

# CHALLENGES *in Theory & Practice*

VOL.7 NO.1 SPRING 2009

THE J. A. PANUSKA, S. J., COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

## MESSAGE *from the* DEAN

**A**S DEAN OF THE PANUSKA COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES (PCPS), it is my pleasure to welcome you to the Spring 2009 issue of *Challenges in Theory & Practice*, our entryway to the heart, head, and hand of our PCPS students, faculty and staff who demonstrate a well-hewn path in our Catholic and Jesuit tradition. PCPS prepares undergraduate and graduate students in a wide range of professions. Our mission states that the college is designed with the conviction that all disciplines should be taught and understood through a balance of theory and practice.



Dr. Debra Pellegrino

The beginning of The University of Scranton's spring semester had the familiar characteristics of most new academic beginnings: strength of mind, anticipation of service opportunities from Project Guadalajara to beyond the hills of Appalachia, the inquisitiveness of coursework from the Community Health Education major to the Doctor of Physical Therapy program. It is truly an exciting time to be at The University. The interactions I have observed with students, faculty and staff, especially in the Leahy Community Health and Family Center, bring understanding to the recent award bestowed on The University of Scranton with the Carnegie Classification. Across all disciplines in PCPS, our students are pondering the tough questions and posing pioneering solutions that make us the "helping" professions who walk in faith and justice.

On January 15, 2009, The University of Scranton issued a press release describing the 2008 Carnegie Award for Community Engagement. With less than 200 universities receiving this award, the Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement committee selected colleges through a comprehensive application process which required universities to demonstrate institutional commitment and support for community service partnerships, as well as documentation of the impact such programs have had on the community.

President Rev. Father Scott Pilarz, S.J. informed the University that he received notification from the Carnegie Foundation announcing the University's classification. He stated: "Scranton's application was noted for an 'excellent alignment among mission, culture, leadership, resources and practices that support dynamic and noteworthy community engagement' and included 'examples of exemplary institutionalized practices of community engagement'."

*Enjoy reading our newsletter, and learn what we value, what we celebrate, and what makes us unique.*

Sincerely,

*Debra Pellegrino*

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**SCRANTON**  
A JESUIT UNIVERSITY

*The 8th Annual Northeastern U.S. CONFERENCE on disABILITY*  
**TRANSITION: Today, Tomorrow, Together**

October 7, 2009 DeNaples Center, 4th Floor THE UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON

[www.scranton.edu/disabilityconference](http://www.scranton.edu/disabilityconference)



## The Edward R. Leahy, Jr. Endowment

was founded in 1995 by Edward and Patricia Leahy to honor the life and memory of their son, Edward R. Leahy, Jr., whose personal disabilities were attended to with compassion and skill by many health professionals over the course of his life. The Leahy Endowment provides financial resources to support theoretical and applied research, faculty development, and support for programs that advance the cause of disabled persons who need long-term assistance. The endowment supports the work of persons practicing in physical and occupational therapy, nursing science and related health-care areas, with particular interest in individuals and groups that approach their practice as scholars, teachers and practitioners. Primary recipients are University of Scranton faculty from the Panuska College of Professional Studies, consisting of the Departments of Counseling and Human Services, Education, Exercise Science and Sport, Health Administration and Human Resources, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy.

Each fall the Endowment publishes a Call for Proposals to identify faculty candidates for next year's grant awards. Awards are granted in May for the following year. The selection committee is comprised of members of the University's allied health faculty and the dean of the Panuska College of Professional Studies.

The Endowment was established and is supported, in part, by the Leahy family and is enriched annually by gifts from corporations and individuals who wish to support the work of the Edward R. Leahy, Jr. Endowment.

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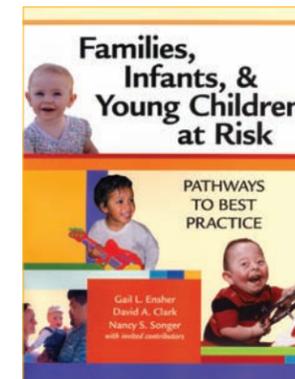
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## Occupational Therapy & Special Education Faculty Collaborate to Author Chapter for Leading Pediatric Textbook

Drs. Carol Reinson (*Occupational Therapy*) and Dona Bauman (*Special Education*) combined their professional expertise and personal experience to co-author a chapter entitled The Neonatal Intensive Care Unit: An Environment for Best Practice, Parent-Professional Collaboration in the recently-published textbook edited by G. Ensher, D. Clark, & N. Songer, *Families, Infants, and Young Children at Risk: Pathways to Best Practice*. This comprehensive interdisciplinary publication helps readers more fully understand child development. It addresses the complex needs of children with disabilities and their families and skillfully connects clinical knowledge with everyday practice. The book is available from Paul H. Brookes Publishing, a company dedicated to providing resources to professionals who are working to enhance the educational success and learning capabilities of all persons, including children, youth and adults with disabilities.



The newly-published textbook was featured on the cover of the latest catalog of Paul H. Brookes Publishing, a leading source for early intervention and special education publications. ♦

Smith, T. F. (2009). *Going beyond competencies: An exploratory study in defining exemplary WLP practitioners*. Performance Improvement Quarterly (PIQ) Journal (22)1, Wiley Publications.

