

## Pulitzer Prize Winning Columnist Art Buchwald to Address Graduating Class of 2003

Pulitzer Prize winning columnist, author, and humorist, Art Buchwald will serve as the keynote speaker for the Department of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy's 2003 Commencement Ceremony on May 16. Mr. Buchwald had a stroke in 2000 that left him unconscious for 2 ½ months, went through a long period of rehabilitation, and achieved a remarkable degree of recovery. As a result, he is now a strong advocate of physical therapy. "When you awaken after that long, people expect you to look like Howard Hughes. I came out looking like Jimmy Stewart" he was quoted in the October 2002 issue of *PT Magazine*. "I had to learn how to get in and out of a car, use a computer, and cook a meal. I

had to start all over again. It comes back very slowly" he added.

Mr. Buchwald attended USC in the late 1940's before becoming a journalist. He is syndicated with the Los Angeles Times and writes for hundreds of newspapers from Seattle to Yokohama. He has written thirty-two books including *I Think I Don't Remember*, *Whose Rose Garden Is It Anyway?* and *Lighten Up, George*. He has also written a play, two children's books and two novels. His most recent novel is *Stella in Heaven*.

He was the recipient of the Pulitzer Prize for "Outstanding Commentary" in 1982, and in 1986 was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Mr. Buchwald will be the keynote speaker at the APTA's Annual Conference in June. ■



Diana Walker

*Pulitzer Prize winner, author, and political satirist, Art Buchwald.*

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## Department Website Undergoes a Face Lift

To better serve our alumni, prospective students, and those interested in our varied activities, the Department's website is currently undergoing a face-lift. Located at <http://www.usc.edu/pt>, the most notable updates in the website are a rotating image in the front page and links to the latest happenings in the Department, a Departmental events calendar, a redesigned faculty/staff directory with faculty profiles, and a new Alumni page.

The development of the Alumni page is an effort by the Department to promote and foster an ongoing relationship with our alumni. The page summarizes ways in which alumni can become involved with the Department and provides links to alumni benefits. The page links alumni to the USC Alumni Association web page

which offers various benefits they qualify for as members of the Trojan family including credit union membership, career planning and placement, access to the USC network of libraries, free forwarding e-mail, etc... The Alumni page provides alumni ways to "keep in touch" and to "Support USC PT." A highlight of the page is access to a newly developed PT Alumni Listserve.

The Listserve is designed to allow the Department to communicate with alumni and for alumni to communicate with each other regarding special events, news, continuing education, etc. (See the box on page 3 for instructions on how to subscribe to the Alumni Listserve.)

*(Continued on page 3)*



Dr. James Gordon

### Facilities = Possibilities

When prospective students ask what criteria they should use to compare physical therapy schools, I often say that there are three main areas of comparison: faculty, students, and facilities. I believe that USC has the best faculty and the best students of any physical therapy school in the country, but these are admittedly debatable assertions. What is not arguable, however, is that USC has the most impressive facilities of any physical therapy school in the country, perhaps the world. The Department has over 34,000 sq. feet of dedicated space, including four large teaching laboratories and nine research laboratories with state-of-the-art equipment. We now have a computer laboratory that allows for 30 students at a time to work on computers, browse the Internet, check e-mail, do library searches, and even do video editing.

Superb facilities create great possibilities – the potential to reach greater heights in our teaching and our research. For example, having an anatomy dissection lab allows us to provide access to cadavers for the entire first year, with a full dissection course in the fall and an integrated Kinesiology/Anatomy course in the spring. Needless to say, maintaining and equipping these facilities is expensive. Although our budget takes into account the regular expenses associated with this task, it is often difficult to find the large sums needed to upgrade or purchase new equipment. Your contributions, along with grants from private and public sources, have helped us to obtain the equipment we need to keep the facilities on the cutting edge.

This summer we are planning a major project to build a rather “low-tech” facility within the Department – men’s and women’s locker rooms. Alumni may especially appreciate how much the students need this facility. Students sometimes change clothes two or three times a day and currently have no place to keep their clothes or extra books.

Because of the large expense involved in this renovation project, we are asking alumni and friends of the Department to help us defray the costs of building and equipping these facilities. With a contribution of \$200, you can have a small plaque with your name or message affixed to one of the lockers (see enclosed insert for more details). Please help. I know that current and future students will appreciate it.

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "James Gordon".

### Helen Ziler ('70)

by Gretchen Roehr (DPT '03)

It was sheer accident.” That is how Helen Ziler describes the many milestones in her life. “Sheer accident” that she went into the field of physical therapy, “sheer accident” that she met her husband, and “sheer accident” that she was hired on as faculty at USC; and it was “sheer luck” that oddly enough, brought her to retirement and around the world and back.



Helen was born 83 years ago in Baltimore, Maryland. She later went to Brooklyn College in New York and received a degree in science. After graduation she began to wonder what to do as a career. She originally was thinking of going into teaching, but in the years leading up to World War II the world was filled with teachers. She saw a flyer that the government had placed requesting applicants for an accelerated physical therapy program at Walter Reed General Hospital in Washington DC. She had taken a class at Brooklyn College in corrective exercise and thought that physical therapy sounded fun. So within a few weeks she pulled together the paperwork and transcripts and sent in her application. Months later she was told to report to Walter Reed in two weeks. She, along with Jacqueline Perry, was one of 10 applicants accepted from thousands submitted from all over the United States.

