Letter From the Chair

Greetings, everyone, and welcome to our third annual electronic alumni newsletter. I hope this finds you well as we begin 2016.

New DPT Curriculum Begins in June

Our new DPT curriculum uses an integrated modular approach to presenting the foundational, clinical, and behavioral sciences that underlie physical therapist practice. Taking only one case-based, four week course at a time, students are set up to approach both patient care and their own learning holistically. With a heavy emphasis on small group work and self-directed learning, learning activities are structured to manage information and solve problems as one would do in a patient/client care setting.

MSPT Program Update

After 35 years of excellence, the Master of Science in Physical Therapy (MSPT) program will be closing. The last class to be admitted to the program matriculated in fall 2015 and will graduate in January 2017. The master’s program was among the first offered by the Institute, and it produced hundreds of graduates until 2007 when the DPT became the preferred entry-level degree. At that time, the program was changed to fit the somewhat different needs of international students. After considering enrollment trends, employment prospects, and how to best serve the needs of both the Institute and our communities of interest, the Institute’s Board of Trustees voted to close both the master’s program and the associated CAS program. We are immensely proud of our program and its graduates, and we look forward to a strong and continued relationship with our MSPT alumni.

Faculty News

Faculty continue to make their presence known in the professional community. During the 2015 calendar year, faculty published 9 papers in peer-reviewed journals and made 35 presentations at state, regional, national, and international professional venues. An impressive 12 of our 19 faculty are also serving on or leading professional groups within our large professional organization.

Jette to Give Cerasoli Lecture

Associate Chair and Professor Diane Jette will give the prestigious Pauline Cerasoli Lecture at CSM 2016. Her talk, which starts at 3 p.m. on Friday, February 19, is entitled "Unflattening." It will examine the trends in higher education and propose potential future effects on health professions education, particularly physical therapist education.

Join Us at Our Reception

Our annual Alumni Reception is on Thursday, February 18, from 6:00–7:30 p.m. at the Hilton, Lido C. The reception will serve double-duty this year as an opportunity to honor Associate Chair Dr. Diane Jette for being the Cerasoli lecturer.

PT Awards at 2015 Commencement

Janet Callahan ’00, ’13 (left) receives the Bette Ann Harris Distinguished Alumni Award at 2015 Commencement from President Jan Bellack.
The Alumni Reception is on Thursday, February 18, from 6:00–7:30 p.m. at the Hilton, Lido C.

As always, we invite you to keep in touch about what you are doing, sending us any suggestions or ideas you may have for us or our programs.

Have a great 2016!

Best Regards,

Pamela K. Levangie, DPT, DSc, FAPTA
Chair and Professor
Department of Physical Therapy

April 9: Ionta Symposium to Focus on Technology

The focus of the 2016 Marjorie K. Ionta Symposium is "Working with Technology, and making Technology Work for You!" Presented by the MGH Institute and the Massachusetts General Hospital Department of Physical Therapy, the day-long event at the IHP will give clinicians an opportunity to explore and sample new technologies to enhance care and provide a framework for how to make decisions about which technologies will best fit your needs. Keynote speakers are (l-r) Robert Latz, PT, DPT, CHCIO, Danielle Levac, PT, MS, PhD, and Karen Litzy, MS, PT. Register.

MSPT Students Get Pinned

The following awards were presented during the PT Awards and Hooding Ceremony at 2015 Commencement:

**Faculty:**
Assistant Professor Janet Callahan ’00, ’13, PT, DPT, received the Bette Ann Harris Distinguished Alumni Award, the highest honor bestowed to an alumna.
Lynn Krisko, OTR/L, an occupational therapist at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, received the Outstanding Clinical Educator Award.

