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Director's Welcome

I am very pleased to offer you our inaugural UTC PT Alumni Newsletter. Believe it or not, we have been graduating physical therapists for 21 years now. Many things remain the same and many things have changed. One thing that has not, and hopefully, will not change is the outstanding support that the program receives from our graduates and the clinical community. Davenport Hall remains much the same – we have tweaked the space configuration to add a new classroom on the second floor, and even though we have gotten older, many of the professors remain as vibrant, vital faculty members.



Dr. Ingram continues to manage clinical education with efficiency and the same caring attitude that draws students to her office.

Dr. Levine is busy writing textbooks, leading research projects (he now holds the Cline Chair of Rehabilitation Science since Dr. Whittle retired), teaching in the canine rehabilitation program as he travels internationally, and teaching research methods and modalities in the entry-level program.

Dr. Tillman carries on with Anatomy and neuroscience, though he plans to retire at the end of spring semester, 2013; he is already spending his summers at a condo in Florida.

Dr. Smith remains actively involved with treating the prematurely born infants at the Erlanger Children's Hospital and teaching our students how to "play" with children in addition to teaching at interdisciplinary national conferences.

Dr. Fell enjoys teaching the adult neurological dysfunction and medical/surgical management courses while expanding her research and interdisciplinary collaboration interests.

Dr. Barry Dale has been on the faculty for six years, teaching kinesiology and sharing the musculoskeletal dysfunction courses with me. He is active in the clinic and has research interests focusing on the analysis of golf swings relating to low back pain.

Dr. Jeremiah Tate joined the faculty last fall after completing a PhD at UT Knoxville. He is in training to teach Anatomy once Dr. T. retires. Jeremiah graduated from our program in 1999.

I continue to teach the musculoskeletal courses, attend meetings related to managing the program and volunteer at a pro bono clinic ½ day per week.

We very fortunate to have several adjunct faculty members either teaching or assisting in courses on a regular basis. Julie Bage is teaching Basic Skills and assists with the ortho courses, Matt Carbone teaches Clinical Applications in fall for the DPT II's, Paul Iverson teaches Musculoskeletal Examination, Lisa Harrison teaches the geriatric component of Human Growth & Development, Jeannette Davis assists with the adult neuro courses, and Ethel Frese teaches the Cardiopulmonary course. Their presence, along with another set of hands and eyes, greatly enhances the effectiveness of these courses.

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Alumni Welcome & News



Dear Fellow Alums:

It is a distinct honor and privilege to serve as your president of our UTC PT Alumni Association, to represent you, and to work alongside some wonderful and dedicated people on the UTC Alumni Board.

We are launching our inaugural E-newsletter where you can find out about all the alumni news, information, and upcoming events. Our goal is to promote a dynamic and on-going relationship between alumni, faculty and students. We want to hear from you! We welcome your suggestions and want to grow our association. We encourage you as our alumni to provide us with career updates, alumni activities and contact information. We want to encourage all alumni to

support your PT alma mater whether that means contributing financially to help strengthen the scholarship fund, offering your practice for a clinical affiliation, hiring one of our grads, or just by remaining current, connected and becoming involved in our association. I urge you to plan to attend our annual event in August when we host a dinner (generously provided by the PT Dept) to welcome the new PT students. It is usually held on the third Thursday (5:30 PM) during orientation week at the nearby First Centenary United Methodist Church in the Vine on Oak Street. You can catch up with fellow alums, meet new ones, engage with and encourage the new students and do some professional networking. It has become a great event attended by more and more of our alums each year.

The PT profession continues to thrive even in these challenging economic times. The stellar faculty and staff at the UTC PT Department remain hardworking, dedicated and more committed than ever to providing the highest quality education as they prepare the students to meet the anticipated future health care changes and to become excellent PT professionals. I am proud to be an alum of UTC!

I look forward to staying connected with you through our E-Newsletter. You can contact me through E-mail: rsthompsster@Gmail.com.

Susie Thompson, PT, G'93
President, UTC PT Alumni Association

Alumni Honors



Shannon Womack Robbins ('07) was inducted into the 2011 class of the UTC Athletics Hall of Fame. For the full story, [click here](#).



John Staley ('93) is the recipient of the first annual Outstanding Alumni Award, given by the UTC Department of Physical Therapy. For the full story, [click here](#).

For more UTC DPT news and photos, please visit our [Feature Stories](#) section of the web page.

