

Calendar

December:

- Basic ENMG Training 5 Session 2
- CE 5 Session 6
- Nursing 2 Session 4
- Nursing 3 Session 1
- RMUoHP Closed: 12/22-26 and 12/29.

January:

- RMUoHP Closed: 1/1
- DNP 2B Session 2
- DNP 3 Session 1
- ECS Prep Course 4
- OS 3 Session 3
- DNP 2A Session 2
- OS 3 Session 2

February:

- Combined Sections Meeting (APTA)

Spotlights!

- **Dr. Linda Csiza** (Neuro) received a PT faculty appointment at Texas Women's University.
- **Dr. John Rhodes** (DPT) became a certified orthopaedic specialist and opened his own private practice – Rhodes Physical Therapy, Inc.
- **Maritza Rodriguez** (AT student) welcomed baby Kalysta!
- **Dr. Robyn Wu** (OTD) received her pediatric certification from the AOTA and was reappointed for another term as a pediatric content expert for NBCOT's Certification Examination Validation Committee.
- **Dr. Vanessa Dazio** (OTD) presented at the International Employee Assistance Professional Association Conference in October on Sensitivity Training for a Harmonious Workforce.
- **Lynne Romeiser Logan** (Peds DSc student) was elected to the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine.
- **Dr. Kim Galbreath** (DPT) was named an Emerging Leader by the APTA for 2006 and also published - Galbreath K. Patient's journey through knee osteoarthritis: from total knee arthroplasty through the rehabilitation process. *Ortho Phys Ther Prac J.* 2006;18(2):19-24.
- **Dr. Patricia J. Flemming** (Ger DSc) published in *Home Health Care Service* - Flemming PJ. Utilization of a screening tool to identify homebound older adults at risk for falls: validity and reliability. *Home Health Care Serv Q.* 2006;25(3-4):1-26.

(Spotlights continued at Right.)

Season's Greetings from RMUoHP



As RMUoHP's eighth year comes to a close, the administration and staff celebrate, with fond memories and thankfulness, those students, faculty, and friends who have contributed to the University's success, growth, and influence in the healthcare community. This newsletter has listed dozens of faculty, student, and alumni publications and presentations, peer-reviewed research, and receipt of recognition, awards, and certifications. Altruistic students and an exceptional faculty of healthcare leaders - all of whom are passionate about their respective professions - have blessed the University.

RMUoHP also saw many exciting changes in the last year! At this time last year, RMUoHP announced the receipt of Candidacy for regional accreditation and shortly thereafter opened a fifth degree program – the transitional Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP). The DNP faculty and students exemplify RMUoHP's mission and the administration looks forward to the first DNP cohort completing their degree requirements in 2007, under the guidance of Dr. Roger Green. Additionally, 2006 brought new, innovative pediatric and hand therapy elective tracks to the transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) and transitional Doctor of Occupational therapy (OTD) programs, under the guidance of Drs. Jane Sweeney and Susan Michlovitz, respectively.

In 2007, RMUoHP looks forward to its first post-candidacy site evaluation and two symposia – the Evidence-based Clinical Decision Making Conference (in conjunction with the University of South Florida) and the 18th Annual Electroneuromyography Symposium. We especially look forward to the continued success of our remarkable students, faculty, and alumni. In this time of joy and thanksgiving, we look to these groups in appreciation for supporting RMUoHP's mission and contribution to the improvement healthcare education and practice. We wish you a blessed 2007.

The Staff and Administration of RMUoHP

RMUoHP Mission Statement

Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions is dedicated to educating healthcare professionals in a scholarly environment that benefit from the sharing of ideas within and across University programs. Programs provide University students the opportunity to thrive as excellent and competent evidence-based practitioners who are ethically aware, socially responsible healthcare providers who will be leaders in the healthcare arena. Through a diverse and culturally competent student body, faculty, staff, administration, and Board of Trustees; the University strives to:

- Provide dynamic educational experiences that contribute to the creation, development, and promulgation of new knowledge;
- Promote critical thinking;
- Focus practitioners on achieving skills essential to the advancement of practice,
- And, prepare professionals to assume leadership roles in healthcare, academia, and research.

Spotlights! (Continued)

- **Dr. Philip Plisky** (Ortho DSc), **Dr. Mitch Rauh** (Director of Research), and **Dr. Frank Underwood** (faculty) published in the *Journal of Orthopaedic and Sports Physical Therapy* - Plisky PJ, Rauh MJ, Kaminski TW, Underwood F. Star Excursion Balance Test as a predictor of lower extremity injury in boys and girls high school basketball players. *J Orthop Sports Phys Ther* 2006;36(12):911-919.
- **Mary Weddle** (Geriatric DSc), **Ryan Christoff** (Orthopaedic DSc), and **Kevin Kemp-Smith** (Orthopaedic DSc) successfully defended their dissertations! **Elaine Armantrout** (Clinical Electro DSc) defends her dissertation in January – good luck, Elaine!
- **Dr. Debra Alviso** (DPT) was appointed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to the Physical Therapy Board of California to serve a three-year term.
- **Dr. Julie Barnett** (DPT) was accepted to present on *EBM and Overuse Injuries in Runners* at the 2007 national APTA conference. Julie's presentation comes directly from her DPT coursework.
- **Dr. Ed Ramsey** (DPT) welcomed a son, Nicholas, on December 15!