After finishing the program, Helen was stationed at Walter Reed and worked just over a year in electro and radiation therapy and then taught anatomy for a year in the school of physical therapy. She served under the leadership of Colonel E. Vogel who graduated from the first physical therapy class in the U.S. at the end of WWI administered by Mary McMillan. Helen and her colleagues reverentially named her “Mrs. God” due to her fear inspiring presence and “her word was law”. It was at Walter Reed that Helen met and fell in love with her husband, Carl. He was serving in the Army Air Corp when his plane crashed and he suffered severe burns over 50% of his body and lost the sight in his right eye. He was treated for 5 years at Walter Reed and there won the heart of Helen and the admiration and love of all who knew him.

Helen chuckles as she looks back with fondness at her years at Walter Reed. She remembers the long navy dresses with the big, white starched collars and the starched bonnet that was her uniform. She laughs at the regulation that the back of the knee could not be visible when bending forward to treat patients, while the heaviness of the collar made for even greater exposure! Highlights from her career there included riding in an army car, treating foreign diplomats and even the U.S Secretary of State.

After her required year at Walter Reed, Helen decided to leave and marry Carl. Col. Vogel was initially incredibly disappointed. Helen remembers vividly Col. Vogel's words to her that day. "Child, Why do you think I kept you here?" she asked. But when Helen told her she was going to marry Carl, Col. Vogel's demeanor instantly changed. Carl became an instructor at the British Flying and Training School in Florida. Soon after they were married they moved there where they remained until the end of the war.

In 1946, the Zilers moved out to California and soon after had their first child Lorna, followed by their son John two years later and third child Fred, seven and a half years later.

Helen returned to the field of physical therapy in the 1960's after over 20 years absence because there was such a need after the polio epidemic. She heard many cries over the radio for trained therapists and so decided to audit a few classes in anatomy at USC. It was here that she met Roxie Morris, one of the early chairmen of the program at USC. While auditing these classes, Helen found that there was a whole "new world out there". In this new world, however, she needed more than just a few refresher courses and thus enrolled in the masters degree program through USC at Rancho. While she was enrolled at USC she worked at Rancho in their stroke ward. During the latter portion of her study at

USC, the enrollment doubled and Lenny Krusell needed her assistance in the corrective exercise course (see the story highlighting Lenny in the Spring 2002 edition of *USC PT IN MOTION* at [www.usc.edu/pt](http://www.usc.edu/pt)). This then led to her tenure as faculty at USC from 1968 until 1978 teaching dissection anatomy. Helen loved teaching and loved anatomy, especially dissection. She stated that her favorite part was that she had the opportunity to share information with students. One of the students she recalls is Dr. Nina Bradley, one of our present faculty members!

Helen's career in physical therapy ended in 1978 when she had the opportunity to take a trip around the world. She looks back without a moment of regret as "you only live once". She was able to see Iran, Thailand, and Hong Kong. Traveling then became a highlight for her, especially the museums in different portions of the world.

Upon returning from her traveling adventures, she served at USC as a liaison to the main campus and then became involved in the Emeriti Center (Retired Faculty Association) with which she is still very involved today. Though retired, she has not stopped working and continues in her involvement with fellow retired faculty with event planning and reunions. She remains an active participant in family events as well, and with 3 children, 8 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren in Southern California, there is never a dull moment!

Looking back on her career in physical therapy the highlights to her were the people. Because of this, her sole message to those still in the field is to work at relating to their patients; know them on a human level, rather than focusing so much attention on the narrow aspects of impairments and body parts. "Remember these are human beings", she says. Get to know them as one person to another and live life along side of them. ■

## Website *(continued from page 3)*

Current and upcoming projects include development of individual lab pages, a faculty practice page, an online admissions form, and eventually a new look. Visitors to the site are invited to forward comments and suggestions by e-mail to [villagra@usc.edu](mailto:villagra@usc.edu) or telephone at (323) 442-1193.

### How to subscribe to the PT Alumni Listserve

Visit <http://www.usc.edu/pt> and click on the "Alumni" link. In the Alumni page, click "PT Alumni Listserve", complete the form, click "subscribe" and submit. You will receive an e-mail confirmation when your subscription is processed. Your e-mail will be kept confidential and will not be sold to outside vendors. To unsubscribe from the Listserve, follow the same steps but click "Unsubscribe" before submitting the form.

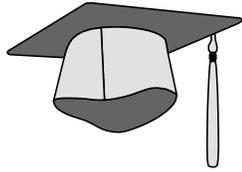
### How to post messages to the PT Alumni Listserve

Once subscribed, alumni can post messages by sending e-mail to [pt-alumni-L@usc.edu](mailto:pt-alumni-L@usc.edu). Messages sent to the Listserve will be delivered once approved by the Department.

