



College of Health &
Urban Affairs

School of Health
Sciences

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Tribute to our Adjunct Faculty

Erasmio L. Alvarez, MSPT, CSCS is center coordinator for clinical education at Baptist Doctors Hospital. Along with that responsibility, he works as a per deim physical therapist at Memorial Miramar Hospital. He also serves as clinical educator for medical residents, fellows and physicians. As an adjunct faculty, Erasmio teaches Musculoskeletal Diagnosis and Management II during the first term of the summer semester. This course is offered to the first year physical therapy graduate students. His professional training includes depression and patient care, advanced technology for therapists and complementary therapies in rehabilitation. He has been a featured guest speaker at the 9th Annual Sports Medicine Symposium and on the local NBC6 news.



Martha Henao Bloyer, MPT has been at FIU since Summer 2001. She has supervised students during their clinical internships and has taught Current Topics to the Pre-PT students. She is currently teaching Musculoskeletal I Lab and



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Welcome Back Steve Bernstein !!

Steven Bernstein, PT, PhD has rejoined the Department of Physical Therapy as a Clinical Assistant Professor. Dr. Bernstein left the faculty temporarily to serve the College of Health & Urban Affairs in an administrative capacity as the Director of Technology. Currently, Steve is serving as webmaster for the School of Health Sciences and manager of the School's instructional computer lab, and as Director of Admissions for the Department of Physical Therapy. Steve's expertise is in the areas of neuroscience, motor control theory, and technology applications. His scholarly interests include Telehealth applications such as monitoring patients and their caregivers in the home health setting. Steve has also been experimenting with solar electrical systems, and hopes to develop a system that will provide an alternative power source for electrical wheelchair users in emergency situations. Steve is teaching Neurological Diagnosis and Management and supervising internships in the graduate program. He is also teaching Information & Communication Technology and Current Topics in Physical Therapy in the pre-Physical Therapy curriculum. This summer, Steve will be teaching Information and Communications for Health Care Professionals for the first time online via the Web. Steve says, "I look forward to hearing students' comments regarding the use of web technology in the pre-PT curriculum."



A Message From Our Chairperson: Dr. Helen Cornely



Greetings from FIU Physical Therapy. We are all staying busy here in the FIU Department of Physical Therapy as you can see from the many articles and presentations that are being done by the Physical Therapy Faculty. Many often see academics as being apart from the "real world" but I see all the amazing contributions the "academics" are making to provide the evidence for the interventions in the clinic. We hope to see many of you in Orlando this June for the Annual Conference and Exposition of the American Physical Therapy Association. Congratulations to our most recent graduating class, the CLASS OF 2005! It is always with sadness that we say goodbye to each graduating class but experience gladness as we look to the future with pride knowing the huge impact the FIU PT grads will make in their careers. It is with excitement and anticipation that here at FIU PT we have embarked on the transition of the MS PT to a Doctorate in Physical Therapy. This is a university and then statewide approval process that takes time and diligence at each step. Presently, the DPT proposal has been approved at the School and College level and by the Faculty Senate, and is awaiting approval by the University Graduate Dean, the Provost, the President, the FIU Board of Trustees and finally, if all progresses well, the Florida Board of Governors. This will occur hopefully by the Fall of 2006. We are anxious to gain approval for the DPT as we want to be able to offer the BEST in physical therapy education to all our constituents. Stay tuned for our progress towards the DPT.

Faculty Activities

Publications

Haskins AR, Kirk-Sanchez N.

Recruitment and retention of students from minority groups. *Physical Therapy*. 2006;86:19-29.

Roberts L. "Post-fall Treatment" *Physical Therapy Products*, October 2005.

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.

Rossi MD, Brown LE, Whitehurst M. Early strength response of the knee extensors during eight weeks of resistive training after unilateral total knee arthroplasty. *The Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research*, November 2005.

Rossi MD, Hasson S, Kohia M, Pineda E, Bryan W. Mobility and perceived function after total knee arthroplasty. *The Journal of Arthroplasty*, January 2006.

Rossi, MD Brown L and Whitehurst M. Assessment of hip extensor and flexor strength, 2 months after unilateral total hip arthroplasty. *The Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research*. May 2006.

Presentations

Cornely H. Environmental factors implicated with falls in older adults traveling through a major airport in 2003. Platform presentation accepted for PT 2006, the Annual Conference and Exposition of the American Physical Therapy Association, Orlando, FL, 2006.