Transition DPT

The post professional, or transition, Doctor of Physical Therapy (tDPT) concentration is a fully on-line non-traditional track for working professionals who are already licensed physical therapists. It serves as a bridge program to allow therapists prepared at the bachelor's and master's level to earn the Doctor of Physical Therapy degree.

The tDPT concentration is a 30 credit hour program consisting of 18 credit hours of core courses and 12 credit hours of focused electives. Courses are 100% on-line, using the distance education resources available through UTC. A maximum of 15 students are admitted as a cohort each Fall and Spring and will be expected to complete the core courses as a cohort in three consecutive semesters.

We encourage our alumni to investigate this opportunity. Additional information may be found on our website at www.utc.edu/tdpt.

To date, more than seventy-nine therapists have completed the tDPT program, and we will welcome our seventh cohort this fall. UTC PT entry-level alumni who have completed the tDPT program include:

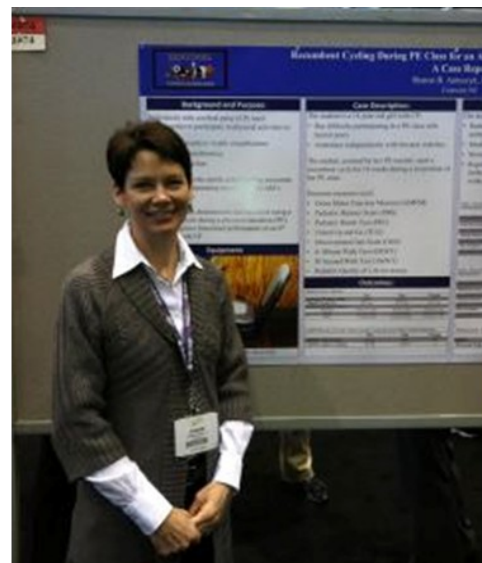
- Jeanette Beach
- Tracy Martin
- Angie Sanders
- LaTefa Terry
- Christy Clark
- Mindi Meadows
- Shae Minnick
- Carrie Ashton
- Roni Osterman
- Pam Ollard
- David Murray
- Karin Downs

We hope more of you will join us in the near future!

tDPT students present at 2012 CSM



tDPT graduate Amy Pause



tDPT Graduate Sharon Antoszyk.
[Click here](#) to view Sharon's abstract.

Congratulations, DPT Class of 2012!

Graduation 2012

On May 5th our program welcomed 28 entry-level and 3 transition DPT students as new alumni. The following students received recognition at the pre-graduation banquet:

Outstanding Student	Michelle McCloud
Academic Excellence	Alex Diegel, Jamie Ligon, Michelle McCloud, Carlie Baker
Leadership	Katerina Borsch
Service	Emily Gavlick
Clinical Excellence	Alex Diegel, Melissa Jackson, Deandra Mitchell
Amy Mildram Award for Pediatric Physical Therapy	Katerina Borsch, Deandra Mitchell
Graduate Student Award	Jamie Ligon
Outstanding Research	Emily Pile & Sharmaine Samuels Katerina Borsch, Casey Davis, Melissa Jackson, Erin Liedle Meredith Berry, Kim Bryan, Sarah Burkhart, Amber Howard, Michelle McCloud, Megan Meyer, Stefanie Taphouse
BenchMark Award	Carlie Baker
Results Physical Therapy Award	Michael Reese



Physical therapy students host Congressman Fleischmann

For the full story, click [here](#).



Oxford Debate

DPT III Students debated on the topic of Direct Access to Physical Therapy Services. Debate participants Sarah Burkhart, Alex Diegel, Sharmaine Samuels and Elizabeth Harding are pictured with State Senator Bo Watson, who provided summary comments at the conclusion of the students' debate.



Program Maintains 100% Pass Rate

For the full story, click [here](#).



Class of 2013

Alumni,

Two years down, one to go! The rising DPT IIIs have been busy this summer participating in a 6 week Acute Care rotation and currently working in Adult or Pediatrics Neurorehab for 8 weeks. We are gaining valuable experience this summer with classmates placed in clinics throughout the country from Florida to Washington. By now, most of us are beginning to select patients for our case study assignment due in August. Also, many of our research projects are beginning data collection for our presentations this Fall.



