Department Awarded $1.2 Million to Study Knee Injury in Female Athletes

The National Institutes of Health has awarded a $1.2 million three-year research grant to Principal Investigator Christopher M. Powers, PhD, PT, to examine mechanics of non-contact anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries in female athletes. This project represents a collaborative effort between several institutions including the University of Southern California Departments of Biokinesiology & Physical Therapy and Preventive Medicine; University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Department of Epidemiology; Santa Monica Orthopaedic Group, Santa Monica, CA; and the Competitive Athletic Training Zone, Pasadena, CA.

As female participation rates at all levels of sporting activity have dramatically increased, so have certain sports injuries. In particular, the incidence of ACL injury in female athletes has been reported to be 4 to 6 times greater than male athletes participating in the same sports. Seventy percent of these injuries occur during an incident that in-

Faculty Practice Continues to Evolve

The USC Department of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy continues to fulfill its mission of enhancing the physical well-being and quality of life of patients and clients by advancing the practice of physical therapy and the science upon which it is based. One of the ways in which this is accomplished is through the Department’s evolving faculty practice, USC PT Associates.

USC PT Associates is a nonprofit corporation established in 1991 by the faculty of the Department to provide physical therapy services to the community surrounding USC. These two clinics, USC PT Associates at Health Sciences Campus (HSC) and USC PT Associates at University Park Campus (UPC), serve as a locus for clinical education of students and clinical research conducted by the Department’s faculty. At the practice, faculty and Neurologic and Orthopedic Residents provide high-quality, evidence-
Restructuring the Independent Health Professions

As I enter our building every morning, I walk by the portraits of Helen Hislop and Jaquelin Perry; two of the legendary figures whose vision and labor helped make the Department what it is today. It always makes me wonder, as their eyes follow me down the hall, “What are they thinking about how far we have all come together? Can we act with their same vision and boldness in the direction that we now must take?” Those questions have confronted me and other Department senior leaders in an especially direct way over the past year as we have become engaged in a fundamental restructuring of the Department’s administrative framework.

For the past two decades, the Department of Biokinesiology & Physical Therapy (PT) has been part of a loose configuration of departments within USC called Independent Health Professions. The other two members of the division were the Departments of Nursing and Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy (OT). When the division was formed, in the late 1980s, it accomplished a nice balancing act for these three professional programs – allowing a high degree of autonomy while at the same time affording an administrative home within the huge organization that is USC. Indeed, for PT and OT, the past two decades have seen a remarkable period of growth and maturation. Each is now ranked #1 in the country among graduate programs in their respective disciplines.

Unfortunately, USC’s Department of Nursing did not fare so well – it has now closed. Because there are now only two departments in the division, the University administration has determined that PT and OT should join with a larger school. For the last year or so, we have been exploring different opportunities and have narrowed down the possibilities to a very few. We are now in the final stages of sensitive negotiations. I cannot give more details, but feel optimistic that we will be able to announce our new administrative arrangement in the near future.

One of the very positive outcomes of this process has been the development of a closer working relationship with the leadership of OT. As we have moved forward in negotiations, we have come to realize that the two departments actually have a great deal of common vision. It is definitely in our best interests to work together.

It is important to point out that in the next months and year, as we implement this restructuring, there will be little observable impact on the day-to-day operations of the Department. The real impact will be on the Department’s long-term health and wellbeing. As society transforms and the health care system changes, so must the University. Our overriding goal has been to establish the Department in the strongest possible position within USC – to be part of the creation of the University of the Twenty-first Century.

Record Class Sizes

In August 2004, 95 new students enrolled in the Entry-Level Doctor of Physical Therapy Program, the largest entering class in the program’s 60-year history. In the past 10 years since moving into our new spacious facility, the faculty has carefully planned a target of 84 new enrollees each fall. This year, we had a windfall acceptance to our offers of admission. We believe this windfall was related to the release of US News and World Report rankings for physical therapy programs which placed USC’s program at number one. “The faculty was pleased to welcome additional incoming students to the Class of 2007, all of whom have outstanding academic credentials,” said department chair James Gordon. Although the large increase in 2004 was unexpected, the Department had been preparing to increase class size in the near future. The faculty appreciates the advantages that large numbers of students bring to the classroom. These can include cultural diversity, unique personalities, a wide range of undergraduate focus and varied problem solving strategies. “We are happy to have the physical capacity and faculty to embrace this new class,” said Gordon.

The PhD in Biokinesiology also had a record number of incoming students: eight new students entered the program bringing the total number of PhD students to 21, the largest it has ever been. “This increase is the result of a carefully planned process – it is a clear indication of the controlled expansion of the Department’s research programs,” commented Dr. Gordon.

DPT I students, at their White Coat Ceremony, are initiated into the physical therapy profession.
New Third-Year Curriculum in Place

After three years of planning a new curriculum for the third-year of the Department’s Entry-Level Doctor of Physical Therapy program, the faculty has begun to implement the curriculum. The following is an interview conducted with Dr. Rob Landel, who oversaw the curriculum planning process and third-year student, Jonathan Sum.

Q. Dr. Landel, why was the 3rd year curriculum restructured?
A. The curriculum was restructured for several reasons, among them:
1. to improve the students’ ability to integrate and apply the skills, knowledge and abilities they learned in the first two years;
2. provide opportunities to solve patient problems posed by patients with multi-system involvement;
3. move to a learner-centered teaching method;
4. provide a mechanism for evaluating the effectiveness of the curriculum as a whole;
5. and reduce the students’ tendency to categorize patients into orthopedic, neurologic and cardiopulmonary problems brought about by grouping their instruction into these units;

Q. What are the major changes to the curriculum?
A. First, we dropped all the elective courses. We felt that if there was information that was important enough to include in an elective for some of the students then it was probably important enough that all the students should learn it. Grand Rounds, in which students presented cases from their clinical experience, was also dropped as the new curriculum duplicates the skill set previously developed as part of the class.

In their place a 5-unit course, Integrated Patient Management Seminar (PT 632), was instituted and organized around complex patient cases. As a whole, the course emphasizes 11 key skills that we felt the students should have mastered upon graduation from our program. These skills include:
1. determining if a patient is appropriate for physical therapy management;
2. performing a differential diagnosis;
3. planning and performing an evaluation and plan of care that accounts for musculoskeletal, cardiopulmonary and neurologic problems across the lifespan;
4. determining a prognosis;
5. applying the principles of evidence-based practice;
6. linking pathologies, impairments, functional limitations, and disabilities;
7. and functioning within the healthcare system.