Send questions regarding this Listserve to Sarai Villagran ([villagra@usc.edu](mailto:villagra@usc.edu)) or David Loor ([loor@usc.edu](mailto:loor@usc.edu)). ■

### Become a Member of the Emeriti Center

Opportunities to stay involved with USC after retirement are numerous. Opportunities for retiree participation in projects of current faculty members are welcome. Please contact: Elizabeth Redmon, 213-740-7121, or by e-mail at [eredmon@usc.edu](mailto:eredmon@usc.edu).



## Keeping in Touch

### GRAD 1961

*Daphne Carol (Whitelaw) Stoermer* – After selling my 22-year-old private practice, I currently work from home specializing in orthopedic dysfunction. I wrote “Range of Motion, a Therapeutic Home Stretch Program” two years ago (available through [rangeofmotion.net](http://rangeofmotion.net) or [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)). I also teach exercise classes at the local community center and still enjoy tennis, hiking, biking and reading. I have three wonderful granddaughters all living close by. I would love to hear from classmates! ([dstoermer@aol.com](mailto:dstoermer@aol.com))



### GRAD 1967

*Hilary Andrews* – is working per diem for Cummings Physical Therapy and part-time at Casa Dorinda Retirement Center and says that she is “loving it.” She attended the Diagnosis and Treatment of Movement Impairments Syndrome seminar at USC in Summer 2002 and said it was excellent.

### GRAD 1970

*Beverly Toyama* – I’ve been involved with the USC Asian Pacific American Career Mentoring Program since my oldest son was a freshman at USC in 1997. I have had four mentees so far, all female, who have expressed interest in the health professions. I’ve been trying to persuade my YOUNGER Asian colleagues to step up to the plate, so to speak, but no luck. It’s a great program, and you get to meet a lot of fellow alumni so there’s a lot of career networking possible. This program also keeps me in touch with campus life!

### GRAD 1971

*Jack D. Close* – is the president and CEO of Jack D. Close and Associates Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Centers in Las Vegas, NV. His clinic has been recognized as the Best Physical Therapy Practice in the United States for the year 2002, by *Advance for Directors in Rehabilitation/Merion Publications* (November 2002, Vol. 11, No. 11). His practice has expanded to three offices throughout Las Vegas and provide what Mr. Close calls “somewhat eclectic” services, including orthopedic and sports therapy, oncology rehabilitation, vestibular rehabilitation, neurological rehabilitation, and incontinence and lymphedema services. “Vision is the foundation on which you build a practice”, he said. Mr. Close was the commencement speaker for the program in physical therapy at Washington

University, School of Medicine on December 2002 and is presently serving USC as a member of the Board of Councilors.

### GRAD 1979

*Bernardina G. Wilcox-Vaessen* – I have been in private practice in Anaheim since 1983, initially with Hazel Lauderdale and solo since Hazel retired five years ago. I continue to be in awe of the amazing people in this profession: the researchers, APTA leaders, outstanding clinicians and educators. Thank you for all that you contribute! I am still married (25 years in December!) to Bruce Wilcox and we have a 15-year-old daughter, Annemieke, whose hard work and moral awareness inspires me on a daily basis. Bruce’s daughter, Tracy, who was six years old while I was in PT school, is now 31 and working as a make-up artist in L.A. I recently was very happy to reconnect with Tricia Warner, my long lost friend and PT school buddy. Life is great.

### GRAD 1992

*Janet Marie (Kirby) Gangaway* – Janet and Garth are excited to announce their new arrival: Kaitlin Elizabeth Gangaway (right), born January 11, 2002 in Rockville, CT. She was three months old in the picture.



### GRAD 1993

*Martha Schoonmaker* – I had my second child December 27, 2002 and named her Mera Daniels Schoonmaker. JC is very excited about his new little sister. I’m still working in my own small private practice.

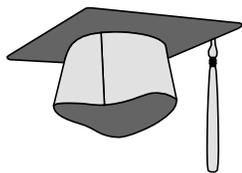
*Kimberly A. Stiles* – I am now Kimberly Smith. I married a wonderful man in 2002. He is a great father for Katlyne, now four and a half years old, and our new addition, Dylan Connor, born October 2, 2002. I am still working as Rehab Director of a SNF rehab center, but putting in less hours to spend more time with family.

### GRAD 1994

*Reiko Allyson Kurihara and Nathan James Bliss* – We have three beautiful, athletic and happy girls: Amanda (5 ½), Nicole (4), and Annie (2 ½) – (three kids in 3 years!)



## Keeping in Touch



Reiko is working part time at Rancho and as an Adjunct faculty at USC. Nate is working as PT Director at Coast PT. We continue to snowboard, windsurf, mountain bike and run with all three kidders! Busy, but loving parenthood and PT!

### GRAD 1995

*Kristin (Winn) Carter* – We were fortunate to be able to buy a home in San Jose in June 2002. We now have three children: Natalie (4), Andrew (2), and Colin (7 months). I am very busy at home, but still find time to work per diem in rehab at Los Gatos Community Hospital. I plan to return to a part-time schedule next year when Natalie enters kindergarten.