Smith, T. F. (2008). *Methods in identifying exemplary performance: A review of the literature and implications for HRD*. Human Resource Development Review, (7)4, Sage Publications.

Buxton, B. (2008). *Body image and women: How does obesity fit in?* Bariatric Nursing and Surgical Patient Care, 3(4), 285-290.

Costello, M. M. (Summer 2008). *After the Fact: The Case for Posttransaction Antitrust Review of Health Plan Mergers*. Hospital Topics, 86(3), 11- 14.

## Occupational Therapy Faculty Member has 5th Edition of Best-Seller Published

Rita P. Fleming-Castaldy, Ph.D., OTL, FAOTA, Assistant Professor, Occupational Therapy Department, recently edited the 5th edition of the text *National Occupational Therapy Certification Exam Review and Study Guide*. In addition to editing contributions from distinguished educators and leading practitioners in the field, Dr. Fleming-Castaldy authored five chapters, co-authored four chapters, and authored hundreds of sample examination items. This book is the only one on the market combining a comprehensive content review of occupational therapy professional education with extensive study hints, test-taking strategies, and practice examinations. The latest edition of this text underwent substantial revisions to address major changes implemented by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). NBCOT administers the certification examination that all occupational therapists must take and pass to become licensed to practice in the United States. This high stakes examination is taken by more than 4,000 prospective graduates of United States educational programs and hundreds of internationally trained therapists who seek to practice in the United States.

To facilitate students' success on this computer-based examination, Dr. Fleming-Castaldy's text provides the most current NBCOT examination information and a cd with three complete practice examinations, including the new clinical simulation examination items. These clinical simulation items are designed to replicate practice situations typically encountered by entry-level occupational therapists. The text emphasizes the use of clinical reasoning and critical thinking to effectively answer practice-based examination items. The textbook, published and distributed by TherapyEd, Chicago, Ill., is also distributed by the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) with representatives reporting it's their best selling NBCOT examination preparation text. TherapyEd, the number one professional examination preparation company in the United States for occupational therapists, also uses this publication as the core text for its certification examination preparatory courses that are conducted throughout the country at major universities with occupational therapy programs. Dr. Fleming-Castaldy is also the author of the course manual that is used in these national courses. In October, Dr. Fleming-Castaldy was invited to display her text at the AOTA Program Directors meeting in Atlanta, Ga., and in November, she exhibited this work at the AOTA/NBCOT Student Conclave in Chicago, Ill. ♦

January 9 - January 17, 2009

## Project Guadalajara celebrates 5<sup>th</sup> year



Occupational and Physical Therapy students and faculty with Dean Pellegrino on the steps of the chapel at UNIVA.

**T**wenty-one occupational and physical therapy students and six faculty members participated in Project Guadalajara 2009. They were joined by Dr. Debra Pellegrino, Dean of the Panuska College of Professional Studies, and Julia Macedo, an AmeriCorps volunteer serving in The University of Scranton's Leahy Community Health & Family Center, who acted as translator. This year's trip also included two University of Scranton physical therapy alumni – Danielle Slater and Caleb Knippenberg – who are both physical therapists in the Phoenix, Arizona, area.

The purpose of the 2009 trip was to introduce students to occupational and physical therapy in the context of a different culture and language. The group pursued major objectives by touring and setting up assignments at Centro Integral de Rehabilitación Infantil A.C. (CIRIAC). The faculty and Dean Pellegrino met with the Director, Lucina Bravo de González, and invited her to participate in the 2009 University of Scranton *disABILITY* Conference. Students later worked shoulder-to-shoulder with their Mexican counterparts.



AmeriCorps volunteer from the Leahy Community Health & Family Center, Julia Macedo, translates for the Scranton group's Mexican guide at Guachimontones.

The group also accompanied Raymundo Calderón Sánchez, Psychology Department chairman at Universidad del Valle de Atemajac (UNIVA), to San Pala, a marginalized community in the greater Guadalajara community. They met with teachers, administrators and children in several community schools. The Scranton group delivered school supplies and sports equipment purchased as part of the Project Guadalajara mission. Raymundo later thanked everyone for the gifts, but told the group the most important thing was their presence in the community which demonstrated that people care about them and love them as human beings. The children's response was both heartwarming, and heartbreaking. They were enthusiastic and optimistic in spite of the severe poverty they face. The group also met two nuns in a very austere community church, who shared stories of unimaginable poverty, disease and crime. Despite the reality of San Pala, the nuns served as living role models for what it means to be "men and women for others."

The group ended the tour with a visit to the Centro de Rehabilitación Infantil Teletón (CRIT), an ultra modern children's rehabilitation hospital built in 2000 from funds raised through an annual national telethon. Scranton students also observed and participated in therapy sessions at the Centro de Rehabilitación Infantil (CRI), a government-run rehabilitation center serving children and adults.

No trip to Guadalajara would be complete without experiencing the fine shopping at Tlaquepaque. The group then returned for additional hands-on experiences at the CIRIAC and presented a monetary gift to Scranton's "adopted clinic."

