

PHYSICAL THERAPY DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER**MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR**

Welcome to the Department of Physical Therapy, University of North Texas Health Science Center. I am honored to have the opportunity to lead The Department of Physical Therapy, University of North Texas Health Science Center at this exciting time and I am committed to continuing and expanding its reputation for excellence in all aspects of our mission. The Department of Physical Therapy, University of North Texas Health Science Center has assembled the best faculty, staff, and resources available to support our mission of creating solutions for a healthier community by producing highly qualified entry-level doctors of physical therapy, and leading in education, professional services and research activities. We are a Department of scholars with a national and international reputation for teaching, research and community engagement. In the last academic year, we have published 10 peer-reviewed articles, and 1 book chapter and have had over 50 presentations at state, national and international level conferences. Our scholarship and research is supported by more than 1 million dollars in grants from the NIH, NSF, Texas Physical Therapy Foundation, and others. Our program is designed to foster the development professionals who value integrity, self-directed, life-long learners through incorporating evidenced-based critical-thinking and decision-making, community involvement, an integrated curriculum, and Interprofessional learning opportunities. Our dedicated faculty members are committed to provide students educational opportunities to meet the current professional demands and contribute to the advancement of the profession by demonstrating excellence in teaching, scholarship and leadership.

We are grateful for the support of our alumni and friends and we are excited to meet the challenges and opportunities in the coming years. We hope you enjoy this edition of our Department's newsletter.

Yasser Salem PT, PhD, MS, NCS, PCS, Associate Professor and Interim Chair



DR. YASSER SALEM

FACULTY CELEBRATIONS AND PROJECTS

A Leader Among Us

Nicoleta Bugnariu, PhD, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs & Research, and Associate Professor of Physical Therapy at UNTHSC is a leader in her field and her community. Dr. Bugnariu recently completed a one-year fellowship in the Hedwig van American Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) at Drexel University.

This program designed for advancing women has previously accepted dentists, doctors and other public health professionals. Dr. Bugnariu was the first physical therapist to be accepted into the program. Her goal is to continue to light a path for women and men alike at UNTHSC and beyond. ELAM expanded Dr. Bugnariu's knowledge in relation to responsibility, mentorship, professional and personal leadership effectiveness.



DR. NICOLETA BUGNARIU

APTA's Traveling Researcher

Evan Papa, MA, DPT, PhD, Assistant Professor, was awarded a Traveling Research Fellowship with the APTA's Section on



DR. EVAN PAPA

Research. The program facilitates direct interaction between junior and senior clinical PT investigators and allows fellows to travel to a lab of their choice. Dr. Papa was paired with Dr. Mark Rogers, Chair of the DPT program and Director of the University of Maryland Advanced Neuromotor Rehabilitation Research Training (UMNARRT) program. The training that Dr. Papa did with

STUDENT NEWS

The following students from the Class of 2016 were honored earlier this year at the Ruby Dean Scholarship luncheon: John Brown, Tiffany Honer and Stephen Rieder.

During Research Appreciation Day students David Cummings, Victoria Kowalewski and Kayla Croker received awards for their research.

Our PT Students participated in the Texas Physical Therapy Olympics at UT HSC at San Antonio April 1-2, 2016. Our PT Students took 2nd place over all, competing against other PT schools in Texas. In addition to taking 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in numerous events, students won the School Spirit Award for competing and cheering for their fellow peers.

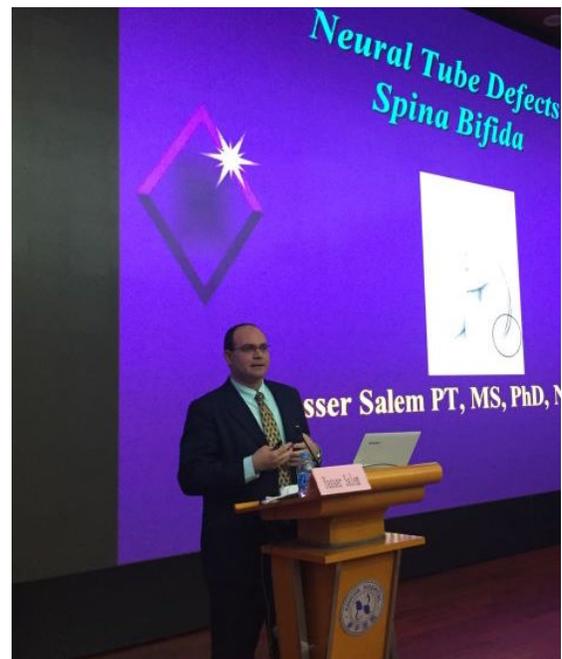
Dr. Rogers in the laboratory has allowed him to develop a better understanding of how interactions between central and peripheral fatigue influence postural control in persons with Parkinson disease.