### GRAD 1996

*Kirk R. Bentzen* – After graduating as part of the last MPT class of 1996, Dr. Bentzen spent the next 6 years working for the VA Sepulveda. Over four of those years, he worked his way through the Post-Professional DPT program at USC graduating in 2001. Part of his post-professional studies brought him into several Alzheimer's Disease research projects with Dr. Carolee Winstein. One project is nearing submission for publication while the other project (ARCC – Alzheimer's Disease Research Center of California) is currently about midway through data collection. At the start of 2003 Dr. Bentzen transitioned out of patient care at the VA into management at Glendale Adventist Medical Center as the Outpatient Rehab Coordinator. Managing diverse programs including Outpatient Physical Therapy, Aquatic Rehab, Hand Rehab, Massage Therapy, and the Athletic Training program have kept Dr. Bentzen busy since he started the new position. He is currently growing the programs and staff in anticipation of moving into a new state-of-the-art rehabilitation center in Glendale later this year.



*Jimmy Kantor* – Since graduating from USC I have gotten married to Lauren, and have two children, Jake and Caroline. We are expecting another daughter in March 2003. We live in Swampscott, MA, north of Boston. In February 2002, I opened

up my own PT practice, Peak Performance Physical Therapy ([www.PeakPerformancePT.com](http://www.PeakPerformancePT.com)), located in Swampscott. It is a small orthopedic/sports practice. In addition we provide athletic training services to the local high school. In 2002, I became a Board Certified Specialist in Orthopedic Physical Therapy.

### GRAD 1998

*Rob Barnes and Nicole (Peterson) Barnes* – both from the class of '98 had their first baby last summer.

*Daniel John Kirages* – married Cassandra Bakas in September 2001. He passed the OCS exam in June 2002 and graduated from the Orthopaedic Manual Therapy Fellowship program at Kaiser Permanente, Los Angeles in December 2002. He was added to the Kaiser Permanente clinical specialist faculty and will be continuing with patient care at Sunset (L.A.) facility. Dr. Kirages will also be functioning as a mentor in the Southern California Kaiser Permanente Orthopaedic Residency Program in 2003.

### GRAD 1999

*Stephanie Ann Jones and Cuong Pho* – were married September 28, 2002. Both graduated from the Kaiser Orthopedic Manual Therapy Fellowship in December and passed the OCS exam in 2002. Both are also clinical faculty in the Kaiser Orthopaedic Residency.

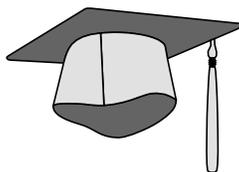


### GRAD 2000

*Julie A. Guthrie* – I hope all is well with everybody. I just qualified for the Boston Marathon in April, so I would love to catch up with any grads that live in MA. I'm having a great time working at Kern PT and for Harbor Regional Center. Happy Holidays, and best wishes for a great 2003!

### GRAD 2002

*Lisa LaMonte* – was elected New Jersey APTA Delegate-At-Large in October 2002.



## Alumni Around the World

### Bhutan

by Kathy Volz Clark, MPT ('87)

Bhutan is a small Buddhist kingdom in the Himalayas, which until recent times has been closed to outsiders. When the Physical Therapy Division of Health Volunteers Overseas ([www.hvousa.org](http://www.hvousa.org)) developed a program there, my husband and I jumped at the chance to volunteer. We took our three kids (ages 5, 7, and 9) and spent four months living in Thimphu, the capital city (population 40,000) in 2002. While working at the National Referral Hospital, I also taught physiotherapy technician students at the Royal Institute of Health Sciences. Teaching eager, earnest nineteen and twenty year old students was delightful. However in a country where rote memorization is the only form of learning that takes place, it was an ongoing challenge to develop a problem solving and analytical style of learning for them.

Pathology from trauma was humbling; X-rays tended to resemble jigsaw puzzles. Burns and their secondary deformities were devastating. Frequently it was several years before a patient showed up to be treated for their deformity. In a country where the majority of the population lived a subsistence lifestyle, it was not uncommon for a patient to be discharged from the hospital with an external fixator device in place, so anxious were they to get back to their farm and family. Outcomes were surprisingly good, this in spite of the fact that perfection was not the expectation in health care as it is in the United States. I was impressed as well as frustrated at times with the degree of acceptance of one's fate following illness or trauma, a reflection of their Buddhist beliefs. Above all, however, this was an unforgettable experience for our whole family. (If you

want to learn more about opportunities with HVO, please contact me at [kathyvclark@hotmail.com](mailto:kathyvclark@hotmail.com). ■

*Staff of the physiotherapy department at Jigme Dorji Wangchuk National Referral Hospital in Thimphu, Bhutan. Kathy Volz Clark is in lower left hand corner.*



*Kathy Volz Clark and family at Dechenphu Monastery, outside of Thimphu, Bhutan.*



### Vietnam

by Stephanie Jones, DPT, OCS ('99) and Cuong Pho, DPT, OCS, ATC ('99)

Cuong and I had the pleasure of starting the New Year in the country of his birth, Vietnam. We spent two weeks volunteering at the Da Nang Orthopedic and Rehabilitation Hospital. Our role as representatives of Health Volunteers Overseas was to mentor physical therapists and physical therapy students. The rehab center for the PT school in Da Nang, one of three PT schools in the country, served as one of the main clinical training sites.

