

School of Nursing Receives 10-Year Accreditation

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) has reaccredited each of the programs in the MGH Institute School of Nursing for the next 10 years, the longest period the national organization can bestow on a school of nursing.

A letter from CCNE Board of Commissioners Chair Judith F. Karshmer, PhD, PMHCNS-BC, stated that the School's three programs—Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Master of Science in Nursing, and Doctor of Nursing Practice—met the organization's four accreditation standards, with no compliance concerns.

The School of Nursing is accredited until June 30, 2024.

Last fall, a team of site visitors interviewed students, faculty, staff, and alumni from programs throughout the Institute community. In addition, the team also

continued on page 13

Boston Strong at 2014 Marathon

The MGH Institute was well represented at the 2014 Boston Marathon a year after the bombing that left three dead and hundreds wounded.

Several alumni and students who assisted survivors or were personally affected by last year's tragedy once again worked in the medical tents dotted along the race course.

"An early female finisher told me she came from California to run in support of everyone and gave me her Boston Strong headband," said Doctor of Nursing Practice student Patricia Bowe, who

continued on page 14



Students in the MGH Institute's first OTD class pose with faculty members.

Occupational Therapy Program Begins

When the MGH Institute began its entry-level Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) program in June, it was more than a decade ahead of a 2025 target date that the profession has set for entry into the field at the doctoral level.

"We created a program in which OTD graduates will receive an education that goes beyond that of the entry-level master's degree that most schools currently offer," said Associate Professor and Program Director Regina Doherty, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA, FNAP. "Our degree is designed for students who have the drive to make a difference in the profession and in society by becoming leaders who can influence best practice through research evidence, as well as deliver compassionate and collaborative care."

Thirty-five students were admitted to the three-year, full-time degree, which is the first entry-level OTD offered in New England. Graduates will help fill the need to care for an increasingly elderly population and provide integrated services for school-age children with disabilities—two major factors driving growth in the OT profession.

Students will begin their clinical rotations at several hospitals and other clinical settings this fall, including Massachusetts General Hospital.

"Having an OT program at the Institute is something we've been looking forward to for a number of years," said Jane Evans, OTD, OTR/L, CLT, clinical director of the hospital's Inpatient and Outpatient Occupational Therapy department. "If the excellent quality of students and graduates in nursing, physical therapy, and speech-language pathology is any indication, we anticipate these new OT students will do a great job caring for patients."

Students will gain additional training working with clients at the new Functional Living Laboratory. Scheduled to open in 2 Constitutional Center this fall, the lab will provide students the opportunity to develop their practice skills in a home-like environment, according to department Chair Lisa Tabor Connor, PhD, MSOT.

"Collaborating with clients to navigate and adapt their home environments so that they can participate fully in self-

continued on page 14

President's Corner

Aligning Health Professions Education and Patient Care

Changes in the health care industry, including payment reform, consolidation of providers, and greater leveraging of technology, continue to evolve at a rapid pace. Health systems are responding with efforts aimed at managing the health of targeted populations and redesigning care delivery to achieve the Triple Aim¹ of improved patient care experiences, better health outcomes, and reduced costs.

These changes demand that health professions education programs, specifically curricula, faculty, and student learning experiences, remain current with changes in practice to ensure that graduates are workforce ready. A pivotal conference and subsequent report by the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation—*Transforming Patient Care: Aligning Interprofessional Education with Clinical Practice Redesign*—declares the historical links between health professions education and health care delivery have eroded over the past several years due to minimal engagement of clinical leaders in the design and delivery of education, and similarly minimal engagement of faculty and students in the design and delivery of health care.

Dr. George Thibault, president of the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation and chair of the MGH Institute's Board of Trustees, notes in the Foundation's 2013 annual report, "It is not enough for educators to talk only to educators and practice reformers to talk only to other practice reformers. We must build bridges between the two efforts if we are to truly and sustainably transform health care." The final conference report offers five key recommendations to enhance the connections between and impact on both education and practice, with helpful guidance for health professions educators and health care leaders and clinicians.

We are working with our colleagues in Partners Healthcare System and beyond to create opportunities for our faculty and students to participate in care redesign efforts, while also inviting our clinical partners to help shape our curricula to ensure our students graduate with the requisite knowledge and skills for contemporary clinical practice.

