

U N I V E R S I T Y O F P I T T S B U R G H

FACETS

SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND REHABILITATION SCIENCES

FALL/WINTER 2013



Evolving. Adapting.
Our role in the new landscape
of higher education.

CONTENTS

FALL/
WINTER
2013



13



16



24



30

- 1 **From the Dean**
Dr. Clifford Brubaker
- 2 **Giving**
Patty Kummick
- 3 **Access**
Dr. Kate Seelman
- 4 **Faculty News**
- 7 **Alumni News**
- 8 **Student News**

- 10 **Clinical Instructor Profile**
Randall Kesterson:
Tough Love
- 12 **Alumni Profile**
From Clinician to Patient
- 13 **FACETS Feature**
Navigating an
Ever-changing Landscape
- 16 **Sports Medicine and Nutrition**
New Mission Flying High
- 18 **Communication Science and Disorders**
One-of-a-Kind
Conference Facilitates
Best Clinical Instruction

- 20 **Health Information Management**
New Solutions to an Age-Old
Problem. How EHRs Can
Serve the Poor.
- 22 **Rehabilitation Science and Technology**
ELeVAT-ing Veterans.
Enriching Civilians.
- 24 **Physical Therapy**
On the Move
- 26 **Occupational Therapy**
Getting to Know the
New Guy on Campus
- 28 **Emergency Medicine**
Emergency Medicine: It's Not
Your Father's Ambulance
Service Anymore.
- 30 **The Real World**
Amanda Devito
- 32 **SHRS Donors 2013**

Publisher

Dr. Clifford E. Brubaker

Executive Editor

Patty Kummick

Writing and Design

Red House Communications

Photography

Tom Gigliotti



University of Pittsburgh

FACETS is published by the Office of the Dean, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences. It is produced twice a year for alumni, students, staff, faculty, and friends of SHRS. The University of Pittsburgh is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution.



18



Greetings,

Moving ahead ...

All things considered—economic uncertainty, sequestration, continued modest (*to be kind*) support from the State of Pennsylvania—this would not seem the best time for us to launch large, ambitious projects. Perhaps there is no really “good” time for large-scale investment at academic institutions, or so it would seem in recent times.

Nevertheless, SHRS is preparing ambitious plans for expansion, to meet a present and rapidly increasing demand for admissions to all of our graduate professional programs. Even with substantially increased enrollments over the course of the past 10 years, we are currently only able to admit 7 percent of applicants to these programs. This demand for admission is proportional to a present and increasing demand for graduates of these professional programs, currently projected by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics ranging from 28–39 percent by 2020. Perhaps a further basis for this demand is reflected in our highly ranked programs. Nearly all that are externally rated rank in the top 1–5 percent in the United States.

Our first adventure with expansion is described in the article in this issue of *FACETS* for the prospective move of our physical therapy (PT) program to the Technology Corridor on Second Avenue. The facilities being prepared for PT at “Bridgeside 1” adjacent to the “Hot Metal Bridge,” will provide more than two times the current space that PT occupies in Forbes Tower. This expansion with new equipment and laboratories will enable PT to increase admissions by 20 percent for each of the next three classes to accommodate increasing demand. The departure of PT from Forbes Tower will also provide for additional space to better accommodate other SHRS programs.

It is our desire to eventually consolidate all SHRS academic activities in new facilities that will accommodate all of our programs in the Oakland Campus of the University. We have received authorization to initiate a planning process for such a facility. I shall hasten to note that this authorization is not an approval, but rather permission to proceed with development and presentation of a case for consideration. However, this is indeed occasion for celebration—even if somewhat “muted” at this stage. The obvious point is that we have begun a journey, one that I believe will take us to a new beginning in a new academic home to enable us to continue our mission to educate the next generation of health and rehabilitation scholars and practitioners.

We shall need the support of our entire alumni base and our many friends and benefactors for this journey. I shall digress to note that each year at our School Graduation Convocation, I close my address with a charge to the graduates by noting that “... *each graduating class of the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences has enhanced the reputation of our school and elevated the esteem of our degrees I shall ask you, our newest graduates, to also accept this responsibility to uphold and further embellish our reputation and serve as ambassadors for the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences and for the University of Pittsburgh.*”

We have come a considerable distance, but there is still more to do and more to accomplish!

Warm regards and best wishes,

Clifford E. Brubaker, PhD
Professor and Dean
cliffb@pitt.edu

SHRS programs that
are measured carry
these national rankings:

#3

Physical Therapy

#6

Occupational Therapy

#8

Audiology

#8

Speech-Language
Pathology

#23

Rehabilitation
Counseling

Rankings based on the most recent
surveys of Best Graduate Schools
by U.S. News & World Report

Follow us!
[Facebook.com/SHRSPITT](https://www.facebook.com/SHRSPITT)



giving



The cover of this issue of *FACETS* talks about “our role in the new landscape of higher education.” While the title speaks most directly about what the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences here at the University of Pittsburgh is doing to evolve and adapt, many others can play an important role in this new landscape. For instance, when it comes to positively affecting the educational experience of our students, SHRS alumni and friends can assist by making gifts to student scholarships and program support.

Students in the Department of Physical Therapy will realize the generosity of two of their predecessors who chose to give back by establishing endowed scholarship and resource funds.



Mary Behling Browne, D. T. Watson Class of '63, established the Mary Behling Browne Physical Therapy Scholarship to assist physical therapy students in their second or third year of study. Mary chose to endow her fund, meaning the awards are generated through the interest earned on the principal. The principal amount remains invested so that awards can be made into perpetuity.



Mary K. Daly-Crum, PT Class of '80, and her husband, Arthur C. Crum Jr., established the Mary K. Daly-Crum Student Award in Physical Therapy. They, too, elected to endow their fund so it will remain in the Department of Physical Therapy for years to come. They asked that preference for the selection of the award be made to out-of-state students since this reflects Mary K.'s experience as a Pitt student.

On the corporate side, Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield gifted the school with a \$100,000 grant to our Human Engineering Research Laboratories in support of the labs' Fabrication of Assistive Technology (FATe) training program for wounded warriors and veterans with disabilities. FATe will aid in the transition of rehabilitating active-duty Wounded Warriors and rehabilitating veterans to potential careers in machining. It's a comprehensive training program that unites traditional students with non-traditional students, students with disabilities with students without disabilities, and civilian students with military-prepared students. It's a program that is enriching the lives of students, faculty, volunteer mentors, counselors, and researchers alike!

We're fortunate at SHRS to have many generous alumni, friends, and partners, and we seek ways to acknowledge their kindness as often as possible. (See the list of this past year's donors in this issue.) We invite you to join the ranks of these benevolent individuals and organizations by making your gift to SHRS today.

The process of giving is easy. You can give through the University's annual fund, telethons, direct mail appeals, by using the enclosed donor envelope, or by going online to shrs.pitt.edu/Giving. Or you may contact me by telephone, mail, or email and we can arrange a personal visit. The end result is the same—you're making a difference in the lives of students pursuing dreams similar to those you had five, 10, 25, 40 years ago when you began your professional journey.

Sincerely,

Patty Kummick, Director of Development

412-383-6548, pkummick@pitt.edu
4031 Forbes Tower, Pittsburgh, PA 15260



ACCESS

DR. KATE SEELMAN

There's been a lot of talk in and out of Washington about sequestration. But exactly what is it? Sequestration involves taking legal possession of assets until a debt has been paid or other claims have been met. Although the threat of sequestration first made headlines in 2011, it wasn't until March 1, 2013, that Congress passed the Budget Control Act and sequester became law.

Sequestration is of great interest to us at SHRS because many of the spending cuts affect federally funded programs important to higher education such as research and student aid.

Is sequestration a harbinger of a new period in finance of U.S. higher education? Will universities be forced to scale back and adapt to a new business model characterized by far less public funding? If so, will the philanthropy community be willing and able to fill the funding gap? The answers to these questions remain to be seen.

But in 2014 and beyond, Congress will have the opportunity to help shape the remaining nine years of sequestration. At that time, there will be discretionary spending caps instead of automatic, across-the-board cuts. For that reason, we decided to ask our U.S. Senators from Pennsylvania, Senator Pat Toomey (R) and Senator Robert P. Casey Jr. (D), to share their views with us.

For the record, what is your stance on sequestration?

Senator Toomey: "I voted against this legislation. Nevertheless, we need to reduce federal spending to put our nation on a sustainable fiscal path for future generations. There are innumerable opportunities for savings in the federal budget, including unneeded projects, duplicative missions, waste, and fraud."

Senator Casey: "I have called on Congress to repeal the sequester. There is no doubt that we need to cut spending. I have voted for a trillion dollars in cuts and I believe we need even more. But, we need to make smart cuts that eliminate wasteful spending without harming our economy."

Would you consider the funding of National Institute of Health, National Science Foundation, and Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality research any differently from the funding of non-research departments and agencies?

In a letter to a constituent, Senator Toomey wrote: "I recognize the role that the federal government plays in helping to fund primary medical research, including grants from the National Institutes of Health and other agencies. I was proud to support Senator Richard Durbin's (D-IL) amendment to the Senate budget resolution that called for an increase in funding for biomedical research, and I will continue to support worthy competitive grant proposals for medical research."

Senator Casey: "I am deeply concerned by the impact of sequestration on NIH and other research agencies, and, first and foremost, believe we should reverse the sequester and look at smart ways to cut the deficit without killing jobs. I would also be open to new ideas to fund research that would provide additional long-term stability and appropriate investments in these agencies. Medical research not only saves lives—it creates jobs and has a major impact on Pennsylvania's economy."

Pennsylvania research universities are highly successful in meriting federal research awards and contributing to the Commonwealth's high federal research funding ranking. If you see a significant decline in awards in Pennsylvania due to reduced research allocations, would this affect your budget priorities?

In a letter to a constituent, Senator Toomey wrote: "As you know, our nation has solved many of the world's medical challenges. Some of these advances were the result of research right here in Pennsylvania, and that is a source of pride for our state, which is home to top-notch medical institutions. But there is more work that has to be done and all areas of government spending must be carefully examined so that we can put our nation on a path toward fiscal solvency."

Senator Casey: "Pennsylvania's research institutions are top in the country. There is no doubt that we need to maintain appropriate funding to maintain our competitiveness, continue growing our economy, and ensure the health and safety of all Americans."

The sequester's long-term effects may reduce federal funds for undergraduate financial aid and work-study programs and reduce research positions for graduate students. How would student aid programs fit into your priorities?

Senator Casey: "Lack of funding should not keep anyone from pursuing higher education, particularly given the increased employment opportunities and economic security associated with post-secondary education. While I believe sequestration was the wrong approach to balance our budget, I was pleased that the single largest source of federal financial assistance for higher education, the Pell grant program, was not subject to sequestration and was in fact increased by \$17 billion in the Budget Control Act. I look forward to the opportunity to address the accessibility of higher education further as the Senate takes up the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act this year."

What plans do you have to mitigate the effects of sequestration that you consider harmful?

Senator Toomey: "In February, Senator Jim Inhofe (R-Okla.) and I co-authored legislation that would have achieved the savings of the sequester while giving the administration the flexibility to cut the lowest-priority spending items throughout the federal government rather than the across-the-board spending cuts in the sequester."

"Although this bill was defeated, I remain committed to working with my Senate colleagues on additional ways to ensure that these cuts are done in a more sensible manner that protects our nation's priorities."

Senator Casey: "We need a balanced approach. In order to strengthen the economy, we need to reduce the deficit in a balanced way by cutting government waste and closing tax loopholes for wealthy special interests. We need to prioritize investments in research and development as well as education and training so we can continue to create jobs, increase competitiveness, and strengthen our national security."

For more information on sequestration, visit www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-112s365enr/pdf/BILLS-112s365enr.pdf.



Faculty News

Communication Science and Disorders

The Department of Communication Science and Disorders welcomes new faculty member **Dr. Erin Lundblom**. Lundblom received her doctorate from Florida State University, and is interested in preschool and school-age language and literacy, childhood apraxia of speech, and distance learning in graduate education. She will be involved in undergraduate advising and recruiting, and teaching across the curriculum.

The Department of Communication Science and Disorders is pleased to announce the following faculty promotions: **Dr. Ellen Cohn**, professor; **Dr. James Coyle**, associate professor; **Dr. Michael Dickey**, associate professor with tenure, and **Dr. Elaine Morner**, assistant professor.



Dr. Sheila Pratt, associate professor, was awarded the 2013 VA Research Award by the Association of VA Audiologists. She was recognized

for her research and research training activities in the Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Center within the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System. Dr. Pratt studies communication disorders secondary to hearing loss. The award was announced at the Joint Defense Veterans Audiology Conference in Nashville, Tenn., in February 2013.

Dr. Paula Leslie, associate professor, was granted the Distinguished Visitor Award by the University of Lancashire in the UK. This is a prestigious and competitive award for the purpose of promoting international collaborations for research, knowledge transfer, innovation, and enterprise.