On another note, we have been able to get out and enjoy what UTC and the Chattanooga area have to offer! Hiking, camping, mountain biking, paddle boarding, and many other outdoor activities have all been explored. We have participated in intramurals including softball, soccer, volleyball, and flag football. We have thrown Halloween, Christmas, 80s, and Finals parties (to name a few). Many of our classmates participated in Camp Horizon and are looking forward to the opportunity again this Fall.

We thank the alumni for building the great reputation that UTC students have in clinics around the country and for continuing to be clinical instructors for our program.

Sincerely,

DPT Class of 2013
Officers:

President:
Ben McChesney
Vice President:
Trey Nichols
Secretary :
Emily Lowndes
Historian :
Emily Waters
Treasurer :
Matt Leemkuil
Social Coordinators :



UTC DPT Class of 2013

Logan Sims & Jessica Gentry

Class of 2014



Last August we nervously walked into what were quite possibly the most anticipated years of our lives, as I am sure you remember. We were 30 strong that ranged broadly in personalities, likely heightened by the fact that we were the first class without interviews. This has led to many interesting classes and many wise cracks from the teachers about how different we are. Wide-eyed, we were slowly thrown into the chaos of anatomy, practicals, and tests with what seemed to be multiple right answers. However, with the help of our bigs, we made it through the first three semesters.

At the beginning of July we started our first clinical setting in outpatient orthopedic. There was nervous excitement as we finished up classes and transitioned to real patients. Our class would not be us if we didn't make it interesting and have what could be the most accident prone class in UTCPT history. We have had a couple torn ACLs, multiple ankle injuries, and even a lacerated EPL. Needless to say, we have kept the teachers busy with getting advice on physical therapy for ourselves. Nonetheless, we have had a crazy first year, where we have grown together as a class and in our skills as future physical therapists. We are excited to be called DPT IIs and have our own little things such that we can carry on the tradition of excellence that has been set by all of the previous SPTs at UTC.



Our class officers are:

President:

Courtney Barnes

Vice President:

Megan Barrowclough

Treasurer:

Jessica Knight

Secretary:

Kaylea Brewer

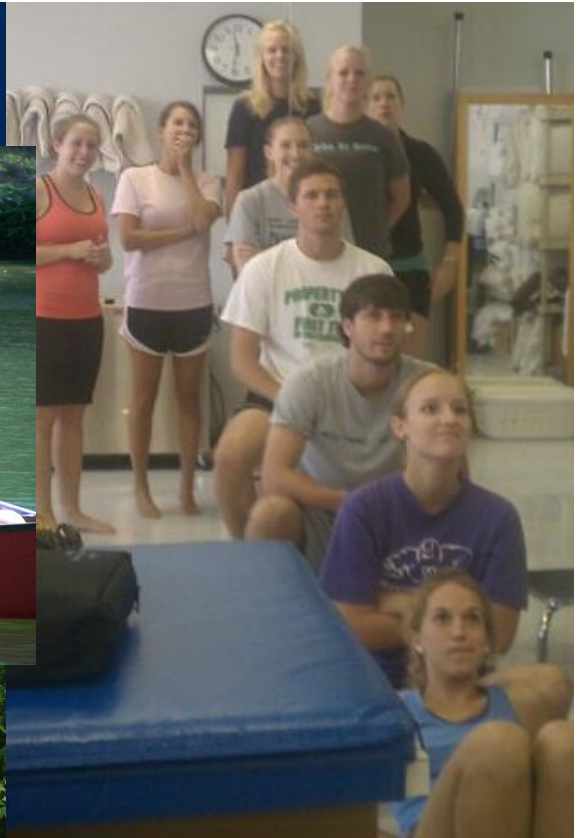
Co-Historians:

Katelyn O'Roark & Courtney Williams

Co-Social Chairs:

Michelle Martin and Matt Robbins

Student Activities



Welcome Class of 2015!

We are thrilled to welcome 30 new DPT students this August! The class of 2015 already boasts some impressive statistics. We received 263 applications from individuals who met our prerequisite criteria (out of 371 total!) Last year, we were able to offer an early decision option for the first time, and 15 students were accepted through this process in late September. Our class average for both the cumulative undergraduate GPA and science GPA is a 3.84. They also averaged slightly more than an 1140 on the GRE. Our 22 Tennessee residents will be joined by students from Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina Virginia, Indiana, and Ohio. Seven of our incoming students are UTC graduates; eleven are male and 19 are female. We're looking forward to them joining us this fall!

