



Paw Prints

The NIU Physical Therapy Program Newsletter

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NIU

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Paw Prints

The NIU Physical Therapy Program is Happy to announce our first edition of our new newsletter, *Paw Prints*. This newsletter is intended to keep alumni, clinics, and friends of the NIU program up-to-date on the latest program happenings.


Paw Prints will provide you with information about the faculty, program changes, job openings, current research, continuing education opportunities, and much more.

We would also like to hear from you. If you have recommendations, clinic news, interesting patient stories (HIPPA approved versions of course), job postings or continuing education opportunities you would like

to share please feel free let us know. We will be happy to add your information to our newsletter.

And finally, if there is any information you would like to see from our faculty, please submit your requests and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Currently, we plan for a bi-annual newsletter. The planned dates for publication are March and November. We ask that all submissions be provided to the physical therapy office at least three weeks prior to publication.

We hope that you enjoy *Paw Prints* and that it helps you feel more in touch with the Physical Therapy Program faculty and staff. 



Go Huskies!



NIU's Family Health, Wellness, and Literacy Center building was once headquarters for the Monsanto Corporation.

Family Health, Wellness and Literacy Center

The new NIU Family Health, Wellness, and Literacy Center is now open! Referred to as the "Monsanto Clinic" by the faculty and staff, this center now houses the Speech and Hearing Clinic, a new Physical Therapy Clinic, Information & Technology Systems, classroom space, and more services yet to come.

The Physical Therapy clinic

is a beautiful space complete with a classroom, three private treatment rooms, a whirlpool area, large treatment gym, and meeting space. We also have two dedicated research labs.

A significant portion of the research being performed by the NIU faculty involves understanding and prevention of falls. In one lab Dr. Hamid Bateni is performing

fall analyses with utilizing the Balance Master and a motion analysis system. In the other lab Dr. MJ Blaschak is performing fall research using our newest "toy", the Neurocom Smart Equatest.

We are very excited to have our new research space and look forward to providing the PT community with new and exciting research on falls and fall prevention. 

DPT Update



NIU East Lagoon in fall.

We the faculty have been working on the paper work for our transition to a DPT program for some time. We are now happy to say that we have handed off paper work to the curriculum committee and our project has started down the path to approval.

Before we can transition to the DPT, we must first obtain approval from multiple levels within the university

and finally from Springfield. We are confident that we will have no difficulty obtaining the "green light" for this transition.

Should all approvals occur as planned we expect to admit our first DPT class in the fall of 2010.



**NIU's Physical
Therapy Program
is searching
for a new
faculty member!**

We are currently searching for a new faculty member. An explanation of the job responsibilities and required qualifications follows. If you are interested in this position or would like more information please contact Meri Goehring our search committee chair at 815-753-1383.

Responsibilities

Provide instruction to graduate and undergraduate students within the physical therapy program. Participate

in departmental research and department, College or University service. Participate in clinical education as needed.

Qualifications

Candidates are required to have a PhD or equivalent post-professional doctoral degree and agree to secure physical therapy licensure in Illinois. Orthopedic clinical specialization and/or athletic training certification are preferred, however, other areas of expertise will be considered. Teaching and/or clinical ex-

perience preferred. Applicants with doctoral candidacy are encouraged to apply. Candidates with post-professional master's degree may be considered for a non tenure-track position.



Faculty Search

Faculty Updates

Nancy Nuzzo is on sabbatical this semester. Her project examines the utilization and frequency of chest physiotherapy by PTs and RTs. She is collaborating with Thomas Smith from ETRA at NIU and Abebaw Yahannes from the UK in developing a survey instrument that will be distributed to PTs and RTs in U.S. hospitals.

The first part of the survey will be for department managers and requests information regarding hospital demo-

graphics. The second part will be distributed to PTs and RTs who work with patients with cardiopulmonary disorders. This part of the survey asks for information on frequency and type of chest physiotherapy techniques utilized with this patient population. These techniques include coughing, suctioning, deep breathing, incentive spirometry, inspiratory muscle training and postural drainage.

The survey should not take more than 10 minutes to complete. Look for the survey in the coming months. Completed surveys may be returned to Dr. Nuzzo via the self-addressed stamped envelope included in the survey packet or via email. Nancy can be contacted at nnuzzo@niu.edu, or by 815-753-6245, or by fax at 815-753-0720.

MJ Blaschak and Meri Goehring are utilizing the great new research space and tools by collaborating on a research study with area physicians. Dr. Shane York, DPM and Dr. Photine Lianos, MD are joining our faculty in researching the effects of neuropathy on balance. This should prove to be a very interesting study, and a great learning opportunity for our students.





THANK YOU!!

When most people think of faculty members, they usually think of the full-time academic faculty. But truly the NIU physical therapy program could not function without the scores of adjunct faculty we utilize every year. We would like to recognize the dozens of area clinicians, field trip facilities, faculty from other programs that have helped to make our program successful over the years, we could not do it without you!