Drs. Ellen Cohn, professor, and **Cheryl Messick**, associate professor, will be awarded Fellowship of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association at the annual convention in Chicago on November 15, 2013. To be awarded Fellow, the nominee must have made outstanding contributions to the discipline of communication sciences and disorders. Following the awards ceremony, please join us at the University of Pittsburgh Open House, 8:30–10:30 p.m., to congratulate Cohn and Messick.

Cohn co-edited a book titled *Telerehabilitation*, published by Springer, UK. She is editor of the *International Journal of Telerehabilitation* and serves on the board of directors of the American Telemedicine Association.



Dr. J. Scott Yaruss, associate professor, and colleagues completed a book titled *Minimizing Bullying for Children Who Stutter: A Practical Guide for SLPs*, a comprehensive resource for helping speech-language pathologists treat the difficult problem of bullying in this vulnerable population. The book is designed to accompany a series of three new workbooks—one for students, one for parents, and one for classroom teachers and school administrators—to ensure that everybody is working together to help children overcome bullying. These new materials were published by Stuttering Therapy Resources, a specialty publisher co-founded by Yaruss.

Yaruss has also been invited to present workshops on bullying at several conferences including the National Stuttering Association's research symposium.

Dr. Katya Hill, associate professor, and Szu-Han (Kay) Chen, RST doctoral student, traveled to Shanghai, China, again this summer to teach an Introduction to Speech Language Pathology course at Shanghai University of TCM and supervise Augmentative and Alternative Communication clinical activity. The trip included presenting at a two-day workshop at a leading rehabilitation hospital in Shanghai with more than 100 school and medical practitioners in attendance. Hill and Chen presented on AAC assessment and intervention with their colleagues from Shanghai presenting case studies based on pediatric clients using AAC interventions in Mandarin Chinese. They also met with top hospital administrators to discuss future AAC rehabilitation treatment opportunities for children and adults in the new rehabilitation hospital and clinic.

Dr. James Coyle, associate professor, presented seminars for speech language pathologists titled "Dysphagia and the Respiratory System: An Aerodigestive Tract Primer" and "Treatment for Swallowing Disorders: What are We Doing and Why?" at the Illinois Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention in Chicago in February 2013. He was an invited faculty member at the 14th annual Dysphagia Research Society and Post-Graduate Course in Seattle in March. In May, he presented a two-day conference titled "Navigating the Minefield of Dysphagia Management" for the Baycrest Institute/University of Toronto,

Canada, and a one-day seminar titled “Medical Speech-Language Pathology: Applying Evidence and Expertise” for the Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare Services in Milwaukee, Wis. In July, he presented “Managing Dysphagia in Adults with Complex Conditions: Integrating Best Evidence and Clinical Expertise,” a one-day seminar in Greensboro, N.C., for the Greensboro Area Health Education Center.

Emergency Medicine

Dr. Walt Stoy, professor and program director, was recognized by the Allegheny County EMS Council for Outstanding Service to the Board of Directors in June.

Dr. Tom Platt, assistant professor, was appointed to the Board of Directors for the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians.

Don Elliott, adjunct senior lecturer, was recognized by the Allegheny County EMS Council as an EMS Champion in June.

Health Information Management

Dr. Mervat Abdelhak, associate professor and chair, presented “A Model for Graduate Education: Emerging Topics and Methods for Assessing the Quality of a Graduate Program at the University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, USA,” at the 17th Annual IFHIMA Congress Education Day in Montreal, Canada, in May.

Abdelhak also presented “Accreditation Standards and Curriculum Issues” at the CAHIIM Open Forum Panel at Assembly on Education Meeting in Baltimore, Md., in July, and “Data Analytics and Stewardship: Expanded Roles for HIM and New Curriculum

Requirements” at MEDINFO in Copenhagen, Denmark, in August.

Dr. Dilhari DeAlmeida, assistant professor, has been awarded the designation “AHIMA-Approved ICD-10-CM/PCS Trainer” after successful training and assessment.

Dr. Bambang Parmanto, professor, served as Invited Luncheon Keynote Speaker and presented “Reaching the Underserved and Improving Health Care Outcomes through mHealth Technology” at the 9th Annual Jean Mills Health Symposium.

Dr. Valerie Watzlaf, associate professor, and **Dr. Ellen Cohn**, CSD professor, presented “Informed Privacy and Terms of Use Policies for Online University Courses,” a Teaching Colleges and Community (TCC) Hawaii Conference Webinar presentation.

Watzlaf also presented “Reality 2016: Are We Teaching Our Students What They Need to Know 3–5 Years from Now?” at the Ohio Health Information Management Association Annual Educator’s Day in Columbus, Ohio.

Watzlaf, as chair of the Council for Excellence in Education of the AHIMA Foundation, made several presentations at the Assembly on Education Symposium in Baltimore, Md., in July. Presentations included “Transforming the Health Information Workforce,” “Curricula Map and Credential Update,” “Graduate Curriculum and Credential Update,” and “The CEE and CEE Workgroups.”

Dr. Leming Zhou, assistant professor, conducted a poster presentation, “Evolution of a Heterochromatic Domain, the Muller F Element, in *Drosophila/Sophophora*,” at the 54th Annual *Drosophila* Research Conference in Washington, D.C.

Zhou also presented “The Genomics Education Partnership (GEP): Bringing Genomics Research into Undergraduate Classrooms” at this conference.

The article titled “Adding a Genomic Healthcare Component to a Health Information Management Curriculum,” Perspectives in Health Information Management authored by **Bailee Ludwig** and **Zhou, Watzlaf**, and **Abdelhak**, was cited as one of the top 20 articles in BioMed Library.

Dr. Andi Saptono, post-doctoral student, and **Dr. Richard Schein**, RST research scientist, presented “Development of an Outcomes Management System for Mobility” at the 29th International Seating Symposium in Nashville, Tenn.

Occupational Therapy

We are pleased to welcome two new faculty members: Assistant Professors **Dr. Roxanna Bendixen** and **Dr. Amit Sethi**. Bendixen earned her PhD degree in rehabilitation science from the University of Florida and has been a faculty member there since 2006. Her scholarly interests focus on the relationships among pathophysiology, muscle strength, and functional ability with daily participation in children with chronic illnesses and disability and the effect of illness and disability on quality of life as children age into adolescence and adulthood.

Sethi earned his PhD degree in rehabilitation science from the University of Florida and was most recently on faculty at The University of Texas Medical Branch. His scholarly interests include understanding the neurophysiological and biomechanical mechanisms contributing to upper extremity weakness and motor deficits



Faculty News (cont.)

in the elderly and adults post-stroke.

Dr. Elizabeth Skidmore, associate professor, received an R01 grant from the National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research for a study titled “Closing the Gap in Stroke Rehabilitation: Early Intervention for Cognitive Disability.”

Skidmore was invited to serve on the Quebec-Ontario Community Reintegration Research Action Team.

Dr. Joanne Baird, assistant professor, received the 2013 Community Support Award, which is given annually to an individual in the community who has demonstrated significant support to the Chatham University Master of Occupational Therapy Program.

Baird was selected to be a founding member of the Occupational Therapy National Academy of Practice, a group facilitating interprofessional education and practice.

Dr. Nancy Baker, associate professor, received a 2013 American Occupational Therapy Foundation Leadership Service Commendation.

Dr. Pamela Toto, assistant professor, received Honorable Mention for Excellence in Research in the Field of Aging from the Aging Institute of UPMC Senior Services and the University of Pittsburgh for her poster presentation “Client-Centered Assessment for Geriatric Primary Care: A Feasibility Study.”

Occupational therapy had a visible presence at the 9th Annual Rehabilitation Institute Research Day 2013. Organized by **Drs. Elizabeth Skidmore, Joan Rogers, and Amy Wagner**, the day’s events featured Skidmore as keynote speaker and

University of Pittsburgh research including work by occupational therapy faculty, alumni, and students, including **Jaclyn Glosser, Emily Grattan, Shannon Juengst, Heather Livengood, Juleen Rodakowski, and Joelle Urquhart**.

Drs. Mary Lou Leibold and Joanne Baird, assistant professors, co-presented a two-day Fieldwork Educator Certificate Workshop at the State University of New York–Jamestown.

Drs. Denise Chisholm and Pamela Toto have been invited to serve as mentors in the American Occupational Therapy Association Emerging Leaders Development Program.

Drs. Denise Chisholm, Ketki Raina, Joanne Baird, Joan Rogers, and Pamela Toto, and MOT student **Alexandra Harper** presented at the 2013 American Occupational Therapy Association Conference in San Diego, Calif.

Rehabilitation Science and Technology

Dr. Rory Cooper, distinguished professor and chair, received the International Paralympic Committee’s Paralympic Scientific Award at the VISTA 2013 Conference in Bonn, Germany, in May. This is the first time the award, given to an academic researcher for his or her contributions to research in the field of sports for persons with an impairment, was bestowed to an American researcher who also is a former Paralympic medalist.

Cooper also received the Secretary of Veterans Affairs Diversity and Inclusion Excellence Award in August and the

Outstanding Civilian Service Medal from the Department of the Army.

Rehabilitation counseling faculty members **Patty Costantini** and **Jamie Schutte** were elected president elect and secretary-treasurer, respectively, of the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification, the national certifying organization for professional rehabilitation counselors, vocational evaluators, work adjustment specialists, and career assessment associates.

Dr. Michael McCue was promoted to the academic rank of professor by the University of Pittsburgh.

Correction: Sara Peterson, prosthetics and orthotics program instructor, received the Educator Award presented by the Orthotic and Prosthetic Education and Research Foundation. The award was incorrectly listed as the Educator of the Year in the Spring/Summer 2013 issue of *FACETS*. We regret the error.

Sports Medicine and Nutrition

Dr. Scott Lephart, professor and chair, was appointed Distinguished Service Professor in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences. This appointment is the highest honor to be accorded a faculty member by the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Elizabeth Ruder, assistant professor, was the featured speaker in the department-sponsored continuing education seminar on “Diet, Physical Activity and Cancer Prevention” for the clinical dietetics and nutrition program’s supervised practice preceptors and mentors. The seminar was offered as a way to thank preceptors and mentors for their commitment to training and educating students.



Alumni News

Communication Science and Disorders

Dr. Beth Mineo (MS '81, PhD '85), associate professor, University of Delaware, was appointed director of the University of Delaware's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (the Center for Disabilities Studies).

Samantha Procaccini (CScD '11) was interviewed for the *ADVANCE for Speech & Hearing* publication. The article is titled "Enhancing the Gift: Seeking Leadership, Research Appraisal Skills and Mentorship to Better Care for Patients, One SLP Outlines Why She Chose to Pursue a Clinical Doctorate."

Rhona Galera (CScD '13) was awarded the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Student Research Travel Award for travel to and participation in sponsored events at the 2012 ASHA Convention to support the research interests of emerging scientists in speech, language, and swallowing science, and encourage careers in science and research. This award is given to the highest-rated ASHA Convention paper with a student as first author in each of the 26 topic categories.

Sameera Dehathem (CScD '12) was awarded the Student Honors 2012 from the Southwestern Pennsylvania Speech-Language-Hearing Association. This award is presented in recognition of outstanding achievement to one student for each of the SW Pennsylvania SLP awarding universities.



Patricia Gaffney (AuD '05) was recently promoted to associate professor at Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

She was the 2013 Convention chair for the American Academy of Audiology as well as a current board member of the organization. She specializes in balance assessment and treatment, amplification, and geriatrics.

Health Information Management

Sarah Christian (HIM '13) is the recipient of a merit scholarship from the AHIMA Foundation. This award is presented to encourage and support students pursuing a degree in health information management.

Shireen Firouzan (HIM '13) is a 2013 scholarship recipient from the Pennsylvania Health Information Management Association. This scholarship, sponsored by CBIZ KA Consulting Services, is presented to students who demonstrate academic achievement and commitment to the field of health information management in Pennsylvania.

Laurine Johnson (HIM '81, HIS '88) is president-elect of the Pennsylvania Health Information Management Association. Johnson also represented AHIMA from PHIMA at "Taking ICD-10 to the Hill," answering questions about topics including coding, the process for adding codes to ICD-10, and using component state associations as a resource for ICD-10 implementation information.

Occupational Therapy

Dr. Shannon Juengst (MS '07) received a post-doctoral scholar position in the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.

Physical Therapy



Faith Goldman (BS '66) was honored by Temple Menorah in Redondo Beach, Calif., for her leadership in the community and contributions to her synagogue.

Sports Medicine and Nutrition

Leigh Delavan (BS '12) received the Arkansas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Dietetic Intern of the Year. The award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated emerging leadership skills and professionalism. Delavan completed her dietetic internship at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

Evelyn Little (MS '13) won the Pennsylvania Dietetic Association's Outstanding Dietetics Student Award. This award recognizes emerging leadership and academic achievement of students enrolled in accredited dietetics education programs.

Kyle Shilk (BS '07) graduated from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2013 and is completing an internship at Clarion Hospital in Clarion, Pa. He then plans to complete a three-year anesthesiology residency at SUNY Upstate in Syracuse, N.Y.



