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Director's Welcome

As we begin fall semester, our program will be welcoming our 25th class of physical therapy students! They will begin in Davenport Hall Room 305 just like you did! Someone will likely have your locker and mailbox. Many of you will serve as the clinical instructors for these students as they participate in multiple clinical experiences just like you did.

The new year brings some significant changes for our department. Dr. Randy Walker is the Interim Dean of the Graduate School. We are very excited that he was selected for this important role as our University welcomes Chancellor Steven Angle, Provost Gerald Ainsworth, College of Health, Education and Professional Studies Dean Valerie Rutledge, and Athletic Director David Blackburn. I am serving as the Interim Department Head and continuing in the role as the Director of Clinical Education. Other faculty news:

- Dr. Tillman retired and moved to Florida to be closer to Jeff and his family. We expect to see Dr. T on campus each semester as he provides guest lectures and serves as an adjunct for online classes.
- Dr. Jeremiah Tate is teaching anatomy and pathology. He will be teaching some of the ortho content in the spring and summer.
- Dr. Nancy Fell is teaching neuroanatomy and was recently promoted to full Professor.
- Dr. David Levine has a new animal rehab textbook that will be released in October. As you know, he travels internationally to present canine lectures. The next big trip is to Thailand!
- Speaking of international travel, Dr. Cathie Smith is in Prague this fall conducting research on accessibility!
- Dr. Barry Dale taught an interesting course at APTA Annual Conference this summer on common drugs and their effects on physical activity.
- Dr. Sue Barlow joins our faculty this fall teaching some of the neuro and med/surg content and basic skills. Dr. Barlow has a PhD in biochemistry and previously worked as a researcher at Vanderbilt. She is a UTC PT graduate. Dr. Barlow earned the NCS certification this summer.
- Dr. Julie Bage has a one year appointment to teach a variety of subjects including management and musculoskeletal courses.



Alumni Welcome



Dear Fellow Alums:

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

We are pleased to offer the annual UTC PT Alumni E-Newsletter where you can find out about all the alumni news, information, and up-coming 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 thank all of you who continue to support your PT alma mater - those who have contributed financially to help strengthen the scholarship fund, offered your practice for a clinical affiliation, hired one of our grads or simply have made an effort to stay current and connected to our association.

Our program welcomed it's 25th class on August 16th this year, and despite some changes in the administration which you can read about in this newsletter, these DPT students will continue to be served by an outstanding, hardworking and dedicated staff and faculty here at UTC. They remain more committed than ever to providing the highest quality education as they prepare these and all the students to meet the future healthcare challenges and to become excellent PT professionals.

look forward to staying connected with you through our E-Newsletter. Please help us keep a vibrant and active alumni association!

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

October 12 is Homecoming at UTC. Join us as UTC dedicates the new Chamberlain Pavilion (on the old Chamberlain Field) at 10:00 that morning. The department will be open from 10:00– 12:00 for alumni to stop by to visit and enjoy a snack. Check out all the changes on campus, and then watch the Mocs take on Furman at 6:00 at Finley Stadium.



We would love to hear from you! To send us Alumni news and photos, just email Rebecca-Littleton@utc.edu.

Graduation 2013

On May 4th our program welcomed thirty entry-level and five transition DPT students as new alumni. The following students received recognition at the pre-graduation banquet:



- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Outstanding Student | Ben McChesney |
| Academic Excellence | Ben McChesney, Angela Roberts |
| Clinical Excellence | Emily Waters, Larken Winslett |
| Amy Mildram Award
for Pediatric Physical
Therapy | Megan Hemmingsen, April Sinuefield |
| Outstanding Research | Megan Breter, Megan Hemmingsen, & April Sinuefield
Emily Lowndes, James Sircy, & Thomas Walther |
| BenchMark Award | Angela Roberts |
| Results Physical
Therapy Award | Andy Baksa |



Alumni News

UTC DPT Outstanding Alumnus of the Year



Congratulations to Harvey Hillyer! Harvey ('94, tDPT '12) was named the 2013 UTC Outstanding Alumnus of the Year.

From Rebecca Reiff Rosser ('10) - I recently moved to Colorado from Albuquerque, NM. I changed jobs from the VA Hospital to working with Howard Head Sports Medicine at the Vail Valley Medical Center in Vail, CO. I married Brian E. Rosser on Feb. 21st at the top of Copper Mountain, which is where we met 6 years ago. We also purchased our first home at Copper Mountain, CO this past March.

