

Calendar

June:

- AT 3 Session 1
- AT 2 Session 5
- Nursing 3 Session 3
- AANP Conference
- NATA Conference
- APTA Annual Conference

July:

- Independence Day (Closed)
- Peds 5 Session 2
- UTHSCSA/ACE EBP Conference
- NWCCU Meeting
- Basic ENMG 6 Session 2
- DNP 4 Session 1
- OS 3 Session 5
- AT 2 Session 6
- AT 3 Session 2

August:

- Board of Trustees Meetings
- University Council Meetings
- Alumni Banquet
- Commencement Exercises
- AANA Conference
- DPT 12 Session 2
- OTD 8 Session 2
- Nursing 2 Session 6
- Basic ENMG 7 Session 1

Notices

- **All faculty, students, and alumni** – To prevent RMUoHP emails from winding up in your spam box, add rmuohp.edu as a safe email domain!
- **RMUoHP DSc Grads** - Are you interested in getting your DPT? Many of your DSc credits will transfer to the DPT program! For more information, contact Jessica Egbert at jegbert@rmuohp.edu!

Accreditation Update

Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions (RMUoHP) held its first post-candidacy site evaluation on April 30-May 2, 2007 in conjunction with the regional accreditation process. The purpose of this site visit was to demonstrate progress during the 54-month candidacy phase and to continue candidacy. The site evaluation team noted progress since the previous site visit in April 2005 and RMUoHP received many commendations and recommendations, including a commendation for the University's commitment to the accreditation process.

In July, RMUoHP representatives will travel to Seattle to meet with the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) commissioners. An official judgment regarding continuance of candidacy will be issued following this meeting and RMUoHP will receive notice in August.

The second post-candidacy site visit is scheduled for October 1-3, 2008. This site visit will help determine the remaining timeline for the regional accreditation process, including future site visits. RMUoHP has until May 2010 to achieve regional accreditation with NWCCU.

In addition to seeking regional accreditation, RMUoHP recently submitted a Self Evaluation Report to the Distance Education and Training

Council (DETC) in pursuance of national accreditation with their organization. If successful, this process may be completed within the first half of 2008. National accreditation is secondary to regional accreditation, however many institutions' specialized curricula or models that may not meet regional accreditation criteria are appropriate for national accreditation. The DETC is a national accrediting body that targets institutions with programs of study that are offered at least in a 50% distance format, such as RMUoHP's programs following the unique, limited-residency model. The DETC is recognized by the Department of Education. If successful in gaining national accreditation for RMUoHP's qualified programs, students in these programs will be qualified for federal financial aid.

As many institutions carry both regional and national accreditation, students are thus assured that high standards are maintained whether traditional or distance educational formats are used. As candidates for regional accreditation and now having submitted our application for initial accreditation for national accreditation, students can be confident in RMUoHP's commitment to these processes.

For more information on the definitions and implications of these processes, visit the NWCCU website at www.nwccu.org and the DETC website at www.detc.org.

RMUoHP Confers First DNP Degrees

In June, the Board of Trustees of RMUoHP conferred the University's first Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degrees to George Herk Albrecht, Jr. and Constance Morrison. Regarding DNP Graduate Program Director Dr. Roger Green, Morrison stated, "With his combination of leadership and enthusiasm, Dr. Green valued DNP students as colleagues and motivated us as learners."

Opened at RMUoHP in January 2006, following approval from the State of Utah Division of Consumer Protection and the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, RMUoHP's DNP program prepares advanced clinical leaders to affect change through system redesign and evidence-based decision making in a variety of clinical settings. Through coursework, directed independent study, and a capstone project, DNP graduates are well prepared to influence health and social policy for diverse populations in a variety of settings. The program outcomes are consistent with RMUoHP's vision of developing master healthcare professionals

and leaders with advanced, evidence-based skills who critically review the literature, participate in research, and advance knowledge through publication and dissemination of scholarly and clinical endeavors. The higher degree of clinical skill and knowledge provided by the degree can advance clinical nursing practice and help keep pace with demands for clinical leaders and advanced practice educators. This degree is also consistent with the recent move by the nursing profession towards the DNP as the entry-level degree for advance practice nurses by 2015.

Regarding this University milestone, Dr. Sandra Pennington, Academic Dean, commented, "The awarding of these degrees represents another milestone in the University's growth and contribution to evidence-based education and healthcare. The innovative program fulfills a critical niche in increasing evidence-based clinical and academic skills within the nursing profession. We look forward to the continued success of the program and its students and graduates."

Student Spotlight



Major Doral Gonzales, FNP

Major Doral Gonzales, senior officer and Army reservist and Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) student at RMUoHP, recently returned from a tour of duty in Iraq where she served as an emergency room nurse outside of Baghdad. While in Iraq, Doral's life was filled with danger and chaos - with daily life saving opportunities and tragedies.