Presentations in China

Dr. Yasser Salem has presented two sessions entitled “*Physical Therapy Management for the Child with Down Syndrome*” and “*Neural Tube Defects and Spina Bifida*” at the Second Shanghai International Rehabilitation Symposium. April 15-17, 2016, Shanghai, China.

UNTHSC Faculty has been Appointed to National Task Force on Graduate Outcomes

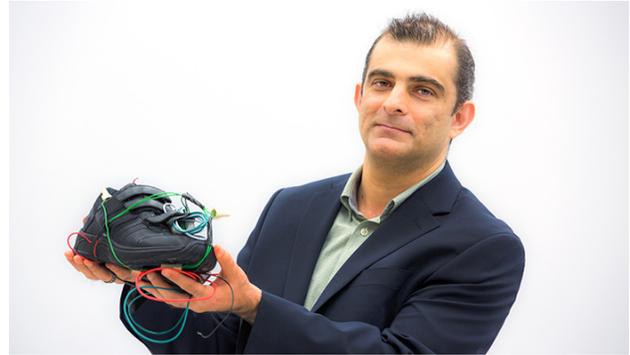
Dr. Yasser Salem has been appointed by the American Council of Academic Physical Therapy (ACAPT) to serve as a member of the Task Force On Graduate Outcomes. As part of the accreditation process physical therapist educational programs are required to identify expected outcomes for their graduates. Expected outcomes are defined as “competencies that the program expects students to have achieved at completion of the program.” There are, however, no uniform and consistent guidelines for setting expected outcomes for graduates. Given that there is an underlying duty for professionals to meet certain obligations, it seems reasonable to assume that these obligations would not differ significantly among physical therapists or be conditional on the educational program from which one graduated. It may be possible, therefore, to identify a ‘core’ set of graduate expectations that are common to all physical therapist educational programs, with each program potentially also having mission-specific graduate outcomes. The goal of the Task Force on Graduate Outcomes is to make a recommendation to ACAPT on the feasibility of identifying a common, standardized set of expected graduate outcomes that has the potential to be adopted by all physical therapy programs.



DR. YASSER SALEM PRESENTING IN CHINA

Dr. Yavuz and the Self-Cooling Shoe

Metin Yavuz, DEng, Assistant Professor of Physical Therapy, is currently working on an innovative shoe that could assist in the prevention of dangerous foot ulcers in people with diabetes. Dr. Yavuz is focusing his research on the role of horizontal stress and temperatures, and how influencing those factors could prevent ulcers. Dr. Yavuz has created a working prototype of the shoe equipped with an electronic cooling system. This shoe is designed to keep the tissues of the feet from heating to temperatures that contribute to ulcers. Dr. Yavuz and his research team have found that by controlling temperature the tissues of the feet should undergo less damage. Dr. Yavuz received a generous grant from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases to further his research. His work has also recently been published in two different articles by the *Diabetes Care* journal. Dr. Yavuz was also selected recently as the 2016 Clinical Scholar by UT Southwestern.



DR. METIN YAVUZ



DR. HAYLIE MILLER

Psychology in Physical Therapy

Haylie Miller, PhD, Assistant Professor, is an advocate and passionate scientist in the field of Autism research. Dr. Miller has been serving as the Chair of Programs and Services on the Texas Board of Directors for Autism Speaks and was recently honored as the 2015 Board Member of the year! Dr. Miller along with Dr. Bugnariu worked together on a project on virtual environments as a tool for social skill interventions in Autism Spectrum Disorder which was recently accepted for publication by *Cyber psychology, Behavior, and Social Networking*. As Dr. Miller and research assistant Gabriela Sherrod continue to collect data on Autism Spectrum Disorder while collaborating with several other individuals from UNTHSC and UT Arlington, they recently were given the opportunity to present their data at the International Meeting for Autism Research in Baltimore, Maryland.

