Division of Physical Therapy Education Wins
University of Nebraska’s Highest Teaching Award

The Division of Physical Therapy Education at the University of Nebraska Medical Center was chosen out of all the departments in the four-campus University of Nebraska system as the recipient of the 2006 University-wide Departmental Teaching Award. One such award is presented each year in honor and recognition of a unit within the University of Nebraska that has made a unique and significant contribution to the teaching efforts of the University and which has outstanding esprit de corps in its dedication to the education of students at the undergraduate, graduate, or professional levels. The award carries a cash stipend of $25,000 to be used to further enhance the teaching mission of the honored department.

Faculty, staff, and students of the Division were honored at the annual luncheon for recipients of the University of Nebraska Teaching, Research and Creative Activity awards, where University of Nebraska President JB Millikin presented the award to Program Director Pat Hageman, PT, PhD. Also in attendance at the ceremony were UNMC Chancellor Harold M. Maurer and members of the University of Nebraska Board of Regents. The presentation of the award was accompanied by a brief video featuring Division faculty and students. The video is available at: http://www.unmc.edu/physicaltherapy.

The September issue of PT Magazine will highlight this news.

Director’s Corner

It has been a banner year for the program! This newsletter showcases the wonderful accomplishments of faculty, staff, students and alumni during the 2005-06 academic year. There has not been more recognition in any given year for Physical Therapy Education during my 22-year tenure at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

I am delighted that the recognition and honors received encompasses all aspects of the program – commitment to quality education, research, and service. Even more exciting is that two of the awards received acknowledge a pervasive spirit of collaboration. The University Wide Departmental Teaching Award recognizes the entire faculty and staff for their esprit de corps in providing innovative teaching, while the School of Allied Health Community Service Award recognizes the entire student body for their collaborative efforts at providing service, including participation in a pro-bono clinic.

Of special mention is the continued dedication and commitment to Physical Therapy Education by the Physical Therapy Alumni Association. I applaud the inaugural Board of Directors for its unwavering support for this newly created Alumni Association.

It is time to celebrate!
**Meyer Named Associate Dean of the SAHP**

Kyle Meyer, PT, MS, MPA, has been named Associate Dean of the School of Allied Health Professions, effective August 1.

Kyle has served as Assistant Professor and Director of Clinical Education in the Division of Physical Therapy Education since 1991, and has held academic appointments at UNMC for more than 25 years.

His service on campus and college committees has distinguished him as a leader. He was a member of the UNMC Faculty Senate for seven years, serving as secretary/treasurer, vice-president and president. He has been appointed to several national American Physical Therapy Association committees, and is presently serving on the Task Force for Advanced Clinical Teaching.

"Kyle's dedication to allied health, this campus and his own personal development is commendable," said John Gollan, MD, PhD, Dean of the UNMC College of Medicine. "We are pleased to welcome him to the ranks of administration in the College of Medicine/UNMC."

Lisa Spellman, UNMC Public Affairs, contributed to this article.

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**Sharing Clinic**

The UNMC Student Health Alliance Reaching Indigent Needy Groups (SHARING) Clinic is a unique student run clinic designed to provide health care to underprivileged populations in South Omaha. The SHARING Clinic is growing to provide more comprehensive health care. The Fall 2005 semester marked the inauguration of physical therapy involvement in the SHARING Clinic.

Physical therapy is provided three of the four Tuesdays of each month. Care is provided by second and third year physical therapy students under the guidance of a department faculty member. This care consists of scheduled screenings for chief complaints related to the musculoskeletal system, as well as physical therapy consults requested by the medical students staffing the clinic. Interventions in the clinic are primarily focused on home exercise prescription.

Brad Corr (Class of 2007) was instrumental in initiating and promoting physical therapy student involvement in the SHARING Clinic. Kilee Portenier (Class of 2007) serves on the Board of the SHARING Clinic. Professor Michael Rennick has been pivotal in the involvement of physical therapy in the clinic. Mike serves as the Physical Therapy faculty liaison to the SHARING clinic, providing supervision to students and scheduling faculty coverage. Other faculty members who have provided supervision at the clinic include Professors Robert Fuchs, Grace Johnson, and Gilbert Willett.