**Students:**
Murray Cohen: Marjorie K. Ionta Award for Clinical Excellence – Professional
Fatema Kanchwala: Marjorie K. Ionta Award for Clinical Excellence – Post-Professional
Elizabeth Nelson: Adams Fellow Award – Professional
Hameed Adewole: Adams Fellow Award – Post-Professional
Lauryn Slipp: Mary Mankin Prize for Outstanding Directed Research

Alan Jette Named Journal Editor

CIPSIP Professor Alan Jette was named editor-in-chief of Physical Therapy (PTJ), the monthly scientific journal of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA). He began his five-year term in January.

Annual Infant Development Day

Interprofessional Infant Development Day last fall brought more than 20 young children ages 12 weeks to 3 years – a majority of whose parents are IHP alumni – to campus where students observed the kids and focused on understanding the roles and responsibilities of the various health care professionals in developmental assessment.
Former faculty member Lieke Dirkes gave the keynote address to first-year Master of Science in Physical Therapy students at the annual post-professional pinning ceremony on November 18. [Facebook album](#).

### Annual DPT Pinning Ceremony

First-year Doctor of Physical Therapy student Valerie Rucker (right) receives her pin from third-year student Marissa Rewak during the Department of Physical Therapy’s pinning ceremony on July 8. The pins symbolize the beginning of the new students’ 30-month education at the Institute. [Facebook album](#).

### Applebaum to Investigate Clinical Education Trends

Director of Clinical Education Donna Applebaum is one of four collaborators awarded a $10,000 grant from APTA’s Section on Education to support their project titled: *Trends, Issues and Challenges and the Director of Clinical Education: Preparing for a New Direction in Physical Therapist Clinical Education*.

The yearly event, also known as Baby Day, was originally developed by Drs. Kathy Gill-Body and Anne McCarthy Jacobson as part of their Clinical Management of Neuromuscular Disorders course for second-year DPT students. Infant Development Day now includes students from CSD, OT, PA, and NS.

Faculty organizers from each program work closely with PT faculty member Dr. Laura Plummer, who oversees the event each year. [Facebook album](#).

### McCarthy Jacobson in UAE

Assistant Professor Anne McCarthy Jacobson (left) recently travelled to Abu Dhabi to help teach courses at the Cambridge Medical Rehabilitation Center. Working with Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital occupational therapist Nadia D’Artista, the pair taught the lab-based courses Introduction to Serial and Bivalve Casting (for Pedi and Adult Neurological Pathologies), and NMES in Neurological Pathologies in the United Arab Emirates’s capital city.

### Faculty Receives Parkinson’s Grant

Physical Therapy Assistant Professor Janet Callahan was recently honored by the National Parkinson Foundation with a 2015 Community Grant Award, “Web-based exercise and education program for individuals newly diagnosed with PD.”

### IHP News

**New Library and Study Commons**
Students Go to Central America

Eight second-year DPT students travelled to Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras with three licensed PTs from the U.S. They were part of a service learning experience that was a collaboration between ATI physical therapy in Chicago and Fundacion Quique Ceron in Esquipulas, Guatemala. Over the course of nine days, the students – Laura Vinci de Vanegas, Ian Macmurdie, Bennett Shake, Haley Tasaico, Eileen Kirk, Rebecca Allis, Margaret Reiss, and Sarah Morehouse – worked with patients alongside local clinicians at multiple sites.

Giving Keynote at Spaulding

Professor Marianne Beninato gave a keynote presentation at the Spaulding Stroke Rehabilitation and Recovery Research Symposium on November 19. She presented “The Power of the Clinically Important Difference in Evaluating Outcomes Measures.”

Dean Portney Honored on Ether Day for 25 Years of Service

More than 350 first-year students volunteered at 40 non-profits in Charlestown and surrounding communities during the IHP’s fourth annual Community Impact Day on September 18. Facebook album.

Alumni Corner

Alumni Award Nominations Accepted Through March 20

Join The IHP’s Online Community

We invite you to become part of our expanding online alumni community by joining IHP’s LinkedIn, Facebook.
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences Dean Leslie Portney, right, is congratulated by President Janis Bellack for her 25 years of service at the 2015 Ether Day Ceremony. 24 other employees were honored as well.