This new course uses a teaching method called Team Group Learning, a small group learner-centered approach that emphasizes sharing of individual knowledge with the group in order to advance the knowledge and skill of the class as a whole. The emphasis of this course is on thought process and decision-making.

Q. How successful have the changes been?
A. The feedback from the students has been very positive. They enjoy the difficulty and complexity of the cases, and like the Team Group Learning format.

From the faculty point of view, the students have made tremendous strides in integrating material from the first two years, and applying it to solve the problems presented by complex patients. The student interactions and discussions have been exciting to experience, making the class a joy to teach.

Q. Were any changes made to the first and second year curriculum?
A. Because the elective courses were dropped, material from the Pediatric and Geriatric courses had to be assimilated into the first two years. This is an on-going process, the effectiveness of which will not be apparent until the current 2nd year students finish the 3rd year courses. The performance of the students in the third year will serve as a gauge on how well material is being presented in the first two years. The Curriculum Oversight Committee was formed, in part, to take feedback from the students.

Continued on page 15
STUDENT NEWS

USC Student Receives Outstanding PT Student Award from the APTA

Jonathan Sum, a third-year student in the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program at USC, has been awarded the Outstanding Physical Therapy Student Award given by the American Physical Therapy Association. The award will be presented at the APTA’s 2005 Annual Combined Sections Meeting in New Orleans, February 23-27.

The purpose of this award is to identify a student physical therapist with exceptional scholastic ability and potential for contributions to orthopaedic physical therapy. The eligible student shall excel in academic performance in both the professional and pre-requisite phases of their educational program, and be involved in professional organizations and activities that provide potential growth and contributions to the profession and orthopaedic physical therapy.

The mission of the USC DPT program is to educate authoritative practitioners and future leaders in the profession of physical therapy. “Jonathan has embraced this mission wholeheartedly through his pursuit of excellence in community service, rehabilitation science research and patient care. Many know of his leadership style and contagious enthusiasm for professionalism and citizenship. Jonathan is equally effective when working with the less privileged members of the Los Angeles community as well as the most privileged,” said Kornelia Kulig, associate professor at USC, who nominated Sum for the award.

Sum has completed full-time internships at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center and at Hopi Indian Health Services on the Hopi Native American reservation. When in the clinic, Sum has demonstrated superb communication, interaction and education skills with patients and colleagues. His research included participation in a funded research project investigating the biomechanical and clinical characteristics of the lumbar spine under loaded and unloaded conditions in symptomatic and asymptomatic subjects.

“It is truly an honor and privilege, not simply for the award, but to be recognized by leaders in our profession and to be in the company of previous USC recipients,” said Sum.

“Jonathan is truly an outstanding student, soon to become an insightful and well-educated practicing physical therapist with a tremendous potential to contribute to the Orthopaedic Section of the APTA,” said Kulig.

Sum received his baccalaureate degree from USC and will graduate in May of 2005 from the USC DPT program.

Department Debuts New DVD/DVD ROM

As part of a new identity and marketing campaign that began when we launched our new website last summer, the Department is now introducing a new DVD/DVD ROM. With the slogan of “Uniting Education, Research, and Practice,” the new DVD/DVD ROM will be used as a tool to promote the Department and to recruit prospective students, faculty, and donors.

The DVD/DVD ROM is an interactive disk that highlights the education, research, and practice components of the Department through text, video interviews of students, alumni, and faculty mixed with video of related action shots, and web links.

The disk can be played both on a computer and on a DVD player for television. The television version can be watched as you would watch any movie from your video rental store. The computer version is interactive—you can read text, watch videos, and connect to the Department’s website.

The DVD/DVD ROM was produced by Earthbound Media Group, partly owned by alumnus and Board of Councilors member Blaine Behringer (DPT ’00).

To obtain a copy of the DVD/DVD ROM, please contact the Department at 323-442-2900.
**McMillan Scholarship Awarded to PhD Student**

Maureen Whitford, PT, MHS, a first year PhD student in the Biokinesiology program is one of six doctoral students across the nation who received a McMillan Doctoral Scholarship awarded by the Foundation for Physical Therapy Board of Trustees.

The $5,000 scholarships, funded by the Foundation’s Henry O. and Florence P. Kendall Endowment Fund, were awarded last fall to physical therapy doctoral students in their first year of study with outstanding potential for doctoral studies.

“The Foundation is excited to support this year’s scholarship winners,” Foundation President/Chair Nancy White, PT, MS, OCS, said. “We look forward to following their progress and contributions to the physical therapy profession.”

Whitford is currently working under the direction of Professor Carolee Winstein on a project that investigates the potential benefits of virtual reality in combination with physical therapy on the upper extremity recovery of individuals post-stroke.

**USC DPT Student in the Olympics**

Robin Beauregard, a first-year Doctor of Physical Therapy student, is a member of the U.S. Women’s Water Polo Team that competed at last year’s Olympics in Athens. She and her teammates won a bronze medal on August 26 after a 6-5 win over the Australian Team. Beauregard made one of the six U.S. goals.

“This is the hardest game you play in because there’s no consolation prize for the losers,” Beauregard was quoted as saying to the San Jose Mercury News. “You could tell both teams were really fighting out there,” she said.

A native of Huntington Beach, Beauregard graduated with a double major in psychobiology and physiological science from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). A three-time first-team All-American, she was a member of UCLA’s NCAA Championship Water Polo teams in 2001 and 2003.

Beauregard is in her sixth year on the U.S. national team and in her second Olympics, after winning a silver medal with her teammates at the 2000 Sydney games.

**Biokinesiology Student Receives Award from the American Physiological Society**

Alberto Vallejo, PhD student in the Biokinesiology program received a Minority Travel Fellowship Award from the American Physiological Society (APS) of the National Institutes of Health.

The award covered all expenses for Vallejo to attend the 2004 APS Translational Research Conference on Integrative Biology of Exercise, October 6-9, 2004 in Austin, TX. The APS is a nonprofit organization devoted to fostering education, scientific research, and dissemination of information in the physiological sciences. The intent of the award is to increase participation of pre- and postdoctoral minority students in physiological sciences.

Vallejo’s research at USC, under the direction of Drs. Fred R. Sattler and E. Todd Schroeder, focuses on examining the metabolic cost of concentric and eccentric contractions during bouts of resistance training at sub-maximal intensities. “The goal of my research is to determine if eccentric contractions are more effective for rehabilitation of populations with impaired muscle strength and endurance who cannot perform traditional resistance training due to its higher metabolic demand,” said Vallejo.
Coordinator of Clinical Education Appointed

Effective July 1, 2004 the USC Department of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy has a new coordinator of clinical education—Ms. Nena Becerra. An intense search was initiated after Jo Ochoa announced her retirement as coordinator of clinical education.