For more information related to the history and mission of the SHARING Clinic, please visit the University of Nebraska’s website at: http://app1.unmc.edu/sharing.

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**SUN-APTA wins SAHP Community Service Award**

Our student organization, SUN-APTA (Students of the University of Nebraska – American Physical Therapy Association), was recently announced the winner of the School of Allied Health Community Service Award, a $1000 prize. Annually, the PT students contribute much time and energy toward philanthropic events, including FUN Fitness screening for Special Olympic athletes, jointly sponsoring and organizing an overnight volleyball tournament (with Creighton PT students) to benefit the Arthritis Foundation, and providing PT services to underserved populations at the UNMC SHARING Clinic. While the award is a tribute to their past endeavors, the students have already earmarked the prize money for future service projects.
The past year has been an exciting and eventful one for the Students of the University of Nebraska American Physical Therapy Association (SUN-APTA). We kicked off the year with a Strategic Planning Meeting to update the constitution for the first time since the inception of the organization in 1970. A total of 12 students from the three classes were selected to attend the meeting. We reviewed the history of the organization to ensure that the activities of the group were aligned with the mission of SUN-APTA. We entered the year with renewed excitement and vision!

October saw the return of the UNMC PT Career Fair. It was a huge success and plans are already underway for our next Career Fair on September 28th, 2006. Another new addition to the organization’s activities was participation at the UNMC SHARING Clinic (see article in this newsletter.) The SHARING Clinic meets our organization’s mission for service while providing PT students with a great opportunity to network with students and faculty from other programs. The Nebraska Red Dawgs wheelchair basketball team hosted the National Wheelchair Basketball Tournament in Omaha in March, and many students spent part of their Spring Break volunteering at this event. Also in March, physical therapy students from UNMC and Creighton again teamed up to host the annual “Joint Effort” volleyball tournament to benefit the Arthritis Foundation. This year over $4,000 was raised. We wrapped up the year in May with our 3rd year of participating in Fun Fitness for Special Olympics. Athletes were screened for flexibility, strength, and balance, and were then educated in home exercise and stretching programs. It’s always a lot of fun!

In February, 25 students made the trip to San Diego, CA for the APTA Combined Sections Meeting. After the meeting, the Nebraska Student Special Interests Group hosted a poster session in which UNMC and Creighton faculty who had presented at CSM again presented their research to students, faculty, and local clinicians. This was well received by everyone, with plans to make it bigger and better next year. Other service activities throughout the year included speaking with high school and college students and volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House and at therapeutic horseback riding facilities. SUN-APTA was honored to be recognized with the School of Allied Health Service Award in 2006. The award includes $1,000 that will be used to assist students traveling to professional meetings. Money in our budget that was originally designated for travel expenses was redirected as a donation to the SHARING Clinic.

UNMC Physical Therapy students had the opportunity to volunteer at the Junior Varsity National Wheelchair Basketball Tournament at the UNO Fieldhouse on March 17-19, 2006. The tournament was hosted by the Nebraska Red Dawgs, a youth wheelchair basketball team. Eighteen teams competed, traveling from as far away as San Diego, California to Charlotte, North Carolina. The tournament was a success with the Red Dawgs, who placed 5th overall, raising over $15,000 for next year’s season.

