Greetings UW Rehabilitation Medicine friends and colleagues,

In this issue, we highlight Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine (PRM) at Seattle Children’s Hospital. Over the past 3 years, thanks in large part to Dr. Susan Apkon’s leadership, this program has expanded to offer new regional and specialty clinics, an ACGME accredited PRM fellowship, and a growing research infrastructure.

As you will read on page 8, we are pleased to have five new talented and skilled rehabilitation medicine professionals join our faculty. But as we welcome these new colleagues, it is with mixed emotion that we say goodbye to one of our long-time faculty members and friends, Dr. Brian Dudgeon. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Dudgeon on his appointment as Chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Health Professions.

On October 9th, I invite you to attend the annual State of the Department presentation. This is a public event and will take place at 7:30 AM in room T-733 of the UW Magnuson Health Sciences Building. Please visit our website for directions: rehab.washington.edu

Thank you for your continued interest and support of the department. Contact us at rehab@uw.edu with questions or comments.

Peter Esselman, MD, MPT
Professor and Chairman

SPOTLIGHT: PEDIATRIC REHABILITATION MEDICINE AT SEATTLE CHILDREN’S

Children with disabilities represent a unique population within pediatrics. Our Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine (PRM) Program at Seattle Children’s Hospital, under the direction of Susan Apkon, M.D., helps children and their families adapt to changes in functioning brought on by injury, illness or congenital disorder. We treat children, infants through 21 years of age, for a wide range of conditions, including neuromuscular diseases, spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, stroke, cerebral palsy, amputation and sports related injuries. Our services are provided in our outpatient rehabilitation clinic as well as on our 12 bed CARF-accredited inpatient unit.
Outpatient Clinic Services

Over the last 3 years, the Pediatric Rehabilitation Program has broadened the scope of practice in the outpatient setting by providing services regionally in Olympia, Bellevue, Federal Way, and Billings, MT. On the main campus in Seattle, we provide care to children in our general rehabilitation clinics as well as specialty clinics to treat children with arthrogryposis, neuromuscular diseases, mild brain injury, and spasticity related issues. Boys with Duchenne/Becker muscular dystrophy in the WWAMI (Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho) region can now be cared for regularly in our comprehensive muscle clinic which allows them to see 12 providers over the course of one day.

“This comprehensive muscle clinic has received rave reviews from patients, families, and providers alike as it allows the boys to be seen by a team of muscle experts who can provide the most up-to-date care to allow for better health, function, and quality of life,” states Dr. Apkon.

Dr. Marisa Osorio, acting assistant professor and fellowship-trained pediatric rehabilitation physician, is the latest faculty member to join the rehabilitation care team at Seattle Children’s. Dr. Osorio specializes in the outpatient care of children with cerebral palsy, pediatric traumatic brain injury and concussion, spasticity management including botulinum toxin and phenol injections, and brachial plexus injuries. You may read more about her on page 8.

Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit

As the regional leader in pediatric rehabilitation, our inpatient rehabilitation unit is the only Level I Pediatric Trauma Rehabilitation program caring for patients from the WWAMI region. Services are provided by one of 5 pediatric rehabilitation physicians and 1 nurse practitioner. In addition to the care provided by our board-certified pediatric physiatrists, we also draw upon the expertise of our multi-disciplinary staff of nurses, occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech and language pathologists, social workers, therapeutic recreation specialists, rehabilitation psychologists and teachers. Together, these professionals evaluate each child and develop comprehensive, cohesive plans suited to the individual child’s medical needs and family circumstances.

Teachers play an important role in the rehabilitation process. “One of the challenges in caring for a child on the inpatient rehabilitation unit is the unique focus of insuring a safe and successful transition back to school,” comments Dr. Apkon. “We are fortunate to work with a very talented group of staff who are tremendously dedicated to these kids and their families.”

Education and Training

Training the next generation of pediatric rehabilitation specialists is important to our mission. This fall, we welcomed the inaugural trainees to our ACGME accredited PRM fellowship. Molly Fuentes, M.D., and Elaine Tsao, M.D., who completed their physical medicine and rehabilitation residencies at the University of Washington, are on a two-year track and will receive broad-based exposure to all aspects of pediatric rehabilitation medicine in both the inpatient and outpatient settings.

“The PRM fellowship at Seattle Children’s is in the perfect position to become one of the top programs in the country,” says Dr. Apkon. “The relationship between Seattle Children’s Hospital, a top pediatric hospital, with the University of Washington Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, another nationally recognized program, provides the fellows exposure to both clinical and research expertise.”