Ms. Becerra first became affiliated with USC on February 2003 when she began to work for the Zilkha Neurogenetic Institute (ZNI) as an appointments and promotions coordinator. Her main tasks and challenges were to recruit top scientists from around the country, coordinate seminars for prospective faculty members and market USC’s newly constructed ZNI building. She earned her bachelors degree in business administration with an emphasis on international business at California State University, Long Beach.

“I am delighted to have been given the opportunity to take the position of clinical coordinator for the Department of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy. I am fortunate to be part of a group of dedicated faculty and staff members whose hard work has produced the best PT program in the nation,” said Ms. Becerra.

Distinguished Invited Speakers

The Department’s Clinical Education office, in partnership with the USC Orthopedic Residency Program, welcomed two nationally renowned speakers during the fall semester.

Dr. Tim Flynn from Regis University in Colorado lectured on September 17-18, 2004 on Manipulation of the Cervical Spine. Dr. Flynn interacted with the orthopedic residents for one full day providing individualized instruction and small group interaction on a variety of concepts. During the community program, Dr. Flynn spoke on evidence supporting manipulation of the cervical spine with a hands-on lab for our clinical instructors and faculty.

Dr. Bill Boissonnault, faculty member at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, lectured on November 5-7, 2004 on Medical Screening for the Physical Therapist. Interaction with the orthopedic residents shaped the format of the first day. Dr. Boissonnault presented a two day course open to our community of clinical instructors and faculty on the importance of medical screening for the clinician.

These courses were offered as part of the Department’s continuing education component in an effort to facilitate the knowledge of our clinicians, and as a thank you for supporting our program. Please look on page 7 of this newsletter for upcoming continuing education courses this spring.

Clinical Education Sites Needed

The Department is always looking for additional quality clinical education sites for our entry-level DPT students. We are especially interested in sites where our graduates are clinical instructors, and experiences that range from two- or six-week commitments to full 16-week positions.

Facilities outside the Los Angeles area that can offer free or inexpensive housing provide students with invaluable opportunities to complete their clinicals in places they would not otherwise experience. If your facility is interested in partnering with USC, please contact Chris Sebelski, Director of Clinical Education at (323) 442-2935 or at sebelski@usc.edu.

Volunteer Clinical Faculty

Center Coordinators of Clinical Education (CCCEs) and Clinical Instructors (CIs) who strongly support our program and regularly participate in our students’ clinical education experiences are invited by the Department to become “Volunteer Clinical Faculty.” This is a great opportunity to work closely with the Department and to receive the following benefits:

- USC Volunteer Faculty ID Card
- Access to the USC libraries, including online OVID search engine
- 10% discount at the USC bookstores
- Faculty discounts for USC sporting events, plays, concerts, etc.

If you are interested in these benefits and would like to become a regular Clinical Instructor for USC DPT students, please contact Chris Sebelski at (323) 442-2935 or sebelski@usc.edu.
Continuing Education Courses - Spring 2005

One of the missions of the Clinical Education Department at the USC Department of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy is to foster a relationship with our community of clinical instructors. We are grateful for your continuing support of our students during their clinical experiences and value your insight into our curriculum. As a component of this mission and as a thank you for supporting our program, we wish to offer quality continuing education courses to facilitate the knowledge of our clinicians. Clinical instructors (CI's) of USC students receive a generous 50% off the Non CI Cost for all offered courses. Courses are open to the physical therapy community. However, space is limited and CI's will be given priority for participation in the courses.

March 5, 2005  Documentation for the Practicing Clinician  
Jim Gordon, EdD, PT  
(Non CI Cost: $50)

March 26, 2005  Cadaveric Anatomy of the Upper Quadrant  
Susan Sigward, PT  
(Non CI Cost: $200)

April 1 – 2, 2005  Manipulation of the Spine  
Peter Gibbons and Philip Tehan  
(Non CI Cost: $500)

April 3 – 4, 2005  Advanced Concepts for Spinal Manipulation  
Peter Gibbons and Philip Tehan  
Evidence of previous manipulation experience/training required to attend  
(Non CI Cost: $500)

The courses listed below are part of our Orthopedic Residency program and Post-Professional DPT program. The majority of time in each course is spent in hands on lab sessions. Evidence-based practice is emphasized via pre-course reading and literature review. Each weekend session may be taken individually as continuing education for the non CI price of $400 or the entire series can be taken for $1900. Again, all CI’s will receive 50% discount off of these prices.

Advanced Management of the Spine

February 5 – 6, 2005  Advanced Management of the Spine – Cervical *  
Rob Landel, PT, DPT, OCS

February 12 – 13, 2005  Advanced Management of the Spine – Thoracic*  
Kornelia Kulig, PT, PhD

March 19 – 20, 2005  Advanced Management of the Spine – Lumbar*  
John Meyer, DPT, OCS

April 23 – 24, 2005  Advanced Management of the Spine – SIJ/Pelvis*  
Mike O’Donnell, PT, DPT, OCS

May 7, 2005  Advanced Management of the Spine – Manipulation (*Above courses are prerequisites)  
Derrick Sueki, DPT

Please complete the registration form below and CIRCLE the courses which you are signing up:

Name:  ____________________________________________  Email:  ____________________________________________
Address:  _________________________________________________________________________________________________
Telephone:  ____________________________  Fax:  ____________________________
Name of Facility:  ____________________________________________  City/State:  ____________________________
Name of USC student mentored during the past year:  ____________________________________________

You may fax this form to Chris Sebelski at 323-442-1515 or  
Mail:  USC BKN & PT; 1540 Alcazar St., CHP155; Los Angeles, CA 90089-9006

Check our website for course descriptions as they become available.  http://pt.usc.edu/quick_links/cont.htm
Department Holds Second Annual Academic Convocation and White Coat Ceremony

The Department of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy held its second annual Academic Convocation and White Coat Ceremony to begin the academic year in August 2004. Faculty, staff, alumni, students and their family members gathered to honor and celebrate the accomplishments of our students and to initiate the first-year DPT students into the profession of physical therapy.