New on The Pulse: To Watch Us Dance is to Hear Our Hearts Speak

Dan Kelleher, DPT '14, recounts his experience as a physical therapist at Mass General Hospital where he helped a terminally ill patient dance again in "To Watch Us Dance is to Hear Our Hearts Speak," the latest post on the Institute's blog The Pulse. Contact us if you are interested in blogging for the IHP.

Saying Goodbye to Our Colleagues

It's with a great deal of sadness that we say goodbye to three of our faculty colleagues.

Dr. Linda (Lin) Steiner officially retired from the Institute at the end of December. Lin started teaching in the Physical Therapy program just over 25 years ago. Serving at first as a part-time lecturer and lab instructor while on the PT staff at Mass General, she joined the faculty full-time as a Clinical Assistant Professor in 1995. Lin continued to work one day per week at Mass General, most recently as their women's health expert. Lin led our Spine courses for both the PT and MSPT programs for the last decade. Lin's retirement should be very busy as she is continuing to serve the women's health needs of patients seeking care as MGH on a part-time basis, teaching a course for us this spring, and consulting with us on spine content in our new curriculum. In the real spirit of retirement, she is also taking time to pursue long deferred leisure activities.

Dr. Angelique (Lieke) Dirkes has moved to adjunct faculty status after 10 years as a Clinical Instructor in our programs. Dr. Dirkes, who previously split her time between the Institute and Partners Healthcare at Home, is returning to her homecare clinical practice full time.

The leadership of our Residency in Orthopaedic Physical Therapy program passed from Dr. Stephanie Jones Greenspan to Dr. Keshrie Naidoo, after Dr. Greenspan and her family relocated to California last fall. We are confident the orthopaedic residency and associated continuing education courses will continue to grow under Dr. Naidoo’s leadership.

Library Resources for Alumni

MGH Institute alumni have access to journals, databases, and other research resources at the Institute’s Alumni Library Resources section. This robust section is sure to meet many of your research needs. Contact IHP Librarian Jessica Bell with questions or for assistance.

Live Career Support Now Available

Making a career move? Need your resume updated? Need to prepare for an upcoming interview? Want to chat “live” with IHP’s Career Counselor? Check out IHP’s career resources website and start moving forward now.

Wanted: Lab Instructors, Teaching Assistants, and Clinical Instructors

We are seeking physical therapists to assist in clinical skills laboratories, to serve as facilitators for small group discussions, or to supervise students in the Institute’s pro-bono PT Center for Clinical Education and Health Promotion.

Most (but not all) activities require weekly time commitments of two to six hours per week during a 13-week semester. While needs vary by semester, we are looking for practitioners with experience in a variety of content areas including Neuro, Cardiopulmonary, and Musculoskeletal, among others. Contact Program Manager Richard Cranford for more information.

Tell Us About Your Life!

We invite you to submit a class note to share with your fellow alumni what is happening in your world. This includes such things as new jobs and promotions, professional presentations given, and awards, along with marriage photos, and photos of you with your new baby. We’ll include them in an upcoming issue of the MGH Institute magazine.

Feedback, Tips, Ideas, Etc.

Please forward items of interest to PT News editor John Shaw.
Richard Cranford  
Program Manager

Angela Cruz-Guzman  
Program Coordinator

Promoted

Marianne Beninato, DPT, PhD  
Professor

Please submit suggestions or comments about any issue at the IHP to President Bellack's online suggestion box, Institute Input.

IHP Ducks and Dives, Raising $2,700 at Dodgeball Tournament

The PT Club hosted its 10th Annual Pittsburgh-Marquette Challenge Dodgeball Tournament on January 23 at the Judge Baker Children's Center in Boston. $2,700 was raised for the Foundation for Physical Therapy. Facebook album.

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