Over 30 students volunteered their time selling raffle tickets and t-shirts, operating the concession stand, shot clocks and scoreboards. Often when the Red Dawgs host tournaments, the players’ parents have to staff most of the volunteer shifts and are unable to watch their own children play. Due to the number of volunteers, the tournament ran smoothly and the Red Dawgs’ parents were able to enjoy watching the games.
Hageman Honored with 2006 Achievement in Education Award

Patricia Hageman P.T., Ph.D. was honored with the NPTA Achievement in Education Award at the 2006 spring state meeting in Kearney, NE. Dr. Hageman has an accomplished record of achievement in the field of education at both state and national levels. She has been the director of the University of Nebraska Medical Center Physical Therapy Education Program since 1989 and has overseen the conversions from the baccalaureate to the masters and finally clinical doctoral degree. Nationally, Pat has been appointed to the APTA Advisory Panel on Education, has chaired the APTA Task Force for Faculty Development, and is a member of the APTA Faculty Development Institute. Congratulations Pat for receiving this well deserved award!

Mary Haven Receives NPTA Friend of Physical Therapy Award

Mary C. Haven, Professor and Associate Dean of the UNMC School of Allied Health Professions, recently received the 2006 Nebraska Physical Therapy Association Friend of Physical Therapy Award. Her leadership has been influential in shaping health care education and practice by developing and supporting programs aimed at improving health care for Nebraska citizens and beyond. Over the past 11 years as Associate Dean, she has not only been a staunch advocate for physical therapy education, but also for rural health, traveling across the state in order to learn of issues facing PTs and other healthcare providers. Her nominees highly commended Dean Haven, stating that she “consistently inspires and motivates others to achieve excellence.”

Golden Synapse Award

The annual Golden Synapse Award is given by the Journal of Neurologic Physical Therapy (JNPT) to recognize the year’s best article. Editorial Board members and reviewers of JNPT make the selection each year, based upon the article’s “conceptualization, execution, presentation, and contribution to physical therapy practice.” The article titled, “Center of Pressure Measures during Standing Tasks in Minimally Impaired Persons with Multiple Sclerosis” by Gregory M. Karst, PhD, PT, Dawn M. Venema, PT, MPT, Tammy G. Roehrs, PT, MA, NCS, and Amy E. Tyler, PhD, (Volume 29, Number 4, pp 170-180) was selected as the recipient of the 2006 Golden Synapse Award. The award was presented to Dr. Karst at the Neurology Section’s Business Meeting at CSM in San Diego, California in February 2006.

Honors of the Class of 2006


Renee Dominey and Amber Balius received the Excellence in Service Award from the Division faculty, Shannon McGee and Jason Moore received the Excellence in Leadership Award, Carl Baird and Katherine Collins received the Excellence in Professional Award and Elizabeth Hopkins and Erin Crapo received the Achievement in Research Award. Inductees to Alpha Eta, the honor society for the allied health professions, included Erin Crapo, Shannon McGee, Rebecca Kusek, Amber Balius, Tessa Wells.
Jeanne Fischer Distinguished Mentorship Award

Regina Harbourne, PT, MS, PCS, was selected as the recipient of the Jeanne Fischer Distinguished Mentorship Award by the Pediatric Section of the American Physical Therapy Association. This award was created to recognize contributions in mentorship and clinical teaching, and recognizes significant, sustained contributions to pediatric physical therapy by mentoring and assisting less experienced colleagues in professional development. Reggie has been on staff at the Munroe-Meyer Institute since 1986, and has been teaching in the pediatric courses at the University of Nebraska's physical therapy program since 1986. Reggie received the award at the Combined Sections Meeting in San Diego, California in February 2006. Kudos!!

Greg Karst, PT, PhD, Elected to Faculty Senate President

Dr. Greg Karst, PT, PhD, has been elected President of the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska Medical Center. The UNMC Faculty Senate, comprising 36 members, serves as a governing body empowered to represent the 800 UNMC faculty members in matters of concern to all major academic units. Dr. Karst began his term as a Senator in 2002, and will serve as Faculty Senate President for the 2006-2007 academic year. Congratulations, Dr. Karst.

Jason Moore Receives Mary McMillan Award

Jason R. Moore (pictured here with Professor Rennick) was awarded the 2006 APTA Mary McMillan Scholarship Award, becoming the 16th student from UNMC who has been recognized with this honor. This year the award was given to only 9 of the nearly 6,000 graduates of the U.S. Physical Therapy Programs.