Congratulations to Lauren Rittenberry ('99, tDPT '13) for earning her GCS certification!

We would love to hear from you! To send us Alumni news and photos, just email Rebecca-Littleton@utc.edu.



Dr. Cathie Smith met up with Sarah Turner Pietruszka ('07) in Hawaii's Waipio Valley during spring break.



Dr. Levine & Taylor Horton ('09)
2013 - APTA Annual Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah.



Three therapists connected with UTC transition DPT program presented at the 3rd Annual National Association of Neonatal Therapists conference in Ft. Worth, TX. Dr. Cathie Smith (right) presented a plenary session at the conference, "Enhancing Self Regulation of Neonates Exposed Prenatally to Drugs." tDPT graduate Raquel Keithley ('08, center) presented a poster, "Implementing a Safe Sleep Program in the NICU," and August 2013 graduate Madalyn Wendland (left) co-presented a session, "Sticky Solutions – Kinesio Taping for the Extremities in the NICU." Both of the topics presented by the tDPT students were directly related to their work in the tDPT Clinical Decision Making course.

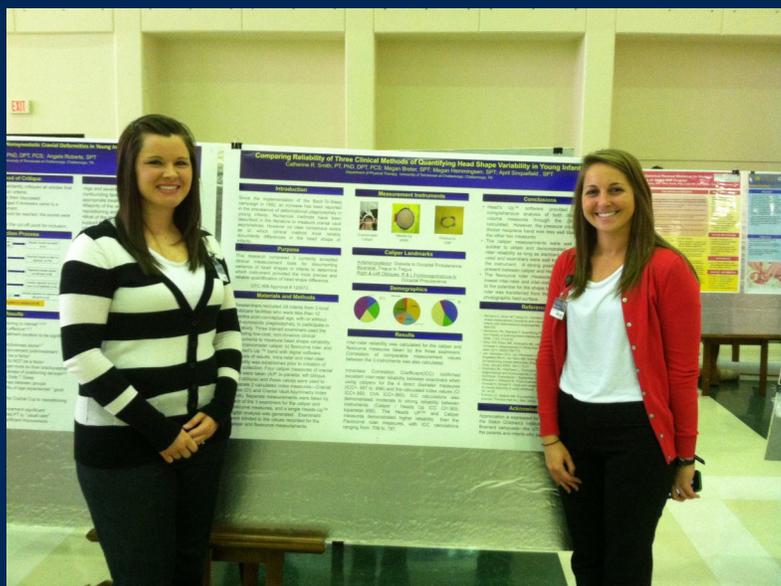
Student News & Activities



Stephen Tilstra ('14, far right) was selected as the Tennessee Physical Therapy Association Student Government Legislative Affairs Liaison. He represented the TPTA in Washington, DC at the APTA Government Affairs Forum this spring.



Class of 2015 Bodies Exhibit



April Sinquefield ('13) & Megan Breter ('13) presenting at UTC Research Day 2013



Several students participated in Camp Horizon again this year. Camp Horizon was developed and implemented by a UTC DPT graduate, Lindsey Sharpe and her husband, Steven. The purpose of Camp Horizon is to allow kids with physical disabilities the opportunity to broaden their horizons by spending time with other kids in similar situations in the outdoor environment.

To view this year's slide show, [click here.](#)

Several members of the class of 2013 traveled to the west coast after graduation.

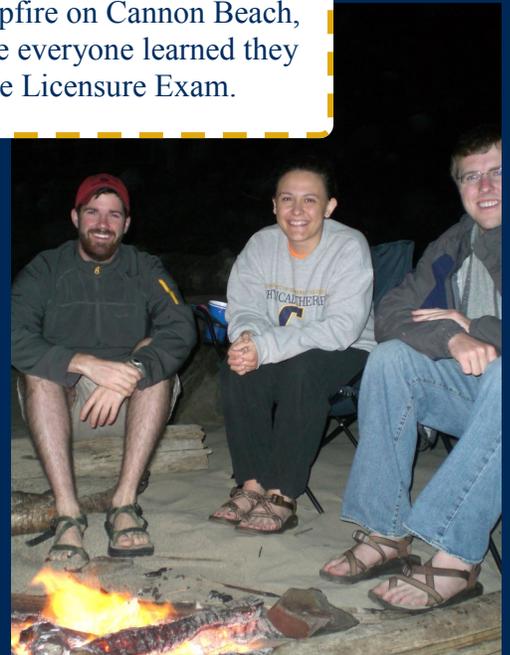


Seattle, WA- starting point for our trip of a lifetime!