The faculty and Dean Pellegrino had the pleasure of meeting with Father Guillermo Alonzo Velasco, the rector of UNIVA, and Father Jesús García Zamora, who also accompanied the group to dinner following their meeting. The meeting was very cordial and centered on the Scranton group's desire to continue Project Guadalajara and increase student awareness of cultural diversity and international understanding. ♥

## Scranton-Tbilisi Healthcare Partnership

**I**n November 2008, The University of Scranton's Department of Health Administration and Human Resources, together with the Moses Taylor Health System, implemented a one-year health management hospital project in Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia. The Scranton-Tbilisi Healthcare Partnership program is implemented under a cooperative agreement with the American International Health Alliance (AIHA) and is funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The partnership program addresses some of the major systemic operational problems of the healthcare system in Georgia.

Georgia is a small, lower-middle-income, developing country located in the South Caucasus. Georgia gained independence in 1991, and in the initial years of independence, went through severe systemic economic problems following the breakup of the Soviet Union. Currently the country is reforming the health sector in an attempt to introduce a new model of service delivery, financing, and managed care.

While rebuilding the healthcare system, Georgia faces the need to develop a cadre of professional managers and administrators to effectively run hospitals, polyclinics and other provider units. From this perspective, the Scranton-Tbilisi Healthcare Management Partnership is trying to strengthen the capacity of Georgian universities to develop health management education programs, courses, private partnerships, applied fieldwork, and develop a Master's in Health Administration degree program of study.

In assisting the country in building the health management capacities, The University of Scranton has partnered with the Moses Taylor Health System and is collaborating with leading universities in Georgia. Community health providers from Scranton are cooperating with the private sector of Georgia to strengthen the applied component of the partnership program. Moses Taylor Hospital (MTH) is actively collaborating with private healthcare providers from Georgia in forming business affiliations and assisting them in numerous management activities, developments, and ventures.

One of the providers actively involved and collaborating with MTH from Georgia is the MediClubGeorgia Co (MCG). MediClubGeorgia is a Limited Liability Company providing medical services in Georgia since 1999. The company is launching a new hospital project, and MTH is sharing their institutional experience and expertise to help MCG comply with international standards and implement "best practices" of hospital management. The first official visit within the partnership framework was in December 2008 when Dr. Maia Lagvilava, chief executive director, and Dr. Dimitri Makhataдзе, managing director of the company, visited Scranton for a two-week study tour at Moses Taylor Hospital. During the visit MCG senior management team was introduced to current hospital operations at MTH, and they studied operations in the majority of MTH departments.

The study tour was hosted by Mr. Michael Costello, vice president of Corporate Development at MTH. The Georgian group met with Mr. Andy Anderson, president and CEO, to discuss common healthcare issues and hospital management practices applicable in Georgia. New directions for short- and long-term collaboration between both hospitals was established. The Georgian delegation also visited and observed the work of the Physicians Health Alliance group. ♥



From left: Dr. Dimitri Makhataдзе, president & CEO, MediClubGeorgia; Dr. Dan West, department chairperson, Health Administration & Human Resources; Mr. Jim Smith, executive director, American International Health Alliance (AIHA); Mr. Michael Costello, vice president of Corporate Development, Moses Taylor Hospital.

# HOPE FOR HAITI



Pilot Bill Earls and Hope for Haiti Program Director Tiffany Kuehner unload the first box of Gertrude Hawk candy in Haiti.

The Panuska College of Professional Studies (PCPS) embraces the mission of Hope for Haiti. Hope for Haiti strives to provide Haiti's children and their parents with health, education and an opportunity for a future with certainty, longevity and purpose. The Hope for Haiti mission connects the heart, head and hand of PCPS's Jesuit mission. Faculty, students, staff and alumni of PCPS provide hands-on-service, fiscal donations and prayers to the island of Haiti. For example, in August 2008, the Dean of PCPS Dr. Debra Pellegrino and the Leahy Community Center Director Andrea Mantione traveled to Haiti with the President of Hope for Haiti, Mrs. JoAnne Kuehner. As the trio departed from Haiti, three destructive hurricanes hit the island. As Hurricane Hanna sent rushing rivers through Les Cayes in northern Haiti, PCPS faculty, staff and students arrived with donations and "survival buckets of love." In March 2009, the Physical Therapy Club participated in a volleyball marathon for donations to Hope for Haiti. President JoAnne M. Kuehner will receive the PT club's donation in June 2009.



Gertrude Hawk candy and boxes of medication are ready to be delivered to the children of Haiti.



## Dr. Tata Mbugua's Sabbatical in Slovakia



**DR. TATA MBUGUA** spent Spring 2008 at Trnava University, a Jesuit university in Slovakia, teaching a variety of education courses and visiting elementary schools in Trnava and Bratislava. In collaboration with her colleagues, Drs. Pupala and Petrova, she conducted research on early childhood educational settings using *Global Guidelines Assessment Tool*. Their findings were presented at the ACEI Conference in Chicago in March 2009.