While in the Physical Therapy Program, Jason served as Treasurer and President of the Nebraska Physical Therapy Association’s Student Special Interest Group and State Coordinator for FUN Fitness, a physical therapy screening program for Special Olympic athletes. A nominator wrote, “One can always count on Jason to think deeply about clinical cases and engage his classmates in debate regarding the best answer. In addition to Mr. Moore’s performance in the classroom, he has demonstrated intelligence and excellent problem solving in his role as my research assistant. His duties have included performing fitness tests on subjects, exercise instruction, and conducting immunological assays in the lab. Not only is he reliable and meticulous with these tasks, he is well-liked and respected by the subjects and other study personnel.”

DPT Students Present Research Poster

Senior DPT students, Elizabeth Hopkins (right) and Erin Crapo (center), presented Research Posters at the 20th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation in Milwaukee, WI on October 21, 2005. Elizabeth’s poster was entitled, “Validity of the Counting Talk Test Compared to Oxygen Consumption for Estimating Exercise Intensity”. Erin’s poster was entitled, “Comparison of the Counting Talk Test with Heart Rate Measures and Rating of Perceived Exertion for Estimating Exercise Intensity”. The posters summarized the findings of research the students conducted in the spring and summer of 2005 with faculty member, Joe Norman, PT, PhD, CCS, FAACVPR (left).
**Best Poster Presentations in the Section on Women’s Health at CSM 2006**

*Evaluation of Pelvic Floor Muscle Function Using Intravaginal Electromyography* by Lauren M. Potach, PT, MPT, BCIAC-PMDB, Julie J. Bartels-Hiscock, PT, BCIAC-PMDB, and Gregory M. Karst, PhD, PT, was awarded “Best Poster Presentation in the Section on Women’s Health at CSM 2006”.

In this study, EMG evaluations were performed on 164 women between the ages of 20-70 to assess the relationship between pelvic floor muscle function and symptoms, including urinary incontinence and pelvic pain. Results of the study supported the prediction of consistently lower pelvic floor muscle EMG amplitudes in persons with symptoms of incontinence, but did not support the hypothesis that pelvic pain would be associated with heightened resting levels of EMG activity.

**Best Platform Presentation in the Section on Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Physical Therapy at CSM 2006**

*Feasibility and outcomes of an Internet intervention to promote weight loss and fitness in older rural women* by Pat Hageman, PhD, PT; Susan Noble Walker, EdD, RN, FAAN; Carol Pullen, EdD, RN; Linda Boeckner, PhD, RD; and Maureen Oberdorfer, MS was awarded “Best Platform Presentation at CSM 2006,” by the APTA Section on Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Physical Therapy.

This study evaluated the feasibility and efficacy of using Internet interventions to promote weight loss and fitness in rural midlife and older women over a 3 month period randomized to an Internet only group or an Internet plus peer-led online support group. The Internet delivered weight loss intervention either with or without peer-led online support appeared feasible and useful in achieving 5% or greater weight loss in 12 of the 16 completers.

**Bilek awarded Outstanding Researcher of the Year for SAHP**

Dr. Bilek, Outstanding Researcher of the Year, began her journey toward productive research as soon as she became a physical therapist. The work on her doctoral dissertation set the stage for her current interest in the interaction between the immune system, inflammation and exercise. She has demonstrated a strong commitment to research in the area of exercise intervention in the management of chronic diseases.

Among her research achievements are:

- $105,000 grant from the Arthritis Foundation with an additional $172,000 in support from the UNMC Research Support Fund to address the immune response in exercise in individuals with rheumatoid arthritis. Dr. Bilek was published in the prestigious journal, *Arthritis Care and Research*, and also presented her findings at the National Arthritis meeting in November 2005.

- A grant from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services to further the understanding of the impact of exercise on preventing diabetes, particularly among people who smoke.

