The PT Pulse

The pulse of the people of UCA DPT . . .

How this all got started and what it is about

Faculty, Students, Alum - Did you know . . .

Dr. Fletcher and Dr. Bandy have a recent interprofessional publication* on diabetes and exercise? Or that current student Eric Williams ('16) is being appointed as the ArPTA key contact for Congressman Crawford and to serve on the APTA Student Assembly Membership Project Committee? Did you know alumnus Adam Carson has been named “Man of the Year” by the Bryant (AR) Area Chamber of Commerce?

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep UCA DPT faculty, students, and alumni connected with each other. Students can read here what is happening with the faculty who teach them and the program in which they are enrolled. Faculty and alumni can stay abreast of one another’s accomplishments and activities.

As this newsletter kicks off, you are invited to share! What are your important happenings? Keep all of us in the UCA DPT program “in the know” - fingers on the beating pulse. This is by and for UCA DPT - faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

Share your news with dcathcart@uca.edu, subject line “The Pulse.”

* “Time Course of Muscle Strength Changes in Response to Exercise Training in People with Type 2 Diabetes” - accepted for publication by Journal of Cardiopulmonary PT. Authors R Mathis, D Taylor, J Fletcher, J Rainey, T Cade, B Bandy.

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Hey Students! Your feedback is making a good change.

Discussion of changing to a “Pathophysiology” course series.

Several students in the class of 2016 said to their Academic Advisory Committee (AAC) - “Hey, it would make more sense if Physiology (currently in the first fall semester) and Pathology (currently in the first spring semester) were combined and spread over two semesters, creating Pathophysiology I and II.” The AAC presented this to Dr. Reese, who presented it to the involved faculty members. Drs. Cathcart, Collier, Magee, and VanHoose will be working on a curriculum change proposal to hopefully implement this change starting Fall 2016. To the faculty, it just makes sense - they want to talk about the pathologies while teaching about the physiology of different body systems. Now the strong clinical pieces will naturally fit into the physiological discussions.

Stay tuned! We will keep you updated on the progress of this pending change.

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UCA DPT Represents at CSM
Anaheim, CA - Feb 17-20, 2016
Faculty and Student Presentations

Research Section Poster (Thursday 1-3)
CONTROL ID: 2340178

Neurology Section Poster (Friday 1-3)
Dougherty E, Chronister K, McMullen K, Parnell R, Williams L, Lairamore C.
“Comparison of clinical measures to determine their responsiveness to TDCS”
CONTROL ID: 2340164

Pediatric Platform Session (Friday am)

Pediatric Section Posters (Saturday 1-3)


Lowe L, Reckert T, Wilkerson A, Weigt L. Collaborative Role of Physical Therapy in an Occupational Therapy Sensory Integrative Intensive Program”

Women’s Health Educational Programming (Saturday 11-1)
Vanhoose, L. Boldness, Brass, and Stilettos: Climbing the Career Ladder.
(WH-eB-0214)
Where they are now: Spotlight on an Alum!

Adam Carson was named “Man of the Year” by the Bryant Area Chamber of Commerce. This alum owns his own clinic, Carson Physical Therapy (in Bryant, AR) where Carson collected 300 pairs of jeans for kids in need in conjunction with the Bryant Rotary Club.

Read more about this story by clicking here!

Hey alumni - send us your news! We want to hear what is happening with you! Send to dcathcart@uca.edu, subject line “The Pulse”

Focus on a new Faculty Member:

Dr. Larissa Collier

UCA DPT has welcomed three new faculty members since the fall of 2015.

One of these new members is Dr. Larissa Collier. She joined UCA in fall 2015 as an Assistant Professor and the coordinator for Gross Anatomy and Pathology courses.

Dr. Collier’s background in Anthropology (in which she has MA and PhD degrees) takes her back to Denmark to study an archaeological collection for her ongoing research. She is intrigued by the relationship between anatomy/pathology and how people lived and function. She uses her study and research to consider how what we know from the past relates to current anatomical and pathological knowledge.

You can read more about Dr. Collier’s educational and research background on the UCA website by clicking here.

In upcoming newsletters, Dr. Leah Lowe and Dr. Lisa VanHoose will also be introduced as our other new faculty members.
Challenge Accepted!
Class of 2018 Signs UCA up for the Pittsburgh-Marquette Challenge

While attending National Student Conclave in Omaha, NE, first year students signed up UCA to participate in the Pittsburgh-Marquette Challenge, a competition amongst PT schools to raise money for The Foundation for PT (physical therapy research). Chris Brynell, Jaden Hoth, and Emyleigh Wood have formed a loose “committee” to run and keep this event going after they have graduated and moved on. Taylor Guinn has joined this committee as treasurer (bless her!), and all of Class of ‘18 have contributed to these early fund-raising efforts. The inaugural awareness-/fund-raising event was a “grab bag” style selling of homemade (by their class) ugly Christmas sweaters.

So what’s next? Stay tuned for more reports!
If you’d like to donate, contact the UCA challenge’s treasurer, Taylor Guinn (’18) at taylor.n.guinn@gmail.com

Staff & Faculty sport their ugly Christmas sweaters:

PT Pub Night kicks off in Conway, AR!
Hannah Frazier, UCA DPT class of ’17, wanted central AR to have its very own PT Pub Night. So, she got it started! The inaugural kick off occurred in October 2015 (see pics above).

What is PT Pub Night (click here to learn more), you may be asking? It is a global “event” for PTs and PT students to connect, build relationships, and solve problems over a pint and pizza.

The next central AR PT Pub Night is being planned for early spring 2016. Check out http://ptpubnight.com/cities/ to find these events planned for YOUR city.

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