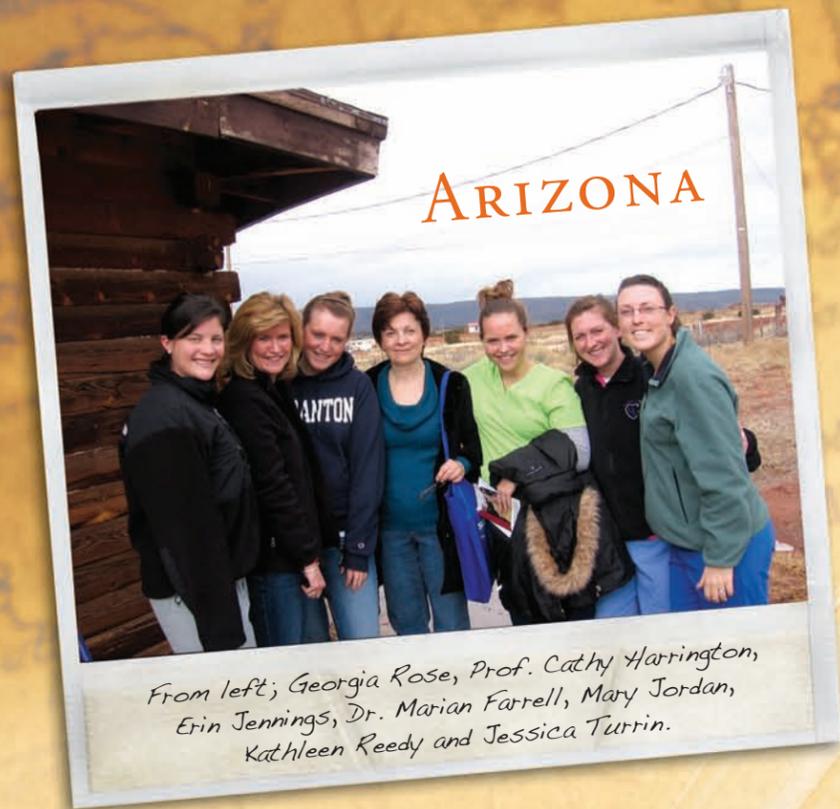
Visiting Angela Merici Catholic Primary School in Trnava: Dr. Janet Gubicova, Dr. Tata Mbugua and Sister Magdalena.

## International Geometry Problems

**IN SPRING 2008**, Dr. Barb Cozza and Dr. Maria Oreshkina received an internal research grant to conduct a study entitled *Cognitive and Metacognitive Processes in Mathematics; Problem-solving with Elementary Students from a Cross-cultural Perspective*. This study investigates how 9- to 10-year old children from the United States, Russia, Spain and Romania solve mathematical problems in geometry. In March, Drs. Cozza and Oreshkina traveled to Spain and Romania to collect school data. Dr. Oreshkina conducted several research sessions in a Russian school. In May, the investigation will take place in a school in the United States.



Dr. Oreshkina, left, with Russian 3rd grade students and their teacher, Mrs. Yelena Kozlova, right.



From left; Georgia Rose, Prof. Cathy Harrington, Erin Jennings, Dr. Marian Farrell, Mary Jordan, Kathleen Reedy and Jessica Turrin.

Senior nursing students participated in a service trip to Saint Michael's Association for Special Education, Inc. (SMASE) in Window Rock, Ariz., January 18-24, 2009. SMASE was founded in 1968 by Sister Mary Jane Ryan who originally went to Arizona to care for an ill sister. However, during her stay she began to care for a young Navajo child with polio. Sister Mary Jane continued working with the child and eventually he was able to walk. The local medicine man witnessed the progress of the child, brought more children to her for care, and SMASE evolved. Saint Michael's provides services to students who have mild to severe mental retardation and multiple disabilities. The students at Saint Michael's learn functional skills with a goal toward independent living. All of this is done within a rich Navajo cultural context.

Nursing students were introduced to children at Saint Michael's and their complex healthcare and educational needs. Each day presented another opportunity to engage in skilled activities and cognitive learning skills. The experience provided a deep appreciation of the life and level of commitment necessary when working with students at this facility.

Five senior nursing students, Mary Jordan, Georgia Rose, Jessica Turrin, Kathleen Reedy and Erin Jennings, participated in a service learning trip coordinated by Marian Farrell, Ph.D., professor of nursing, and Cathy Harrington, RN, MSN, adjunct professor in the Nursing Department and the clinic manager for the Leahy Clinic. Participants witnessed, first-hand, a 2008 graduate of The University of Scranton Nursing Program in action — Kate McKeaney, RN, BSN, who is currently with the Mercy Corps at Saint Michael's. Every day Kate provided opportunities for everyone to see and learn, absorb information, and observe once-in-a-lifetime activities. More importantly, Kate is an exemplar of the University's goal in preparing women and men committed to service for others. As the faculty and students walked around the school's campus, Kate spoke to each student by name and they beamed. Her interaction was warm and genuine. She displayed passion during her discussion of the students and their complex nursing care needs. One word sums up the trip for everyone: *exceptional.* ♥

## PENNSYLVANIA

Six junior education majors, under the leadership of Kathleen Wasserman, spent a week working with at-risk middle school students at Nativity School in Harrisburg.



From left, seated; Elizabeth Fickel, Janine Grosso and Danielle Williams. Standing; Christina Gammaitoni, Courtney Coccia and Katherine Samuel.

## KENTUCKY



Dr. Cathy Lovecchio and Professor Kim Subasic with several senior nursing students who participated in a service trip to Kentucky with the Christian Appalachian Project.