Dr. Liu and His Research too

Dr. Hao (Howe) Liu, who holds degrees in neuro anatomy, physical therapy and medicine, is not only a professor here at UNTHSC, but is also active in community service as it relates to local senior living. Dr. Liu is currently working on a few funded studies related to senior mobility. The Texas Medical Research Collaborative Fund is providing Dr. Liu and his team \$100,000 to complete his research *Smart Walker- A New Design of Rolling Walker to Reduce Falls and Walker-use Related Side Effects*. Dr. Liu is also working on another project, *Vibration Therapy for Patients with Subacute Stroke*, funded by the Texas Physical Therapy Association Foundation. Dr. Liu is the Co- Investigator on the study.



DR. LIU

CSM 2016 Presentations

Several faculty members and students represented UNTSHC at CSM 2016. Faculty and students were involved with 11 different presentations in sections related to: Geriatrics, Research, Orthopedic, Aquatic, Neurology and Education.



CSM 2016: FACULTY AND STUDENTS

Health Science Center News

UNTHSC and TCU have announced their collaboration to create a new MD school in Fort Worth. This collaboration will utilize existing educational, training and research facilities. The MD school plans to accept its first class in 2018. This collaboration will increase research and educational opportunities at both universities. The founding dean was announced in April as Dr. Stuart D. Flynn.

UNTHSC was awarded the 2016 Vision Award by Fort Worth Business as a result of the collaboration with TCU.

Recent CCU Event Success

These past few months have been busy on the 5th floor of the MET with several continuing education events. Dr. Mike Richardson and Dr. Myla Quiben have been working hard organizing and facilitating sessions for physical therapists all over the nation and in our own backyard. The UNTHSC annual *Thursday Afternoon of CCUs* was a success with three guest lecturers and over 100 students, alumni and local clinicians.



DR. MIKE RICHARDSON



DR. MYLA QUIBEN

Learning, food and fun were enjoyed by all who attended. In April, UNTHSC hosted the first of three sessions for the CEEAA, geriatric exercise training course. UNTHSC had over 60 participants and instructors on campus participating in hands on learning activities. The spring semester finished up with an item writing work shop for the NPTE, Vestibular Anatomy and Rehab course and the annual APTA Credentialed Clinical Instructor Program. The physical therapy department will be hosting more continuing education events through out the year, information is posted on the university website and social media page.

Upcoming Continuing Education Events:

- ❖ CEEAA Sessions 2 & 3
 - September 24-25, 2016 & November 12-13, 2016
 - Get more details at: <http://CEEAA.GeriatricsPT.org>
- ❖ Kinetacore Functional Dry Needling Level 2
 - November 4-6, 2016
 - Register and get more details at: <http://www.kinetacore.com/store/tdn-l2/functional-dry-needling-level-2-university-of-north-texas-health-science-center-at-fort-worth-texas-november-4th-6th-2016.html>

Alumni News

UNTHSC Physical Therapy 2015 Alumni, Dr. Steve Carlin recently accepted an overhead athlete fellowship position with ATI and the Kansas City Royals. This fellowship will involve six months of advanced training in South Carolina with ATI and Steadman-Hawkins clinic; followed by another six months at spring training in Arizona treating MLB players. To quote Steve, it is a “dream come true”.

Congratulations DPT Class of 2016

Commencement exercises for our department's 4th graduating class took place on May 21, 2016. Congratulations to all our graduates! Thank you for the contributions you made to our Department, and all the best as you begin your careers in physical therapy.



DPT CLASS OF 2016

Department Retreat

This May, Physical Therapy Faculty and staff had their annual retreat at the Ranger's stadium, Globe Life Park. The Faculty and staff meeting was held to discuss plans and strategies for the upcoming year. The Physical Therapy department also enjoyed a grand tour of the ball park.



PT FACULTY AND STAFF AT ANUAL RETREAT

Program Mission: Creating solutions for a healthier community by producing highly qualified entry-level doctors of physical therapy, and leading in education, professional services, and research activities

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