The Department continued the new tradition of the white coat ceremony, in which incoming Doctor of Physical Therapy students are each given a white coat by a second- or third-year student, as a symbol of the profession’s commitment to professionalism, responsibility, and humanism. Jorge Orozco, Director of Rehabilitation Services at Rancho Los Amigos Rehabilitation Center gave the invited address, emphasizing the importance of working on the skill of empathy…

*Empathy is the ability to understand the patient’s situation, perspective, and feelings and to communicate that understanding. In essence it is your ability to connect with patients. This is not a skill that is mastered in the classroom. Rather empathy is taught to us by patients and is a reflection of our understanding and commitment to our patients. Patients in pain, suffering and illness seek relief from physical therapy, but they also seek human comfort, understanding, and empathy. Empathy allows you to be compassionate; it allows the patient to feel understood, validated and respected. The effective use of empathy promotes diagnostic and therapeutic effectiveness and patient satisfaction—in short empathy allows you to be an effective physical therapist.*

During the awards ceremony preceding the white coat presentation, students from the second- and third-year in the DPT program and from the Biokinesiology program received merit-based scholarships honoring outstanding academic achievement, service to the Department, potential to contribute to the advancement of clinical practice, and leadership and excellence in physical therapy (see page 9 for award descriptions and recipients).

A highlight of the event was the awarding of the first Distinguished Alumnus Award presented to honor an alumnus for his or her professional accomplishments and service to the profession. The inaugural recipient of the award was Jack Close, MA, PT, FAPTA. “If I had to sum up Jack’s career in one word, it would be leadership,” said Department chair, Dr. James Gordon when presenting the award to Mr. Close. “I have found, somewhat to my surprise that his leadership ability stems not just from his intelligence and commitment, but more importantly, by an extraordinary gentleness and sensitivity that he projects in all one encounters with him,” said Gordon.

As the closing part of the ceremony, Mr. Jack Close was invited to administer the Oath of the Physical Therapist to the DPT students.

The Department gratefully acknowledges the following sponsors who helped support this important event:

**Cheryl Resnik, DPT ’97 – Reception**  
**FedEx Kinko’s, Monterey Park – Program**  
**Southern California Trophy Co. – Awards**
Distinguished Alumnus Award
To honor an alumnus of the Department for his or her professional accomplishments with high distinction. This year’s recipient is:

Jack Close, MA, PT, FAPTA

Jack Close graduated from USC in 1970 with a post-baccalaureate certificate in physical therapy. After graduation, he settled in Las Vegas, NV and established one of the premier private practices in the nation, in fact, one that has been a major contributor in developing the very concept of private practice physical therapy. He also became a leader in the American Physical Therapy Association, at the regional, state, and national levels. Mr. Close has been elected to several political offices, including two terms in the Nevada State Assembly. He is very active as an educator, in his church and in the community. With all of that, Mr. Close still finds the time to help USC, most notably by serving on the Department’s Board of Councilors.

Department Scholarships and Honors

We congratulate the following individuals who were honored at the awards presentation portion of the Fall Academic Convocation and White Coat Ceremony:

Academic Excellence Scholarship
Recognizing DPT students preparing to enter the second- and third-year of the entry-level DPT program for outstanding academic achievement across both basic science and clinical courses. This year’s recipients are:

Year 2:
Alison R. Brown, Stephanie M. Babidge, JoAnne Delos Reyes, Sabrina Seraj, Kate M. Warren, Rebeca L. Garvin, Lori M. Ginoza, Tiffany L. Brown, Morgan L. Fones, Cherie V. Le Doux

Year 3:
Katherine M. Weimer, Leesha S. Perryman, Kristina A. Helquist, Claire L. Irvin, Heather A. Schumacker, Vivian M. Chan, Sapna J. Patel, Jason M. Smith, Erica V. Pablo, Rozalyn M. Pelayo, Jeanne K. Hicks

Josette Antonelli Departmental Service Scholarship
Honoring an entry-level DPT student who has demonstrated extraordinary leadership and service to the Department or community. This year’s recipient is:

Jennifer E. Penn

Beth E. Fisher Scholarship
Acknowledging a third-year entry-level DPT student who demonstrates empathy for the patient’s perspective, integrates and applies knowledge in new and innovative ways, and has the potential to advance clinical practice. This year’s recipient is:

Katherine Weimer

Helen Hislop Scholarship in Support of Vision and Excellence in Physical Therapy
Honoring and acknowledging an entry-level DPT student preparing to enter the third-year who demonstrates leadership and excellence in physical therapy. This year’s recipient is:

Jonathan C. Sum

Jacquelin Perry Scholarship Award
Recognizing a student in the Master of Science or Doctor of Philosophy program who has performed with high distinction. This year’s recipient is:

Jarugool Tretriluxana

Members of the DPT Class of 2006 receiving their Academic Excellence Scholarships from Department Chair, James Gordon
Alumni News

Keeping in Touch

GRAD 1959
Ruthanne Harback Wise – I am interested in finding my classmates. They can e-mail me at rwise35@sbcglobal.net.

GRAD 1968
Anita Lynne Brooks – I retired from USAF as a Major in 1998. I am working for Applegate Home Health and Hospice and at Gentiva Health Services & Rehab Without Walls. Edward James (DOB Sept, 2, 1979) is a Helitack firefighter for NPS & based at Mesa Verde Co. He also worked at Snowbasin during the 2002 Olympics, Paralympics. In 1991 I designed and built our home on an acre just on the back side of Snowbasin. We love to ski and have visitors.

GRAD 1970
Beverly Toyama – I have been a mentor for USC’s Connections program of APASS (Asian Pacific American Student Services) since 1997, and this year, I’m matched with a Chinese-American freshman, Shuinn Chang. Shuinn is thinking about pre-med, but is also looking into other health fields. Maybe I can persuade her to seriously consider physical therapy as a rewarding career! I enjoy being a mentor, but would sure like other USC PT alumni of Asian/Pacific Island ethnicities to consider this opportunity to help students. If anybody is interested, they can reach me at btoyama@comcast.net.

GRAD 1973
Raymond L. Blessey is one of three attorneys at Bonne, Bridges, Mueller, O’Keefe & Nichols Law Firm to be selected as “Rising Stars” by Southern California Super Lawyers. “This honor is restricted to the top two and one-half percent of attorneys under age 40 or practicing 10 years or less, as chosen by their colleagues,” said Mr. O’Keefe. An article profiling Mr. Blessey and his two colleagues receiving the same honor appeared in the September 2004 issue of Los Angeles Magazine and Southern California Super Lawyers–Rising Stars Edition Magazine.

GRAD 1973 continued

Thomas M. Eggleton – After 32 years of practicing PT, I still love it. I completed my DPT in 2003 at Rocky Mountain University.

GRAD 1974
John F. Iams – I am married and have three sons, all in their 20’s, and they’re doing great. After 25 years of private practice, I discovered a major source of musculoskeletal pain—primal reflexes. This has lead to teaching seminars, almost monthly, in Poway, California where I live. I have now trained over 100 practitioners from around the country.