Each day we worked with 6 therapists, 14 students and 2 orthopedic surgeons in this center where the hospital/patient population included all age groups and a spectrum of neurologic and orthopedic cases, including SCI, CVA, cerebral palsy, traumatic extremity fractures and amputees. The physical therapy department was well equipped and the center had a wonderful prosthetics workshop thanks to the assistance of World Vision. The inpatient portion of the hospital provided for about 50 patients. Most of the patient rooms have approximately five beds to a room. The beds, including those for the spinal cords patients, are essentially bed frames with wooden boards that they cover with a woven mat—they have no mattresses.

We were tremendously impressed with our colleagues in Vietnam who are educated without the benefit of the textbooks that we take for granted. Their training is three years long and costs about \$50 a year. It usually takes two years to find a paying job and the pay ranges from \$100-200 a year. They treat a very complicated patient population. Their passion for learning and their profession is an example to all of us. ■



*Cuong working with a 19 year old gentleman with a C6 incomplete spinal cord injury on trunk control.*



*Stephanie and Liem, the Chief therapist at Da Nang Hospital, doing therapeutic exercise on a patient with a radius fracture.*

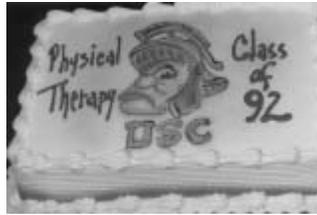
## Class of 1992, Ten-year Reunion

by Susannah (Coppel) Burica, MPT ('92)

Although it has been ten years since the Class of 1992 was trying desperately to write the perfect SOAP note for Professor O'Connor or commit to memory the many neurological tracts for Dr. Winstein, it seems like just yesterday!

To commemorate our ten-year graduation anniversary the Class of 1992 had a dinner party at Stacy Gross's house in Palos Verdes, CA on September 28, 2002 and a family picnic at Irvine Park on September 29. Twenty-five alumni along with some spouses and family, as well as Dr. Rob Landel, one of our instructors, were able to attend these festivities. We were also able to catch up with twelve additional alumni who were not able to make it to the reunion. It was wonderful to visit with everyone again and to hear what has been going on in their lives since graduation! We found out that some alumni now own their own physical therapy practices, some have become independent contractors, while others are presently taking a hiatus from physical therapy to be stay at home parents.

There are even a few alumni who have gone on to pursue different professions. Although our lives may have gone in different directions since graduation, the Class of 1992 will always have the common connection of the two and one half years of daily classes, the tests, the study groups, the laughs, and the life long friends that we were able to make while we were at USC. ■



Above and left, members of the Class of '92 at the home of Stacy Gross on Sept. 28, 2002.



Right, members of the class of '92 and their families at a family picnic held at Irvine Park on Sept. 29.



## Homecoming

Over 100 students, faculty, staff and alumni attended the USC PT Homecoming pre-game picnic in November 2002.



In its new prime location, adjacent to Founders Park and across the Von Kleinsmid building on Trousdale Parkway, guests were able to enjoy the performance by the Trojan Marching Band and follow them down Trousdale Parkway on their path to a Trojan victory at the Coliseum. Beating Arizona State University 34-13, the game added to USC's winning and one of the most exciting seasons the University has had in recent years. A highlight for those in attendance to the picnic was a free raffle of USC paraphernalia. Everybody had a great time!

We hope that you will join us at this year's homecoming game when USC meets Washington State on November 1<sup>st</sup>. To reserve your tickets and meals in advance, please e-mail Sara Villagran at [villagra@usc.edu](mailto:villagra@usc.edu) or phone at (323) 442-1193. ■



Raffle prize winners at Homecoming 2002.

## Alumni Receive Clinical Specialist Certification

The Department is proud to recognize the following alumni who attained clinical specialist certification during 2002.

### Neurologic Physical Therapy

Mary Velicki, PT, MSPT, NCS

### Orthopaedic Physical Therapy

Steven Blanthorn, PT, MPT, OCS  
Heidi Bremner, PT, MPT, OCS  
Julia Burlette, PT, MPT, OCS  
Kimberly Contryman, PT, DPT, NCS, OCS  
Kathryn Doubleday, PT, MPT, OCS  
Jeffrey Fairley, PT, DPT, OCS  
Anthony Frehner, PT, DPT, OCS  
Craig Hamley, PT, MPT, OCS  
John Jankoski, PT, MPT, NCS, OCS  
Stephanie Jones, PT, DPT, OCS  
James Kantor, PT, MS, MPT, OCS  
Daniel Kirages, PT, DPT, OCS  
Gary Konecne, PT, MPT, OCS  
Yogi Matharu, PT, DPT, OCS  
John Meyer, PT, DPT, OCS  
Coungh Ngoc Pho, PT, DPT, OCS  
Christopher Pillsbury, PT, MPT, OCS  
Phillip Putignano, PT, DPT, OCS  
Alexander Reyes, PT, MPT, OCS  
Jeffrey Richardson, PT, DPT, OCS  
Fabrice Rockich, PT, DPT, OCS  
Sherif Salawy, PT, MPT, OCS  
Spencer Schreckengaust, PT, DPT, OCS  
Chris Sebeliski, PT, DPT, OCS  
Carin Shuler, PT, MS, DPT, OCS  
Darin Siebert, PT, DPT, OCS  
Cheryl Tibbetts, PT, MPT, OCS