Student News

Communication Science and Disorders



LaVonda Baldwin, CSD undergraduate student, was awarded a prestigious Pickering Fellowship. The nationally competitive fellowship awards

20 rising college seniors undergraduate and graduate school funding, mentorship, and internship experiences as they prepare academically and professionally to enter the U.S. Department of State Foreign Service.

Lisa Evangelista, CScD student, was chosen to participate in the 2012 Jonas Salk Fellowship sponsored by the Jewish Healthcare Foundation, Health Careers Futures, and the University of Pittsburgh Center for Bioethics and Health Law.

The CSD department hosted four Brackenridge Fellows during summer 2013: **Molly Lane**, **Mary Sears**, **Lidia Zacharczuk**, and **Alexandra Zezinka**. The Brackenridge Fellowship is a competitive and highly prestigious summer fellowship program enabling undergraduates to spend their summers working on mentored research projects carried out in close collaboration with faculty. Lane and Zacharczuk worked with Dr. Michael Walsh Dickey in the Language and Brain Lab. Sears worked with Dr. Cynthia Puranik in the Language and Literacy Lab. Zezinka worked with Dr. Connie Tompkins in the Adult Language Lab. All four students are also completing Bachelor of Philosophy theses.

Tara Anspach and **Sara McIntyre**, CSD graduate students, received the 2013 Emeritus Award for outstanding academic achievement.



As a CSD student, **Tara Anspach** (MA '13) was named a Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities and Related Disorders trainee

at the University of Pittsburgh through Children's Hospital of UPMC, funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the Health Resources and Services Administration.

Julia Gordon and **Marni Newberg**, CSD graduate students, received the 2013 Lisa Levy Memorial Award for outstanding clinical achievement by a graduate student in the department.

Gordon, AuD student, was awarded a funded research traineeship at the Department of Hearing and Speech Sciences at Vanderbilt University during the summer 2013 term. This competitive traineeship was funded by the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD) at the National Institutes of Health through a program of Pre-Doctoral Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Short-Term Research Training Grants. This student traineeship program is part of an initiative by the NIDCD that focuses on the importance of research to the profession of audiology and exposing students to research.

Jaclyn Schnell, AuD student, received the 2013 Avada Book Award for outstanding academic and clinical achievement by a student in the Doctor of Audiology Program.

Health Information Management

Cody Caplinger, HIM undergraduate student, was chosen to serve on the Student Advisory Council of the American Health Information Management Association.

Elizabeth Greiner-Sosanko, HIS graduate student, and **Christina Lisella**, HIM undergraduate student, received the 2013 student scholarships from the Pennsylvania Health Information Management Association. These scholarships are sponsored and presented by PHIMA to students who demonstrate academic achievement and commitment to the field of health information management in Pennsylvania.

Delia Marks, HIM undergraduate student, will represent HIM on the Pennsylvania Health Information Management Student Committee.

Occupational Therapy

Joelle Urquhart, MOT student, was awarded the K. Leroy Irvis Fellowship. The purpose of the fellowship program is to enhance the diversity of the University of Pittsburgh's graduate student population and eventually the professorate.

Urquhart was also awarded "Best Rehabilitation Research by an Undergraduate" at the 2013 UPMC Rehabilitation Institute Research Day for her undergraduate research "Guided and Directed Prompts in Inpatient Rehabilitation after Stroke."

Kristen Brant, MOT student, was awarded a 2013 Pennsylvania Occupational Therapy Association scholarship.

Samantha Kozlowski and **Krystal Vermillion**, MOT students, were selected as 2013 Jewish Healthcare Foundation Patient Safety Fellows.

Dr. Juleen Rodakowski, post-doctoral scholar, was awarded "Best Post-Doctoral, Resident, or Fellow Poster" at the 2013 UPMC Rehabilitation Institute Research Day for her study "Assessing Instrumental Activities of Daily Living for Individuals with Mild Cognitive Impairment."

Rodakowski participated in the 2013 Summer Research Institute in Geriatric Mental Health at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

Kailey Bedford, MOT student, received the Annual Family Services of Western Pennsylvania Community Recognition Award for developing the Pitt OT Fun Run for Open Your Heart to a Senior.

Becki Olack, MOT student, represented Pitt at the annual Assembly of Student Delegates meeting at the 2013 AOTA Conference in San Diego, Calif.

Kelli Adcock, Kristen Brant, Crista Bush, Elizabeth Cooke, Alyssa Gruhn, Jenifer Halterman, Samantha Kozlowski, Elizabeth Mackay, Rachel Rogers, Jamie Sardineer, and Juliet Shalon, MOT students, represented the Department of Occupational Therapy at the 2nd Annual SHRS Interprofessional Forum.

Pratik Bhanushali, MS student, served as a pre-arrival mentor with the Office of International Services for incoming international students.

Under the organizational leadership of MOT student **Mariah Chew**, Pitt MOT students participated as a team and as volunteers for the Pittsburgh Arthritis Walk.

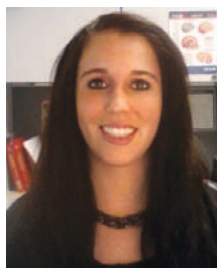
Alesia Tonkin and Ashley Shaffer, MOT students, organized and held a CarFit event at the VA Hospital during their Level II Fieldwork.

MOT students **Kyle Johnston, Anna Kamelin, Melissa Matis, Jeff Sholtis, Krystal Vermillion, and Lyndsay Weiss** participated in the Summer Health Career Academy: Hands On Science Workshop for gifted 9th and 10th grade students interested in learning about various health careers.

Rehabilitation Science and Technology

Nahom Beyene, doctoral student, was awarded a National Science Foundation Innovation Corps Team

Grant for commercialization of Quality of Life Technology driver control measurement research. His team also includes Amy Lane, RST instructor. The NSF Teaching Team is backed by a number of venture capital firms to scout for prospective entrepreneurs who can generate a compelling business model for the commercialization of the NSF-sponsored research work. The award will support Beyene's team in customer discovery interviews among driving evaluators, automotive manufacturers, auto insurance companies, and families facing driver licensing issues.



Ashlee Filippone, rehabilitation counseling student, was awarded the Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Association

2013 Graduate Student Award for Leadership and Applied Research at the PRA Professional Development Institute in Harrisburg this past April.

Rehabilitation Science Undergraduate

Rachelle Brick, undergraduate student, received the Chancellor's Undergraduate Research Fellowship for the fall semester. Brick was also a recipient of the Brackenridge Fellowship. She worked with Dr. David Brienza, RST professor, on developing a new scale for pressure ulcer assessment in individuals with spinal cord injury.

Sports Medicine and Nutrition

Katarina Gasic, CMD student, was awarded the Lt. Col. Eleanor L. Mitchell Memorial Scholarship from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation.

Calendar of Events

OCTOBER

Sunday, October 27, 2013

ReelAbilities: Pittsburgh Disabilities Film Festival Human Engineering Research Laboratories, Bakery Square, 6425 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh. Screening of three short films. For details, visit pittsburgh.reelabilities.org.

Monday, October 28, 2013

Health Information Management alumni reception Omni Hotel, Atlanta, Ga., 6–7:30 p.m., held in conjunction with the AHIMA Conference. For details, contact Patti Grofic at pgrofic@pitt.edu.

Thursday–Friday, October 31–November 1, 2013

University of Pittsburgh Disability Experience Conference William Pitt Union, sponsored by Pitt's Students for Disability Advocacy. Contact sorc+disability@pitt.edu for more information.

NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 2, 2013

SHRS Open House Forbes Tower, University of Pittsburgh campus, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Visit with SHRS faculty, staff, and students and learn about our many programs and the variety of career opportunities they offer. Register at www.shrs.pitt.edu/OpenHouse.

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

Thornburgh Family Lecture Series on Disability Law and Policy University Club Ballroom B, 1 p.m., with keynote speaker Joyce Bender. E-mail kac15@pitt.edu for details.

Friday, November 15, 2013

Communication Science and Disorders alumni reception Chicago, Ill., 8:30–10:30 p.m., held in conjunction with the ASHA Annual Convention. Join CSD alumni, students, faculty, and friends. Contact Dr. Susan Shaiman at shaiman@pitt.edu for more information.

FEBRUARY

Friday, February 21, 2014

2014 Winter Academy Ritz-Carlton, Naples, Fla. Join fellow alumni and friends at this annual University of Pittsburgh event showcasing our luminary health sciences researchers including Dr. Catherine Palmer, associate professor, Department of Communication Science and Disorders. Visit www.winteracademy.pitt.edu for further details.



TOUGH

Randall Kesterson, senior audiologist at the UPMC Center for Audiology and Hearing Aids at the Eye & Ear Institute, considers himself a pretty tough teacher. For more than 30 years, he's been giving pop quizzes to students who are completing their clinical training to be audiologists.

"I'm constantly grilling my students," admits Kesterson. "And if they don't seem to understand the theory behind a particular treatment, I give them the homework assignment of looking it up and coming back to me the next day with an explanation."

With this approach, students are constantly learning. And they love it.

Fourth year AuD student in SHRS's Department of Communication Science and Disorders and current extern Arifa Gir explains why.

"Randall can come off as stern at times. But the longer you work with him, the more you realize that he is only being strict with you because he cares about you and wants you to do well. He once said to me 'If I didn't care about you, I would just let you do whatever you wanted, whether it was the best way of doing things or not. But I want you to be the best. That's why I'm hard on you sometimes.'"

"His challenging nature creates a perfect environment for a student who is trying to learn everything," adds Ben Boss (CSD '10), an extern who is pursuing his AuD from Arizona State University.

"Randall truly cares that his students develop into autonomous professionals that can perform their skills competently in any professional environment."

Kesterson believes in letting his students get as much hands-on experience as possible under his supervision.

"If I didn't care about you, I would just let you do whatever you wanted, whether it was the best way of doing things or not. But I want you to be the best. That's why I'm hard on you sometimes."

Students typically spend a week or two observing Kesterson before they begin to work with patients. "I want my students to experience every type of patient, and as many medical conditions as possible," Kesterson comments.

They have the opportunity to perform a full range of tasks, including basic hearing evaluations, electrophysiological and central auditory testing, and hearing aid discussions and fittings.

Students also collaborate with staff audiologists and medical doctors to diagnose and treat tinnitus (a constant noise in the ears) and hyperacusis (hypersensitivity to sound) so that they will no longer be a problem for patients.

Gir is grateful for such a broad-based experience. "In the classroom, we learn the foundations and the knowledge of various pathologies that we may encounter in the clinic. But it is in the clinic that we have the chance to integrate and apply our knowledge. In the clinic, we actually practice what we have learned."

She adds that Kesterson is very open-minded and flexible when it comes to letting students try things on their own. "Everyone has a specific way of doing things, and Randall has his own style, too. However, that does not hinder him from allowing me to try my own way of doing things, as long as it is appropriate."

Boss notes that Kesterson has exceeded his expectations. "He consistently engages me in discussions about my patients'

LOVE

“His challenging nature creates a perfect environment for a student who is trying to learn everything.”

—Ben Boss (CSD '10)

needs and motivates me to be able to understand and explain test results and recommendations I make to a patient. He is always available and willing to answer any questions I may have or provide assistance when I am in need.”

Kesterson acknowledges that he has supervised many excellent students over the years. While the caliber of the students hasn't changed, he states that technology in hearing aids has improved tremendously. “My best tool to adjust hearing aids used to be a screwdriver!” he exclaims. “Today, computers allow us to offer more customized hearing solutions.”

In addition to giving students an all-inclusive clinical experience, Kesterson also invites them to get involved with community programs that champion the cause of hearing.

He works with the Lions Club, which offers hearing screenings and a hearing aid recycling program, and volunteers for a national program called Hear Now, which provides low-cost hearing aids to those who might not otherwise be able to afford them.

“It's very satisfying for me to work with this population,” says Kesterson.

This dedicated audiologist will retire in January after 41 years of service at the Eye & Ear Institute. He will be remembered fondly by his patients, his peers, and his students.

Elaine Morner, clinical coordinator for the AuD program, tracks feedback from students regarding their clinical experience. She says she consistently hears

about Kesterson's commitment to clinical education and his unique style of using questions to stimulate a student's critical thinking and learning.

“Several years ago, one student summed it all up. They suggested that every student should be required to have Randall Kesterson as a clinical instructor!”





From Clinician TO PATIENT



To say Doris Hamilton ('58, '75) worked as a physical therapist is a bit of an understatement. For more than 45 years, Hamilton dedicated every day to helping her patients—primarily children—improve their mobility and learn how to overcome chronic pain and injuries.

"I'm very proud of being a PT," boasts Hamilton. "It was far more than a profession. To me it was a way of life."

Hamilton, who says she never took a day off, graduated from the D. T. Watson Home's Division of Physical Therapy in 1958. At the time, the program was affiliated with the University of Pittsburgh and was one of just a few programs in Pennsylvania to offer the courses required for state certification.