I have found a never before described relationship between the dura mater and upregulated reflexes such as the startle, withdrawal and joint protective. My 1 Minute NocioceptivExam™ gives me clues where the patient is having problems with these various reflexes.

My treatment takes only seconds and involves the use of concepts such as reciprocal inhibition and even the use of a reflex hammer. Results are instantaneous. There is usually improvement in ROM, speed of motion and pain.

What’s exciting about the Primal Reflex Release Technology™ is how fast these techniques are spreading around the country. By 2005, I expect to go international with my work.
Keeping in Touch

GRAD 1977
Debi Hopee (Kreide) – I have been teaching Sympto-Thermal Natural Family Planning for the past 12 years for the Diocese of Orange. Couples learn fertility awareness without succumbing to harmful side effects of drugs.

GRAD 1983
Lisa Marie Rehm Didone – I now work per diem for a few different companies, so that I can work only when my kids are in school. I take school holidays and summer off. My kids are: Danielle (14), Stephanie (11) & Kyle (9). Kurt and I celebrated our 17th anniversary in April.

GRAD 1987
Karen Elizabeth Frederick – I have recently joined Little Company of Mary Health Services as the Director of Rehabilitation Services. The Little Company of Mary services area includes five facilities in the greater South Bay region. I am also the chair of the Long Beach/South Bay District of the California Physical Therapy Association this year. It’s been a great year of professional challenges for me! In my spare time I enjoy triathlons, competitive sailing, hiking, backpacking and flying.

Julie Torregrosa – I have been living in a suburb of New York with Arthur Torregrosa, my husband of 14 years; my 4 children: Tess (11), Ty (9), Robyn (7), and Ella (5); and my niece Sheree (16), and nephew Sean (17). I have been working as a full time mother, soon to start the job search again when my youngest enters full time school. I just had a mini reunion with Carol (Tomasu) Kikuchi. I would love to hear from fellow classmates.

GRAD 1989
Victoria A. Merrell – a physical therapist with St. Luke’s/Idaho Elks Rehabilitation Services, has been selected as the first physical therapist to receive the Clinical Masters Award by the Association of Rheumatology Health Care Professionals, a division of the American College of Rheumatology. The award is presented annually to a non-physician health care professional who is engaged in clinical practice and who demonstrates outstanding clinical skills in the rheumatic diseases. Merrell was selected based on her skills, competency, ethics, commitment, experience as a clinical mentor, and involvement in local and national arthritis- and rheumatology-related organizations and activities. She has specialized in rheumatic diseases the past 10 years.

ATTENTION CLASS OF 1995:
‘SAVE THE DATE’

A small group has begun to plan their 10-year reunion for September 2005, but they need help tracking down everyone! Please send Katie Hettrich any contact information—yours and anyone else you still stay in touch with. And plan on coming—it will be a great time!

Contact Katie at ktp@juno.com with your home address, e-mail address, phone number and if you would be willing to help.

GRAD 1998
Jay Bradley Reed – Marlene and I welcomed Jay Bradley Reed, Jr. (right) on April 2, 2004. He is our third child. Our daughters Danika and Ariel are thrilled with their new baby brother.

GRAD 1999
Jerry Baranick and Chris Dragoo got married on July 31, 2004, and are living in Yorba Linda, CA. They are expecting their first child in June 2005. Congratulations!

Georgia Norgren – I moved to Bend, Oregon in the past year and am currently working as a traveling physical therapist. I took the Folsom long-term manual therapy course in 2001, received my Polestar Rehabilitation certification in 2003, and am currently taking the Muscle Activation Technique (MAT) Internship in Denver, CO. I work as a ski instructor in Aspen, CO over the holidays. I continue to play with my free time. I can be reached at gnorgren@aol.com.

GRAD 2000
Debra Louis Blaver and Andrew Blaver are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Emily Jane Blaver, born October 14, 2003, weighing 7 lbs., 15 oz. and measuring 21 inches long. Debra is working at an outpatient orthopedic clinic in Huntington Beach.

Continued on page 12
Keeping in Touch

Lt. Alexi Desatoff has been named “United States Public Health Service’s Therapist Junior Officer of the Year” for 2004. He is pictured with Richard Carmona (left), the U.S. Surgeon General.

Aaron Willis and Josiah Anderson have opened their own private practice, Playa Physical Therapy, in the Marina Del Rey area. For contact information, visit their website at PlayaPT.com.

GRAD 2001
Rose Hamm has been voted the 2004 PT of Year at USC University Hospital (USCUH) where she has a clinical faculty appointment. “You truly exemplify the meaning of a professional. Your dedication to the Department, hospital and your patients is to be commended. You are certainly a positive role model...” wrote Sharon Lee, Director of Rehabilitation Services at USCUH, on a letter congratulating Rose for the award.

Diana Finn Sutcliff – Mark and I had a beautiful baby boy, Collin Emilio Sutcliff (right), on March 27, 2004. Collin weighed 7lbs., 14 oz. and measured 20 ½ inches long at birth. At 3 months, he weighed 15 lbs! We are all doing well, and are continuing to run our business, Impact Rehabilitation Center.

GRAD 2002
Angela Quadra and Alex Constantino – We got married on October 9th, 2004 at the San Fernando Mission Church in Mission Hills.

Jake Irwin – I accepted a position at Physiotherapy Associates in a sports medicine clinic in Atlanta, working with Bob Donatelli. I wrote a chapter in his most recent shoulder textbook, published in 2004. I have been lecturing as an adjunct professor for North Georgia College and State University, and plan to begin lecturing in the summer of 2005 for the Dogwood Institute, on the use of exercise as a primary form of treatment for many orthopedic pathologies. In January of 2005, I will be taking on the role of clinic director. I am also currently working toward my manual therapy certification, and plan to test in February. I am married and we are expecting a baby in June of 2005.

Caroline and Wayne Wilson – I would like to let my classmates know that my husband and I have a precious new addition to our family, Blake Anthony Wilson, born September 16, 2004. He weighed in at 7 lbs., 8 oz. and was 21 inches long. Mom and baby are doing well.

Deaths

GRAD 1955
Katherine A. Martin passed away in Lincoln, Nebranska on Monday Jan. 10, 2005. She was employed by Acute Hospitals in Southern California; California State School for Cerebral Palsy, five years; and California Kaiser Hospital in Harbor City, retiring in 1985. Condolences or personal reflections may be left online at www.metcalffh.com.