A subsequent Macy Foundation report expanded on one of the *Transforming Patient Care* recommendations, "urging those who are caring, teaching, learning, or otherwise working in the [health care] system"—to fully engage the recipients of health care patients, families, and communities—in designing and improving both education and practice to foster optimal health and wellness for all.

We have special opportunities to realize this aim through our partnerships with patients and families in our on-campus learning centers (Speech, Language and Literacy Center, Aphasia Center, Physical Therapy Center for Clinical Education and Health Promotion) and through community engagement, examples of which include our annual Community Day, Aphasia Awareness Day at the Statehouse, and community volunteerism.

The Macy reports, among others, will be critical resources for our academic leaders and faculty as they come together this summer and fall to define and shape a set of Institute-wide core competencies for students in all entry-level professional programs. Beyond the competencies required for each individual professional program, these cross-professional core competencies will help ensure that our graduating students share a common set of learning outcomes that enhance the value of their IHP education and distinguish them among their peers who are entering the health care workforce.

¹ The Triple Aim was developed by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) as a framework for improving health system performance.



Janis P. Bellack, PhD, RN, FAAN

President and John Hilton Knowles Professor

MGH INSTITUTE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

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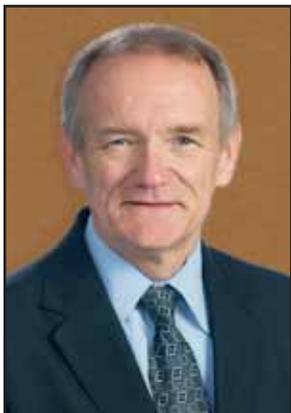
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Two Are Elected to Board of Trustees



Dr. Troy Brennan

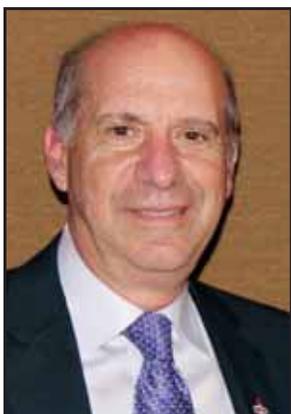
Two new members have been elected to the MGH Institute's Board of Trustees.

Troyen A. Brennan, MD, executive vice president and chief medical officer of CVS Caremark Corporation, and Peter A. D'Arrigo Jr., president of produce distributor D'Arrigo Brothers Company, began their terms on July 1.

"We are excited about Troy and Peter joining the Board," said George E. Thibault, MD, Board of Trustees chair. "We look forward to benefiting from their wisdom and experience to help the Institute continue its mission of educating tomorrow's health care leaders."

Dr. Brennan brings a long history of medical and academic experience to the Board. Prior to CVS, he was chief medical officer of Aetna, Inc., as well as president and CEO of Brigham and Women's Physicians Organization. In addition, he was professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School, and professor of law and public health at Harvard School of Public Health.

Dr. Brennan received his MD and Master of Public Health degrees from Yale Medical School, after which he completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital. A member of the Institute of Medicine (IOM) of the National Academy of Sciences, he also holds a law degree from Yale Law School.



Mr. Peter D'Arrigo

Mr. D'Arrigo brings outstanding business acumen to the Board. As president of the second-largest

wholesale vegetable distributor in the United States, he continues a family tradition that dates to 1923 when the Chelsea-based company was founded by Mr. D'Arrigo's grandfather and his great uncle.

The company, which markets fruits and vegetables under the Andy Boy label, expanded to California in 1925 and New York in 1948.

He also is president of New England Produce Center in Chelsea, one of the largest produce markets in the world and the largest privately owned market in the country.

Mr. D'Arrigo received a Bachelor of Science in Business Management from the Carroll School of Management at Boston College. His daughter, Lauren D'Arrigo, graduated from the MGH Institute's Doctor of Physical Therapy program in 2014.

*"We look forward
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continue its mission of
educating tomorrow's
health care leaders."*

– Board Chair Dr. George Thibault



Dr. Julia Greenstein

Greenstein Helped Institute During 12 Years on Board

Julia Greenstein, PhD, has played a key role in helping to steer the MGH Institute to many of its successes during her 12-year term on the Board of Trustees.

Dr. Greenstein, vice president of cure therapies for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) in New York City, was chair of the Institute's Long-Range Planning Committee, and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee during her tenure, which ended in June.

"Her contributions have elevated the Institute to a position of prominence as a leading health professions graduate school," said Trustee Chair George Thibault, MD.