Many of the children at the Home suffered from polio and other special needs. "I learned a lot of early interventions," Hamilton notes. "And I also learned the importance of continuing to learn throughout my career."

After Hamilton received her master's degree in physical therapy from Pitt in 1975, she began her teaching career, serving on the faculty of both the University of Pittsburgh and Slippery Rock University.

Assistant Professor and Vice Chair of the Department of Physical Therapy Kathleen Kelly ('83, '02) recalls being a Pitt undergraduate student in Hamilton's class. "Doris was so dedicated to the field of pediatric physical therapy and to the children. She had a breadth of experience and was responsible for mentoring many pediatric therapists in the 70s and 80s."

Hamilton was also instrumental in establishing the "Lifecycle" curriculum that helped set the stage for accreditation for the Physical Therapy Department at Slippery Rock.

"It was very rewarding to be part of that process," explains Hamilton. "I had the expertise in pediatric physical therapy, while others had the expertise in other areas such as geriatrics. Together we were able to build a curriculum that showed how different therapies would be effective at different points in a patient's life."

But Hamilton's life changed dramatically in 2011 when she was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, a cancer of the

lymphatic system. A tumor on her vertebrae wrapped around her spinal chord and aorta and caused paralysis.

After radiation therapy and a strong course of chemotherapy, Hamilton re-entered the world of physical therapy—this time as a patient.

"At first the therapists I encountered didn't know I was a physical therapist," remarks Hamilton. "They wondered how I knew the names of different muscles or certain therapies. Once they realized my background, some of them were a little intimidated! But soon we were able to have really good conversations about my goals. I told them I really wanted to be able to walk with a cane, and together, we made that happen!"

Hamilton says it's hard being on the patient side. "I knew what I wanted to accomplish with my therapy, yet my body didn't always let me do it."

She notes several differences between the PTs who practice today and those who were trained several decades ago. "Today's physical therapists seem more attentive to their patients' needs. They listen more and ask a lot of questions about how the patient feels about trying different therapies and what they hope to accomplish with their therapy."

"They also seem better prepared to tackle complex medical diagnoses. The therapists I came in touch with had so many wonderful skills. It's a credit to the schools that are training them today."

The current DPT program at Pitt consists of three rigorous years of study and more than 90 weeks of clinical education that include a full-time one-year internship during the third year. Although Hamilton's own formal training was only one year, including clinical experiences, she was highly respected. And greatly revered.

"I first met Doris as a teaching assistant during my master's program at Pitt," recalls Dr. Susan L. Whitney, professor of physical therapy. "I was impressed with her knowledge and dedication to the profession."

"She was always passionate about providing the best care possible to children and upheld her high standards both within the classroom and her practice."

Hamilton says her journey through rehabilitation has been an interesting one. "On several occasions, I've been treated by some of my own students. They have all been so good to me. I feel very fortunate."



NAVIGATING AN EVER-CHANGING LANDSCAPE

As scientists, we understand the theory of natural selection. We recognize the fact that all living things perpetually adapt to change, that our strongest advantages eventually overpower our weakest tendencies, and that our best and most useful characteristics are what we take with us as we move forward.

We also realize that as a result of that process, we not only survive—we thrive.

As educators, we too are affected by our constantly changing environment. Whether change is driven by innovation, the economy, social needs, or political agendas, we know that it is our responsibility to adapt to the best of our ability in order to continue to deliver the highest quality education to our students.





AT A CROSSROAD

As America ages, more of us are living with diseases, disabilities, and complex medical conditions. We are also more health conscious and interested in ways to stay well and active.

According to Professor David Brienza, associate dean for Strategic Initiatives and Planning, these trends bode well for SHRS graduates.

“The job market demand is strong and projected to be even stronger as some of the burden of providing health care shifts away from traditional medical practitioners to professionals in our fields.”

The Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that between 2010 and 2020, the job market for physical therapists will increase by 39 percent. The market for audiologists is projected to increase by 37 percent, 33 percent for occupational therapists, 30 percent for physician assistants and athletic trainers, and 28 percent for rehabilitation counselors.

By comparison, the total U.S. job market is projected to increase by 12 percent over the same period.

At SHRS, we are growing to meet the need. In the past 10 years, we have more than doubled our enrollment and have added the Doctor of Clinical Science (CScD) degree in speech-language pathology and a Master of Science in prosthetics and orthotics (MSPO) as well as a Master of Science in physician assistant (PA) studies.

CHALLENGES ON THE HORIZON

“The obvious demand for graduates from professional degree programs presents many challenges,” says Clifford Brubaker, professor and dean of the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences.

“This growing demand in the health care market has spurred a similar demand for admissions to our professional programs. We are currently able to admit only approximately 7 percent of applicants to our graduate professional programs. We have reached the capacity of our current facilities with SHRS academic—and particularly research—programs located over five (soon to be six) different locations. We have a substantial need to expand our facilities. We are in the process of submitting our case for a new building for SHRS.”

Brienza concurs. “Our present facilities and space have reached a state of ‘saturation’ that has curtailed further capability for expansion to meet the increased demand. Ideally, SHRS would

move all academic programs to a larger facility proximate to the Oakland campus of the University and Health Sciences Schools. This would enable expansion of our enrollment in response to what is clearly a national need and priority.”

HEADING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Brubaker affirms that SHRS continues to succeed on all fronts. “Our school has grown from the smallest, youngest, most anonymous Pitt school to the fourth largest. We can also claim the highest ratings, with programs consistently ranked among the best in the nation by U.S. News & World Report.

“We have a great faculty and we also have wonderful, committed students in every program. I think our alumni can take a measure of satisfaction and pride in the fact that each graduating class has increased the value and prestige of the degrees of all who preceded them.”

SHRS actively promotes research for undergraduate students. Through collaboration with the University Honors College, students may pursue the Bachelor of Philosophy (BPhil) degree program with mentoring support from SHRS faculty researchers to learn how to formulate, conduct, and defend research for a thesis equivalent to the standard for master’s degree programs.

Dr. Ellen Cohn, associate dean for Instructional Development, notes, “This program is unique. Through the convergence of increasingly competitive Pitt students, including those from SHRS and the BPhil program with faculty researchers at SHRS, we are able to recognize and leverage strengths and expose students to the culture of research in a stimulating and collaborative environment.

“I enjoy serving as the SHRS liaison to the Honors College program and matchmaker between these students and prospective mentors.”

LOOKING DOWN THE ROAD

Dean Brubaker reports efforts for new delivery models of relevance to SHRS that “will keep us nimble and responsive to our students’ needs.

“University Provost Patricia E. Beeson charged a task group of the Council of Deans to review potential options and submit a prospective plan for the development of substantially enhanced capability and activity for online courses, programs, and degree

options with particular focus on graduate professional degree programs.

“This has stimulated extensive interest and activity for us to consider how we could offer our graduate professional programs online.”

Professor Katherine Verdolini Abbott noted that the Department of Communication Science and Disorders (CSD) is actively exploring an online option for students who have completed their bachelor's degree but now want to pursue clinical training in CSD.

“This would allow students from different parts of the country and world to obtain their prerequisites without the need to physically move to Pittsburgh,” Abbott explains. “Very few programs in the country offer this option.”



The effect of sequestration on research funding is a true concern. But it is unlikely that it will hinder our work. As Brubaker explains, “SHRS research funding has increased by more than two orders of magnitude over the past 22 years and at an increasing rate over the past 10 years. We are cautiously optimistic that this trend will continue in fiscal year 2014.”

“Sequestration is certainly a factor. So far the impact appears to be more pronounced for National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding, although two members of our faculty have recently received new grant awards from the NIH. I expect SHRS funding from the NIH to be stable and possibly increase in 2014.”

Professor Kelley Fitzgerald, Department of Physical Therapy, cites the Physical Therapy-Clinical and Translational Research Center (PT-CTRC) as an example. “This lab has been supported in part by NIH’s Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) since its beginning in 2009. For the near future, it will continue to have support from the CTSA, as well as research grant funding from ongoing projects.”

Brubaker anticipates that research support from the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD), currently the largest single source of SHRS funding accounting for approximately 35 percent of SHRS research, will remain stable and is likely to increase.

“This anticipated stability with potential for further increases is based on support from U.S. Special Operations Command (SOCOM) for an extensive research program conducted by faculty of the Neuromuscular Research Laboratory under the direction of Dr. Scott Lephart, distinguished professor and chair of the Department of Sports Medicine and Nutrition. With plans for increasing the Force, SOCOM is one of the few

DOD Commands that has received budget increases rather than reductions.

“Additional DOD support for a ‘Wounded Warrior’ program, led by Dr. Rory Cooper, distinguished professor and chair of the Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology and director of the Human Engineering Research Laboratories, is also expected to continue as a stable source of research support.”



CAN PHILANTHROPY PROVIDE THE FUEL WE NEED?

With the decline in public support for higher education, there is increased pressure to find alternative income streams to offset the losses. Philanthropy is often the first place an institution will look.

According to Clyde B. Jones III, vice chancellor, Health Sciences Development, “Fundraising is always a challenge in times of economic uncertainty.”

But he points out that according to Giving USA, total giving in 2012 was more than \$316 billion.

“The University has made a significant investment in efforts to reach out to alumni, friends, and donors across the giving spectrum to support the breadth of priorities at Pitt,” continues Jones. “We may not be able to completely make up for the shortfall in public money, but private support will make possible a wide range of research initiatives and will add important funds to our scholarship pool.”

Jones believes that investment in higher education is transformational. “It will secure the future of society in every regard.

“People recognize the value of their own education and the impact universities can have on the global community. As a result, we remain optimistic for the future of philanthropy at the University of Pittsburgh.”



A ROAD MAP FOR SUCCESS

“We have come a long way with increasing successes,” Brubaker reports. “I believe a near continuous history of accommodation to new challenges and realities has made us facile and resilient as a school. This has been true for our faculty and staff and also for our students.

“I am confident that we shall continue to meet challenges that arise and continue to grow and prosper.”



NEW MISSION FLYING HIGH

With a motto like “First there ... that others may live,” Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) exerts more than a little pressure on its operators.

Organized in small groups—less than 400 men—these elite service members operate in the air, on land, and at sea. Their primary mission is to rapidly establish and control the air-to-ground interfaces in extremely difficult situations.

“These men have occupational demands that are unlike any other operators,” explains Department of Sports Medicine and Nutrition (SMN) Assistant Professor Timothy Sell.

“They’re freefalling from high altitudes, rappelling from helicopters, and combat diving in some rather unusual circumstances. Because of this, they often suffer a variety of injuries across multiple joints including the shoulder, back, and lower extremities.”

As primary investigator of a new study involving the U.S. Air Force 720th Special Tactics Group at Hurlburt Field, Fla.,

Sell and his team are in the first phase of a three-year study that will help predict injury and affect performance of these highly specialized warriors.

Using the research model that was highly successful for the U.S. Army 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) soldiers at Fort Campbell, Ky., and the Navy Special Warfare SEAL operators from Little Creek, Va., SMN researchers are creating new methodologies and protocols that will meet the specific injury and performance needs of the AFSOC operators.

In July 2013, three researchers began collecting data at a newly built Neuromuscular Research Laboratory at Hurlburt Field. They are looking at descriptions of injuries and the specific tasks that caused them, conducting an analysis of the operators’ current training, and developing an AFSOC-specific tactical and physical performance test.

A 12-week clinical trial will also be conducted to determine the effects of the current human performance training

program on the biomechanical, musculoskeletal, physiological, tactical, and performance characteristics of the AFSOC operator. The data from this phase will be used in the creation of a new injury prevention and performance optimization training program that will be validated later in the study.

Proper training and nutrition is key for the success of these highly valued operators.

“As in any occupation, when one person gets injured, it impacts the other workers a great deal,” Sell notes. “But because the Special Forces operate in very small units and perform very specific tasks, and because their training process takes approximately one year, everyone suffers when there is an injury.”

“The stakes for all soldiers, particularly special operators, are so high that they are seeking any advantage they can possibly obtain to effectively conduct their missions,” observes Scott Lephart, distinguished professor and chair of the Department of Sports Medicine and Nutrition.

Master Chief Glenn Mercer, a 26-year SEAL operator, serves as a human performance program manager with the U.S. Special Operations Command and has collaborated with Lephart and the Neuromuscular Research Laboratory since 2004.

“Leadership has recognized that after almost a decade of combat zone employment, a different system of physical and mental preparation is going to be required to meet growing global demand for Special Operations Forces,” explains Mercer.

“The Pitt protocol is by far the most expansive and occupationally relevant testing model I have seen or been involved with,” he adds.

SMN Assistant Professor Kim (Crawford) Beals is looking at how nutrition can optimize the adaptation and recovery from the operators’ daily hard physical training.

“We know that eating a specific diet can help fuel elite competitive athletes,” she points out. “But there are very few, if any, scientific studies that examine how diet can impact military training and combat readiness.”

The goal of her nutrition team is to analyze the AFSOC training program and occupational requirements and devise a diet that meets the specific needs of the operators.