- A grant from the UNMC Minority Health, Education and Research Office to study the impact of exercise on insulin resistance and subsequent immune responses in a minority, medically underserved population in South Omaha.
A Web-Based Approach to Weight Loss for Rural Midlife African American Women"

A one-year, $133,000 pilot study is funded by a grant from the UNMC Minority Health Education and Research Office. Carol Pullen, EdD and her research team (Susan Noble Walker, EdD, Pat Hageman, PT, PhD, Linda Boeckner, PhD, Melody Hertzog, PhD, and Emma Staples) are evaluating whether an Internet-based program, called "A Web-Based Approach to Weight Loss for Rural Midlife African American Women" will help women living in Brunswick County, VA. This research was initiated through the Virginia-Nebraska Alliance, consisting of UNMC and 5 historically black colleges. The Virginia-Nebraska Alliance seeks to increase the number of minority health professionals and researchers nationwide, with hopes of promoting better health outcomes for underrepresented minorities.

Metabolic and Immunologic Response to Exercise in Persons of Hispanic Origin

necessary to maintain normal blood glucose. As insulin resistance worsens, blood sugar levels rise.

This study is targeting Latinos because this population is two times more likely to develop Type 2 diabetes than Caucasians. It specifically investigates the effect of exercise on insulin resistance by measuring the relationship between insulin and blood sugar levels before and after an 8 week program of treadmill walking 4 days per week. Fifty-five individuals have completed fasting blood glucose screening tests to determine eligibility. Please call Deb Meyer (559-3458) if you or someone you know may be interested in participating in this study.

Our research team is exceptionally well qualified:

Principal Investigator: Laura Bilek, PT, PhD
Co-Investigator: Pat Hageman, PT, PhD
Granting Agency: UNMC Minority Health Education and Research Office

The purpose of this study is to investigate whether Latinos who are pre-diabetic and participate in treadmill walking will have a decrease in tissue resistance to insulin. Insulin resistance is the first step toward development of Type 2 diabetes. Insulin resistance results in progressively higher levels of insulin...
Ongoing Research & Grants

5 R01 NR04861-02 Walker (PI), Pullen (Co-I), Hageman (I), Boeckner (I) 09/15/01 - 06/30/06 DHHS/NIH/NINR $1,675,118
Promoting Healthy Eating and Activity in Overweight Older Rural Women
The purpose of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness of an intervention framed within the Health Promotion Model in changing the health-related behaviors of insufficient physical activity and poor diet among an underserved and vulnerable population of rural women aged 50 to 69.

No Number Bilek (PI), Hageman (I). 03/01/06-02/28/07 UNMC Minority Health Education and Research Office $78,386
Metabolic and Immunologic Response to Exercise in Persons of Hispanic Origin. The purpose of this study is to evaluate whether aerobic exercise training will decrease insulin resistance in Hispanics who are pre-diabetic and whether this response is similar to persons who are pre-diabetic but not Hispanic.

No Number Pullen (PI), Boekner (I), Hageman (I). 01/01/06-06/30/07 UNMC Minority Health Education and Research Grant $133,000
A Web-Based Approach to Weight Loss for Rural Midlife African American Women. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the feasibility and effect of an intervention to change the health-related behaviors of insufficient physical activity and poor diet in order to achieve weight loss among a vulnerable population and obese African American rural women.

No Number Pullen (PI), Boekner (I), Hageman (I). 01/01/06-06/30/07 Supplemental funding for the Minority Health Education and Research Grant $9,461
A Web-Based Approach to Weight Loss for Rural Midlife African American Women

No Number Pullen (PI), Boekner (I), Hageman (I). 06/07/04-05/31/06 CON Developmental Research Grant $8,486
Promoting Healthy Eating and Activity in Overweight Older Rural Women. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the feasibility and effect of an intervention to change the health-related behaviors of insufficient physical activity and poor diet in order to achieve weight loss among a vulnerable population of overweight rural women aged 50 to 69.