Have news to share? Email Jessica Egbert at jegbert@rmuohp.edu!

Student Spotlight



**Maria Kidner,
RN, MSN,
FNP-C**

Maria Kidner began her career as a nurse practitioner in ER trauma, but after her first medical mission to Guyana in 2004, her focus changed to cardiology. She applied for graduate school in 2006 at RMUoHP and says, "The rest is history, as I am at RMUoHP, studying hard, working fulltime, and still trying to squeeze in a few medical missions to help those I have come to admire and love." She recently returned from another medical mission in Guyana, where she has previously served as a clinical instructor in this political, confusing nursing community. Maria taught nursing students how to integrate knowledge of laboratory data, medications, and diagnosis to patients, and how to do physical exams.

The first trip resulted in a grant from the Wyoming Council of Catholic Women to internationally help mothers and babies (education and financial support). With four other nurse practitioners, she sought to improve labor and delivery conditions which were impacted by culture and lack of education. The results of the trip will lead to the development of hospital-wide prenatal classes. She is also seeking to change a culture in which mothers are treated without love or respect. During this recent visit, the group also prepared lectures and classes on cardiology, neurology, recovery room care, and abdominal assessment, and leadership. Regarding her experience in Guyana, Maria wrote, "This is my hope: that we do make a difference. Even if to only one nurse, it is a difference that can expand."

Dr. Roger Green, Program Director for RMUoHP's DNP program, said, "Maria Kidner exemplifies outstanding leadership and commitment to improving healthcare disparities both in her local community and on an international level. Maria's recent mission to Guyana portrays her willingness to provide service to vulnerable populations and improve healthcare systems. I am confident that obtaining her Doctorate of Nursing Practice degree will help her fulfill her goals in being an outstanding leader and clinician."

This Alumni or Student Spotlight is a regular feature on the unique accomplishments of outstanding alumni or students as identified specifically by the faculty of RMUoHP.

Accreditation Update: Call for Comments

RMUoHP is in the candidacy phase of regional accreditation with the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (Candidate for Accreditation status was awarded on November 29, 2005). An important milestone will occur in late April when 5 site visitors will come to the RMU campus for a 3-day visit to assess University progress since the last site visit in April 2005.

Candidate for Accreditation status is a pre-accreditation, affiliate status with NWCCU following a specified procedure for application, institutional self-study, and on-site evaluation. Candidacy is not accreditation and does not ensure eventual accreditation. It is an indication that an institution complies with the eligibility requirements of NWCCU, and is progressing toward accreditation.

RMUoHP invites comments regarding the University's qualifications for continued candidacy status to be sent directly to the Commission no later than 30 days prior to the site visit dates. Comments will be shared with site evaluators and with RMUoHP. Please see Commission Policy A-5 for more information (www.nwccu.org), or contact **NWCCU**:

**8060 165th Avenue N.E., Suite 100
Redmond, WA 98052-3981
Phone: 425-558-4224**

RMUoHP will be contacting current and former students to be available by phone to assist the site visitors in gathering feedback. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Dr. Stan Hartgraves at shartgraves@rmuohp.edu or toll free 866-780-4107.

General Reminders

- Electronic Library Fee – Effective January 1, 2007 all students will be assessed a \$50 per session electronic library fee to defray the costs and increase holdings for RMUoHP's electronic (online) library.
- The La Quinta Inn and Suites rates will go up to \$59 per night beginning in 2007.
- For those students and alumni attending CSM, RMUoHP will not hold the traditional reception in 2007. Come see us at our booth!
- RMUoHP and University of South Florida are hosting the Evidence Based Clinical Decision Making Conference in Park City, Utah on March 2-3, 2007. Conference information and registration form are available on the RMUoHP website (www.rmuohp.edu) under the Non-degree Programs link.
- The 18th Annual ENMG Symposium is April 13-14, 2007 in Provo, Utah. To register, download the registration information from the Non-degree Programs link of the RMUoHP website!

Resource Center Updates Marilyn Schwartz, MLS

Finding Research Instruments

The medical librarian has compiled a guide for finding research instruments. The guide is currently being distributed to students who come to campus. If you would like a copy of this guide, which includes lists of books, databases, and Internet sites, please email Shanin Phillips at sphillips@rmuohp.edu

Finding Dissertations

Some universities will loan dissertations through interlibrary loan. They usually charge a fee to copy or to loan the original. The fastest method for obtaining a dissertation is to use the UMI/Proquest website. The charge is often \$41.00 (it's like buying a book). Dissertations can be requested using the following URL for Dissertation Express:
<http://www.lib.umi.com/dxweb/gateway>.

Publishing Your Article and Copyright

When you publish an article, consider submitting an addendum when you sign over your copyright. The addendum would allow you to place your full text article in PubMedCentral or on your organization's website for others to read. Placement of your article must be on a site that is non-commercial or government sponsored (such as NIH). For more information and a copy of the addendum form, email Marilyn Schwartz at mschwartz@rmuohp.edu

"Plenty of people miss their share of happiness, not because they never found it, but because they didn't stop to enjoy it."

-William Feather