“The diet will focus on whole foods and nutrients that will optimally fuel the body for the specific demands of the AFSOC training, expedite recovery, improve body composition, and help the operator be more stress resilient.”

Although it’s early in the study, feedback from the AFSOC operators has been positive.

“The operators are grateful for any information and strategies that can be used to improve their response to the physical training program and the impact it has on their military readiness,” reports Beals. “In

general, they have a great interest in learning more about how nutrition can be used to prepare them to do their jobs better and more effectively.”

Sell adds, “Over the years, we have earned the trust of so many groups in the Special Operations Command. They recognize that we are doing something good for them.

“We take great satisfaction in helping these operators achieve their best possible performance. It’s an honor to work with them.”





ONE-OF-A-KIND CONFERENCE FACILITATES BEST CLINICAL INSTRUCTION

Every other year, audiology educators from around the world converge in Pittsburgh for a unique conference hosted by the Department of Communication Science and Disorders (CSD).

“Over the past 10 years, we’ve earned a reputation for our ‘Teach the Teacher’ conference because there’s really nothing quite like it,” explains CSD Associate Professor Catherine Palmer. “While there are conferences that focus on hearing technology, this is the only one in our field that focuses exclusively on teaching.

“But what was exciting about this year’s conference is that we went *beyond* the classroom to explore the state of the science in clinical education.”

Palmer says that for the first time ever, the conference addressed both speech and hearing, and tapped into the expertise of clinical experts from a variety of fields including physical therapy, occupational therapy, athletic training, and nursing.

“Our goal was to arm the attendees with tools and methodologies that will improve clinical instruction,” continues Palmer.

Why? The answer is simple. Clinical instruction is the lynchpin in the educational development of SHRS students.

“Our audiology doctoral and SLP master’s students typically spend far more time in clinical settings than in the classroom,” reports Dr. Elaine Mormer, clinical education coordinator of the AuD program.

“Clinical instructors are first and foremost clinicians,” she continues. “Although they are extremely dedicated, they don’t always think of themselves as educators. This conference was very empowering for them.”

The CSD team assembled a group of highly respected presenters from Pitt and other universities in the U.S. and Canada. In addition to CSD faculty, Lynette VanSlyke from Pitt’s Student Affairs Office discussed the challenges of working with students with disabilities in a clinical setting, and Amy Aggelou, clinical coordinator of the athletic training program at SHRS, spoke on training clinical instructors.

Mormer notes that a good bit of data exists in the field of athletic training that translates well to speech and hearing. For that reason, two faculty members from the athletic training education program at Springfield College in Massachusetts were also invited to share an evidence-based approach to clinical teaching. Program Director Dr. Mary Barnum and Clinical Coordinator Dr. Susan Guyer presented





“Over the past 10 years, we’ve earned a reputation for our ‘Teach the Teacher’ conference because there’s really nothing quite like it. While there are conferences that focus on hearing technology, this is the only one in our field that focuses exclusively on teaching.”

their supervision, questioning, and feedback model of clinical teaching. The model provides the clinical instructor with a practical way to integrate SQF into clinical learning experiences.

“For the past two years, we’ve been looking for good evidence-based approaches to clinical teaching, regardless of the discipline,” says Mormer. “We found we were repeatedly citing the work of Barnum and Guyer, and were excited that they were willing to share their findings with us.”

Using data developed by other disciplines makes sense, says Dr. Cheryl Messick, associate professor and director of CSD’s clinical education. “Clinical instruction is an area of focus for every department at SHRS. Our goal as a school is to instill best practices in our clinical instructors, and this conference was an extremely worthwhile effort.”

Presentations took place over two full days and covered a wide range of subjects,

from learning objectives in clinical education to generational differences in clinical education.

Following the formal presentations, breakout sessions allowed attendees to focus on special issues and how to resolve specific problems.

Messick observes that the 87 attendees were often just as knowledgeable as the presenters when it came to speech and hearing. But they were excited to arm themselves with scientific data to improve their clinical instruction. “They were able to take the content and apply it in their own settings. This was very meaningful for them.”

“The conference provided a more structured way to provide great teaching,” adds Mormer. “The attendees now think about clinical instruction in a more scientific, methodical way.”

At the end of the first day, attendees joined in a Moth-style “story slam”—a

highly entertaining open-mic event. The topic for the evening, “Casualties of Clinical Teaching,” launched a series of funny and poignant stories from the participants.

A feedback summary shows more than 93 percent of the participants believed the conference topics were appropriate and informative. Individuals commented on the dynamic speakers and thought-provoking content.

Another point of satisfaction was the repository of resources and tools that were made available to attendees at the end of the conference.

Mormer explains that each participant has access to conference handouts and presentations that can be used in their daily practice. “Every day I see people are downloading our tools. That’s very satisfying to me to know that we have helped clinical instructors move forward using best practices.”



NEW SOLUTIONS TO AN AGE-OLD PROBLEM. *How EHRs can serve the poor.*

No matter where in the world we go, we see the poor. The homeless. The people who are disadvantaged in some way or another, whether it's physically, financially, emotionally, or spiritually.

It is, unfortunately, a sign of our times.

Paul Abernathy, director of FOCUS Pittsburgh, reports there are currently 23,000 people on the waiting list for public housing in Allegheny County. In addition, approximately 140,000 people are without health insurance. More than half of them are within a 10-mile radius of downtown Pittsburgh.

Abernathy is determined to serve the needs of these marginalized members of our community by providing Food, Occupation, Clothing, Understanding, and Shelter.

An integral part of the organization's wrap-around services will be a free health clinic, scheduled to open in October 2013 on Centre Avenue in Pittsburgh's Hill District.

"We will be offering general medical care for the most prevalent illnesses in the community, which include diabetes, hypertension, asthma, chronic obstructive lung disease, coronary artery disease, and various gastrointestinal, genitourinary, musculoskeletal, and neurological disorders,"



An integral part of the organization's wrap-around services will be a free health clinic, scheduled to open in October 2013 on Centre Avenue in Pittsburgh's Hill District.

reports Rocco J. Adams, MD, medical director of FOCUS Pittsburgh's Free Health Center (FPFHC).

Adams says the clinic will also treat mental illness and post-traumatic stress disorders.

When Dr. Valerie Watzlaf, associate professor, Department of Health Information Management (HIM), heard of the clinic through her church, she immediately offered her services—and those of her students.

"I knew this was something we really should be doing," notes Watzlaf. "And it was a wonderful opportunity for students to use technology in a meaningful way."

Watzlaf explains that individuals who do not have health insurance and may not qualify for medical assistance often come to free clinics such as FPFHC, but they don't always seek follow-up care. If they do, the next provider might not have access to their medical history.

She knew that an Electronic Health Record (EHR) would solve a number of problems.

"The continuum of care that you and I have just doesn't exist among this population," she explains. "An EHR provides medical documentation in a digital format that can follow patients wherever they go."

Watzlaf collaborated with Alaina Capanna (HIM '06), the IT project lead

for FOCUS Pittsburgh. Together they assembled a team to find and implement an EHR that would work for this organization.

Students got involved and Practice Fusion was selected as the software that best met the needs of FPFHC.

Dr. Eric Paljug served as the on-site coordinator of students, including HIM and Health Information Systems students Caitlin Piszko, Kimberly White, Evan Riccardi, and Suliman Alomran.

"Our goal was to explore Practice Fusion in order to understand its capabilities, limitations, and hidden cost for its intended use as the main electronic health record for the FOCUS Pittsburgh's Free Health Center," says Alomran, who took on the FOCUS Pittsburgh project as an independent study course.

The first order of business was to develop EHR templates using Practice Fusion technology. The team conducted two mock clinics to ensure that the templates were working properly and collecting the right data, and that the health care providers knew how to use the system properly.

"We also provided a demo to the FOCUS Pittsburgh team to showcase the system's operation on the key requirements, including areas of excellence and concerns," reports Alomran.

According to Capanna, "The EHR will be the best way to store data and not lose information. Since this is a clinic, there's always the chance that patients will be moving around. If all the data is stored electronically, it's easier to access patient charts and information."

Watzlaf adds that information about a patient's housing situation and vocational status are also built into the EHR, giving it even more functionality for FOCUS Pittsburgh staff and administrators.

According to Adams, the EHR will increase patient satisfaction and allow the clinic to track outcomes in a much more efficient manner.

"It will enable us to make timely adjustments in our approach to the delivery of health care," predicts Adams. "Eventually, it will also help us to more effectively accomplish our mission, which is to promote the physical, mental, and spiritual health of the community."

Abernathy gives high praise to Watzlaf for her commitment to the project. "She has made what will no doubt be a lasting impact on improving the overall health of Pittsburgh's underserved community. Her patience, insight, expertise, and guidance have carried the FOCUS Pittsburgh's Free Health Center into the advanced EHR realm of the 21st century.

"Furthermore, her students have made a remarkable contribution to increasing access to health care in our community."



ELeVATE-ing veterans. Enriching civilians.

It was after midnight on January 21, 2007. A rather mild night, even for Fallujah, Iraq. More than 150 U.S. service members were executing a plan to corral 30 high-value insurgents while they were sleeping.

The infantry unit was supported by engineers, special operators, and other military personnel in the air and on the ground. Marines and Special Forces worked with members of a National Guard unit.

“It was a diverse group; we all had a job to do,” recalls Marine Gunnery Sergeant Matt Hannan, who was the lead intelligence person on that mission.

But Hannan had no way of knowing his job was soon to change.

While evacuating his aircraft that night, Hannan twisted and broke his back in several places. He refused medevac assistance so he could stay in the fight that he had been planning for so long. He proudly reports their efforts resulted in the capture of 19 high-value targets.

In fact, Hannan stayed in the country for three months before realizing his medical condition could not be ignored, and agreed to return to the U.S. for several back surgeries and extensive rehabilitation.

Fast-forward six years. Hannan is a student at the University of Pittsburgh, majoring in public service. He’s serving as president

of the Student Veterans Association (Pitt Vets) and is a research assistant, mentor, and co-investigator at the Human Engineering Research Laboratories (HERL). He plans to pursue a master’s degree in rehabilitation counseling.

Several factors contributed to Hannan’s successful transition from Wounded Warrior to civilian-scholar. While undergoing vocational rehabilitation at the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System, Hannan had the good fortune of having Maggie Casteel, a graduate of the rehabilitation counseling program of the Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology (RST), as one of his VA counselors. She told him about the ELeVATE program and helped him to apply.

The Experiential Learning for Veterans in Assistive Technology and Engineering (ELeVATE) program is funded through the National Science Foundation. Developed by RST, the Human Engineering Research Laboratories and the Quality of Life Technology Center, which is a joint effort of the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University, ELeVATE is a three-phase program that offers returning veterans like Hannan the opportunity to make a smooth transition into college.

Through a 10-week full-time research experience followed by at least a year of follow-up, it also creates a pipeline of talented future scientists and engineers who understand more than most about the field of rehabilitation.

“The veterans who complete our ELeVATE program change in many ways through the course of their learning,” observes Dr. Rory Cooper, distinguished professor and FISA/Paralyzed Veterans of America Chair, Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology.

“Mostly through building their skills and developing relationships with faculty and other students, their confidence increases and they start to feel more comfortable in the university environment. The vocational piece helps them to identify and plan to meet their career goals.”

Nathan Bastien (BS and BPhil, '12) first met Cooper in 2010 while serving as the Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge of the occupational therapy clinic at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

When Cooper learned that the soldier would be starting at Pitt in January 2011, he encouraged Bastien to apply for the ELeVATE program.

Bastien says his research experience gave him a new perspective.

As an undergraduate student in the College of General Studies, Bastien worked with Garrett G. Grindle ('04, '07), a HERL research scientist, on a project with Wounded Warriors who were interested in field events such as the shot put, javelin, and discus. Their research involved the development of a user's manual for a highly adjustable throwing chair used by athletes with disabilities.

Today, a medical student at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Md., Bastien looks back on his experience with ELeVATE. “The project was important to me because it introduced me to engineering and its application within the medical and rehabilitation professions.”

“Nate's understanding, appreciation, and knowledge of the tools, methods, and effort needed to bring a multi-disciplinary research project to a successful conclusion grew greatly during his time in the program,” observes Grindle.

“Working with Wounded Warriors and participating in the ELeVATE program was inspiring,” Bastien continues. “It motivated me to work with other veterans who are continuing their education.”

Grindle points out the value of the ELeVATE program. “Our veterans who have recently returned home have tons of experience, determination, compassion, and a ‘can-do spirit.’ This program gives them a vehicle that helps channel that energy into the pursuit of a college degree. It helps them define their next mission.”



Ryan Ahl, director of the Office of Veterans Services at the University of Pittsburgh, notes, “The ELeVATE program provides a unique opportunity for transitioning veterans. The program is comprehensive and designed to ensure student success.

“ELeVATE is a fantastic option for any veteran interested in pursuing a higher education degree in science, technology, engineering, or math.”

Hannan believes that the ELeVATE program was instrumental in helping him take the next steps in his life. “The most

helpful thing for me was the interaction with other student interns,” he says.