Dr. Cathy Lovecchio, Professor Kim Subasic and Professor Marilyn Highhouse accompanied 10 senior nursing students on a service trip to Kentucky in January 2009. The purpose of the trip was to provide free health screenings and medication education to an underserved population of participants in the Appalachian Mountains. The students held health fairs in senior centers and made several home visits to participants who were unable to attend the fairs. Scranton nursing students used their physical assessment and teaching skills to provide a valuable service to the people of this region. ♥

### From SERVICE LEARNING to UNIVERSITY COLLABORATION with Community Efforts



Bernadine Panunfi

Throughout Intersession, Bernadine Panunfi, education department secretary, and Michele Campo, graduate assistant, were busy receiving phone calls and faxes from parents and schools. They were inquiring about the letter they received containing information from the department about recruiting Pre-K to grade 5 children to work with students who enrolled in an undergraduate course with a service learning component.



Michele Campo

Faculty members from the education department helped with this recruitment project by distributing information and flyers, while Sandy Lamanna, full-time

faculty, and Lisa LoBasso, director of field placement, provided telephone numbers and mailing addresses for school districts through which the information would be forwarded to parents.

Echoing the efforts within the Department of Education and The Panuska College of Professional Studies, Andrea Schall Mantione, MSN & CRNP, director of the Leahy Community Health and Family Center, responded to the call to action. She not only distributed letters to parents who visited the center, but she also had the document translated into Spanish for families who do not speak English.

As a result of the combined efforts, Bernadine and Michele logged more than 170 students whose parents phoned or faxed there interest in the service. Among these 170 young children, 30 were selected to be tutored on campus on a "first-come, first-served" basis. Riverside West Elementary, Riverside East Elementary, South Abington Elementary, Clarks Summit Elementary and Waverly Elementary were selected as tutoring bases for undergraduate students who participated in this service learning project.

In addition, eight public elementary schools expressed their desire to have University undergraduates learn how to teach literacy/reading through shadowing their school reading specialists. Paul Brennan, school principal, and Diane Haduck, Response to Intervention (RTI) teacher, both from Riverside West Elementary, came to campus to speak with University undergraduates about the issues related to tutoring when they go to public schools. ♦



Mr. Brennan and Ms. Haduck from Riverside Schools talking to EDUC241 students.

## Awards FACULTY Grants & Awards FACULTY Grants & Awards

**John Sanko, Ed.D.** *The 2008 Provost's Award for Excellence in Integration of Mission and Justice into the Curriculum.*

**Terri Freeman-Smith, Ph.D.** *The University of Scranton's Proposal-Development Stipend for Web-Based Courses 2008-2009 and an Information Fluency Grant for Web-based Learning for a Human Resources Administration graduate course.*

**Karen Brady, D.Ed., OTR/L** *Teaching Enhancement Grant for her work with a Faculty Mentored Student Research Lab.*

**Margarete Lieb Zalon, Ph.D., R.N., APRN-BC** *Recipient of the 2009 Duke University School of Nursing Distinguished Alumnus Award.*

**Peter C. Olden, Ph.D.** *American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) Service Award.* Nationally, Dr. Olden is chairman of the Editorial Board for ACHE's Health Administration Press and a judge for the ACHE's Student Essay Competition. Locally, he is a board member of ACHE's Northeastern Pennsylvania Chapter.

**Barbara Cozza, Ph.D., and Maria Oreshkina, Ph.D.** *Internal research grant to conduct a study entitled Cognitive and Metacognitive Processes in Mathematics; Problem-solving with Elementary Students from a Cross-cultural Perspective.*

**Terri Freeman-Smith, Ph.D.**

*Andragogy: Assumptions and implications for technology-based graduate online instruction.* Annual New Learning Technology Conference. Ramada Orlando Convention Center. Orlando, Fla. February 2009.

**Cathy McGeehan and Ann Feeney**

*A Collaborative, Innovative Teaching Strategy for OB Clinical, a poster presentation, at Mosby's Faculty Development Institute for Nursing Education.* Orlando, Fla. January 5-6, 2009.

**Marlene Morgan, Ed.D. and Lisa Burns, OTR/L**

*The Impact of an Immersion Experience on the Perceptions and Attitudes Toward Interdisciplinary Education in PT and OT Students: Project Guadalajara.* American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) National Conference. Long Beach, California. April 2008. Co-authored by John Sanko, Ed.D., PT; Barbara Wagner, DPT, PT; and Peter Leininger, Ph.D., PT, OCS.

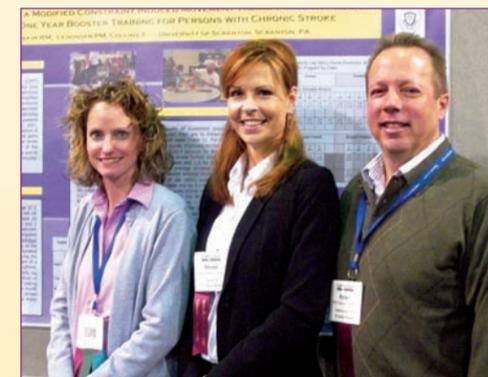
**Lisa Burns, OTR/L**

*Spirituality in Practice: What Do We Do Now?* Pennsylvania Occupational Therapy Association Conference. Valley Forge, Pa. Based on research completed for her graduate degree in theology.