Added Trustee Elizabeth "Trish" Joyce, "She has generously shared her professional knowledge and expertise to help advance the Institute's mission of educating tomorrow's health care leaders in practice and research. In both roles she challenged Trustees to consider how they can better advocate for, support, and serve the Institute to raise its profile and impact."

For her efforts, the Trustees voted her as an Honorary Trustee.

Dr. Greenstein received her PhD in microbiology from the University of Rochester Medical School. She did postdoctoral training at the University of Rochester Medical School, and the Dana Farber Cancer Institute of Harvard Medical School, where she was an assistant professor.

Institute Named to *Chronicle of Higher Education* Honor Roll

MGH Institute of Health Professions is the only school in Metro Boston named to the Honor Roll by *The Chronicle of Higher Education* in its annual workplace survey of colleges and universities.

The recognition came from the prestigious education magazine's seventh annual report, the 2014 Great Colleges to Work For® survey. Just 42 of 278 colleges that participated in the survey achieved honor role status, the survey's highest level.

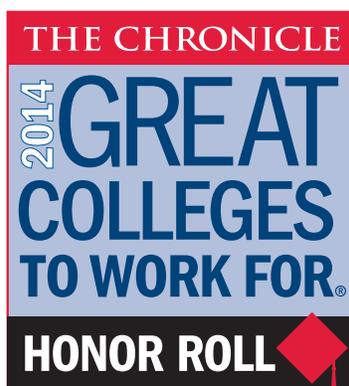
"Being named to the Honor Roll is a great distinction," said President Janis P. Bellack. "It is an affirmation by our faculty and staff that the Institute is a school with a rewarding work environment where talented people thrive and enhance their careers."

Honor Roll recognition, based on the number of times a school was cited in individual categories, goes to the top 10 four-year schools (of which the Institute is classified) in small, medium, and large categories, and the top four two-year schools in each size category. The Institute, with 1,300 students, was included in the Small Colleges division for schools with fewer than 3,000 students.

In all, only 92 of the participating colleges in the United States achieved Great College to Work For recognition for specific best practices and policies, based upon a survey of more than 43,000 employees. This is the fifth consecutive year the MGH Institute has been named a Great College. Just two other Massachusetts schools were named to the list.

The Institute was recognized in the following five categories:

- Collaborative Governance, where faculty members are appropriately involved in decisions related to academic programs;
- Compensation & Benefits, where pay is fair, and benefits meet the needs of employees;
- Facilities, Workspace & Security, where facilities adequately meet needs, the appearance of the campus is pleasing, and the institution takes steps to provide a secure environment;



- Confidence in Senior Leadership, where leaders have the knowledge, skills, and experience necessary for institutional success; and
- Respect and Appreciation, where employees are regularly recognized for their contributions.

"The Chronicle's reporting shows that more colleges and universities are seeking ways to improve their workplaces," said Editor Liz McMillen. "The 'formula for success' continues to evolve, yet there are certain common features among institutions that achieve significant levels of worker satisfaction. The Great Colleges to Work For program allows our readers to learn about the colleges that seem to be getting it right."

Department of Physical Therapy Assistant Professor Tracy Brudvig, PT, DPT, PhD, OCS, chair of the Faculty Senate, noted a culture of collaboration among faculty, staff, and administration, as well as the school's state-of-the-art facilities, as key reasons for the Institute's high marks.

Victoria Wallace, MEd, an instructional designer in the Office of the Provost who is chair of the Staff Council, noted the generous employee benefits for health care, retirement, and vacation. She also praised the Institute's regular reviews of salary benchmarks and adjustments to ensure that employees are being paid in line with peers at other organizations.

The Chronicle's 2014 Great Colleges to Work For survey results are based on a two-part assessment process: an institutional audit that captured demographics and workplace policies from each institution, and a survey administered to faculty, professional support staff, and administrators. The primary factor in deciding whether an institution received recognition was employee feedback.

Now in its seventh year, the Chronicle's Great Colleges survey has become one of the largest and most respected workplace-recognition programs in the country.

ALONG THE WATERFRONT

■ School of Nursing Dean **Laurie Lauzon Clabo** was elected the new president of the Massachusetts Association of Colleges of Nursing for the years 2014–2016.

■ Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs **Alex Johnson** was appointed president of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation (ASHFoundation).