Janis Sawyer
Jim Ceicla
Christie Downing
Ken Olson
Aaron Nevdal
Matt Miller
Mike Duchaj
Ginny Girten
Phyllis Rowland
George Wolf
Holly Johnson
Theresa Zink
Mike Andrews
Amy Maxeiner
David Armstrong
Cheryl Carlson

Lori Neiber
Ted Litt
Jen Rollie
Paula Wedgebury
Teri Vincent
Amanda Kane
Patti Nelson
Scott Heidemann
Tracy McCurley
Sarah Nelson
Laurie Hixson
Tonya Markert
Paula McKenzie

Matt Boebel
Chris Cook & Loyola Hospital
Shannon Roleck
Lisa Furto
Lisa Bronson
Anjali Patel & Kindred Hospital
Swedish American Hospital
Jeff Brandenburg and Van Matre HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital
Bethany Wiltshire
Tim Sharp
Jennifer Schaffer
Kathy Ryan
Kathy Majeski
Josh Meyers

Lizette Ludan
Brookly Becke
Peggy Stell
Joy Robackouski
Jeff White
Drew Haverstock
Alice Salzman
Creative Therapeutics

Today's students are tomorrow's clinicians. Thank you for partnering with us to provide excellent instruction for our students.



**Come Join us
for the 2008
Huskie
Homecoming and
view the
Huskies on
Parade!**

2008 Huskie Homecoming

Come and join NIU as they battle the Toledo Rockets on October 18 at the 2008 Homecoming! Tickets are still available and are \$25.00 per person and available through Ticketmaster. Game time is 3:00, but come early to enjoy the pregame festivities.

While attending the 2008 Homecoming come by the Health and Human Sciences Tent and enjoy some refreshments and meet NIU faculty and staff.

Also, don't forget to take a tour of the Huskies on Parade! Nearly 50 Huskies are decorated and on display around Dekalb and Sycamore. For more information on where to view the Huskies go to www.huskiesonparade.com!



King
Sponsored by:
Castle View Real Estate
Artist: Dan Wiemer



Paw McCartney
Sponsored by: Vidicon
Artist: Eileen Balcom-Vetillo

Job Openings

Paw Prints is happy to provide opportunities for employers advertise their job openings. If you have a physical therapy job opening please email me, Holly Jarovsky, at hjarovsky@niu.edu. Due to limited space your job posting must be **brief** and contain your contact information. Any provided postings may be edited if required. All postings must be provided at least 3 weeks prior to the newsletter publication.

Also, many facilities are looking to catch new PT graduates. If you would like to participate in a NIU Career Fair please contact the NIU Career Services Office at 815-753-1642 or view their website at www.niu.edu/careerservices

If you plan to attend a career fair please feel free to contact me and I will alert the students to your presence on campus.

JOB OPPORTUNITY WITH ATLAS PHYSICAL THERAPY & SPORTS MEDICINE CENTERS (with offices in Aurora, Yorkville, and Sandwich, Illinois). "Great opportunity for P.T. with orthopedic and manual therapy interests. Mentorship program available for new grads. Opportunity for growth to a leadership position if interested. we are an outpatient private practice clinic with focus in orthopedics, manual therapy, and sports medicine. Positive, progressive staff with multiple locations and plans for growth. We're committed to providing high quality care and are proud of our reputation with physicians and within our surrounding communities. Excellent compensation and benefits".

401K, Dental Insurance, Disability Insurance, AFLAC, Health Insurance, Life Insurance, Paid Training, Paid Time Off, Tuition Reimbursement/Continuing Education, No Weekends, No travel required. For more information, please contact clinic owner, Charles Clark, PT at atlaspt1@sbcglobal.net or call 630-553-0349. Also, check out our website at www.atlaspt1.com.

Alexian Rehabilitation Hospital Network located in Elk Grove Village, IL values your expertise, offering you a rewarding career where you will collaborate with a tenured and highly knowledgeable team within a fast-paced environment, utilizing state-of-the-art technology and excellent mentoring opportunities that will grow your clinical expertise to new levels.

Requirements: Recent grads welcome to apply that possess solid and varied field work and/or experienced therapists that have treated a variety of diagnoses. IL license or willingness to obtain. Excellent interpersonal skills to communicate and motivate effectively with patients, their families, and team members.

In return for your expertise, Alexian offers you a generous sign-on bonus, a compensation and benefits package that includes great PTO, on-site child care, tuition reimbursement, and loan forgiveness for recent grads to name a few!

For consideration, please apply direct to our website: www.alexianjobs.org Or, feel free to contact directly: Mary Williamson- Human Resources, mwilliamson10@ameritech.net, ph. 708-358-0149

Keep in Touch!

We would love to hear from you! Please help Connie our secretary keep our data base current; fill out the information below and return it to the physical therapy program via email, fax, or traditional mail.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Please print clearly

Employer Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Please print clearly

Connie Spohn
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cds@niu.edu