Rossi MD, Hasson S, Vinals J, Brantley J, Armstrong M. The relationship between mobility, perceived abilities and two different modes of the lower extremity strength assessment following primary unilateral knee replacement. Platform presentation accepted for PT 2006, the

Annual Conference and Exposition of the American Physical Therapy Association, Orlando, FL, 2006.

Ryan E, Lopez R, **Rossi MD**, Jacobs P. The effects of contract relax antagonist-contract form of PNF stretching on postural stability. Poster accepted for presentation at the 53rd Annual Meeting of the College of Sports Medicine, Denver, Colorado, June 2006.

Haskins AR, Bruce A. Is there a relationship between a physical therapist's race or ethnicity and the type of population served? Poster accepted for presentation at PT 2006, the Annual Conference and Exposition of the American Physical Therapy Association, Orlando, FL, 2006.

Haskins AR, Kirk-Sanchez N. Cultural competence and cultural diversity in physical therapy: Current status and future trends. Refereed educational session accepted for presentation at PT 2006, the Annual Conference and Exposition of the American Physical Therapy Association, Orlando, FL, 2006

Other

Leonard Elbaum is currently Teaching a course for the Honors College entitled "Aesthetics, Values and Authority-Walking", which uses walking as a point of departure for assignments and discussion. In connection with the course, he helped his students organize the first annual 'Aids Walk for Orphans' on February 6, 2006 to raise money for children orphaned by HIV/AIDS. There were over 200 participants who raised more than \$6,000. Online contributions are still being accepted at:

<http://www.firstgiving.com/drelbaum>.

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 has been invited to serve as a "Knowledge Network Facilitator" for the "Multicultural Networking" knowledge network breakfast at PT 2006 in Orlando on Friday, June 23rd.

Lisa Roberts is an item writer for the geriatric specialties exam.

Colleen Rose-St. Prix is the Director of Retention and Recruitment and the PT program representative on the Health Careers Opportunity grant. As part of this grant, Colleen has developed a Partnership in Excellence with the health magnets for Miami-Dade County Public Schools and has been conducting recruiting activities at Miami-Dade College. She is the School of Health Sciences representative to the College of Health & Urban Affairs Steering Committee.

Scholarship Recipients: Class of 2007

Greg Esposito/Pinecrest Hospital Memorial Scholarship:
Aracelly Latino

Mercedes Zabaleta Scholarship:
Kendrick Summers

Mary Hurst Memorial Scholarships:
Melissa Jean-Baptiste
Fernando Rodriguez
Damion Salmon

Alumni News:



Dr. Eric Shamus, class of 1992 (third from the left) received the FIU Alumni Association Distinguished Alumnus Torch Award at a reception/dinner/dance held on February 11th at Parrot Jungle. Among those helping him celebrate were (from left to right) Dr. Helen Cornely (Chairperson of the Department of Physical Therapy) his wife Jennifer Shamus, Dr. Modesto A. Maidique (President of FIU) and his partner Nancy Agüero, and his grandparents Irving and Roslyn Cohen.

Physical Therapy Student Association:



PTSA officers (from left to right): Theresa Lima, Cynthia Espinal, Kathy Cancino, Lynn Buergo and Aracelly Latino.

FIU's Physical Therapy Student Association (PTSA) was created to keep an open line of communication between students and faculty in the physical therapy department, and the rest of the FIU community. It also function to represent FIU at the American Physical Therapy Association's (APTA's) national, state, and local conferences and to raise money for students currently in the program to pay for things such as name tags for clinical internships, meetings and other events. The PTSA is open to all students in the program, faculty, and alumni and like other campus clubs is held to the standards set forth by the Student Organizations Council (SOC). With the arrival of the physical therapy class of 2007, the PTSA has flourished. New officers were elected in the fall 2005 semester and are as follows: President- Cynthia Espinal, Vice President- Lynn Buergo, Secretary- Aracelly Latino, Treasurer- Theresa Lima, and Historian- Kathy Cancino. In the fall, the members held a canned food drive for Thanksgiving, a Christmas toy drive and participated in Hands on Miami day, planting trees and flowers to beautify sections of the city. During the spring 2006 semester, members raised over \$400 and walked in the first FIU AIDS Walk for Orphans, played intramural basketball and soccer, and participated in the Creative Children's Therapy Arts and Games Fair, helping disabled kids have a day of fun at the park. Each semester, the PTSA has also participated in the SOC Club Fair, promoting physical therapy and the PTSA.