### Pediatric Physical Therapy

Elizabeth Ege, PT, DPT, PCS  
David Johnson, PT, MPT, PCS  
Susan Senti, PT, MPT, PCS  
Daniel Swan, PT, DPT, PCS

## CSM 2003 Presentations

The Department is pleased to recognize the following faculty and students (and their collaborators) who presented at the Combined Sections Meeting of the APTA in Orlando, FL., February 2003.

**Judith M. Burnfield, PT, PhD Candidate** – (Platform Presenter)

Comparison of coefficient of friction requirements during walking and stair descent in persons with and without a cerebral vascular accident

**Jody Cormack, DPT, NCS** – (Invited Panel Presenter)

Missing evidence? The role of qualitative research in addressing clinical questions

**Kornelia Kulig, PhD, PT** – (Platform Presenter)

**Robert Landel, DPT, OCS** (Collaborator)

Accuracy of manual spinal segmental motion testing as determined by dynamic MRI

**Kornelia Kulig, PhD, PT** – (Platform Presenter)

**Robert Landel, DPT, OCS, Christopher Powers, PhD, PT** – (Collaborators)

Are persons with centralized low back pain more likely to present with altered segmental lumbar mobility? In vivo assessment using dynamic MRI.

**Christopher Powers, PhD, PT**

- Net the evidence – (Invited Pre-Conference Presentation)
  - Epidemiology of non-contact ACL injury – (Plenary Session)
  - Effects of a single intervention session on lumbar segmental mobility – analysis using dynamic MRI – (Platform Presentation)
- Kornelia Kulig, PhD, PT, Robert Landel, DPT, OCS, Kerry Chen, MS, PT** – (Collaborators)
- Developing interventions for patellofemoral pain: a mechanistic approach – (Invited Plenary Presentation)

**Susan Sigward, PT, ATC, PhD Candidate** – (Invited Presenter)

Biomechanics of non-contact ACL injuries

**Dorian Rose, MS, PT, PhD Candidate** – (Platform Presenter; Neurology Section Research Forum)

**Carolee Winstein, PhD, PT** – (Collaborator)

Inter-limb temporal synchrony following stroke

**Katherine Sullivan, PhD, PT** – (Invited Presenter)

Experience-based neuroplasticity: from the bench to the bedside  
Treating the brain: innovations in rehabilitation therapies

**Carolee Winstein, PhD, PT** – (Invited Pre-Conference Presenter-Neurology and Research Sections)

Evidence and Practice: Where do we go from here?

Translating research into clinical practice for patients post stroke –Where are we?■

## STUDENT NEWS

**Sean Flanagan, MS, ATC, CSCS** and PhD student, was awarded the Outstanding Student Research Award by the Southwest Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine for his presentation entitled *Extensor Impulse as a Method of Quantifying Muscular Demand During Lower-Extremity Exercise*. The award was presented during the Chapter's 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, NV, November 15-16, 2002. Six finalists were chosen based on the quality of a one page abstract. The finalists presented their abstracts as free communications in a special session on Friday, November 15. "Even though I am honored and proud to have won this award, I did not do it alone. Like most projects of this nature, it was a team effort. My co-authors, and especially my advisor Dr. George Salem, should be equally recognized for their contributions to the success of this work, as well" said Flanagan. Finalists were required to submit an expanded abstract, which provided the study's purpose, background, design/methods, results (including tables and figures), discussion, and conclusion. Flanagan was one of two \$300 prizewinners based on the expanded abstract and the quality of the presentation as judged by the abstract review committee. Other finalists received a \$100 award. View Abstract at <http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~swacsm-p/Flanagan.doc>. ■

**Aaron Kraai**, second year DPT student, was elected Vice President of the APTA Student Assembly Board of Directors (SABoD). In this capacity, Aaron will be doing a lot of traveling to conferences nation-wide representing both the SABoD and the USC Department of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy. The Board tackles issues that affect physical therapy and physical therapist assistant students both directly and indirectly. The Board is also heavily involved with recruitment of APTA members and tries to encourage membership activities around the country. "I feel honored to be a part of the SABoD representing the national body of student physical therapists and physical therapist assistants." I am also proud to be representing USC throughout the country on my travels. The USC DPT program has earned itself a lot of respect and reputation and I am honored to be a part of it" said Kraai. ■



**First year DPT students** volunteered in the Union Station Foundation's "Dinner-In-The-Park" event on Thanksgiving 2002. Students helped serve over 4600 meals to low-income families and those less fortunate in the San Gabriel Valley. The students were also invited to participate in the organization's Christmas and Easter "Dinners-In-The-Park" events. ■

## Two Canadian Clinical Research Scientists Visit Motor Behavior Laboratory

**Johanne Desrosiers, PhD**, is an occupational therapist with 10 years of clinical experience in gerontology. She is a professor in the Faculty of Medicine and a researcher and adjunct director of the Research Centre on Aging of the L'Institut Universitaire de Geriatrie of the Universite de Sherbrooke in Quebec, Canada. She is supported in part by several grants from the Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR). Her main research interests include contributing to the prevention or at least reduction of disabling situations of the elderly population, particularly those who have suffered a stroke, through a better understanding of the consequences of a moderate to severe stroke and by developing and studying the effectiveness of new rehabilitation interventions.