Research

The research infrastructure is growing under the leadership of Kristie Bjornson, PhD, PT, adjunct assistant professor. Research projects underway focusing on the inpatient unit include understanding the experience of oncology patients and Native American children on the rehabilitation unit.

Projects focusing on the outpatient clinical setting include understanding the relationship between walking abilities and bone health in children with cerebral palsy, multi-center clinical trials in boys with Duchenne/Becker muscular dystrophy (DBMD), and use of a step activity monitor in children with spina bifida to determine walking abilities.
WELCOME NEW STUDENTS

Division of Prosthetics & Orthotics: MPO Degree Program

The Division of Prosthetics & Orthotics faculty and staff are pleased to welcome the incoming Master of Prosthetics and Orthotics (MPO) class. The 11 students in the Class of 2014 bring diverse educational backgrounds to their study of P&O, holding undergraduate degrees in disciplines including theatre arts, biomedical engineering and neuroscience. Professional experiences include counseling in a program for highly capable high school students, carpentry, and sales for a multinational telecommunications corporation.

Matt Manges entered the program on the heels of completing his DPT at the UW (June '12). Matt is looking forward to, “putting more of my skills and interests into action, and creatively solving problems using the knowledge of both disciplines. I am excited to be a bridge between professions, for myself as well as my colleagues.”

Division of Occupational Therapy: MOT Degree Program

The Division of Occupational Therapy faculty and staff are honored to welcome the Master of Occupational Therapy (MOT) class of 2014. This year we admitted 25 students from a pool of 169 qualified applicants. Our entering class includes students with strong academic records, broad volunteer and/or paid OT related work experiences and a variety of undergraduate majors. While psychology is the most common undergraduate degree, we also have students with degrees ranging from vocal performance to structural engineering. Most students are from Washington, but some are from as far away as Georgia, Washington, D.C., and Hawaii.
Welcome New Students cont’d from page 3

Division of Physical Therapy: DPT Degree Program

The Division of Physical Therapy faculty and staff welcome the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Class of 2015. This year, 45 students were admitted from a pool of 588 qualified applicants. The class includes 28 women and 17 men from Washington, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and California. While the majority of students hold undergraduate degrees in exercise science, other fields represented include biology, psychology, public health and dance.

SECOND YEAR DPT STUDENT WINS GOLD AND SILVER AT LONDON 2012 PARALYMPIC GAMES

Megan Fisher, second year DPT student and member of the U.S. Paralympic Cycling Team, took home gold and silver medals from the London 2012 Paralympic Games. Overall, Megan competed in four events. She won gold in the road time trial and helped a teammate earn bronze in the women’s road race. On the velodrome, she earned silver in the 3k pursuit and placed 9th in the 500m time trial.

“Words fail to fully describe my experience at the Paralympic Games,” says Megan. “Simply put it was a dream come true. I owe a great deal of gratitude to the many people who helped me realize this dream.”

Ten years ago, Megan was the passenger in a roll over car accident that claimed the life of her best friend and left her in a coma with serious injuries. Megan’s left leg was traumatically amputated. With the help of her medical team that included doctors, nurses, physical therapists, prosthetists and her service dog, Megan has been able to return to a fulfilling and active lifestyle. Athletics, combined with her own experiences as a patient, have given Megan purpose and inspired her to pursue a career in physical therapy.
Farewell to Dr. Brian Dudgeon

It is with mixed emotion that we announce the departure of long-time faculty member, Brian Dudgeon, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA.

As of October 1, Dr. Dudgeon is the Chair of Occupational Therapy at the University of Alabama, Birmingham School of Health Professionals. We are excited for Dr. Dudgeon as he assumes the leadership of this well-respected program, but also saddened by the loss of a valued colleague in the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine.

For the past 24 years, the department has benefited from Dr. Dudgeon's deep commitment to occupational therapy, his wisdom, and his skill in understanding and communicating the complexity of the issues that we face.

Throughout the years, Dr. Dudgeon has been instrumental in the academic preparation and advancement of hundreds of occupational therapy clinicians in our entry-level OT and Master of Science programs. He has also mentored numerous students in their doctoral studies including those in the PhD in Rehabilitation Science program where he was a member of the core faculty.

“I’ve certainly strived to contribute to students’ learning and experiences as they prepare to launch into careers, and to have hopefully spurred on some to return for more! I also hope that I’ve helped nurture the occupational therapy discipline and I will continue to attempt that from my new location,” said Dr. Dudgeon.