No Number Walker (PI), Hageman (I), 02/01/06—01/31/07 UNMC Bridge Grant/College of Nursing Match $100,000
Bridge grant funding is provided to carry out scientific and methodological activities critical to continuation of our program of research and to maintain support for research personnel essential to the implementation of the proposed competitive renewal project that is currently under review.

34-1807-2007-003 Potter (PI), Hageman (I), Norman (I), Bilek (I) 07/01/04—06/30/09 DHHS/HRSA $1,999,842
NEBGEC The Nebraska Geriatric Education. The purpose of this project is to improve the health care and health care outcomes of Nebraska’s vulnerable elderly residing in rural areas through enhanced interdisciplinary training through innovative strategies. Funding cut June 30, 2006.

No Number Willett GM (PI), Karst GM (I) 04/01/06—04/01/06 UNMC College of Medicine $4,986
Audience Response Evaluation Tool
The grant funded the purchase of two sets of 42 audience response cards and TurningPoint software. These systems allow for real-time audience interaction during Powerpoint presentations. They were incorporated into several classes during the Spring 2006 semester.

No Number Fuchs RH (PI), Norman JF George Blanton Research Grant Program, Nebraska Foundation for Physical Therapy $2,000
Comparison of the Energy Expenditure Index and Oxygen Consumption Index During Self-propelled Wheelchair Propulsion in Children With Cerebral Palsy.
Faculty Publications


Faculty Presentations

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln NE, January 30, 2006.

Xia R, Department of Special Education & Communication Disorders, Barkley Memorial Center, Abnormal muscle tone of neurological disorders.

APTA Nebraska Chapter Eastern Distric Meeting, Omaha, NE, February 28, 2006.

Karst GM, Utility of the APTA’s Hooked on Evidence Project.


Hageman PA, Walker SN, Pullen C, Boeckner L, Oberdorfer M. Feasibility and Outcomes of an Internet Intervention to Promote Weight Loss and Fitness in Older Rural Women was awarded “Best Platform presentation at CSM 2006,” by the APTA Section on Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Physical Therapy.

Johnson G, Willett GM. Utilization of spinal manipulation by physical therapists before and after and educational intervention.

Willett GM, Willett SL. Student perceptions of lecture versus computer-based instruction in a neuroscience course.

Norman JF, Hopkins EC, Crapo EE. Validation of the counting talk test for estimating exercise intensity.

American College of Rheumatology and Association of Rheumatology Health Professionals, San Diego, CA, November 14-17, 2005.

Bilek LD, Venema D, Lyden L. Prediction of VO2 max Based On the Human Activity Profile in Person with Arthritis.


OSMA Summer Symposium, Omaha, NE, July 30, 2005.

Willett GM. Ankle Anatomy, Biomechanics, and Pathoanatomy.

Hageman PA. Feasibility and Outcomes of an Internet Intervention to Promote Weight Loss and Fitness in Older Rural Women received the Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Section Research Award, Best Platform Presentation. American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation Meeting, Milwaukee, WI, October 2005.

Crapo EE, Hopkins EC, Norman JF. Comparison of the counting talk test with heart rate measures and rating of perceived exertion for estimating exercise intensity.

Hopkins EC, Crapo EE, Norman JF. Validity of the counting talk test compared to oxygen consumption for estimating exercise intensity.

Dates to Remember

August 21, 2006
September 28, 2006
October 13-15, 2006
October 7, 2005
October 23 - December 15, 2006
October 24, 2006
January 8 - March 1, 2007
January 23, 2006
March 5 - April 27, 2007
March 23-25, 2007
April 3, 2007
May 4, 2007
May 5, 2007
May 7 - June 15, 2007
June 18 - July 13, 2007

First Day of Classes
SUN-APTA Career Fair
NE Chapter APTA Fall State Meeting, Lincoln, NE
Campus Visit
PT 3’s Clinical Education Experience
GEC Video Conference “My Aging Shoulder Needs a Girdle”
PT 3’s Clinical Education Experience
GEC Video Conference
PT 3’s Clinical Education Experience
Graduation
PT 2’s Clinical Education Experience
PT 1’s Clinical Education Experience
The following is a list of the Class of 2006 and the facilities where they were initially employed.