**Laurie Wishart (Swanson), PhD**, is a physical therapist with a clinical background in neurology. She is an Associate Professor in the School of Rehabilitation Science and an Adjunct Faculty in the Department of Kinesiology at McMaster University. She teaches neurology and aging related courses in the Physical Therapy program at the same institution and will assume the role of Assistant Dean in the School of Rehabilitation Science as of July 1, 2003. She has three interrelated research interests surrounding the development of effective rehabilitation interventions for older adults including 1) the investigation of the effects of aging on the learning of movement skills; 2) the control and acquisition of bimanual co-ordination and how the motor learning process is affected by typical aging and neurological impairments; and 3) the investigation of the effectiveness of motor learning principles in older adult rehabilitation populations.

As part of their sabbatical Dr. Desrosiers is spending two weeks at USC and Dr. Wishart is spending two months. Their primary home while at USC is with the Motor Behavior Laboratory (Director, Dr. Carolee Winstein) where they will be interacting with Biokinesiology students, and faculty from both the BKN & PT and Occupational Science & Therapy Departments. On February 25th, Dr. Desrosiers presented a well-attended departmental seminar, "Predictors of handicap situations following post-stroke rehabilitation."

## FACULTY NEWS

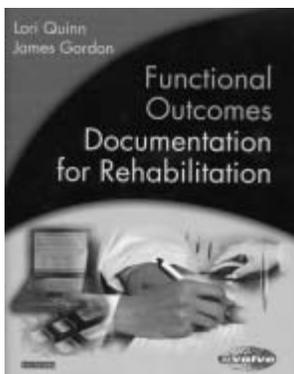
**Tina Alva, DPT, OCS** (MPT '94, DPT '02) presented in November 2002 at the year's National Hemophilia Foundation Conference.

**Cindy Bailey, DPT** ('02) was quoted in the January 2003 issue of *Hemolog*. She contributed advice on best exercise choices and how to include fitness into the lives of people with bleeding disorders in an article entitled "Maintaining Healthy Joints: Your Best Defense" (p. 2). She has presented at the 1997 and 2001 National Hemophilia Foundation Conference and is active in regional and national lecturing on the subject.

**Nina Bradley, PhD, PT**, has been awarded two grants from the James H. Zumberge Research and Innovation Fund at USC. The first is an individual grant in the amount of \$25,000 for her study titled Control & Importance of Ballistic Limb Movements in the Chick. The second award of \$49,755, is for an interdisciplinary grant to support collaborative efforts across the School of Pharmacy, Keck School of Medicine and Independent Health Professions. The Effects of Elevated Serotonergic Neurotransmissions on the Development of Ingestive and Locomotor Behavior in the Mouse was awarded to Drs. Jean Shih (lead investigator), Joe Miller and Nina Bradley (co-investigators).



**James Gordon, EdD, PT** and **Lori Quinn, EdD, PT** recently published a hands-on textbook entitled *Functional Outcome Documentation for Rehabilitation* (ISBN 0-7216-8947-7; Saunders, 2003). The text offers extensive examples, exercises, and real-life scenarios, on how to document functional outcomes in a clear, logical progression in a variety of settings, including acute care, rehabilitation, outpatient, home care, nursing homes, pediatrics, and school settings. In addition, it provides an overview of key legal issues related to physical therapy documentation, illustrates a wide range of impairments featuring diverse client groups, and discusses alternative documentation formats. The title was published in coordination with Evolve, an interactive learning environment that provides online access to free learning resources and activities designed specifically for the text.



**Diane Jones, MEd, PT**, attended winter camp with some of the children with disabilities that receive treatment at Orthopaedic Hospital (O.H.). She also runs an experimental pool program for children with Cerebral Palsy on a grant with Dr. Acosta at O.H.

**Robert F. Landel, DPT, OCS** (MS '84, DPT '96) was quoted in the February 2003 issue of *PT Magazine's* article entitled "Creating and Credentialing Postprofessional Programs" (p. 34). Dr. Landel is a member of APTA's Committee on Clinical Residency and Fellowship Credentialing and program director of the Orthopedic Physical Therapy Residency at USC. In the article, he discussed the benefits of national recognition: "Starting a clinical residency program was right up our alley. The University has had a DPT program since the mid-'90s. A residency program was just what we needed to help fill the gap in terms of clinical skills," he said.



Dr. Landel was also quoted in the March/April 2003 issue of *Organic Style* in an article entitled "Posture Perfect" (p. 40) where he contributed his orthopedic expertise on how poor posture affects one's health and tips on how to correct it.