On the research front, Dr. Dudgeon's work has added greatly to our understanding of the client’s perspective on developing and aging with disability.

Dr. Dudgeon has also played an active role in advocating on the behalf of people with disabilities through his leadership as Chair of the University of Washington Committee on Accessibility and Board President of Mobility Builders.

Counting his student roles, Dr. Dudgeon has an impressive 37 year connection to the University of Washington.

He earned his Bachelor of Science, Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees as a Husky.

Reflecting upon leaving this great university, he says he’ll miss the people in the department the most.

“There are very thoughtful and well meaning individuals around now and have been in the past. I've learned a lot from colleagues from the many disciplines we find together here. I know that the learning from others will continue and I look forward to similar collaborations down in the deep south. I’ll try to share our Pacific Northwest perspectives!”

A farewell celebration was held in Dr. Dudgeon’s honor on Sept. 12

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wilbert E. Fordyce Lecture

“Cognitive-Behavioral Treatments for Chronic Pain: Innovations and Future Directions”

Featuring special guest lecturer, Dr. Judith A. Turner, professor, UW Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

DATE: Monday, October 29th
TIME: 5:00-6:30 PM
LOCATION: UW Health Sciences Building, Rm. T-639

Please RSVP to Alice Kim at evonise9@uw.edu or 206.543.3509

Save the Date

30th Annual Review Course in Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
March 17—23, 2013

*Optional Mock Oral Exams are free
Hotel Deca—4507 Brooklyn Ave NE—Seattle, WA 98105

Online brochure and registration information available December 2012 at http://www.uwcmee.org
ACCOLADES:

Jennifer Nash: AOTA Internship

Jennifer Nash, student in the PhD in Rehabilitation Science program, was recently appointed by the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) to a year-long internship in the Developmental Disabilities Special-Interest Section (DDSIS). The AOTA Special Interest Sections initiated the 1-year student internship pilot program in order to increase student utilization of SIS resources and to aid the development of future leaders.

As part of her responsibilities, Jennifer will participate in DDSIS virtual group meetings and in DDSIS related projects that focus on infant mental health in occupational therapy. Jennifer will also disseminate DDSIS information to student populations and may also assist with the development of a consumer fact sheet. Dr. Tracy Jirikowic, assistant professor, will serve as Jennifer’s leadership mentor by collaborating with her to select appropriate projects and opportunities for enrichment and education about the leadership structures and processes of the AOTA.

Silas James receives BIAWA scholarship

Silas James, research assistant with the UW Traumatic Brain Injury Model System group, is the recipient of the Brain Injury Association of Washington’s (BIAWA) Higher Education/Professional Scholarship. Silas will be pursuing a degree in public administration from the University of Washington’s Evans School of Public Administration.

US NEWS RANKING

The University of Washington has been ranked #4 nationally for rehabilitation care in the 2012 US News & World Report rankings. The Department has ranked in the top four programs for the last 23 years (rankings began in 1990). Scoring is based on a national survey of physicians who are board-certified in Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation.
Drs. Peter Esselman and Margaret Hammond honored by the AAPM&R

We are pleased to announce that two UW Department of Rehabilitation Medicine faculty members have received top honors from the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (AAPM&R). Dr. Peter Esselman, professor and chair, is one of the 2012 recipients of the Distinguished Clinician Award. The award honors individual physiatrists who have achieved distinction on the basis of their scholarly level of teaching and their outstanding performance in patient care activities. Dr. Margaret Hammond, professor, is the 2012 recipient of the Distinguished Member Award. This award honors AAPM&R members who have provided invaluable service to the specialty of PM&R primarily through participation in PM&R-related organizations other than the academy. Drs. Esselman and Hammond will be presented with their awards on November 17th at the AAPM&R annual meeting in Atlanta, Ga.

Dr. Carolyn Baylor receives AJSLP’s 2011 Editor’s Award

Dr. Carolyn Baylor’s paper titled, “A Qualitative Study of Interference With Communicative Participation Across Communication Disorders in Adults,” was selected for the 2011 Editors’ Award for the American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology. An article chosen for an Editors’ Award is one that the Editor and Associate Editor feel meets the highest quality standards in research design, presentation and impact for a given year. It is truly a high honor; only one paper is selected each year. The award will be presented at the 2012 American Speech and Hearing Association (ASHA) Convention on November 16.