Redwood National Forest in California.

Around a campfire on Cannon Beach, Oregon, where everyone learned they passed the Licensure Exam.



Class of 2015 Superheroes Party

Alumni,

Hello again. This summer our class anxiously finishes our second and third rotations, including 6 weeks at an acute care facility and 8 weeks in a neuro setting. Our classmates have been spread all over from Florida, to Arizona and even Washington. We are very excited to begin our last year and are starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

However, the work for the semester is just beginning. We are starting to gather information about the patient we have chosen to do our case study on and have been working on our research projects to present and defend. We have also bought our review book for the boards and the terror is starting to set in.



We have been doing a lot outside of school also. We have quite a few students who are participating as counselors at Camp Horizon and even designed a fund raiser in which we earned over \$600 for them. We also have had a couple bike and triathlon racers, who work very hard to find time to train in between the chaos of school. We had a cook out for the first years and enjoyed sharing our wisdom of how to survive through year 1. We still pose our challenges as a class, but we are developing into professionals.

We thank you for building this foundation and we look forward to carrying on the tradition.

Sincerely DPT Class of 2014 officers:

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



UTC DPT Class of 2014

UTC DPT Class of 2015



We walked into our first day of orientation with 29 other people and a room full of professors, and left Davenport for our orthopedic clinical experience with a new extended family. The past year has been filled with lectures, exams, practicals, and most of all, memories we will share for a lifetime. Our class has such an amazing dynamic, and we have grown as a team outside the classroom as well. We started the year with a superheroes party and a trip to the Bodies Exhibit, and continued to bond through numerous game nights, hiking trips, and an end of the semester celebration with an inflatable obstacle course to name a few. We also have an intramural team, the Obturaiders, who have participated in flag football and volleyball. Our class has definitely mastered the ability to study hard, and have a little fun along the way!

We feel blessed to share one thing with all of our fellow UTC PT alum, as we had the privilege of having Dr. Tillman for his final year of teaching. He helped us navigate our first year of PT school, and somehow managed to make anatomy, neuro, and pathology less daunting! We learned, laughed, and cried together over the past year, and honestly couldn't imagine how different this year would have been without him! Finally, we gave him a proper send-off to Florida, including silly string, Hawaiian attire, noise-makers, and a "Dead Poet's Society" farewell following his last lecture. He has been such a blessing to this program, has undoubtedly left a mark on all of us, and will be missed dearly!!



Now, we are excited to begin a new journey as second year DPT students, and we can't wait to see all of the new opportunities that the coming year will hold.

President: Brooke Williams
Vice President: Anthony Ervin
Treasurer: Katherine Ussery
Secretary: Meg Peppard
Social Chairs: Caitlin Cavarra and Shawn McAward
Historians: Josh Ooten and Sarah Randles

The Transition DPT program admitted Cohort 8 in fall 2013. We anticipate that this will be the last cohort admitted.

Welcome Class of 2016!



We were thrilled to welcome 30 new DPT students this August! The class of 2015 already boasts some impressive statistics. We received 328 applications from individuals who met our prerequisite criteria (out of 485 total!) Last September, 21 offers were made to students through the early decision process; 19 are attending this fall. Our class average for both the cumulative undergraduate GPA and science GPA is a 3.8. They also averaged slightly more than a 308 on the GRE. Our 26 Tennessee residents are joined by students from Alabama and Georgia. Eleven of our incoming students are UTC graduates; eight are male and twenty-two are female.

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—including recent changes- 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) including analytical writing.

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 now a 3.2 GPA and a 3.0 on the analytical writing portion of the GRE, Early Decision requires a 3.4 GPA, a combined verbal and quantitative score 300 on the GRE and a 3.5 analytical writing score. 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 298-300 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 [admissions](#) and [FAQ](#) sections of our webpage.

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



Dr. Tillman Retires

Dr. Tillman retired at the end of the spring 2013 semester. He was honored with Professor Emeritus status by the university.