■ Web Editor **Susan Reynolds**, who joined the Institute in 2009, was named the 2014 IHP Employee of the Year.

■ CSD Professor and Chair **Gregory Lof** recently was elected treasurer of the Council of Academic Programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders (CAPCSD).

■ Two faculty from the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders were awarded research fellowships for the 2014-2015 year:

Clinical Assistant Professor **Yael Arbel** received the Geriatric Faculty Research Fellowship Award for her project, "A Neurophysiological Examination of Individual Differences in the Efficiency of Feedback Processing."

Renowned Speakers Present at Health Professions Education Symposium

Two internationally renowned speakers highlighted the annual Health Professions Education Symposium, which was held on campus June 22-24.

Anant Agarwal, PhD, president of edX, the free online learning initiative of MIT and Harvard, presented “Technology in Health Professions Education.” Madeline Schmitt, PhD, RN, FAAN, FNAP, professor emerita in the School of Nursing at the University of Rochester, presented “Interprofessional Education: Learning to Manage Hierarchy and Conflict.”

The seminar was one of the final requirements for students in the Master of Science in Health Professions Education (MS-HPed) program. The 13 students, who are part of the Class of 2014, presented scholarly projects to an audience of Institute faculty, staff, fellow students, and guests.



EdX President Dr. Anant Agarwal spoke about how MOOCs are gaining in popularity.

not have access to higher education. Since the non-profit was founded in 2012, more than 2.5 million students from over 200 countries have enrolled in excess of 5,000 courses taught by full-time faculty from more than 50 partner colleges that include MIT, Harvard, UC-Berkeley, and Stanford.

“It’s not the same as a traditional experience, where a class would have a professor and several teaching assistants, but you can imagine how powerful it can be where students can watch a video and then interact with a teacher as well as learn from each other,” said Dr. Agarwal, who had more than 155,000 people sign up for the first MOOC course he taught.

Dr. Agarwal, who is a professor as well as executive director of the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL) at MIT, said free courses called Massive Open Online Courses, or MOOCs, have the potential to teach millions of people who otherwise would

He added that data collected from student interaction can allow faculty to alter their methods quickly, and that even virtual labs in biology, chemistry, and other sciences can be taught effectively.

In her talk, Dr. Schmitt stressed that faculty need to work on putting aside any long-standing beliefs that may prevent them from educating their students on how a team approach can improve patient care.

“We need to do a little better in helping our students learn about interprofessional teamwork and how to respond when it’s not working in a clinical setting,” she said. “If we share the responsibility of ultimate patient outcomes, it can overcome a lot of barriers.”



Dr. Madeline Schmitt spoke about the advantages of team-based patient care.

The Institute’s MS-HPed degree, one of just 33 in the United States, draws students from around the world who take a combination of online courses and a limited number of on-campus courses. Created in response to a call for innovative educational reform and collaborative leadership in the health professions, the 33-credit program offers health professionals from across the health care spectrum—including medicine, occupational and physical therapy, speech-language pathology, nursing, and pharmacy—the opportunity to learn from and with each other to improve their teaching principles and methodologies.

Students in the program become part of a community of scholars who are committed to improving how to educate the next generation of health professions leaders.

Assistant Professor **Joanna Christodoulou** received the Faculty Research Fellowship Award for her project, “Investigating the Impact of Summer Experiences on Reading for Students With Language-based Learning Disabilities.”

■ **Melissa Cook**, a Class of 2014 speech-language pathology student, won the 15th Annual David W. Brewer for Best Poster award at the Voice Foundation Symposium for her poster, “Relationships Between the Cepstral/Spectral Index of Dysphonia and Vocal Fold Vibratory Function During Phonation.”

■ Center for Interprofessional Studies and Innovation Professor **Alan Jette** received the Charles M. Magistro Distinguished Service Award from the Foundation for Physical Therapy.

■ School of Nursing Professor **Patrice Nicholas** was named a 2014 New England Nurse.com nursing excellence GEM Award regional winner in the Advancing and Leading the Profession category.

Doherty Inducted as Occupational Therapy Fellow

Regina F. Doherty, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA, FNAP, associate professor in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences and program director of the entry-level Doctor of Occupational Therapy Program, has been inducted as a Fellow of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA).

Dr. Doherty, who joined the MGH Institute's Department of Occupational Therapy in 2011 as its first director, was recognized for her outstanding contributions to ethics and interprofessional education this spring at the AOTA's annual meeting and conference in Baltimore.