**Carl Baird**, Regional West Medical Center, Scottsbluff, NE

**Amber Ballus**, United Medical Center, Cheyenne, WY

**Beth Case**, ProCare 3, Omaha, NE

**Rebecca Casey**, Glenwood Resource Center, Glenwood, IA

**Christopher Charles**, Hutchinson Area Health Center, Hutchinson, MN

**Katherine Collins**, Quality Living Inc., Omaha, NE

**Jennifer Conti**, Kaiser Permanente Sunny Hospital, Clackamas, OR

**Erin Crapo**, ProCare 3, Omaha, NE

**Jamie Crowe**, Community Rehab Physical Therapy, Fremont, NE

**Kirsten Demmel**, The Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

**Renee Dominy**, Grand Island Physical Therapy, Grand Island, NE

**David Drummer**, Hruska Clinic, Lincoln, NE

**Dustin Frasier**, Family Physical Therapy, Kearney, NE

**Valerie Friehe**, Steadman-Hawkins Clinic, Englewood, CO

**Lisa Gross**, Shenandoah Medical Center, Shenandoah, CO

**Patricia Grundman**, Unknown

**Stephanie Harder**, Myrtue Medical Center, Harlan, IA

**Jason Harris**, Excel Physical Therapy, Omaha, NE

**Elizabeth Hopkins**, The Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

**Nathan Johnson**, Unknown

**Jennifer Kronberg-Haire**, UNMC Munroe Meyer Institute, Omaha, NE

**Rebecca Kusek**, Valley County Health Systems, Ord, NE

**Joseph Manthe**, Excel Physical Therapy, Omaha, NE

**Jacqueline McBride-Rayno**, Shannon McGee, Brown County Hospital, Ainsworth, NE

**Krisi Kleinsasser**, Unknown

**Stephanie Sieck**, Traveling PT, Seattle, WA

**Lisa Siegel**, Unknown

**Ashley Smith**, Unknown

**Tanner Thomas**, Community Rehab Physical Therapy, Omaha, NE

**Stacia Troshynski**, Therapy Plus, Shawnee Mission, KS

**Kurt Weidauer**, Unknown

**Tessa Wells**, Good Samaritan Hospital, Kearney, NE

**Kate Harder**, Concord, NE

**Holly Havlovic**, Prague, NE

**Monica Hejkal**, Omaha, NE

**Jamie Irlebeck**, Manning, IA

**Samantha Jorgenson**, Hershey, NE

**Jennifer Kast**, Livermore, CA

**Jill Kleven**, O'Fallon, MO

**Aaron Kobza**, Columbus, NE

**Stacie Larreau**, Arnold, NE

**Katie Ligocki**, Wills, MN

**Jill Lindsteadt**, Hastings, NE

**Ryann McFee**, Fremont, NE

**Sarah Meade**, Bellevue, NE

**Kari Mikelson**, Lincoln, NE

**Kyle Minnick**, Cambridge, NE

**Barry Pernice**, Lincoln Orthopaedic Physical Therapy, Lincoln, NE

**Mark Phelps**, Alegent Health, Omaha, NE

**Carmen Pralle**, Physical & Respiratory Therapy Services, Hiawatha, KS

**Kim Robinson**, St. Elizabeth’s Community Health Center, Lincoln, NE

**Amanda Rohrig**, Horizon Spine Rehabilitation, Omaha, NE

**Ivy Shelmadine**, Therapy 2000, Dallas, TX

**Stephanie Sieck**, Traveling PT, Seattle, WA

**Lisa Siegel**, Unknown

**Ashley Smith**, Unknown

**Tanner Thomas**, Community Rehab Physical Therapy, Omaha, NE

**Stacia Troshynski**, Therapy Plus, Shawnee Mission, KS

**Kurt Weidauer**, Unknown

**Tessa Wells**, Good Samaritan Hospital, Kearney, NE

The following students are members of the Class of 2008. They began their studies at the University of Nebraska Medical Center on August 22, 2005.