Admissions News

Many of our alumni offer their time to students interested in the Physical Therapy profession as mentors, references or as employers of potential applicants. We want to share with you some admissions information that we hope will help answer questions you -or they may have about the UTC program.

In making decisions, we look primarily at three factors: 1.) cumulative undergraduate GPA (we do not consider graduate work) 2.) GPA for the nine science pre-requisites 3.) GRE scores (the Revised GRE is preferred). Our program does not interview, nor do we give preference to Tennessee residents or UTC students.

Of course, the applicant's chance of acceptance will depend greatly on their own accomplishments as well as how those accomplishments compare to the rest of the applicant pool. Historically, some accepted students will withdraw their acceptance and we maintain a long wait list up until the start of class in August.

While our minimum requirements are still a 3.0, the competitive nature of the application process means that a GPA in the low 3.0-3.4 range will not be competitive. We recommend a minimum of a 3.65-3.7. A student with a high GRE score (310+) may still be competitive with a slightly lower GPA (3.5-3.65), while a student with a high GPA (3.9+) may still be competitive with a GRE score in the 295-300 range. If you have additional questions, we encourage you to contact us directly. Please contact Rebecca Littleton at 423-425-4747 or Rebecca-Littleton@utc.edu. You can also find information in the admission section of our webpage- www.utc.edu/pt

PTCAS

All applicants must apply to the program through the Physical Therapy Centralized Application Service or [PTCAS](#). PTCAS ("P-T-KAS") is a web-based centralized application service that will allow you to use one set of materials to apply to multiple PT programs across the country. You will find our program requirements on the PTCAS web site at by clicking [here](#). Two references (one from a licensed PT) are required and should be submitted directly to PTCAS and not the Physical Therapy Department. While observation hours are required, there is no minimum or recommended number.

UTC DPT Prerequisite Courses

There are twelve required prerequisite courses. The first nine courses listed are used to calculate the science GPA. Six of these nine must be completed at the time of application:

- Biology I & II
- Human Anatomy
- Human Physiology
- Chemistry I & II
- Physics I & II
- Exercise Physiology

The remaining three must be completed before the program begins:

- Statistics
- General Psychology
- one additional 200+ level Psychology

Faculty News

Our faculty are always engaged in publication and research. Below is a listing of their most recent projects.

Dr. Levine has been elected as nominating committee chair, Animal Physical Therapy Special Interest Group, Orthopaedic section, APTA and as Research Chair, 7th International Symposium on Animal Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation, Vienna Austria August 2012. He is also an invited speaker and research presenter at the Vienna meeting.

Publications:

Ingram D, Flom-Meland C, Hosford C, Grubb R, Nicholson C, Terry B. Badmouthing of healthcare professionals. Submitted to *J Phys Ther Ed* ; Accepted for Fall 2012.*

Ingram D, Fell N, Grubb M, Higgins J, Royal A. Physical therapy clinic directors' perspective on physical therapist attire. Accepted *Physical Therapy Journal of Policy & Administration*.2012 (Fall publication).*

Ingram D, Fell N, Cotten S, Elder S, Hollis L. Patient preference of physical therapist attire. *Physical Therapy Journal of Policy & Administration*.2011;11(2)2-8.*

Levine D, Bockstahler B: Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation. Nursing the Feline Patient, Schmeltzer LE, Norsworthy GD (eds). Wiley-Blackwell, 2012

Levine D, Richards J, Whittle MW (eds):Whittle's Gait Analysis (5th ed). Churchill Livingstone, 2012

Levine D, Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation in Nursing the Feline Patient (eds, Schmeltzer LE, Norsworthy G), Wiley-Blackwell, 2012, 138-144

Mohr T, Ingram D, Mabee R, Fell N. The case for academic integrity. *Journal of Physical Therapy Education*. 2011;25(2)51-56.

*includes DPT students

Presentations:

Ingram D, Odom C, Barr J, Wong R, Frost J, Reams M, Thomas N, Quiben M: Physical Therapy for Boomers: Is the academy preparing and motivating students for working with older adults? APTA Combined Sections Meeting, Chicago, IL, 2012.

Ingram D, Mohr T: A Ten Year Review of PT Disciplinary Offenses and Actions. Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy Annual Meeting, Charlotte, NC, 2011.