(Tribute to Adjunct Faculty, continued from page 1)

Diagnosis and Management of Disease Lab. Martha continues to work part-time as a contract therapist. She has been employed by Miami-Dade County Public Schools since 1998 but is currently on a leave of absence. She has volunteered for 2 years with her children's participation in the "Trike-a-thon" to benefit St. Jude's Research Hospital.

Thomas Eberle, graduated D'Youville College in 1998 with a Master's Degree in Science and Physical Therapy. In 2000, he completed a two year doctoral level program in orthopedic manual therapy with the Ola Grimsby Institute. Mr. Eberle has been with Florida International University since 2001. He teaches Musculoskeletal Diagnosis and Management as well as other orthopedic related courses. Currently, Mr. Eberle is supervisor of rehab for the Orthopedic Institute at Holy Cross Hospital. He is pursuing a Doctorate of Manual Therapy.



Suzana Simoes, PT, MEd studied PT in Brazil. Her first job was in a neurological outpatient rehabilitation clinic. She then moved to the US in 1994 to work for the University of Miami as an EMG biofeedback technician. Suzana was licensed as a PT in the US in 1997. After completing a post graduate course in PNF from Vallejo, CA in 1998, Suzana returned to Miami to work at the Miami Jewish Home and Hospital for the aged. In 2003 Suzana graduated with a Masters of Exercise Physiology from the University of Miami. Suzana is completing the t-DPT program at Nova Southeastern University and will be graduating in June, 2006. Suzana specializes in EMG biofeedback, geriatrics and neurological rehabilitation.



Class of 2005, Capstone Seminar

**DEPARTMENT OF
PHYSICAL
THERAPY**

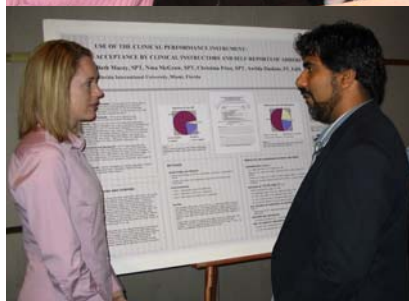
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Above

(clockwise from top left): Peta-Gay Weir, Angelitta Bruce and Arlene Rojas; Emilio Solares, Felipe Otero, Prof. Colleen Rose-St. Prix, Michael Weiss; Jency George, Jermaine Brantley, Anthony Maritato; Beth Macey and Sayed Muhammed.

Left: Award winners (left to right); Arlene Rojas, Nick Kutney, Emily Steeb, Angelitta Bruce, Marangela Obsipo, Robert Middaugh, Emilio Solares, Michael Weiss, Christine Barrett, Christina Price, Luis Roa, Beth Macey, Jackie Amazon.

Below (left to right): Dean Noma Anderson, Dr. Leonard Elbaum, Andrea Walkes, Dr. Steve Bernstein, Angelitta Bruce, Anthonine Calixte examining a poster presentation.

PT Grads!
We'd Like to Hear From You!
To share your news, photos, & ideas please email us at:
haskins@fiu.edu

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The Physical Therapy Program relies on the goodwill of its alumni and friends to enhance the quality of its programs and services.

Please consider making a donation or establishing an endowment to benefit the Departmental teaching, research and service missions.

For information, contact:
Helen Cornely,
Chairperson
cornelyh@fiu.edu

Class of 2005, Awards of Excellence

Foundational Science

Jacqueline Amazon
Robert Middaugh

Musculoskeletal Sequence

Nicholas Kutney
Emilio Solares
Emily Steeb

Neurological Sequence

Jacqueline Amazon
Robert Middaugh

Dimensions of Professional Practice Sequence

Jacqueline Amazon
Christine Barrett
Emily Steeb

Research: Platform Presentation

Work Related Musculoskeletal Disorders that can Affect Physical Therapists by Marangela Obispo, Luis Roa and Emilio Solares (Dr. Willie Haskins, Faculty Advisor)

Research: Poster

Effect of Theratogs on Gait of child with Spastic Cerebral Palsy by Arlene Rojas and Michael Weiss (Dr. Len Elbaum, Faculty Advisor)

Service

Christina Price
Elizabeth Macey
Angelitta Bruce-Morency
Jacqueline Amazon