**Carrie Althoff**, Yankton, SD

**Lindy Andersen**, Council Bluffs, IA

**Mike Bahe**, Omaha, NE

**Dennis Bartek**, Wahoo, NE

**Kylie Bearnes**, Laurel, NE

**Sara Berg**, Algona, IA

**Kathryn Carlson**, Kearney, NE

**Erica Coplen**, Wood River, NE

**Ashley Finocchiaro**, Omaha, NE

**Tom Flynn**, S. Sioux City, NE

**Kate Harder**, Concord, NE

**Holly Havlovic**, Prague, NE

**Monica Hejkal**, Omaha, NE

**Jamie Irlebeck**, Manning, IA

**Samantha Jorgenson**, Hershey, NE

**Jennifer Kast**, Livermore, CA

**Jill Kleven**, O'Fallon, MO

**Aaron Kobza**, Columbus, NE

**Stacie Larreau**, Arnold, NE

**Katie Ligocki**, Wills, MN

**Jill Lindsteadt**, Hastings, NE

**Ryann McFee**, Fremont, NE

**Sarah Meade**, Bellevue, NE

**Kari Mikelson**, Lincoln, NE

**Kyle Minnick**, Cambridge, NE

**Kristin Morrison**, Bellevue, NE

**Kristen Mroczek**, North Platte, NE

**Taryn Ninemire**, Fairfield, NE

**Lisa Palmer**, Falls City, NE

**Stephanie Rogers**, Las Vegas, NV

**Matt Schwager**, Orchard, NE

**Gabrielle Smith**, McCook, NE

**Darnita Spann**, Memphis, TN

**Audrey Tapprich**, Omaha, NE

**Megan Thompson**, Hot Springs, SD

**Carly Thomsen**, Omaha, NE

**Tara Tobia**, Manlius, NY

**Jacob Ulffers**, Stromsburg, NE

**Brittanee Utech**, Superior, NE

**Caroline Williamson**, Omaha, NE

What’s NU? is published annually for the Division of Physical Therapy Education at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Comments, questions, additional news may be sent to:

Tammy Roehrs, PT, MA, NCS, (402) 559-4625, troehrs@unmc.edu or
Gail Hackendahl, (402) 559-8173, ghackend@unmc.edu

Division Web Site http://www.unmc.edu/physicaltherapy
The Division of Physical Therapy Education has embarked on an initiative to raise support for the newly established Physical Therapy Education Fund for Excellence. When this fund is fully endowed, it will provide a flexible, ongoing source of income to help our division address its areas of greatest need. We are pleased to report that we currently have over $10,000 in gifts and pledges committed to this initiative. That is a good start, but there is still work to be done in order to achieve our goal of $30,000. This type of fund will be increasingly important to PT Education at UNMC in the coming years, as diminishing state funding continues to challenge the University. Your support will help us continue to provide a margin of excellence for our students – keeping us among the top educators of physical therapists in the country.

Please consider supporting this special initiative at one of the levels indicated below.

University of Nebraska Foundation Contribution Card

☐ My check, payable to the University of Nebraska Foundation, is enclosed

☐ Please charge my: □ Visa □ MasterCard

______________________________  ______________________________
Card Number                   Expiration Date

Signature if making a pledge or using your credit card

Amount pledged to support the Physical Therapy Education Fund for Excellence

☐ $250  ☐ $100  ☐ $50  ☐ $25  ☐ $________

I would like to fulfill my pledge over a period of ____ years (not to exceed five years) beginning __(month) of ______ (year).

Please Print Name and Address

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Please return to the University of Nebraska Foundation, 8712 W. Dodge Rd. Suite #100, Omaha, NE 68114

http://www.unmc.edu/physicaltherapy