina (2001)** is at Cora Rehab.

**Elizabeth (Beth) Morris (1989)**, former manager of inpatient therapy at Memorial Regional Hospital, is currently applying to the DPT program at Boston University.

**Angelina (Garcia) Nagengast (2002 & 2004)** is currently employed at Health South Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation.

**Ellen O'Bannon (1982)** is Vice President of the FPTA, Chair of the FPTA Legislative Panel and delegate to the 2006 APTA House of Delegates. Also on the Florida delegation: **Eric Shamus (1992)** and **Gary Walters (1983)**.

**Ingrid Pichardo (1996)** is a part time physical therapist and a full time pediatrics physician's assistant at Kidsville Pediatrics. She is engaged to be married in November 2005.

**Julia M. Sanchez (2003)** is a pediatric physical therapist at the Center for Pediatric Therapy.

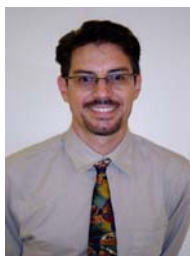
**Dan Shea (1982)** owns Shea Physical Therapy in Corpus Christi, TX.

**Elizabeth Sierra (1998 & 2003)** is currently employed at Florida Medicaid in the Agency of Health Care Administration.

**Roland Thomee, PhD (1979)** is Associate Professor at the Lundberg Laboratory for Orthopaedic Research at the Sahlgrenska University Hospital in Göteborg, Sweden.

**Neil Trickett (1998)** is in private practice in Boynton Beach and pursuing a Doctorate in Osteopathic manual practice.

**IN MEMORIAM: John Chartor (1978)**, president of Dadeland Physical Therapy, passed away in May at the age of 57. John, is survived by his wife, Hannah and his children Kessem, Savyon and Ilan. His love of sports (John played football in high school and college) led John into a career in physical therapy. He has been described as "a mender of broken spirits [and] a healer of broken bones. . . [whose] unflinching intellectual curiosity, keen insight into human nature, quiet reserve and emotional sensitivity . . . endeared him to all." (Obituary, *The Miami Herald*, May 9, 2005)



## Alumni Spotlight: Dr. Eric Shamus

The faculty in the Department of Physical Therapy proudly announce that Eric Shamus, PT, PhD, CSCS will be receiving a Distinguished Alumnus Torch Award from the FIU Alumni Association. Dr. Shamus is a 1992 graduate of Florida International University. In addition to a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Therapy, Eric holds a Master of Science in Biomechanical Trauma, and a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership. He is a certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist through the NSCA, and has a Certificate in Gerontology. He also specializes in biomechanics and therapeutic exercise. Since 1997, Dr. Shamus has held the position of Assistant Professor at Nova Southeastern University in the College of Osteopathic Medicine. He has previously taught at Barry University, Lynn University and Broward Community College. At FIU, his alma-mater, Dr. Shamus has guest lectured on orthopedics and manual therapy. He currently serves as a clinical instructor for physical therapy interns at the Nova Southeastern Osteopathic and Manual Therapy Clinic. He has done over thirty local

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**For information, contact:**  
**Helen Cornely,**  
**Chairperson**  
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### FIU Alumni Lead the Way! Continued from Page 1

for the Miami area. He oversees ten  
Outpatient Physical Therapy facilities and acts  
as a rehabilitation consultant for the National  
Basketball Association's Miami Heat team and  
various Major League Baseball organizations.

**Genie Tuyn, MS, PT,** is a member of the  
Physical Therapy Class of **1992**. Prior to  
entering the field, Genie earned a Bachelor's  
Degree from Florida State University in Food  
Science and a Master's Degree from Florida  
International University in Clinical Dietetics.  
Genie is both a PT and a Registered Dietitian.  
She has worked at Florida Medical Center  
(FMC) for the past 12 years and is currently  
the Director of Rehabilitation Services. FMC  
is a 459 bed acute care hospital, which  
includes a 10,000 sq ft outpatient  
rehabilitation facility.

### Dr. Eric Shamus, Continued from Page 3

regional, national and international  
presentations. Dr. Shamus is a published  
scholar, with over thirty publications,  
including book chapters, peer reviewed  
journal articles and textbooks. He has  
published refereed articles in the *Journal of  
Orthopedics and Sports Physical Therapy*, the  
*Internet Journal of Allied Health Science and  
Practice*, and the *Journal of Allied Health*.  
Currently, he has two textbooks, *Sports  
Injuries Prevention and Rehabilitation*, and  
*Effective Documentation for Physical Therapy  
Professionals*. He is involved with numerous  
research projects and has received faculty  
research grants from NSU and grant funding  
by the Florida Physical Therapy Association.  
He is also a past recipient of a \$10,000  
President's Faculty Scholarship Award at  
NSU.

## Congratulations, 2005 Graduates!



**(Step 1)** Arlene Rojas, Jency George, Kimberly White. **(Step 2)** Emily Steeb, Anthonine Calixte, Christina Price, Raquel Marquez, Jackie Amazon, Natonya Frazier. **(Step 3)** Ramona Lightbourne, Wendy Carbajal, Christine Barrett, Peta-Gay Weir, Marangela Obispo, Jermaine Brantley, Nina McGraw, Amy Baxter, Rugord Domond. **(Step 4)** Anthony Maritato, Richard Rosado, Vivian Galindo, Angelitta Bruce-Morency, Armando Cruz, David Sanchez, Edd Silverman, Emilio Solares, Beth Macey, Luis Roa. **(Back row)** Mike Weiss, Robert Middaugh, Nicholas Kutney, Matt Armstrong, Jorge Vinals, Felipe Otero, Sayed Muhammad.  
**Not shown:** Eric Arbide, Jessica Armas, Jose Rivera, Gena Rosenzweig, Renzo Velis, Nicole Wojno.