Faculty News

UTC DPT Welcomes Dr. Sue Barlow ('09)

My name is Sue Barlow and I will join the faculty of the Department of Physical Therapy at UTC on August 1st. I earned my Ph.D. in Biochemistry in 1992. For my thesis work I was able to identify the combining site for an anti-phosphotyrosine antibody, express this antibody combining site in bacteria and generate a mutated version of this protein that had a higher affinity for phosphotyrosine than the original antibody. I advanced my career as a post-doctoral fellow at Vanderbilt University in the laboratory of Dr. Stanley Cohen. My work in Dr. Cohen's laboratory was aimed at discerning the mechanism of epidermal growth factor (EGF) signal transduction. In 1995, I was promoted to a Research Faculty position and I continued on at Vanderbilt as a basic science researcher studying Vitamin A movement and metabolism with Dr. David Ong. I then changed my research focus to neurology, examining the contents of cells producing the neurotransmitter GABA in *C. elegans*. In 2005, I moved to Chattanooga to attend UTC and I obtained my Doctorate in Physical Therapy in 2009. I have worked as an inpatient physical therapist at Siskin Hospital for Physical Rehabilitation since that time and will continue my clinical work there as a PRN employee one day a week. Since the majority of my clinical work is with patients that have diagnoses of neurological injury, I earned a Neurological Clinical Specialist Certification this past year. My future plans are to combine teaching, research and clinical work. The focus of my research will be to identify the mechanism(s) promoting spasticity in patients following neurological injury.



UTC DPT Welcomes Dr. Julie Bage (tDPT '10)

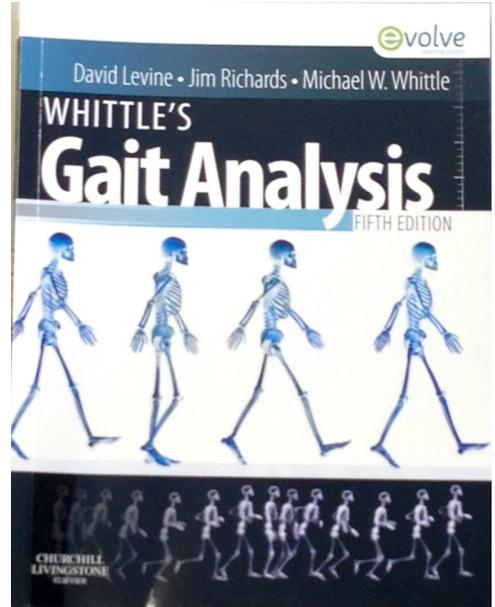
I am Julie Bage and I am excited to be joining the physical therapy faculty full time this year. I graduated from University of Maryland in the ancient times of bachelor degrees. I practiced in Baltimore, MD in the outpatient orthopedic setting until 2006 when we moved to Chattanooga. I have been fortunate to have explored many areas of practice as a clinic director, coordinator of clinical education, as well as teaching continuing education courses in manual therapy and working with special populations such as professional dancers and athletes. My journey to the academic setting began when I earned my transition doctorate in physical therapy from UTC, as well as my orthopedic clinical specialist certification in 2010. Since that time, I have been working with the program as an adjunct faculty member assisting with the orthopedic courses.

Faculty News



A new textbook was published in 2012 named in honor of Michael Whittle, physical therapy faculty member from 1989-2005.

Edited by faculty member David Levine, it also has contributions from faculty members Nancy Fell, Julie Bage, Cathie Smith, Jeremiah Tate, and alumni Douglas Daniel (2011).



Dr. Cathie Smith taught a course this summer at Anglo-American University in Prague. Management 359 / 559 - Professional Behavior in Organizations- was offered as an elective during the summer term in the Masters in Business and Law in International Markets and the Business Administration programs.

Dr. Tate will be heading up our team to raise funds to support the Chattanooga Affiliate of Susan G. Komen in its efforts to END BREAST CANCER FOREVER. Our PT program values participating in events that support the larger Chattanooga community; our students, faculty and staff have participated in this event annually since the race first came to Chattanooga in 2000!

Please help support us in this important project by becoming a member of our team. It's easy! Click on the link below and register for the Race for the Cure© through "Join a Team." The race will be held on Sunday, September 29th. There will be a new course this year starting from Finley Stadium.

One person can make a difference in the fight against breast cancer. Susan G. Komen was founded by one sister making a promise to another sister. You can be a part of this worthwhile effort! Our promise of a world without breast cancer does not just rest in the hands of Susan G. Komen. It is up to you, our community of survivors and co-survivors, to stand united with us until the promise is fulfilled and the cures are found.