Dr. Sue Apkon featured on King 5 News HealthLink Segment

Dr. Susan Apkon, associate professor and Director of Rehabilitation at Seattle Children’s, was featured in a recent King 5 News Healthlink segment, titled “Cerebral Palsy procedure helping kids walk.” Dr. Apkon led the rehabilitation team for four year old Logan Ellingsworth. Cerebral palsy had made walking difficult for him; his parents knew he might be soon using a wheelchair when they learned of a procedure at Seattle Children’s. Logan’s surgery was followed by a 3 week hospital stay and intense physical therapy at home. Dr. Apkon was pleased with his progress just four months after surgery. Watch the segment.

Dr. Casey Childers summits Mt. Rainier

On August 29th, Dr. Casey Childers summited Mt. Rainier. At 14,410 feet above sea level, Mt. Rainier is the most glaciated peak in the contiguous United States and is a true mountaineering challenge. Dr. Childers went with a guide company and followed the Disappointment Cleaver route via Camp Muir. The trip took 4 days, 2 of which were for climbing school. “It was really hard and scary and fun all at the same time,” said Dr. Childers. In addition to Mt. Rainier, he has also climbed Mt. Hood and Mt. Adams. Next up on his list? The other volcanoes in the Cascade Range.

Please Join Us!

Annual Alumni Reception at the AAPM&R Annual Meeting

UW PM&R Residency Training Program alumni as well as current and former faculty are cordially invited to attend the alumni reception at the 2012 American Academy of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation meeting in Atlanta, Georgia.

DATE: Friday, November 16th
TIME: 7:00-10:00 PM
LOCATION: Atlanta Marriott, Rm. TBA
We are sending this electronic newsletter via a U of W Mailman List.
To subscribe, please email us at:  rehab@uw.edu

If you have feedback on this edition or an item that you think should be included in a future newsletter, please send an email to the editor, Randi Blaisdell:
blaisr@uw.edu

For those of you interested in seeing past issues of our newsletters:

**Visit us on the web!**

HTTP://REHAB.WASHINGTON.EDU

UW Department of Rehabilitation Medicine banner image by: Janet Schukar

---

**Welcome New Faculty**

**David Mack, Ph.D.,** joins the department as an assistant professor and investigator with the UW Institute for Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine. His research interests involve cellular reprogramming and lineage choice signaling during stem cell differentiation and their utility in the study of disease etiology and drug screening. Dr. Mack earned his PhD in molecular genetics from the Indiana University School of Medicine. He completed his post-doctoral research fellowship at the National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, and a senior research fellowship at the Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine.

**Marisa Osorio, D.O.,** joins the department as an acting assistant professor and new provider at our Rehabilitation Medicine Clinic at Seattle Children's Hospital. Dr. Osorio specializes in the outpatient care of children with cerebral palsy, pediatric traumatic brain injury and concussion, spasticity management including botulinum toxin and phenol injections, and brachial plexus injuries. Dr. Osorio completed both her physical medicine and rehabilitation residency and her pediatric rehabilitation medicine fellowship at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine.

**Jared Olson, M.D.,** joins the department as an acting instructor and new provider at our Rehabilitation Medicine Clinic at Harborview. Dr. Olson's clinical interests are in the treatment of stroke, traumatic brain injury, tumor and brain cancer rehabilitation, and general inpatient rehabilitation. His primary teaching focuses on neurological rehabilitation. His research interests are related to brain-computer interfaces, motor systems neurophysiology and electrophysiology. Dr. Olson completed his physical medicine and rehabilitation residency at the University of Washington.

**Charlotte Smith, M.D.,** joins the department as a clinical associate professor and new provider on the University of Washington Medical Center inpatient rehabilitation unit. Dr. Smith specializes in spinal cord injury and neurorehabilitation. She also has a strong interest in musculoskeletal medicine, sports medicine and oncology rehabilitation. She frequently lectures on topics related to ethics, practice management, and spinal cord injury. Dr. Smith earned her medical degree and completed her physical medicine and rehabilitation residency at Baylor College of Medicine.

**Pradeep Suri, M.D.,** joins the department as an assistant professor and new provider for Rehabilitation Care Services at the VA Puget Sound. Dr. Suri specializes in the treatment of back and neck pain. His research interests are also in the areas of back and neck pain, as well as osteoarthritis and imaging. His teaching focuses on musculoskeletal epidemiology. Dr. Suri completed his physical medicine and rehabilitation residency at the University of Washington, and a spine and musculoskeletal medicine fellowship at New England Baptist Hospital in Boston, Mass.