Her experience in Iraq was extraordinarily different than her regular life, which she enjoys with her husband, Rafael, three children, and two granddaughters. Before deployment, Doral worked as a family nurse practitioner and midwife, as well as director of nursing, at several rural health clinics in Watsonville, California. Regarding her experience in Iraq, Doral said, "Knowing that we have actually saved someone's life in some of the most gruesome circumstances gives us a feeling of confidence and self worth that will remain for a lifetime."

While in Iraq, Doral continued to work on her DNP degree. "Working on the DNP degree has helped me stay focused and has helped me maintain my insanity in this "insanity of war," she said. Doral's capstone project for the DNP degree is focusing on post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) screening. The project is expected to have a substantial impact on screening of mental health conditions for active duty military personnel.

(Continued on page 3.)

Commencement Speakers Selected

RMUoHP is pleased to announce the 2007 commencement speakers - the commencement address will be given by Kathleen Stevens, RN, EdD, MS, FAAN and the alumni speaker is Sonia Paquette, OTD, OTR/L, CPE, ABVE-D. The speakers, who address the University community at the August Commencement Exercises, were selected for their expertise and contribution to healthcare and evidence-based practice. This celebration promises to be an uplifting experience and RMUoHP looks forward to the celebration!

Dr. Stevens is professor of nursing at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and founding director of the Academic Center for Evidence-based Practice (ACE), where she leads an effort to advance evidence-based quality improvement through research, education, and practice. She is an investigator with the Veterans Evidence-based Research, Dissemination, and Implementation Center for VHA with emphasis on systematic reviews and organizational change for evidence-based quality improvement. Her research includes comparison of evidence-based and traditional interventions in reducing health risk behavior. Dr. Stevens serves as an advisor to hospitals seeking Magnet Recognition status and education programs in adopting EBP curricula. She served as an expert on the Institute of Medicine's report, Preventing Medication Errors, and initiated the Summer Institute on Evidence-Based Practice. At the national level, Dr. Stevens is an elected

officer on the board of governors of the National League for Nursing. She received her bachelor's degree in nursing from Northwestern State University of Louisiana, her master's degree in maternal child health from Texas Woman's University, her doctorate in health science research and education from the Baylor College of Medicine/University of Houston program, and is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.

Dr. Paquette received her Occupational Therapy degree from McGill University in 1987, a graduate degree in ergonomics in 1993 from the Montreal Polytechnic Engineering Institute, and a doctorate in occupational therapy from RMUoHP in 2007. Since 1990, she has helped workers maintain their work status or get back to employment after an injury or a disease, using their own work and personal activities as core therapeutic modalities. She is primarily involved with people having sustained musculoskeletal injuries but also works with people with neurological impairments following a brain injury or a stroke and with people with mental health disorders. Since 1999, she has served as an expert witness in diverse legal arenas for many cases. Her interests include the work psychosocial and organizational contexts and their impact on workers' return to work. She published and presented for rehabilitation, medical and legal audiences.

Resource Center Updates Marilyn Schwartz, MLS

Using Loansome Doc for Interlibrary Loans

Loansome Doc ("loan some documents") is a great resource for requesting copies of full-text articles not found on PubMed, Ovid, or other free resources. Loansome Doc is part of the National Library of Medicine's automated interlibrary loan system. It allows individuals to send references found on PubMed or Ovid to RMUoHP library staff (or your local library) for convenient interlibrary loan processing. Loansome Doc permits users to track the loan processing status and ensures library staff receive complete references for articles, which improves response speed. To use Loansome Doc, users must go to **Pubmed.gov**, complete a search, and register to use it (first time only). If sending a request to RMUoHP library staff, use the library ID (LIBID) "UTUIHI". If using a local library, contact that library for their LIBID and follow their procedures. Most libraries charge a fee unless you are on staff at their institution. To learn a step-by-step approach and gain additional information about Loansome Doc, visit the following websites -

- http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/factsheets/loansome_doc.html
- <http://nmlm.gov/rsdd/loansome/firststeps.html>

Free full-text journal websites

The RMUoHP Library website has been updated with a list of websites that often have free journal articles. Click on the Library link at the bottom of the RMUoHP website and select "Free Full-text Journal

Websites) from the options on the left side of the Library link. Some websites require registration for access to the websites.

Library Staff Changes

RMUoHP is pleased to welcome W. Michael Nielson as a new library assistant. Mike joined library services staff part-time in February. Mike also works at the Utah Valley Regional Medical Center library. Mike's responsibilities at RMUoHP include finding articles locally or on interlibrary loan and handling library service administrative duties. Krista Beaman, administrative assistant for student services, also assists in the library part-time as well. Marilyn Schwartz, RMUoHP's medical librarian, will be retiring in 2007 after a full-time replacement is recruited. Marilyn will spend her free time helping her aging mother and attending as many film festivals as possible.