The AOTA Roster of Fellows Award recognizes occupational therapists who, with their knowledge and expertise, have made a significant contribution to the continuing education and development of the profession.

"It is an honor to be recognized by AOTA for my work in ethics and interprofessional education," Dr. Doherty said. "Quality health care depends on clinicians' abilities to attend to the moral dimensions of care and collaborate effectively to make sound ethical decisions."

"This is a wonderful acknowledgment of Dr. Doherty's professional contributions," said Leslie Portney, PT, DPT, PhD, FAPTA,

dean of the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences. "She is an esteemed leader in education, research, and professional practice, and we are so proud of the visionary direction she has set for our OTD program."

A respected occupational therapist and educator, Dr. Doherty has 22 years of experience in health care. She is a nationally recognized speaker and the author of numerous peer-reviewed texts, articles, and book chapters. Prior to joining the MGH Institute, Dr. Doherty held a clinical appointment at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston and an academic appointment at the Boston School of Occupational Therapy at Tufts University.

Clinical Associate Professor Mary Evenson, OTD, MPH, OTR/L, FAOTA, FNAP, was elected as a Fellow of AOTA in 2013.



Doherty, left, with AOTA President Virginia Stoffel.

Baugh Lecture Speaker Promotes Dignity and Respect

Candi Castleberry Singleton shared her personal story as well as the tenets of her successful Dignity & Respect Campaign in March at the E. Lorraine Baugh Visiting Faculty Series lecture.

"Diversity is getting invited to the party. Inclusion is getting asked to dance," she said about the campaign in which more than 200,000 people around the world have signed its pledge since 2009.

She launched the initiative after she said she and her husband were denied housing at an apartment complex based upon their race.

The campaign, which centers around 30 helpful tips that anyone can practice daily to show dignity and respect to others, are most effective when integrated not only in the workplace but also at home, in schools, at places of worship, and part of everyday life, said Castleberry Singleton.



Baugh, left, with Castleberry Singleton.

ALONG THE WATERFRONT

■ Four faculty members are the recipients of the fourth round of the Institute's Changing Course Faculty Teaching Fellowships for 2014-2015:

CSD Department Assistant Professor **Joanna Christodoulou's** project, "Improving Our Understanding of Language Challenges: Differentiating Experience Versus Disability in English Language Learners" will modify the Diagnostic Methods course; the addition of case studies and videos will help speech-language pathology students distin-

guish the extent to which language difficulties are attributable to limited English proficiency or a more global disability. Her mentor is CSD Professor **Tiffany Hogan**, who also is director of the Speech and Language Literacy Lab (SAIL Literacy Lab).

School of Nursing Associate Professor **Abraham Ndiwane** will partner with Clinical Assistant Professor **Antonia Makosky** and Clinical Associate Professor **Patricia Reidy** on the project "Use of Simulation to Integrate Cultural Competency and Therapeutic Communication," which will revise an Advanced Health Assessment course to incorporate an Objective Structured Clinical Examina-

Second Grant for Alzheimer's Research

A high burnout rate is common among people who care for family members with Alzheimer's disease.

School of Nursing Professor Diane Mahoney, PhD, APRN, BC, FGSA, FAAN, is continuing her research on the use of technology to provide caregivers with a daily respite and keep their loved ones at home longer. And since the number of Americans with Alzheimer's is projected to triple to 14 million people by 2050, Dr. Mahoney's research could potentially save \$1.2 billion in annual health care costs resulting from early patient institutionalization.

Dr. Mahoney will use a two-year \$452,000 research grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) through the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) to create a prototype "smart" dresser called Development of a Responsive Emotive Sensing System, or DRESS. Using a sensor-based system installed into an ordinary home dresser, people with Alzheimer's would be prompted with visual and spoken cues to open each drawer in sequence and eventually dress themselves.

Although there are many advantages of such a system, Dr. Mahoney said some caregivers believe technology would replace them—which she said is far from the truth.

"Despite the hype accompanying many new technologies, they cannot replace the qualities that make us human," she said. "It is not 'high tech versus high touch,' care but technology to complement and sustain caregivers so they can provide the warmth and nurturing care that technology can't provide."

From 2011-2013, Dr. Mahoney used a \$180,000 grant from the Alzheimer's Association to create an initial concept model and conduct focus groups to assess its functionality. Her work recently received the first place award for the best leading-edge technology presentation and poster at the International Society of Gerontechnology's world conference in Taiwan.