**Rita P. Fleming-Castaldy, Ph.D., OTL, FAOTA**

*Consumer-directed Personal Care Assistance and Quality of Life for Persons with Physical Disabilities: OT Practitioners' Responsibility to Support Self-directed Living.* Presented as a short course at the AOTA conference and as a paper at the 2008 New York State OT Association Conference in Syracuse, N.Y. At the conference, Dr. Fleming-Castaldy presented a poster entitled National Certification Exam Success: Strategic Application of Clinical Reasoning.

**Dr. Georgios A. Stylianides**, a new faculty member in the Department of Exercise Science and Sport, presented at the 10th International Symposium on the *3-D Analysis of Human Movement*, a technical group of the International Society of Biomechanics. The conference took place at Santpoort-Amsterdam, Netherlands, in October 2008.



◀ **Renee Hakim, Ph.D.; Peter Leininger, Ph.D.; Tracey Collins, Ph.D.** *Outcomes of a Modified Constraint Induced Movement Therapy (mCIMT) Program with One Year Booster Training for Persons with Chronic Stroke.* Combined Sections Meeting (CSM), Las Vegas, Nev., Feb. 2009.

From left: Tracey Collins, Renee Hakim and Peter Leininger.



From left: Renee Hakim, Barbara Wagner and Peter Leininger.

**Peter Leininger, Ph.D.; Renee Hakim, Ph.D.; Barbara Wagner, DPT**

*Comparison of a Clinical Balance Test to a Computerized Balance Testing System When Assessing Balance Ability in Healthy Community-Dwelling Older Adult Women.* Combined Sections Meeting (CSM), Las Vegas, Nev., Feb. 2009.

**Renee Hakim, Ph.D.; John Sanko, Ed.D.; Peter Leininger, Ph.D.**

*Case Report: Use of a Computerized Dynamic Posturography System to Improve Balance in an Adult with Brainstem Stroke.* Sixth World Stroke Congress, Vienna, Austria, September 24-27, 2008.

**John Sanko, Ed.D., Barbara Wagner, DPT**

*The Doctor of Physical Therapy: The Future Direction of Physical Therapy.* The International Conference on Health Care Systems, Milwaukee, Wis., October 13-15, 2008.

**Grant-Beuttler, M.; Palisano, R.J.; Miller, D.P.; Wagner, B.R.; Heriza, C.B.; Shewokis, P.A.**

*Gastrocnemius-Soleus Muscle Tendon Unit Changes Over the First 12 Weeks of Adjusted Age in Infants Born Preterm.* Combined Sections Meeting (CSM), Las Vegas, Nev., Feb. 2009 (\*Published in Physical Therapy Journal, February 2009, Vol. 89, number 2).

**Evaluation of the Fall Risk Assessment Used at a Hospital Based Home Health Agency: Case Report**

Collins T., Ballantyne-Feairheller M., MPT '08, Czrew S., Potkulski S., MPT '08, Combined Sections Meeting (CSM), Las Vegas, Nev., Feb. 2009.

**Cathy Lovecchio, Ph.D.:** *Online Alcohol Education: Impact on Knowledge, Attitudes, and Behaviors of First-Year College Students.* The Mid-Atlantic College Health Association Conference. Baltimore, Md. November 2008. Findings from her dissertation and subsequent Ph.D. from Villanova University.

# Empowering Others *in Heart & Mind:* *Linking Research & Practice*

## EMPOWERING

Regardless of a person's situation in life, a consistent need is to feel that one's life has meaning. As helping professionals, we seek to follow the pattern of St. Ignatius Loyola's life, to empower others in mind and heart to find meaning in life. We must continue to learn which practices, therapies and modalities effectively empower others to find meaning in their lives. This focus is reflected through our professional practice and applied research.

More than a year ago, a collaborative partnership was developed between Dr. Debra Fetherman, Community Health Education (CHED) program director, and Tri-County Health and Human Services, Adult Partial Program in Carbondale. The Edward R. Leahy, Jr. Endowment funded a study by Dr. Fetherman and co-investigators Cindy Boyles, M.S., and Michele Balon, B.S. Researchers wanted to discover: 1) the effects of horticultural therapy on the recovery of adults with serious mental illness, and 2) the effects of horticultural therapy on an adult partial program's transition to a recovery-based model of care.

In the following months, a horticultural therapy program was developed that supported the use of a greenhouse on site in Carbondale. Consumers in the adult partial program grew a variety of herbs and flowers. Consumers and therapists reported that horticultural therapy helped consumers develop a sense of accomplishment and usefulness. Through helping relationships (therapists, other consumers and plants), consumers were engaged in physical, mental and emotional ways. This connectedness to nature through aesthetic appeal, related life experiences and relaxation enabled consumers to experience symptom relief, enjoyment and contentment. Horticultural therapy supports the constructs of recovery (hope, empowerment, self-responsibility, and meaningful role in life).