GRAD 1980
Margret J. Hjalmarson passed away in Camp Verde on Sept. 16, 2004. She participated in advanced studies at Kaiser Hospital in Vallejo, Calif., and in London, England. She worked as a physical therapist for the Glendale School District and had taught in the Health Science Department of Northern Arizona University. She loved working directly with patients and did so at St. Joseph’s and Mayo Hospitals. She periodically taught specialized therapy techniques and was a visiting faculty member at USC.

Shane’s Inspiration Walk-Fun-Roll

USC PT students, faculty, and their family and friends who participated in Shane’s Inspiration 7th Annual 5k/10k Walk-Fun-Roll on Sunday, October 10th raised over $350. Shane’s Inspiration creates Universally Accessible Play Environments and provide community outreach, education, and transportation programs. Universally Accessible Playgrounds allow children with disabilities to play independently with their peers. [Back row: Jerry O’Connell of NBC’s “Crossing Jordan” and Ronald McDonald.]
We gratefully acknowledge the following alumni and friends for their financial contributions and the encouragement their support represents. This Honor Roll includes gifts contributed to the Department and recorded during the time period of July 2003 to June 2004.

Every effort has been made to assure accuracy of this report. Please notify our Department of any errors or omissions, and please accept our apologies for any discrepancies. For information on how to make a contribution, please contact Sara Villagran at (323) 442-1193 or villagra@usc.edu.

**Honor Roll of Donors**

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- Kathleen Ellen Rice
- Foundation for Physical Therapy
- Kinetics Foundation
- Sykes Family Foundation

**$2,000+**
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- Katrina Zoe Vogel
- Shailander Vohra
- Jaime Yee West
USC is Well Represented in Operation Walk

Last November, Operation Walk, a team of 39 volunteers traveled to Antigua, Guatemala to deliver much needed medical services in the developing country. Among the volunteers were Department project specialist, Matt Sandusky, and alumni Kyle Baldwin (DPT ’98) and Sam Ward (PhD ’03).

Operation Walk is a private, not-for-profit, volunteer medical services organization which provides free surgical treatment for patients, in developing countries and in the US, who have no access to life-improving care for arthritis or other debilitating bone and joint conditions.

The organization also educates in-country orthopedic surgeons, physical therapists and other healthcare professionals on the most advanced treatments and surgical techniques for diseases of the hip and knee joints. This is done in conjunction with surgeries to help create a lasting contribution to patient care in developing countries.

Operation Walk was founded by Dr. Lawrence Dorr, orthopedic surgeon at Centinela Hospital, Inglewood, CA. The organization has gone worldwide since 1994 visiting several countries, including Russia, China, Cuba, and Guatemala.

Continued on page 15

Rehab Equipment Donations Needed!

Support our efforts to advance stroke rehabilitation in China

Doctors Sandra Howell, Beth Fisher, and Kathy Sullivan have made three trips to China in the last two years. They have made great progress in starting an educational and research exchange to improve stroke rehabilitation in China. Through their work, they have observed that lack of rehabilitation equipment and assistive devices is one of the greatest needs.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! An American company has donated a container and shipping costs in order to send used rehabilitation equipment back to Wuhan, China. Donations of any equipment such as crutches, canes, wheelchairs, and braces would be appreciated. Perhaps your clinic or former patients have discarded equipment that could be put to a very good use.

Equipment donations will be accepted until March 31, 2005. Contact the Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy Department at 323-442-2900 if you would like to contribute.

USC PT Community Clinic to Open, Volunteers and Donations Needed!

It has been frequently observed that patients with low incomes have limited access to physicians, however, it is rarely noted that they do not have any reasonable access to physical therapists. Often, the working poor and those who have limited medical benefits are the most in need of physical therapy intervention. In April of 2004, the Board of Councilors of the Department of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy appointed a committee to develop a community clinic that would provide services and contribute to the health of the surrounding communities.

The USC Physical Therapy Community Clinic is a joint effort and commitment of the Department’s faculty, staff, students, its Board of Councilors and alumni, community professionals, leaders and members of the local communities surrounding the campuses of USC.

The initial clinical program, targeted to school-aged children and their families, is to begin in March of 2005. As the program develops, other populations will be targeted and services will be expanded. To achieve this goal, the Department will be requesting the assistance of alumni to volunteer their time and funds to this program. If you are interested in helping, please contact Sarai Villagran at 323-442-1193.

Dr. Beth Fisher in China helping a woman after a stroke walk for the first time.
Orthopedic Physical Therapy Residency Program Expands

The USC Orthopedic Physical Therapy Residency Program, now in its sixth year, has expanded to include a second clinical site. Kern and Associates Physical Therapy in Santa Monica joined USC Physical Therapy Associates, the faculty practice on the Health Sciences Campus, as a clinical mentoring site for the residency program by hosting its first resident, Jennifer Nunnery, DPT. Jennifer joins Class of 2004-2005 USC PT Associates residents Mildred Limcay, DPT and Bernard Li, DPT. Dr. Liz Poppert is the program coordinator at Kern and Associates, and as a graduate of the USC residency program in 2003, she brings a unique perspective to mentorship.

“We have been aggressively looking at ways to expand the residency program,” says Rob Landel, PT, DPT, OCS, CSCS, Co-Director of the residency program. “By expanding to existing clinical sites, we’re able to provide post-professional clinical mentoring experiences to a greater number of therapists, while at the same time maximizing the utilization of our resources. We hope to continue expanding the clinical mentoring aspects of our program to more clinics in the near future, while providing the didactic experiences at a central location at USC.”

Operation Walk Continued

Mexico, Nepal, Philippines, Peru, Nicaragua, to name a few. The “team” that travels on these trips includes orthopedic surgeons, anesthesiologists, internal medicine doctors, nurses, physical therapists, biomedical engineers, and operating room technicians.

On this last trip to Guatemala, the team performed 45 total knee replacements in 4 days, utilizing 3 operating rooms per day in Hermano Pedro Hospital. The patients came from all over Guatemala, some traveling from 8 hours away by bus and car.

The surgeries are free for the patients because all the implants, equipment, supplies, and medicines are donated by various companies and are facilitated by generous financial support from donors. For more information, visit the organization’s website at www.operationwalk.org.

New 3rd Year Curriculum Continued from page 3

third year and implement changes as needed in the first two years. Finally, a course in differential diagnosis was added in the summer before the third year, replacing the statistics course.

Q. Jonathan, as a student, what do you think about the new third-year curriculum?
A. PT 632 is a well-designed course that addresses thought process and critical reasoning skills. The concept of using patient case studies is the ideal to utilize the knowledge learned in previous years and affiliations in a useful manner.