Not only can you join our team, but you can help in raising funds for the cause. Once you register, visit your participant center. There is a wealth of content to help you in your fundraising efforts. We look forward to seeing you on race day!

[Click here to view the team page for UTC Physical Therapy](#)

Faculty & Staff Awards

Several DPT faculty were recognized at the 4th Annual CHEPS (College of Health, Education & Professional Studies) Awards Day. For the full article and pictures, [click here](#).

DR. DEBBIE INGRAM RECEIVES THE CATHERINE WORTHINGHAM FELLOW AWARD FROM THE AMERICAN PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION

Acting Department Head Debbie Ingram, PT, EdD, FAPTA, received APTA's Catherine Worthingham Fellow Award during the APTA Conference & Exposition held in Salt Lake City, Utah, June 26-29, 2013.

Dr. Ingram also serves as UC Foundation professor of physical therapy and director of clinical education. She is the recipient of several awards including the Tennessee Physical Therapy Association's Carol Likens Award for Professional Service and the Stanford Award from APTA's Education Section.

She served in several leadership positions within the APTA Education Section — as a member of the Section's Board of Directors, Federal Affairs Liaison, and chair of the Clinical Education Special Interest Group. She is a member of the Public Policy and Advocacy Committee for the APTA. Ingram serves as a manuscript reviewer for the *Journal of Physical Therapy Education* and the *Journal of Policy, Administration, and Leadership*. She is a former Chairman of the Tennessee Board of Occupational and Physical Therapy Examiners and Vice President of the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy.

During 2007-08, Dr. Ingram was the President of the University of Tennessee National Alumni Association.

The APTA House of Delegates charged the Board of Directors to establish the Catherine Worthingham Fellows of the Association in 1980 to recognize those persons whose work, like the distinguished woman honored in this action, has resulted in lasting and significant advances in the science, education, and practice of the profession of physical therapy.



Paul Rockar, President of the APTA with Dr. Debbie Ingram



Faculty & Staff Awards

UTC Blue Ribbon Employee

Our own Debbie Giles was selected as the Blue Ribbon Employee at UTC for the month of May! Congratulations, Debbie!



Director's Welcome— continued

- We are very fortunate to work with great adjuncts from our community. Matt Carbone of Benchmark PT teaches Clinical Applications reviewing the summer case studies from outpatient orthopedic clinics. Paul Iverson owns a private practice-Chattanooga Physical Therapy. He teaches musculoskeletal assessment. Lisa Harrison, director of rehab at Memorial Hospital, and Kilbrey Fowler of Children's Hospital will be co-teaching human growth and development. Lindsey Sharpe of Children's Hospital will be teaching the advanced pediatrics elective.
- For several years now, we have been very lucky to have Ethel Frese of Saint Louis University to come to Chattanooga to teach the cardiopulmonary course. She is the President of the Cardiopulmonary Section! Ethel is a native of Chattanooga-so, this gives her an opportunity to visit with family and friends.

Thank you for recommending our program to future PT students. Rebecca Littleton coordinates the admissions process using PTCAS (online application). Her email address is: Rebecca-Littleton@utc.edu. Don't forget that the OTD program will begin in Fall 2014. Dr. Susan McDonald is the program director. Encourage candidates to apply to UTC and contact Susan: Susan-McDonald@utc.edu.

Our students are borrowing a lot of money to pursue the PT education. We need more scholarships. I encourage you to support the UTC PT Alumni Scholarship by giving through [this link](#). (Select designation, choose "other fund not listed," then click "continue" and enter "UTC PT Alumni Scholarship" in the box.)

Keep in touch with us through Facebook or by email. We want to hear from you! Come to campus. We celebrate Homecoming on October 12 and the annual PT Forum with Chattanooga State's PTA program is planned for January 23, 2014. Check our UTC PT website for more details.

We look forward to hearing from you,
Debbie Ingram, PT, EdD, FAPTA

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Campus News

Lots of things are happening at UTC! Check out [UTC's new web page](#) to learn more!

Save the Date!

- September 29- Chattanooga Komen Race- [Join us!](#)
- October 12-UTC Homecoming & dedication of the Chamberlain Pavilion
- December 9-10- APTA Clinical Instructor Course at UTC
- January 23 (Thursday) - Annual Physical Therapy Forum with UTC and Chattanooga State, 11:00-1:30. Guest Speaker, APTA Vice President Dr. Sharon Dunn.