School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences Associate Professor Regina Doherty, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA, FNAP, who is program director of the Department of Occupational Therapy, will work with Dr. Mahoney on the research.



Mahoney with an early prototype of her DRESS system.

Culminating 30 Years of Research

For Professor Emerita BA Harris, having an article on her research on post-hip surgery therapy published February in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* (JAMA) is the culmination of three decades of work.

The article, "Effect of a Home-Based Exercise Program on Functional Recovery Following Rehabilitation After Hip Fracture," was the result of a five-year grant funded in 2005 by the National Institute of Nursing Research. It was the culmination of studying a topic that Harris, PT, DPT, MS, has been interested in—and helped generate more than \$15 million in research funding—since she was an Institute student in the early 1980s.

"[Principal Investigator, and current Institute Professor] Alan Jette and I have been involved in improving care of patients with hip fracture since the early days of the IHP, when we got together to study this topic with initial funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation," said Dr. Harris, who retired in 2012. "It was great to get this information out to such a broad audience of health professionals because it could really change the expectations of how well an elderly person can recover from a broken hip."

Dr. Harris enlisted dozens of students to help the research over the years. Many continued to work with her after they graduated, such as Diane M. Heislein '91, and Poonam Pardasaney '04, '06, and Marie Giorgetti '91, who co-authored the JAMA article along with lead author Nancy Latham from the Health and Disability Research Institute at Boston University's School of Public Health.

"It was a wonderful way to give students a hands-on experience in a research project," said Harris, "and to have graduates continue to participate years afterwards shows how it impacted them while studying at the Institute."

tion (OSCE) with male African-American standardized patients. With their mentor, Professor **Diane Mahoney**, they will develop a benchmark educational training video that students can use to compare how they interacted with a standardized patient.

■ President **Janis Bellack** recently was appointed to the board of directors and board of managers at Partners HealthCare International, a division of Partners HealthCare System, and to the board of trustees for the Center for Medical Simulation, which is located in the Navy Yard.

■ Two faculty members were promoted for the 2014-2015 academic year: **Emily Sheff** was promoted to Clinical Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing, and **Mary Riotte** was promoted to Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders.

■ **Katherine Anderson**, director of Financial Aid, has been elected president of the Massachusetts Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.

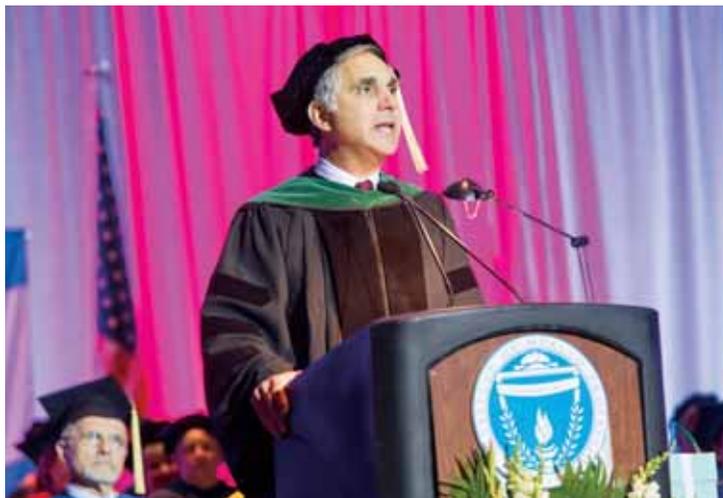
Commencement 2014

Partners CEO Dr. Gary Gottlieb Gives Keynote Address

Dr. Gary Gottlieb, President and CEO of Partners HealthCare System, spoke passionately about the continued discrepancy in health care outcomes among under-represented minorities in the United States during his keynote speech at the MGH Institute's 34th Commencement ceremonies on May 8.

Dr. Gottlieb cited statistics in which African-American men live five years less, and women three years less, than their white counterparts.

"Despite remarkable improvements in science and breathtaking advances in the care and rehabilitation of the very ill, we remain disturbed by the failures of our current system," he told the audience of more than 2,000 at the Hynes Convention Center. "We are appropriately concerned that health care costs will continue to crowd out our ability to support those who need us most today, while preventing critical investments in our future. Racial, ethnic, and



Dr. Gottlieb urged the new graduates to make a difference.

socioeconomic disparities of health care outcome and delivery continue to plague us and reflect perhaps the greatest failures of our system."