Adapting to the reading load and the Readiness Assessment Tests everyday was extremely challenging. It was quite difficult to come back from a 10-12 hour clinic day and have the energy to read 30 pages every other night. Some of the class discussion times seemed a bit drawn out and redundant, but the information and discussion times were necessary and definitely helped to develop our minds to think as autonomous practitioners.

I was able to use the information and apply it immediately to make a difference in my patients’ lives. I was also able to understand with more clarity the reason we have each specific courses over our three-year curriculum.
Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy Researchers Will Participate in $1.8 Million NIH Neurorehabilitation Center

Carolee Winstein, professor; and Nicolas Schweighofer, assistant professor; both from the Department of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy are part of a team of nine researchers—seven from USC, and two from the University of Texas, Austin who are part of a new, interdisciplinary “Exploratory Center” for stroke rehabilitation research funded by a $1.8 million National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant.

This new initiative is part of the NIH Roadmap for Medical Research that was unveiled by NIH Director Elias A. Zerhouni, M.D., in 2002. The new planning grants are designed to form interdisciplinary research teams. If successful, these grants will eventually lead to the awarding of the more traditional and highly coveted NIH center grants.

“I am convinced that an interdisciplinary research approach is a more efficient means to advance knowledge for the kinds of complex problems concerning rehabilitation after brain injury,” said Winstein, who is co-PI of the USC Center. Thomas McNeill, professor of cell and neurobiology and neurology at the USC Keck School of Medicine, is the principal investigator.

“Each year in the United States over 700,000 people suffer a stroke, and nearly 450,000 survive with some form of neurologic impairment or disability. In addition, with the population progressively getting older, and obesity and heart disease on the rise, it is estimated that the number of stroke patients will more than double over the next 50 years, making the need to develop new and innovative rehabilitation programs to treat the growing number of stroke survivors a national priority,” said McNeill.

The group will begin by focusing on rehabilitation strategies for the arm and hand as “statistics indicate that almost 80 percent of people who suffer a first time stroke have impairment of the upper limb that significantly impacts functional independence, health and quality of life for stroke survivors,” McNeill explains. “We know that a recovery of function can occur, and that it requires retraining the brain to move the arm and hand in the correct fashion. Now we’re looking for better ways to enhance that recovery. We need to figure out how intense the training should be, what skills we need to focus on, and what the physical therapist’s practice strategies should be. We’re collaborating with the researchers from the University of Texas because they have developed animal models of stroke that investigate the same motor skills strategies that we’re using with patients and will provide new insight into the cellular mechanisms that drive the recovery process.

“In parallel with our clinical and animal studies, we will develop novel virtual environment tests that can assess and rehabilitate human functional performance, as well as computational models of reach and grasp. We will link our clinical and experimental studies with USC’s bioinformatics group headed by Stan Azen, professor of preventive medicine at USC, in order to develop new tools for sharing and analyzing data between projects. We are also investigating whether there are certain molecules in the brain that help the injured neurons grow that will enhance recovery of function in stroke survivors.”

“It is well known that the translation of basic science discoveries to clinical practice can take anywhere from 7 to 11 years. If the pre-clinical human studies can be conducted in parallel with the animal studies, we may be able to effectively reduce the bench to bedside translation time by 50%,” said Winstein.

But that reduction will require a significant effort, Winstein notes. “For our center to be effective, we will need to foster the environment to encourage the cross-fertilization of ideas between the clinical and basic sciences. This is the major challenge for us, but also a tremendous opportunity to reap the rewards of a truly interdisciplinary collaboration.”

Other participants in the center include Helena Chui, M.D., Department of Neurology, Keck School of Medicine of USC; Theresa Jones, Ph.D., Department of Psychology, University of Texas, Austin; Tim Schallert, Ph.D., Department of Psychology, University of Texas.
New Faculty Appointments

The Department is pleased to announce the appointment of two new full-time faculty members.

**Jesus Dominguez, PT, PhD – Assistant Professor of Clinical Physical Therapy**

Dr. Dominguez is coordinator of the cardiopulmonary and general medicine curriculum for the entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy program. He instructs the second-year students in the area of cardiovascular and pulmonary patient management. Dr. Dominguez's research interests include cellular and molecular mechanisms involved in diaphragm myopathy associated with congestive heart failure and cardiopulmonary responses during body weight-supported treadmill training in individuals with spinal cord injury.

Dr. Dominguez graduated from USC in 2002 with a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Biokinesiology. He completed a residency in Cardiopulmonary Physical Therapy in 1989 at Blessey Physical Therapy, Inc; his Master of Physical Therapy from USC in 1988; and his Bachelor of Arts in Biological Sciences from Occidental College in 1984.

**Jeanine O. Yip, DPT – Assistant Professor of Research**

Dr. Yip is the research coordinator and treating clinician for the Parkinson’s Exercise and Recovery Kinetic Study at USC. She treats participating subjects at USC Physical Therapy Associates, the Department’s faculty practice. Dr. Yip specializes in working on clinical trials that study neuroplasticity of the brain and spinal cord in response to exercise. She has experience and interests in neurologic and orthopaedic physical therapy and is a member of both the neurologic and orthopaedic sections of the American Physical Therapy Association.

Dr. Yip graduated from USC’s first Doctor of Physical Therapy class in 1998 and completed her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California, San Diego, in 1993.

Winstein Promoted to Professor

The Department is pleased to announce the promotion of Dr. Carolee Winstein to the rank of Professor of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy. Dr. Winstein had been previously tenured as Associate Professor. “Carolee is a wonderful teacher, a productive and innovative researcher, and a gifted physical therapist,” said Department Chair, James Gordon. We are very proud and congratulate her!

Participants Needed for Parkinson’s Study

The Department seeks persons with early onset Parkinson’s disease (PD) to participate in Parkinson’s Exercise and Recovery Kinetics Study (PERKS). Basic criteria for the eligible participant are...

- PD diagnosis within 3 years
- not taking Sinemet
- can commit to complimentary physical therapy 3x/week for 8 weeks at USC

PERKS focuses on the effects of exercise on functional improvement and brain changes in individuals with PD. Traditionally, treatment of PD has consisted of primarily medication to alleviate symptoms. However, we know that exercise can improve motor behavior and may reduce progression of PD.

PERKS will determine if functional performance and brain processes are improved with body weight supported treadmill training compared with general strength and mobility training. PERKS will determine whether improvement in brain and behavior measures is obtained with a challenging exercise program.