**Jennifer (Riess) Lundberg, MPT** ('95) and **Tim Lundberg, DPT** ('98) had their first child, a son named Luke Riess Lundberg, on November 19, 2002.

**Christie MacDonald, DPT** ('98) and her husband Larry Schaeffer had their third child in August 2002.

**Christopher Powers, PhD, PT** ('96) was quoted in an article entitled "Eugene Michels Forum: What Should Be the Priority for Research?" in the February 21 issue of *PT Bulletin Online* (Volume 4, Issue 8.) The article is a recollection of the discussion at the 21<sup>st</sup> Eugene Michels Researchers Forum at this year's Combined Sections Meeting in Tampa, FL. Dr. Powers argued that "understanding the mechanisms underlying Patellofemoral joint dysfunction would likely result in better long-term outcomes and that without such an understanding, new and innovative interventions would not readily emerge."



**Cheryl Resnik, DPT** ('97) was elected Secretary of the California Physical Therapy Association and Vice President of the Section on Health Policy and Administration.

**George Salem, PhD**, Assistant Professor and Co-Director of the Musculoskeletal Biomechanics Research Laboratory in the Department and **Miloslav Vilimek, Mechanical Engineer** in the Department of Mechanics at the Czech Technical University in Prague have received a NATO Post-doctoral Training Fellowship. This award will allow Dr. Vilimek to conduct research at USC from April through October 2003. Drs. Salem and Vilimek will be investigating the biomechanics of rehabilitative exercises following surgical repair of the anterior cruciate ligament and will assist in the development of a musculoskeletal model quantifying the effects of co-contractions of antagonistic muscle groups during the performance of rehabilitative exercises by patients.



Dr. Salem is also a faculty participant in a new interdisciplinary program at USC that will tackle the origins of obesity and its relationship to increased risk of diabetes.

**Katherine J. Sullivan, PhD, PT** ('98); **Michelle Prettyman, MS, PT** ('01); and **Carolee J. Winstein, PhD, PT** ('84) were quoted in a cover story in the Health section of the *Los Angeles Times* on Monday, April 7, 2003. The article entitled "Stroke therapy sets its sights higher, farther" talks about how "agility and strength can improve long after traditional rehab programs are through..."



*Dr. Kathy Sullivan*

**Fred Sattler, MD**, professor of medicine at the Keck School of Medicine and Department of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy, is principal investigator of a four-year study, which will investigate what happens to muscle in seniors when certain declining hormones are returned to youthful levels. The study will examine how testosterone and growth hormone, commonly dubbed GH or HGH, influence muscle and metabolism in those over age 65. Levels of these hormones decline as a person ages, just as muscle mass wanes with the passing of years. Researchers believe that restoring hormone levels might improve seniors' muscle tissue—and quality of life. **E. Todd Schroeder, PhD** ('00), postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Medicine at the Keck School and adjunct assistant profes-

sor in Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy, is a co-investigator and project manager for this multi-center study led by USC, which involves additional clinical centers at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center and Tufts University. The National Institute of Aging awarded \$5 million for this project.

**Carolee J. Winstein, PhD, PT**, (MS '84) has been elected a Catherine Worthingham Fellow of the American Physical Therapy Association (FAPTA) by the Association's Board of Directors. The Worthingham Fellowship is the highest honor bestowed in the physical therapy profession and Dr. Winstein's record of accomplishments makes her fitting for such recognition. Among her many accomplishments, Dr. Winstein has been a leader in the integration of motor learning theory and evidence based practice into the clinical practice of neurologic physical therapy, boasts a record of 44 invited presentations in the United States and abroad, has 23 research publications in peer-reviewed journals, and has been the recipient of 16 research grants as principal investigator or co-principal investigator, adding up to over \$4 Million in funding. The Association's bylaws state that a Worthingham Fellow is "an active or life member of the Association whose contributions to the profession through leadership, influence, and achievements demonstrate frequent and sustained efforts to advance the profession." Catherine Worthingham was an exemplary leader in physical therapy education, science, and practice for more than fifty years.



**Robert A. Wiswell, PhD**, and his Master Athlete's Study were featured in a seven-minute report on the Morning Edition of National Public Radio on February 11, 2003. In 1986, Dr. Wiswell began the longitudinal study of a group of 146 male and 82 female master athletes over the age of 40 years. That study is beginning to yield remarkable insights about the aging process, most notably that older athletes may be able to reduce the rate of decline in functional loss relative to more sedentary adults.



*An athlete in USC's long-term study undergoes cardiovascular monitoring.*

To hear the report in its entirety, go to <http://discover.npr.org/rundowns/segment.jhtml?wflid=995370>.



# LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH

We'd like to hear from you and share your news with other alumni in an upcoming issue of *USC PT In Motion*. Please mail this completed form to: USC Department of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy, Attn: Sara Villagran, 1540 Alcazar St., CHP 155, Los Angeles, CA 90089-9006 or fax to (323) 442-1515. You may also e-mail your news to villagra@usc.edu. **Photos are encouraged.**

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