Note from the Administration: Marilyn Schwartz's brilliance, dedicated service, and uplifting spirit will be truly missed at RMUoHP. Marilyn has made momentous contributions to the growth of the University during her tenure and leaves a respected legacy of customer service, integrity, and laughter. We wish Marilyn a joyful retirement and encourage all of those who would share in our well wishes to email Marilyn at mschwartz@rmuohp.edu.

Spotlights!

Dr. Roger Green, DNP Graduate Program Director, commented regarding Doral's contribution, "The magnitude and possible systems change that will result from Major Gonzales' capstone project is exciting. She is a devoted clinician, leader, and will continue to make significant impacts in the nursing field as a DNP."

Doral recently presented to RMUoHP the flag that flew at the 399th Combat Support Hospital in Iraq. Dr. Richard Nielsen, President, received the flag. Dr. Nielsen commented, "It was an honor for the University to receive this flag, the emblem of liberty and freedom, from Major Doral Gonzales. This flag serves as a reminder of the many healthcare professionals serving in the uniformed services throughout the world, including those engaged in the theatres of combat. We are very proud of RMUoHP's association with active duty and retired students, faculty, and administration representing the various uniformed services."



Major Doral Gonzales presents flag to Dr. Richard Nielsen, RMUoHP President.

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.

- The following individuals recently published in peer-reviewed journals!
 - **Dr. Mitch Rauh** (Director of Research) - Barkai HS, Nichols JF, **Rauh MJ**, Barrack MT, Lawson MJ, Levy SS. Influence of sports participation and menarche on bone mineral density of female high school athletes, *J Sci Med Sport*, 2007,10:170-179.
 - **Dr. Ronald De Vera Barredo** (DPT/Faculty) - **De Vera Barredo R**, Menna D, Farris JW. An evaluation of research evidence for selected physical therapy interventions for plantar fasciitis. *J Phys Ther Sci*. 2007;19:41-56.
 - **Dr. Gail Deyle** (DPT Program Director) - **Deyle GD**, Nagel KL. Prolonged immobilization in abduction and neutral rotation for a first-episode anterior shoulder dislocation. *J Orthop Sports Phys Ther*. 2007;37:192-198.
 - **Dr. Joseph Wells** (OTD) - **Wells JK** Ethical dilemma and resolution: a case scenario. *Indian J Med Ethics* 2006;3:31-33.
 - **Dr. Joseph Wells** (OTD) - **Wells JK**. Application of the Occupational Therapy Practice Framework and evidence-based practice in a clinical situation. *Indian J Phys Ther Occup Ther*. 2007;1:1-113.
- **Michele Monaco, Andrew Lundgren, Kelly Harrison** (Athletic Training DSc students) presented at the College of Mount St. Joseph Athletic Training Educators Summit .
- **Dr. Roger Green**, DNP Program Director, was elected to serve a two-year term on the selection committee for Fellows of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.
- **Dr. Jean Prast** (OTD) and her family welcomed baby Derik Michael on May 10!
- **Dr. Stacy Rumfelt** (OTD) joined the ASHT as a volunteer coordinator to build a research and evidence-based resources to their website.
- **Dr. Mitch Rauh** (Director of Research) was named a Fellow of the American College of Sports Medicine!
- **Sharon Walsh** (Neuro DSc) received tenure at the University of Findlay!
- Baby Bryan Craig joined **Dr. Wendy Richards'** (DPT) family!
- **Eilish Bryne** (Neuro DSc) is teaching The Medically Fragile Child: Treating Across the Continuum for Motivations, Inc. - <https://secure.motivationsceu.com/registration/BrowseCourses.cfm?IngTopicID=3&IngCourseID=97>
- **Stephen Black** (Sports DSc), **Azza Sadek** (Clinical Electro DSc), and **Patricia Braun** (Nursing DSc) successfully defended their dissertations!
- **Michael Berthelette's** (OTD) company, Pegassus Therapy, was highlighted in the June edition of *OT Practice* magazine for their exiting Career Launch Program that ties quality services with evidence.
- **Herk Albrecht, Constance Morrison, Richard Rader, Dee White, Carol Lee Taylor, Kara Baxter**, and **Carole Hogue** successfully defended their DNP capstone projects! **Broc Sanchez** and **Isabelle Amann** will defend their capstone projects in the next month!
- The following individuals presented at the World Confederation for Physical Therapy Conference in Vancouver, BC, Canada - **Vickie Meade** (Peds DSc), **Robbin Hickman** (Peds DSc), **Pat Winkler** (Advanced Neuro DSc) and **Dr. Thubi Kolobe** (Faculty).

*"Reflect on your present blessings,
of which every man has many; not
on your past misfortunes of which
all men have some."
— Charles Dickens*



ROCKY MOUNTAIN UNIVERSITY
OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Official Collection

Order your Official Graduation
Rings and Accessories today!

Call 1.800.854.7464

Created by Jostens on behalf of Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions
Jostens, Inc. • 3601 Minnesota Drive • Minneapolis, MN 55435