“Getting to know them helped me acclimate socially and gave me the confidence to go into the classroom. The program provided me with direction and guidance into a life I want for myself outside of the military and intelligence community.”

According to Cooper, “Working with the ELeVATE students is one of the most rewarding and exciting activities that I am involved with. It is extremely gratifying to see the veterans bond with each other, learn new skills, mentor others, and refocus on a new career.”

Right now, nearly 500 veterans are enrolled at the University of Pittsburgh. While only a small percentage participates in programs like ELeVATE, they are supported by a variety of programs and services.

In 2011, former Marine William Cole (MPA '13) saw a need for a strong peer support network for student veterans. He co-founded the local chapter of the Pitt Vets as a voice of advocacy for student veterans.

While completing his master's degree in public administration, he wrote a policy paper outlining the importance of support systems for student veterans.

“Regardless of whether student veterans return from duty wounded or not, they all embark on a period of social reintegration,” writes Cole.

He calls for policies to ensure that “student veterans with disabilities—both visible and invisible—have an equal opportunity to perform academically as their ‘traditional student’ counterparts.”

“We are pleased to be able to provide returning service members with programs like ELeVATE,” affirms Cooper. “The lasting relationships and friendships that I form with the veterans and the ability to mentor them to success is a tremendous honor, privilege, and pleasure.”



“We’re very excited about the new space and all of the options it provides,” says Delitto. “It will give us so much more flexibility!”

“Physical therapists consider themselves experts on movement,” comments Professor Tony Delitto, chair of the Department of Physical Therapy (PT). “But in the next few months, instead of patients, it will be our staff and students who will be moving a little bit more!”

Delitto’s quip refers to the Department of Physical Therapy’s move from the 6th floor of Forbes Tower to newly renovated space in Bridgeside 1, next to the Hot Metal Bridge in the technology corridor of Pittsburgh on Second Avenue.

In recent years, the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences has experienced unprecedented growth, more than doubling its enrollment from 653 students in 2002

to 1,374 in 2012. This explosion in growth has caused several departments to relocate to areas outside of Pitt's Oakland campus. For the PT department, there will be many advantages.

Bright and airy, with more than 20,000 square feet of space, these new and expanded facilities will enable an increase in admissions by 20 percent to address the projected shortage of physical therapists.

According to Assistant Professor and Department Vice Chair, M. Kathleen Kelly, it will feature more designated areas for instructional labs as well as classrooms. "After this move, we will have wonderful space and resources to fully deliver our high-caliber program.

"We currently share the lab space with other programs, and that makes it difficult to schedule. In addition, we have one multipurpose laboratory that serves the curricular needs of musculoskeletal, neuromuscular, pediatric, and cardiopulmonary areas of care."

At Bridgeside 1, there will be fully equipped musculoskeletal, cardio-pulmonary, and patient management laboratories.

"Right now we take our students to the School of Nursing to give them experience working with patients in a simulated hospital setting," continues Kelly. "In our new patient management lab, we will have enough room to set up our own hospital beds equipped with IVs and central lines, and we'll be able to demonstrate the proper techniques of working with 'hospitalized' patients on site. It will be much more efficient for all of us.

"Students will have access to labs outside of class time and will be able to practice techniques before exams," explains Kelly.

More spacious conference areas will allow all three levels of students in the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT)

program to meet at one time for case reviews, rounds, and other functions. There will be room for the post-professional Master of Science students, who are often international, to join them. This is something that is not possible in the Forbes Tower facility. There will also be ample space for continuing education courses for practicing physical therapists, which provides a chance for students and practicing clinicians to intermingle.

In recent years, the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences has experienced unprecedented growth, more than doubling its enrollment from 653 students in 2002 to 1,374 in 2012. This explosion in growth has caused several departments to relocate to areas outside of Pitt's Oakland campus. For the PT department, there will be many advantages.

Delitto points out that students will enjoy the extra amenities in the new building. "Creature comforts such as lockers, more restrooms, and quiet study areas will make it an environment that is more conducive to learning and consistent with what our peer institutions offer."

Physical therapy services, currently available to all Pitt students, faculty, and staff through the Student Health Clinic in the Medical Arts Building on Fifth Avenue, will move to Bridgeside 1 and will offer expanded hours of operation.

The research efforts of the PT-Clinical and Translational Research Center (PT-CTRC) will also benefit from the move.

According to Professor Kelley Fitzgerald, director of the PT-CTRC, the larger space will enable them to expand their operations and conduct group interventions. "With the addition of a walking track, for example, we'll be better able to perform long distance walk tests and interventions."

Current PT-CTRC projects involve delivery and testing of physical therapy interventions on patients with knee osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, chronic low back pain, Parkinson's disease, total knee replacement, and post-traumatic scarring.

"The increased space will give us the capacity to engage in more protocols simultaneously," notes Fitzgerald. "It will likely increase the opportunity to involve more students in research projects."

Several other Pitt programs, including some from the schools of Public Health, Engineering, and Dentistry, are housed at the Second Avenue complex that includes the Bridgeside 1 building. physical therapy will be the first SHRS department to join them.

"Although we're not technically in Oakland, Bridgeside 1 is only a 15–20 minute walk away," notes Delitto. He says that shuttles will also be available to transport students and faculty back to Oakland and that the University is investigating access to on-site parking as an added convenience.

"We're very excited about the new space and all of the options it provides," says Delitto. "It will give us so much more flexibility!"

"Besides, who doesn't love the river view?"



GETTING TO KNOW THE NEW GUY ON CAMPUS

A LOOK AT THE PROFESSIONAL—AND PERSONAL—SIDE OF DR. AMIT SETHI

When Amit Sethi, PhD, OTR/L, and his wife arrived in Pittsburgh from the University of Texas Medical Branch in May, they were impressed with the combination of water, greenery, and open spaces. “We’re both nature lovers, so we think this city is phenomenal,” he says with a grin.

But to the new assistant professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy, there is something even more impressive in Pittsburgh than the natural environment. It’s the rich and collaborative research environment at the University of Pittsburgh.

“Everyone knows that Pitt is a reputed and distinguished research school,” explains Sethi. “But the infrastructure and support that I’m finding in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (SHRS) and across the University is exceeding my expectations.”

Sethi’s current research focuses on understanding the neurophysiological and biomechanical mechanisms contributing to upper extremity weakness and motor deficits in the elderly and adults post-stroke. He also has a keen interest to study the inherent complexity of human movement utilizing the tools of non-linear dynamics.

“People may be surprised to know that I play volleyball—and I can cook really good Indian chicken dishes!”

“I want to get a better understanding of how the brain controls movement, and if we can identify the factors affecting the motor and functional recovery in neurological disorders, we might be able to predict the outcome of rehabilitation.”

In conjunction with this research, Sethi is also interested in designing better interventions for patients who return to their homes after a stroke. To that end, he has enlisted the help of faculty members from the University’s Swanson School of Engineering and School of Medicine.

Dr. Douglas Weber, associate professor with dual appointments in the Department of Bioengineering and the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, and Dr. Ervin Sejdić, assistant professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, are avid supporters of interdisciplinary collaboration.

“My favorite Pittsburgh food is the chicken sandwich at Primanti Bros. It certainly is unique!”

“I was always interested in finding ways to use my electrical engineering knowledge to enhance human health,” claims Sejdić. “When Dr. Sethi asked me if I was available to collaborate with him on a study to understand gait characteristics in elderly with history of falls, I was very excited.”

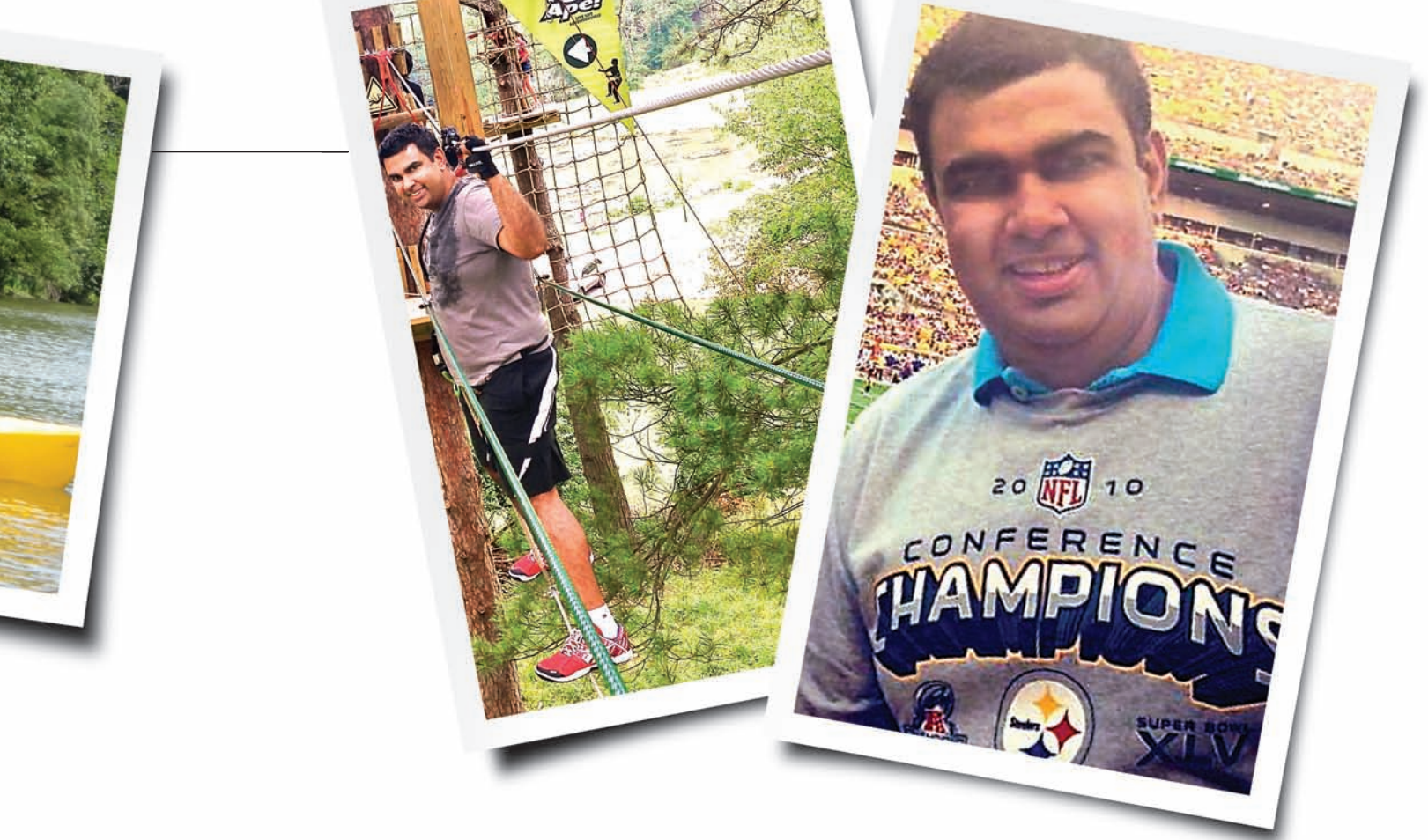
Utilizing a novel approach of non-linear analyses, Sethi and Sejdić are potentially looking at new ways to understand the complexity in human movement.

Regarding the value of their partnership, Sethi explains, “Research is always so specialized. But when you find someone who has a similar interest or wants to discuss your theory or guide you in some way, it is both personally and professionally rewarding.”

“With advances in technology, we have the capability to expand our horizons,” adds Sejdić. “And collaboration helps us expand them even more.”

“I love to go hiking on Saturday and Sunday mornings!”

“Engineers lean on clinicians and clinicians lean on engineers,” remarks Weber. “In this case, we share a common interest with Dr. Sethi in that we’re all interested in control and movement and using our knowledge to improve patient outcomes.”



Weber and Sethi are discussing possible research opportunities that involve neuromuscular electrical stimulation (NMES) to activate muscles that are weak due to stroke. “We are working to develop technology that boosts muscle function in patients who are too weak to participate effectively in activity-based interventions,” he continues.

“If technology like NMES can strengthen muscles and the neural connections to those muscles, then the patient may have the boost they need to get on the road to recovery.”

“The biggest surprise to me was discovering there are more than 400 bridges in this city!”

Although he has only been in Pittsburgh a few months, Sethi already values his connections from the engineering disciplines.

“It’s rather unusual for engineers to understand the medical perspective, just as it’s sometimes difficult for those of us in health care to understand the engineer’s point of view,” observes Sethi. “But I have found my colleagues and I are truly on the same page.”

Weber notes that one person rarely has all of the knowledge or resources needed to operate in a multidisciplinary field like rehabilitation medicine. “By working collaboratively, we feel much more confident that we haven’t overlooked anything.”

“It’s a joy to be able to marry my concepts related to occupational therapy and rehabilitation sciences with those from the world of engineering,” says Sethi.

Sethi credits Associate Professor Beth Skidmore, Department of Occupational Therapy, with connecting him to resources both at Pitt and in the community.