As the horticultural therapy program continues to grow, plans exist to tie a recovery-based model of care with applications of vocational rehabilitation to further empower adults with serious mental illness. Consumers in the Tri-County program sustained their recovery and were enabled to find a meaningful role in life. On October 31, 2008, Dr. Fetherman presented these findings at the American Horticultural Therapy Association's annual conference, Connecting People with Nature, in Lexington, Ky. ♥

*"...we seek to follow the pattern of St. Ignatius Loyola's life, to empower others in mind and heart to find meaning in life."*



*Dr. Fetherman, program director of Community Health Education, far right, and Ms. Balon with a few consumers.*

# ISSUES

## American Occupational Therapy Association President Discusses

# PROFESSIONAL ISSUES

*with OT Graduate Class*

Students enrolled in the Leadership in Occupational Therapy graduate course had the opportunity to discuss multiple issues facing the profession of occupational therapy during a conference call with Penelope Moyers Cleveland, president of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA). The genesis of this call was a personal conversation between Dr. Rita Fleming-Castaldy and Dr. Moyers Cleveland at a professional meeting in Chicago during which they discussed many of the issues that members of the Leadership in OT class had been examining throughout the semester. Dr. Fleming-Castaldy collaborated with the AOTA President's staff to arrange the call for the last day of class as a capstone experience. Twenty-four students actively participated in an open dialogue with Dr. Moyers Cleveland and articulated many on-point questions about AOTA and the current and future status of the profession. Although AOTA had scheduled this call for a 45-minute time period, the AOTA President became so engaged with the class that the call lasted for 90 minutes.

Dr. Moyers Cleveland wrote about this experience on her national blog featured on the AOTA Web site: "Today I had the privilege of talking to The University of Scranton Occupational

*Therapy students over the phone during one of their classes. They had wonderful, but tough, questions for me. They were particularly interested in public relations and how to work with communities to increase the knowledge of occupational therapy services. They also wanted to share ideas for increasing membership and expressing the*

*"...our current holistic approach to practice can help us lead the healthcare reform..."*

*Dr. Moyers Cleveland*

*value of AOTA to practice. They were able to articulate quite clearly the importance of advocacy in working with legislators and those who shape public policy. They expressed interest in developing their leadership skills to work with state associations and AOTA and other professional and community groups. They were quite knowledgeable of current issues and the history of occupational therapy that has led us up to this point. I think they had learned specific lessons in our history when occupational therapy was practiced in a more reductionistic way and how our current holistic approach to practice can help us lead the healthcare reform that would benefit from our emphasis upon occupational performance and participation in community life. This was a fantastic experience."*

All members of the OT department are very proud that these students represented themselves and our program in an exemplary manner. We are confident that the profession of occupational therapy will be well served by these future leaders. ♥

## Health Administration/Human Resources

Dr. Daniel J. West was re-appointed to the Board of Directors for the Scranton-Temple Residency Program. He also received affiliated faculty status at the University of Georgia, Republic of Georgia, and is serving on the GSAS Global Development Committee as part of the Pennsylvania State University Alumni Society. In addition, Dr. West was appointed to the editorial board for the European Journal of Nursing and Social Work. Dr. West and Dr. Satya Chattopadhyay, from the Kania School of Management, facilitated the 8th Annual Study Abroad Trip to China. Also, Dr. West recently co-presented with Dr. Steven J. Szydlowski at the American Academy of Medical Administrators' annual conference.

Dr. Steven J. Szydlowski recently presented a paper entitled *Measuring Financial, Operating and Clinical Outcomes: A 10-year Case Study at the 5th annual Complementary and Alternative Research Symposium* in Toronto, Canada. Dr. Szydlowski presented at the Health Information Management Systems Society conference, Academy Health and the Midwest Business and Health Administrations conference where he was also appointed as assistant editor of proceedings. He has received affiliated faculty status at the University of Georgia in the Republic of Georgia and at St. Elizabeth University in Slovakia. Dr. Szydlowski was elected President of the Healthcare Management Forum of Northeastern Pennsylvania. He also co-authored an article entitled *Perspective from Nurse Leaders and Chief Information Officers on Health Information Technology Implementation* with Christina Smith, MHA alumni, in the Winter 2009 issue of Hospital Topics. ♥

## Physical Therapy

Brennan Hall 228 was the location for Differential Diagnosis and Medical Screening for Physical Therapists, a continuing education course presented by The Department of Physical Therapy on September 12 and 13, 2008. Sixty-six physical therapists, including many alumni, attended the course sponsored by Allied Services and produced through The Center for Professional Training and Development at The University.

Dr. Ed Kosmahl coordinated the course and presented overviews of diagnosis, screening and imaging. Other presentations included laboratory tests (Dr. Gary Mattingly), and diagnosis for musculoskeletal (Dr. Peter Leininger), neurologic (Dr. Renée Hakim), cardiovascular/pulmonary (Dr. John Sanko), oncologic (Dr. Barbara Wagner) and geriatric cases (Dr. Tracey Collins). The course was approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Physical Therapy for 10 hours toward direct access certification. The Department of Physical Therapy plans to offer additional continuing education in the future. Please let us know what continuing education topics would be of interest by contacting Lynn Rasalla at [rasalla2@scranton.edu](mailto:rasalla2@scranton.edu). ♥