For more information or to sign up, contact Beth Fisher at (323) 442-2796.
**ACL Study** Continued from page 1

volves no direct contact with another player or object, and often takes place during a dynamic task such as a landing or cutting as the athlete is decelerating and/or changing direction. Female soccer athletes may face an exceptionally high risk. An analysis of collegiate soccer players during the early 1990s found that 31 percent of females had an ACL injury, compared to only 13 percent of males. According to Powers, “to prevent these injuries, we need to better understand how they occur and potential risk factors. Surprisingly, little is known about women’s sport-specific movement patterns and how they may contribute to knee injury.”

The purpose of this study is to identify gender specific movement patterns that may predispose females to non-contact ACL injuries during sport activities, and to quantify the effects of a training program in altering potentially injurious lower extremity mechanics. In addition, an evaluation of the mechanical and neuromuscular demands of specific exercises included in a training program will be conducted. Three projects have been proposed to address these goals.

The objective of Project 1 is to quantify gender differences in biomechanical and neuromuscular aspects of sport specific movements, and to determine how gender specific movement patterns vary across different stages of maturation. Eighty female and 80 male athletes between the ages of 9-24 will undergo biomechanical testing while performing cutting and landing activities. This biomechanical testing will be conducted in the Musculoskeletal Biomechanics Research Laboratory in the Department of Biokinesiology & Physical Therapy at USC. An eight-camera motion analysis system, three force plates, and surface electromyography will be used to measure lower extremity kinematics (joint angles), kinetics (joint torques) and muscle activation patterns while athletes perform these tasks. It is hypothesized that after the onset of puberty, significant gender differences will be found at the hip and knee and that these differences will be suggestive of “at risk behavior” with respect to ACL injury.

The objective of Project 2 is to assess the influence of a training program in altering biomechanical and neuromuscular aspects of movement in female athletes, and determine whether a given response to a training program varies across different stages of maturation. One-hundred and eighty female athletes, 90 intervention and 90 controls, between the ages of 12-24 will participate in the Prevent Injury and Enhance Performance (PEP) program developed by the Santa Monica Orthopaedic and Sport Medicine Research Foundation. Previous work has demonstrated a 74% reduction in ACL injuries among female high school soccer players who participated in the PEP program. While these findings support the use of a training program to reduce ACL injuries, the underlying mechanism behind the success of such a training program remains unclear. For example, it is not known if training alters lower extremity mechanics in a way that would be suggestive of decreased risk for ACL injury. Therefore, subjects for Project 2 will undergo biomechanical testing before and after participation in the PEP program. It is hypothesized that following the training program, females will demonstrate movement patterns that are less suggestive of “at risk behavior.”

The objective of Project 3 is to assess the mechanical and neuromuscular demands of specific exercises that are included in an injury prevention program that has been shown to reduce the incidence of ACL injuries. Biomechanical assessment of fifteen female athletes performing eight specific exercises will be carried out. It is hypothesized that the specific demands imposed by certain exercises within the intervention program will correspond to changes in hip and knee mechanics following participation in the program.

“Taken together, the data from this study will address important questions related to the influence of gender, age and training on ACL injury potential, and will provide a foundation on which further investigation of injury prevention and rehabilitation can be based,” said Powers.

If you are interested in learning more about these projects, contact Dr. Powers at powers@usc.edu or go to www.usc.edu/ACLprojectprevent.

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**Neurorehab Center** Continued from page 16

Austin; Michael Arbib, Ph.D., Department of Computer Science, Viterbi School of Engineering, USC; Albert Rizzo, Ph.D., Integrated Media Systems Center, Viterbi School of Engineering, USC; Margaret McLaughlin, Ph.D., Integrated Media Systems Center, Annenberg School of Communication, USC.

For more information about the NIH Roadmap, please visit www.nihroadmap.nih.gov.
Homecoming 2004 a Great Success

On November 13, 2004, the Department held its most successful homecoming celebration to date. Approximately 260 students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of the Department gathered for a fun-filled and eventful day. Guests enjoyed a barbeque, a Department raffle, which raised money for the student scholarship fund, and the performance by the Trojan Marching Band. The day culminated in another Trojan victory, over the University of Arizona, that helped pave their way to the Orange Bowl where USC won the national championship title in January.

“Homecoming is a tradition that we hope more alumni begin to embrace. It offers a great opportunity to reconnect with past classmates, visit with Department faculty, and meet current students. We hope alumni, their family members and friends will join us in years to come,” said Sara Villagran, Director of Alumni relations for the Department.

SAVE THE DATE: Homecoming 2005 will be held on Saturday, November 5 vs. Stanford.

Faculty Practice Continued from page 1

based care to the surrounding community using innovative models of practice and delivery that will be emulated by our students and will serve as the standards for the profession.

On August 23, 2004 the USC PT Associates at UPC moved from 300 square feet in the USC University Park Health Center to 2300 square feet in the University Park Village. This clinic, originally known as p.m.P.T., was started by Dr. Jacquelyn Dylla in 1998 as an evening clinic one to two nights per week. The clinic quickly grew and in 1999, a full time physical therapist was hired. For eight years, faculty, staff, and students were treated in the University Park Health Center.

The clinic is still run by Dr. Dylla and since the move to the “Village”, the volume has increased by 41 percent. The recent patient satisfaction survey completed in November 2004 established that 98 percent of those surveyed rated the care they received as very good or excellent. The services offered on the UPC practice include treatment for orthopedic conditions, musculoskeletal disorders, neurologic impairments, sports injuries, TMJ disorders, as well as orthosis fabrication.

USC PT Associates at HSC has also recently added 2800 square feet in the HRA building where it is housed. This clinic, run by Dr. Yogi Matharu, offers an even larger array of services including orthopedic conditions, musculoskeletal disorders, neurologic impairments, vestibular/balance disorders, pain management, incontinence management, women’s health, cardiopulmonary dysfunction, sports injuries, orthosis fabrication, body weight supported treadmill training, and constraint induced functional training.

Both clinics groom undergraduates preparing for physical therapy school and provide clinical instruction to graduate students in the Department’s entry-level doctoral program. The practice was recently awarded the contract for providing the worker’s compensation care for the University.

Lastly, the Department provides physical therapy services, through contractual agreement, at USC University Hospital, USC Norris Cancer Center, and Orthopaedic Hospital. Many of the physical therapy faculty who practice at these hospitals also participate in teaching in the entry-level DPT curriculum, thus bringing a wealth of clinical knowledge and experience about specialty areas into the classroom. DPT students also have the opportunity to participate in clinical internships at the Hospitals to gain experience in specialty areas.

To learn more about the Department’s clinical services, visit our website at www.usc.edu/pt.
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 welcome.

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first     middle     last     maiden

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