“I have followed Dr. Skidmore’s work with stroke patients and find it extremely interesting,” comments Sethi. “Because of her assistance, I was able to expand my research opportunities very quickly, and I’m very grateful.”

“I am already a Pittsburgh Steelers fan. In fact, I attended the first pre-season game at Heinz Field!”

“The faculty in the Department of Occupational Therapy are excited to welcome Dr. Sethi to the University of Pittsburgh,” notes Skidmore. “His research program focuses on exciting and timely issues in rehabilitation science—expanding our understanding of motor control and recovery after stroke and exploring new intervention approaches to enhance rehabilitation.”

In addition to his research, Sethi teaches neuroanatomy to students in the Master of Occupational Therapy Program.

“So far I’ve found my students to be very talented and very dedicated to learning the profession,” says Sethi.

“I like to visit the farmer’s markets in Oakland and the Strip District. I really enjoy the kettle corn there!”

In the future, as his research projects evolve, Sethi hopes to involve his students in the process. “When students take part in research, you create a learning environment for everyone. The mentor learns as well as the mentee.

“I’m looking forward to continuing to foster this type of collaboration with students as well as other faculty in SHRS and other schools within the University of Pittsburgh.”



EMERGENCY MEDICINE:

*It's not your father's
ambulance service anymore.*

For generations, the ambulance has been the universal symbol for emergency medical care. But today, the EMS field is moving beyond transportation to a broader-based, prevention-focused model.

Known as integrated mobile health care—or more commonly, community paramedicine—this new approach is redefining the future of emergency medicine.

A recent article in *EMS World*^{*} confirms that mobile integrated health care “moves the EMS industry definitively out of the realm of public safety and positions it firmly within the realm of health care.”

“In addition to traditional emergency response roles, which will always be needed, EMS agencies are in a unique position to provide mobile health services and address health care needs that are being unmet in many communities,” says Dr. Gregg Margolis (’89, ’95, ’05), director, Division of Health System Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Ted Fessides (EM ’13), deputy director of the Cranberry Township EMS north of Pittsburgh, explains how community paramedicine is meeting the need of his community.

“We have initiated three new services that can touch the lives of everyone in our community—not just those who are being transported to the hospital.”

According to Fessides, a public education component includes both private and group CPR classes. A “Safe Landing” program teaches infant CPR to new and expectant mothers and provides free car seat checks and child home safety inspections. And a community wellness program not only helps senior citizens keep track of weight, blood pressure, and medications, but also includes home safety checks to ensure the elderly live in safe, accident-free environments.

Fessides praises community partners such as Cribs for Kids, Life Butler, a division of Lutheran SeniorLife, and the United Way for providing resources and support for the new programs at his station.

As Cranberry Township EMS Executive Director Jeff Kelly (EM ’10) notes, “The collaboration is important because it solidifies the commitment by all agencies involved. These new offerings give us yet another opportunity to effect changes in our community and to take health and wellness to a whole new level.

“We are now taking a more proactive approach to health care instead of a reactive one as EMS has previously done.”



“The EMS field is moving beyond transportation to a broader-based, prevention-focused model.”

Dr. Dan Swayze (’98, ’09), instructor in the emergency medicine program, says he also sees a shift in the type of training EMTs receive that will expand their knowledge base and their role as health care providers.

“We’ve always had a great system for treating sick people,” Swayze explains. “But now we’re adding additional training, including classes that relate to social services and psychology. The idea is to have EMTs make more holistic assessments in order to keep patients out of the hospital.”

Swayze adds that paramedics and EMTs are among a community’s most trusted health care providers. As such, they are poised to become an “army of health care workers that’s in tune to the needs of people in the community.”

A new community paramedicine program offered through the Congress of Neighboring Communities (CONNECT) works with the Allegheny County EMS Council to train paramedics to conduct a variety of screenings and assessments for high-risk patients.

Through the CONNECT program, paramedics identify patients who may have barriers to staying healthy. “The paramedics might be called to a house for a lift assist,” explains Swayze. “When they get there, they find an elderly couple who has a hard time remembering when to take their medicine, or some other condition that might cause one or the other to be hospitalized. The paramedics can talk to them, assess their needs, and link them to the appropriate social or medical services.”

The CONNECT program also allows paramedics to follow patients who have been discharged from hospitals or emergency departments and make sure they have the resources they need to stay well.

“We believe this is a low-cost, highly effective method for people to stay well,” continues Swayze.

Kelly sees an additional benefit for community paramedicine. “It allows for a much-needed career advancement path for those highly knowledgeable and experienced EMS providers who are no longer able to perform the strenuous tasks of everyday EMS.”

Community paramedicine appears to be a win-win for all involved. “We are entering a time of unprecedented change in our nation’s health care system,” concludes Margolis. “This change will provide tremendous opportunity for providers who are able to improve health, deliver high quality care, and reduce cost.”

^{*}Jennifer Goodwin, “Finding A New Seat at the Healthcare Table,” *EMS World* (July 1, 2013)



The Real World

“When I first started my internship at UPMC WorkPartners, I did a lot of listening. *And* a lot of reading,” recalls Amanda Devito, a 2013 graduate of the Masters of Rehabilitation Counseling Program.

“I was so intrigued by the field that I did even more reading at home. There’s so much to know about the accommodations process and helping people return to work after illness or injury. I just couldn’t get enough.”

This type of enthusiasm and dedication is proof that Devito is in a career that is well suited to her.

“It’s a perfect fit,” she acknowledges.

In between undergraduate and graduate school, Devito spent three years working in the business world. Although she enjoyed the corporate environment and fast-paced nature of her job, her real goal was to go back for her master’s degree.

“I devoted a lot of time to going to open houses and exploring different graduate programs.”

Knowing that she wanted something that gave her a more personal connection with people, Devito enrolled in the rehabilitation counseling program in the Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology.

“Something just clicked,” she says. “With rehabilitation counseling, there are so many options. It allows me to use my business experience, but to relate to people in a more compassionate way.”

As an intern on the disability management team, Devito worked under the supervision of Tanya Hughes, helping UPMC employees who have a disability due to an injury or illness return to work. The service is provided through telephone consultation and occasional on-site visits.

For the first few weeks, she listened in on calls while Hughes discussed cases with employees. Afterward, they reviewed the case and possible accommodations or return-to-work plans. As she was learning the ropes, she was given her own cases to manage.

“I was surprised by how much independence I was given—and how quickly,” exclaims Devito. “I felt that Tanya and her team really trusted me, which gave me the confidence to work on my own.”

Hughes observed that Devito was immediately able to approach each case with objectivity and had the ability to develop a plan for that employee.

“Amanda demonstrated a high attention to detail and was able to adjust her plan as she learned new information that could impact the course of the accommodation,” remarks Hughes. “She consulted with others to be sure that she was within the scope of her role and displayed a high level of ethical behavior as well as fairness to everyone that she encountered.”

Devito claims her on-the-job training aligned perfectly with her academic program, but admits there is so much that you can’t learn in the classroom.

“In our coursework, we practiced counseling strategies through simulated sessions,” explains Devito. “Two classmates would go into a private conference room and simulate a counseling situation. Our interactions were recorded and evaluated by our professors.”

In the real world, she says that situations arise that you never could have anticipated. “Perhaps a physical injury leads to psychological or financial concerns,” she explains.

“You have to be prepared for that. You need a whole new level of empathy.”

In addition to empathy, Devito notes that good listening skills, quick and creative thinking, and a calm, professional demeanor are essential qualities of a rehabilitation counselor.

She explains she’s learned many of those characteristics from her supervisor. “Tanya has such a calming presence, which translates into a calming counseling style,” observes Devito. “When I would listen in on her calls, she was so well-spoken, knowledgeable, and composed.

“I’m more of a high-energy person. She taught me how to slow down and make clear decisions, which makes the employees I’m working with feel more comfortable.”

When Hughes works with interns, she tries to instill in them an understanding of their personal strengths and weaknesses.

“Through knowing your own challenges and seeking assistance when needed, you can be successful and bring positive resolution to situations that you encounter in your workday,” remarks Hughes.

Although her internship is over, Devito is happy to report that she has been offered a full-time position as a rehabilitation counselor with UPMC WorkPartners.

“This is an exciting beginning for me,” says Devito with a smile. “I know I will be challenged every day because UPMC has so many employees with so many different conditions. But the company also has wonderful resources—medical and legal resources—as well as support from supervisors like Tanya.

“I’m looking forward to learning something new every day.”



SHRS Donors 2013

Thanks to all our alumni, faculty, staff, and friends for your generous support of the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences during fiscal year 2013. Your contributions enabled us to grow the SHRS Alumni Endowed Scholarship Fund, establish other endowed scholarship and student award funds, recognize exceptional students with tuition assistance, and provide program support, research assistance, and services to the community. We are grateful for your dedication.

Corporations, Foundations, and Organizations

AAC Institute
Accessible Designs, Inc.
American Wheelchair Mission
Avada Audiology & Hearing Care
The Benter Foundation
Community Care Behavioral Health Organization
Etymotic Research, Inc.
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
FISA Foundation
FLO-TECH O&P Systems, Inc.
Foldes Trust
GE Foundation
GN ReSound
Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield
IBM International Foundation
Keystone Paralyzed Veterans of America
Linc Design, LLC
National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance
Oticon Inc.
P.T. Unlimited Incorporated
Paralyzed Veterans of America
Phonak LLC
Physical Therapy Clinic
Pittsburgh Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure
The Pittsburgh Foundation
Spina Bifida Association of Western Pennsylvania
The Sprout Fund
Starkey Hearing Technologies, Inc.
Unitron
UPMC
UPMC Health Plan
Widex USA, Inc.

Individuals over \$5,000

Bruce R. Baker

Mary B. Browne
Amy & John D. Childs
Mary K. & Arthur C. Crum Jr.
Joseph M. David
Todd Hargroder
Anne Pascasio
Judith T. & Paul A. Rockar Jr.

Individuals \$1,000-\$4,999

Sondra A. Balouris & Clifford Brubaker
Christine Chase
Kate Matta DeComo & Peter Michael DeComo
Ronna Sue & Anthony Delitto
Mary Jane & Joseph Russell DiVincenzo
Judith Lomakin Dodd
Denise A. Dunyak
Julie M. Fritz
Rebecca J. & Steven Zachary George
Kysha Harriell
Kristin Klingensmith Henson & James Barton Henson
Gregory E. Hicks
Audrey L. Holland
Margo B. Holm
Michele Kemble & James Keating
Laurence Baker Leonard
Shirley Campbell Nasby
Nikki Pirillo Nordenberg & Mark A. Nordenberg
David Hale Perrin
Douglas L. Poust
Kathleen H. & Richard Merlin Riedman
Rosemary M. Scully
Robert S. Wainner
Meagan S. Williams
Cynthia A. Zakoworotny

Individuals \$500-\$999

John Patrick Abt
David M. Brienza
Robert Anthony Chubon
Donna F. Clark
Ellen R. Cohn

Kevin Michael Conley
Rosemarie & Rory A. Cooper
Bebe N. & Donald Mark Henderson
Sajeesh K. Kamala Raghavan
Michele McKenney & Charles C. Cohen
Debora L. Miller
Ellen G. & Rodney D. Morton
Laura H. O'Keeffe
Petronella Rick
Pamela Ellen & James Toto
Virginia M. & Donald C. Williams
Gary Zartman
Kathryn H. & Daniel G. Zavadak
Michael W. Zislis

Individuals \$100-\$499

Katelyn Fleishman Allison
Barbara J. Amster
Carol Gober Anthony
Alice Ellis Audino
Clara Lozano Ayala & Raul E. Ayala
Susan Aurandt Barker
Victoria K. Bowers
Miriam Randolph Boyd
Doris P. Bradley
Caroline Robinson Brayley
Mary Ellen Buning
Stephen P. Burke
David M. Burstin
Scott E. Campbell
Paula J. Carey
Kay Cerny
Allison K. Charles
Matthew J. Coppola Jr.
James L. Coyle
Amy Rugh Cribbs
J. Kent Culley
John F. De Blasis
Dilhari R. DeAlmeida
Crystal Bagley Deller
Celeste Hanna Devlin
Deborah Fischer Dixon

Lynn Durrell-Karidis
Larry Clinton Eaton
Janet Zuck Feroce
Lynn Mary & G. Kelley Fitzgerald
Daniel H. Fletcher
Shameem Gangjee
Alice Springer Gibson & Karl Robert Gibson
James J. Graziano Jr.
David G. Greathouse
Carol & Harry L. Green
Lisa B. Greenblatt
Robin L. Gries
David Hess
Mary A. Hosak
John Isaac Jr.
Peter R. Johnson
Patricia E. Karg
William L. Kelly
Margaret M. Keltz
Young Joo Kim
Diane M. Kirsch
Toni Denise Klauger
Herold R. Klein
Charles J. Klim
Kathleen Komisin Knapp
Jennifer L. Kopp
Paul L. Kornblith
Emily Korns
Barbara Lee Kurylo
Jodell L. & Anthony R. Kuzneski
James Thomas Kwiatkowski
William M. Lake
Pamela Sue & Kenneth D. Lessans
Suzanne Bem Lewis
Evelyn Jacobs Lipowitz
Suzanne B. Lynch
Barbara Mellott MacDonald & Wayne P. MacDonald
Patricia Joan Madler
Lawrence Maiello
Donald Maietta
Juliet M. & Joseph F. Mancino Jr.
Cynthia A. Maziarz
Thomas D. McCracken
Douglas A. Mickey