Ingram D, Mohr T, Walker R, Mabey R: Disciplinary Offenses by Physical Therapists and Actions Imposed by State Licensing Boards: A Review of the FSBPT Disciplinary Database 2000-2009. Platform presented at CSM, APTA, Chicago, 2012

Faculty News— continued

Ingram D: Physical Therapist Clinical Education Models: An Overview. Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy Annual Meeting, Charlotte, NC, 2011.

Kuperstein J, Ingram D, Potter K, Roush S, Fell N, Hillyer D: What Were You Thinking When You Wore This to Work? Appropriate Attire for a Doctoring Profession. APTA Combined Sections Meeting, Chicago, IL, 2012.

Walker R, Levine D, Swogger A, Gibson T: Magnetic Resonance Imaging of Sagittal Plane Translation of the Cervical Spine During Graded Central Posterior /Anterior Mobilizations. Poster presented at CSM, Chicago, 2012. Abstract in J Orthop Sport Phys Ther 2012;42:A77 *

*includes DPT student

Dr. Cathie Smith taught a course this summer at Anglo American University. The combined UG / Grad course titled Topics in Global Health Management was offered through the Business Department at Anglo American University as an elective for Business Administration majors and the Masters in Business and Law in International Markets students. The students were from seven countries: Belarus, Czech Republic, Finland, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Russia, & the USA. Dr. Smith also met up with four 2012 grads who went trekking around Ireland, Scotland and England following graduation. Pictured with Dr. Smith in Dublin are grads Kat Borsch, Sarah Burkhart, Elizabeth Harding and Stefanie Taphouse.



Dr. Larry Tillman was recently featured in the Charleston, SC, *Post and Courier* for his role as a Revolutionary War re-enactor. Dr. Tillman portrays an army surgeon, displaying tools and equipment of the era and discussing common procedures and techniques used during the time. For the full article, click [here](#).



Faculty Awards

UTC PT faculty members Nancy Fell and Debbie Ingram received the Stanford Award at the 2012 American Physical Therapy Association Meeting in Chicago. The award is given to the authors whose manuscript has been identified by the Journal of Physical Therapy Education Editorial Advisory Board as the article containing the most influential ideas for physical therapy education published in that year. Two faculty from the University of North Dakota collaborated with them on the manuscript, titled “The Case for Academic Integrity in Physical Therapist Education.”



Faculty Honors Day: Recognitions included:

Dr. Debbie Ingram, Outstanding Research/Scholarship Award
Dr. Nancy Fell, Outstanding Service/Outreach Award
BenchMark Physical Therapy Outstanding Clinical Partner Award
For the full article, click [here](#).

Director's Welcome— continued

We are always looking for clinicians to assist us with courses. If you are interested and have the time, please give contact me at Randy-Walker@utc.edu.

One of the biggest changes that will positively affect our program and the university is the addition of a doctoral program in occupational therapy, one of only 5 OTD programs in the US. Students will begin fall 2013 and will enroll in several of our courses as a part of their program. This interdisciplinary education will enhance both programs, resulting in a stronger knowledge base about the other profession.

Lastly, I want to highlight several of the scholarships that are now available to our students. All three levels of students now have the option to apply for scholarships based upon financial need and academic performance. Both the PT Alumni Scholarship and the Physical Therapy Scholarship have grown so that at least two awards are available each year. BenchMark PT continues to award three scholarships each year, one to each level of student. A new scholarship was initiated this year by Results Physiotherapy and is awarded to a third year student with an interest in manual therapy. We welcome any support that you can offer for these scholarships. Contact me with your questions and donations.

These are exciting times. Our profession is evolving, and so is the Department of Physical Therapy at UTC. We have a Facebook page Utc Dpt; why not become one of our friends and stay in touch on a more frequent basis. We also would love to hear about what's happening in your life – professionally and personally. Please send us updates regarding degrees awarded, certifications, honors, promotions, etc. You may send these to our Program Coordinator, Rebecca Littleton, through our Facebook page or at Rebecca-Littleton@utc.edu.

We look forward to hearing from you,

J. Randy Walker, PT, PhD, DPT, COMT, CMP
UC Foundation Professor and Department Head

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Admissions: (423) 425-1786



Campus News

Lots of things are happening at UTC! Check out these links to learn more!

- [UTC Strategic Plan](#)
- [Chancellor Brown Announces Retirement](#)

Save the Date!

- APTA Clinical Instructor Course—December 6 & 7, 2012 in Davenport Hall, taught by Dr. Debbie Ingram.
- UTC /Chattanooga State Physical Therapy Forum— Spring 2013