### Tracey Collins, PT, Ph.D., GSC

*Awarded Geriatric Clinical Specialization Recertification until June 2018.*

### Peter Leininger, PT, Ph.D., OCS

*Awarded Orthopaedic Clinical Specialization Recertification until June 2018.*

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# LITERACY COACHING: A "Hot" Topic in Education

Literacy coaching is a "hot" topic in education, especially on the secondary level. The National Council for Teachers of English and the International Reading Association encouraged literacy coaching in 2004, established standards for literacy coaching in 2005 and developed an online Literacy Coaching Clearinghouse in 2006. Rather than serving as a reading specialist working directly with children, a literacy coach collaborates with teachers across academic disciplines. The goal is for the literacy coach to observe classes in a non-judgmental manner, confer with the teacher capitalizing on teaching technique strengths, and introduce literacy strategies as additional approaches to effective teaching to engage students in active learning in every subject area.

Though most secondary level teacher preparation programs do not offer courses in applying literacy strategies across academic disciplines, Dr. Patricia A. Gross, associate professor of education, has redesigned required courses for all secondary level teacher certification students to learn literacy strategies appropriate for all secondary subjects. Among the required courses are EDUC 371 *Literacy in Secondary Schools*, for undergraduate students, and ERDG 517 *Literacy on the Secondary Level*, for graduate students — both of which were introduced in fall 2008. In conjunction with teaching, she has been researching this new trend of literacy coaching for three years. Dr. Gross has studied one of 10 Pennsylvania school districts that participated in the

Annenberg/Pennsylvania Department of Education grant as part of the Pennsylvania High School Coaching Initiative. She presented a study about this initiative entitled *The Challenges of Literacy Coaching* at the annual meeting of the National Reading Conference in Austin, Texas, in December 2007. This study led to the design of a symposium where she presented "How Do Coaches Engage Secondary Content Area Teachers?" with colleagues from Manhattanville College, N.Y., and from the University of Washington Bothell, Wash., at the annual meeting of the National Reading Conference in Orlando, Fla., on December 4, 2008. She'll present another aspect of this major study entitled *Teachers' Perspectives of Literacy Coaching* at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association in San Diego, Calif., in April 2009.

To share her expertise with graduate students seeking a degree in Curriculum & Instruction or Educational Administration, Dr. Gross will teach ECU 541 *Current Trends: Literacy Coaching* in Spring 2009 prior to her year-long sabbatical when she'll write in the fall, then teach and research literacy coaching in the Philippines. She has been named a national finalist for a Fulbright Scholar/Lecturer award, and is awaiting final word sometime in the spring. Dr. Gross' article entitled *Socializing Secondary Level Student Teachers to Local School Culture* is published in *The Clearing House Journal*, March/April 2009 issue. ♥

## FACULTY/STUDENT Presentations

### Marlene Morgan, Ed.D. and Lauren Botto, OTR/L

*Activity Participation and Perceived Balance Confidence in Seniors.* American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) National Conference. Long Beach, Calif. April 2008. Co-presented by Lauren Botto, OTR/L, a graduate of the Occupational Therapy Program. The presentation was the outcome of a faculty-mentored research project completed during Ms. Botto's graduate year.

### Presented by Marlene Morgan, Ed.D.

*Readiness for Change, Self Efficacy and the Implementation of Self-Selected Home Modifications in Community Dwelling Seniors.* Pennsylvania Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference. Valley Forge, Pa. Co-authored by Marlene Morgan, Ed.D., and Occupational Therapy graduate students Jacquie Beer, Katie Jones, and Billy Ramos.

### Two Physical Therapy students, Efosa

Guobadia and Michelle Sienkiewicz, attended the annual National Physical Therapy Student Conclave conference in San Jose, Calif., during the fall 2008 semester.

### Physical Therapy students, Michelle Dickson

and Katie Ferraro, attended and served as volunteers at the Pennsylvania Physical Therapy Association annual meeting in Harrisburg, Pa. Additionally, Silke Reddington and Michelle Sienkiewicz attended the annual American Physical Therapy Combined Sections Meeting in Las Vegas, February 9-12, 2009.

## NATIONAL Attendance

[www.scranton.edu/leahyendowment](http://www.scranton.edu/leahyendowment)



From left: Team members Justine Zoeller, Michael DeSarno, Kristen Scholz, Caitlin VanBrunt, Erin Gilfeather and Emily Hahn are pictured with Patricia Moyle Wright, assistant professor of nursing, and team coordinator.

A team of student nurses won the 6th Annual Jeffery Allan Walp Student Nurse Challenge on February 20, 2009, at East Stroudsburg University. The team competed with nursing students from 12 other schools to correctly answer nursing state board-like questions and secured the department's third win in six years. ♥

The following officers were elected at the AJCU Education Deans' Meeting on February 5, 2009:

**David Prasse**, LOYOLA CHICAGO  
*assumed the presidency for a two-year term.*

**Joe O'Keefe, S.J.**, BOSTON COLLEGE  
*assumed the vice-presidency.*

**Debra Pellegrino**, THE UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON  
*was unanimously elected secretary.*

**Bill Henk**, MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY  
*was unanimously elected member-at-large.*

**Sharon Ishi-Jordan**, CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY  
*graciously agreed to continue as treasurer.*

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