Beth A. Mineo
Wanda Virtue Molchen
James Muffly
Ophelia Munn-Goins
Trudi N. Murch
Kimberly E. Murphy
Carleen S. Neher
Maria V. Paramita
Cathy B. Parrott
Timothy W. Paul
Donna Lynne Pavlick
Sara L. Peterson
David J. Pezzullo
Rochelle Pilberg
Reece Everson Poulton
Ketki Dhruv Raina
Barbara Schick Raju
Denise I. Rematt
Sharon Rogers
Anthony P. Salvatore
Joyce R. Sampogna
Mary Jo Charlton-Sanks & Curtis Anthony Sanks
Murray J. Saucier Jr.
Marjorie C. & Scott H. Saul
Janice King Schneider & Glenn Eric Schneider
Betty Payne Schwartz
Maryann Scialabba
Vivek Sethumadhavan
Amy Myers Sheehan
Johnny L. Smith
Norah M. Smith-Stevens
Patrick J. Sparto
Donna Dettra Steigerwalt
Robert Mark Steiner
Thomas J. Stengel
Russell G. Steves
Ellen W. Stewart
Judith A. Stitley
Kay S. & Joseph P. Strigle III
David P. Synowka
Sue C. Tarplee
Jeff M. Thompson
Michael Gerard Timko
Mary Patricia Triulzi
Joseph A. Urquhart
Eric J. Venskytis
Judith A. Verbanets

Christopher Andrew Vereb
Joyce Lorraine & Erik Neil Videlock
Carol B. & Robert Viktorin
Linda M. Wallace
Mary Louise & Daniel Louis Wargo
Valerie Magliocca Watzlaf
Michelle B. Wetzel
Roberta I. White-Prentice
Toni D. Wilbon-Jackman
Mary S. Wilczynski
Claire L. Williams
Sonya M. & Roy W. Wilt Sr.
Katherine Rockar Winters
Alison Marie Wittmer
Lois Barnhart Wolf & Steven L. Wolf
Joseph M. Wozneak
Sui-Kam A. Yang
Barbara E. Yeagle
Albert J. Yoshida
Kathleen McClain Zack
Mildred Zinberg

Individuals \$50-\$99

Arifab N. Abdullah
Jane McCloskey Adamczyk & Michael Adamczyk
Ziya Altug
Noma Bennett Anderson & William Anderson
Donna M. & Brian Joseph Aquilante
Tracy Ayres
Sue Ann & Monty Baker
Barbara Wicke Balas
Allen W. Barbaro
Jean Marie Baric
Helen S. & Brooks M. Bartlett
Suzanne Marie & Mark B. Bauer
Brian R. Bennighoff
Anthony John Bianco
Margaret T. Blake
Helen K. Bosch
Carol K. & David L. Bostick Jr.
Jill Brehm

Lori R. Brown
Kathleen Rogel Buczak
Jean Kohlhaas Byers &
Charles M. Byers
Mary Deitrich Capra
Jessica L. Cecco
Gail Harmon Chitty &
Alton L. Chitty Jr.
Gail Alspaugh Clark
Ann Hay Cober & Bradley
Jay Cober
Sarah C. Conlow
Amy L. & Damian J.
Derlink
M. Lucille Moore Dettor
Sigismond Deutscher
John Dickenson
Carmen Peter DiGiovine
Elizabeth A. Dolby
Jennifer Linnea Doster
Bernice S. Dressler
Kenneth W. Drudy
Mary K. Dunaway
Diane Levy Eger
Diana Dewey Emanuele
Stephanie R. Emert
Michelle M. Ferketic &
John Eberhard
Karla J. Floyd
Delilah Higley Foldes
Jean F. Foust
Joan Yurick Fucci &
Donald James Fucci
Julianne Gasperi
Catherine W. Gerrish
Karen Collins Gibson
Jennifer S. Gioia
Glenn W. Gorham
Andrew J. Grzesiak
Colleen D. Hamm
Joanne M. Heidkamp
Kathleen Helfrich-Miller
Betty M. & Todd Charles
Henkelmann
Daniel S. Herman
Merry Ann Hildebrand
Janyce E. & Myron W.
House
Susan T. Jackson
Marjorie C. Johnson
Linda & James Howard
Joshowitz

Angela & Robert Richard
Kamenic Jr.
Frances L. Kelly
Susan R. Klein
Valerie Durci Korzun
Patricia Kummick
Victor P. Kupfer
Susan L. Lawrence
David E. Leary
Karen Bauer Lilly
Stephen G. Lloyd
Barbara Olshefski
Loughran
Donna Cameron Lyons
Robert O. Madtes
Beverly L. Majerski
Patricia Lewis Mandes
Samuel W. Martin Jr.
Sara Nordyke Masilko
David Mattei
Wanda Lea Beatty
Mayhew
Anne Slaughaupt
McDermott & Robert
Thomas McDermott
Cynthia Ann & Patrick A.
McKenzie
Paulette Minto-Glover
Carol Mutschler Moya
Patricia E. Nowakowski
Jean H. O'Malley
Patti Donley Olson
Stephen Pacchioli*
Paula J. & Paul D. Palmer
Lisa M. Palombi
Cassandra R. Pasquale
Gail Donahue Pepin
Karen Elizabeth Pfeifer
Judith Hunter Pflieger
Lee Ann Pickering
Sara R. Piva
Ruth R. Plasterer
Cynthia Serkoch Ramsey
& James R. Ramsey
Deborah L. & Jeffrey T.
Recker
Dorothy R. Pflasterer
Reiber
Tamara B. & Thomas B.
Ribar
Rosemarie B. Rick

Sharon Hetrick Roemer
& Robert Quay Roemer
Fredric Rollman
Anthony E. Roscoe &
Ryan Lee Minster
Dorothy M. Ruttle-Neill
Rebecca Rightnour Sattel
& James Clayton Sattel
Judith Rolley Schaad &
Joseph William Schaad
Richard M. Schein
Valerie K. Schreiber
Ronald W. Schwesinger
Linda R. Scislowicz
Mary B. Shafer
Ellen Gosnell Shemancik
Richard Callaghan
Simpson
A. Robin Spiegelman
Barbara A. Squires-Roehl
Julie D. Stampfle
Shirley Folk Szekeres
Kevin Edward Urbansky
Linda Van Roosmalen
Mark D. Van Volkenburg
Nancy Allshouse Varley
Katherine Tuller Verdolini-
Abbott
John Vicchio
Jeannine Bowen Walker
Cynthia J. & Perry
Edward Wancheck
N. Jill Davies Wenstrom
Maria Caste Willoe
Deborah Menk Wilson
Annette Hochrein
Zigrossi

Individuals under \$50
Saud F. Alsubaie
Patricia Anania-Firouzan
Holly Parke Andria &
William Mark Andria
Leslie Billow Atkins &
Robert S. Atkins
Nancy E. Baker
Patricia A. Barus
Janet Mary Holtz Berna
Ina L. Block
Gerard Bojda
Denise O'Brien Bourg
Joyce R. Broadwick

M. Jean Buffardi
Marjorie McIntyre Cain
Judith Anderson
Campbell & John L.
Campbell Jr.
Meaghan C. Capellini
Yvette R. Carr
Cathi Carroll-Davis
Walter A. Case
Colleen Romesberg
Ciavola
Charlotte Lynne Clements
Mary Lynn & Michael P.
Collins
Barbara & Gerard Colvin
Priscilla M. Cotter
Christine Cox
Sue Cox
Donald Creamer
Lynn Karaffa Cremen
Lauren M. Curatolo
Caroline R. D'Aurora
Mary Ann S. Danley
Wade DeWalt
Steven G. Doan
Elizabeth I. Doster
Thomas Dunst
Louis D. Durigon
Stacy M. Eckstein
Rona & Stuart T. Eisen
Sandra G. Erksa
Erin C. Estabrook
Robert C. Findlay
Mary E. Foust
Virginia Hulshult Franz
Jennifer S. Friedman
Bobbi R. Furnas
Gregory Gaito
Carole H. & Dennis
Galletta
Matthew Geherin
Eileen J. & George J.
Gerneth
Mary F. & Lawrence L.
Giventer
Gary Grant
Jacqueline T. Grimenstein
Kenneth E. Hartley
William S. Herb
Brian Hogan
Judith A. Hufnagel

Patricia A. Irvin
Lawrence I. Issadore
Wayde King
Barbara A. Klaczak
Theresa Dipietro Klein &
Kurt Klein
Paul M. Kleindienst III
Linda L. Klose
Mary K. Korona
Marie Berton Lasher
Georgann Lombardi
Wayne Longley
Regina Marie Lutz
Pamela M. Macnett
Richard Manto
Nikki A. Marhefka
Judith L. & John C.
McChesney Jr.
Raymond L. McCoy
Marybeth Baker
McCutcheon
Cynthia Grygier McMillen
Alyson P. Michalak
Alisa Ann Miller
Deanna Stefanek Miller
Hallie E. Mintz
Katherine O. Molling
Dennis C. Montet
Patricia A. Murphy
John Kerr Musgrave IV
Darell & Mark E. Nassis
Marsha M. Nevinsky
Regina M. Onda
Marcia L. & Eugene V.
Patterson
Perry Perlmutter
Evelyn Gibas Petrash
Adam J. Popchak
Diane K. Quinn
Lisa Hoffman Rabinowitz
& Robert Morris
Rabinowitz
Yvette M. & Frank Reiner
Andrew Renninger
Antoinette Solecki Repak
Laura A. Rice
Mary & Lee Robeson
Linay & Bruce Robinson
Norman S. Rogozin
Rosanne N. Rust
LuAnn J. Scarton

Sandra Maksin Schmerin
& Stephen Murray
Schmerin
Christine A. Schroeder
Nancy Kulikowski Shippe
Maria Monaco
Shoemaker
Rosemary Chavara Skero
& Timothy A. Skero Sr.
Cynthia Jane & Albert
Walter Skrabski
Jill S. Slater
Michelle Elaine Smith
Lisa Bosco Smyers
John B. Sowers
Mary J. M. & David C.
Stickley
Denise M. Strimel
Patricia B. Strott-
Wheatley
Suni Clites Susko
Amy Marie Killeen &
John Raymond Szarnicki
Harold Kwabena Takyi
Sharon Tillia
Candice W. Tofts
Linda Marie Turner
Norma J. Ulery
Giampietro L. Vairo
Linda D. Vallino-Napoli
& Joseph Napoli
Raymond Antonino
Valotta
Mary Beth Ventrini-
Burkett
Rena Eileen & Donald
E. Venturini Jr.
Karen A. Wager
Emily Sue & Christopher
W. Walker
Patricia L. Warren
Lloyd Weidler Jr.
Diane M. Wisley
Daniel J. Zinger

**Includes matching gifts*

Change Service Requested

Hosted & Sponsored by:

University of California,
San Francisco
Department of Physical Therapy
and Rehabilitation Science

**REGENERATE
CONGREGATE
EDUCATE**

Third Annual International Symposium on Regenerative Rehabilitation

April 10 – 11, 2014

Mission Bay Conference Center

University of California, San Francisco

Attendees will:

- Discover integrated laboratory-based approaches to enhance regeneration with clinically available rehabilitation approaches
- Understand the principles of regenerative medicine and how rehabilitation will interface with this state-of-the-art technology for optimal patient recovery
- Participate in novel interactions with clinicians, researchers, and therapies through formal and informal networking activities

Who should attend:

- Program directors and faculty members of Rehabilitation programs
- Scientists and clinicians working in the fields of Regenerative Medicine and/or Rehabilitation and Physical Medicine
- Young Investigators, clinicians and graduate students with related interests.

Featured Speakers:

Keynote: Stephen Waxman, MD, PhD
Director, Neuroscience and Regeneration
Research Center, Yale University

Thomas A. Rando, MD, PhD
Stanford University

Linda Noble-Haeusslein, PhD
University of California, San Francisco

Fabrisia Ambrosio, PhD, PT
University of Pittsburgh

Michael Boninger, MD
University of Pittsburgh



In Partnership with:

University of Pittsburgh, School of Medicine,
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

The McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine

UPMC Rehabilitation Institute

University of Pittsburgh
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

Rehabilitation Research & Development Center of
Excellence at the Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Health Care System

This activity has been approved for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™
The University of Pittsburgh is an affirmative action, equal opportunity
institution.

For more information, please contact: Katy Wharton
The McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine
(412) 624-5293 or whartonkm@upmc.edu