The Class of 2014, whose 535 students hail from 28 states and five countries, is the largest class in the school's 37-year history.

"You are our greatest opportunity to make good on the promise of humane, safe, and excellent health care that can and will be accountable to the demands and expectations of the people of the United States and other countries in which you choose to serve over the course of your

magnificent careers," he said. "The opportunities for you in this environment are limitless and your leadership will give us a splendid pathway to excellence, great effectiveness, and a newfound efficiency."



Students' Stories from the Class of 2014

Each of the Institute's 535 new graduates has a personal account of their experience as a student. Here are three of them.

Cary Kandel

Cary Kandel turned a serious medical condition to her advantage as a physical therapist.

Kandel has become a more empathetic caregiver since being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS) in March 2012 during her first year in the Doctor of Physical Therapy program.

"I've met a lot of patients who have had serious diagnoses, but having MS has allowed me to connect with what they are going through," explained Kandel, who gave the keynote speech at the Department of Physical Therapy awards and hooding ceremony at Commencement and who is now a staff physical therapist at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City.



The Class of 2014 DPT contingent in the Cape Cod Getaway included: Alyssa Melvin, Kandel, Arthur Long, Eric Hanyak, friend Jensen Proebstel, Nicole Keeman, Matt McClees, Jacob Ross, and Beth Ann Rutolo.

She admits she was very concerned when she first learned of her condition, since there was no advance warning. After beginning treatment in May 2012, she needed to take three weeks off from school to allow her body to recover.

"At times I was more concerned with falling behind in class than I was about the disease," she said. "Fortunately, my professors reminded me that I had to take care of myself first and told me not to worry about school. I really appreciated that."

continued on page 11

Kaleigh Gilpin

Kaleigh Gilpin was in her sweats on March 26, studying for her end-of-semester finals when she first heard something that sounded like a vacuum in her Boylston Street apartment in Boston's Back Bay.

In fact, it was an old fire alarm. Minutes later, as she and her boyfriend watched from her third-floor front window, the first fire engine arrived. Soon, smoke was pouring through the hallways, so she grabbed her backpack and the couple headed out the back window onto a rickety fire escape that allowed them to flee to safety.

Unfortunately, two firefighters were killed battling the blaze.

"It was awful. We heard the mayday call come in while we were standing in front of the building," recalled Gilpin, who graduated this year with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. "I feel so badly for the two firefighters who lost their lives and for their families."

Gilpin escaped with just her wallet and cell phone, as she didn't have time to grab her laptop, nursing books, or class notes as 50-miles-per-hour winds whipped the blaze into an inferno. But the MGH Institute community rallied to help her, starting with a call from School of Nursing Dean Laurie Lauzon Clabo only an hour after the fire began to make sure she was safe. Soon, classmates set up a website to help raise funds so the couple could get back on their feet. The Institute provided additional financial aid, and several faculty let the couple stay in their homes until they could find a new apartment.



Gilpin felt fortunate to have escaped from the blaze.

continued on page 11

Kayla Suarez

As a bilingual child who spent her days at her Cuban grandmother's house in the Nevada desert, the last thing Kayla Suarez could have predicted was to attend graduate school in Boston.

Her family had strong roots in the Reno area, having lived there for more than 60 years. And due to the tragic death of a younger brother while he was in high school, Suarez felt pressure from her family to remain close to home.



Suarez's family flew in from Nevada to see her graduate.

"It was completely uncharacteristic to move across the country, especially since I'm usually pretty cautious and don't take risks," said Suarez, who graduated with a Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology. "But it was something I felt I had to do in order to learn more about myself and grow as a person, and I haven't regretted it for a minute."

Her path to the Institute was not a traditional one. After graduating from high school, she chose to attend a local community college for her first two years while simultaneously attending state university to save money. Even with the help of her parents, both of whom work full-time, the bulk of the financial burden fell on her shoulders.

She earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education, spending her last two years at the University of Nevada Reno with the help of a state scholarship package. She wasn't long into her first teaching job when she discovered she was drawn to speech pathology.

continued on page 11

Two Graduates from the CSD Program Receive Alumni Awards

Allan B. Smith '96, PhD, CCC-SLP, received the Bette Ann Harris Distinguished Alumni Award, the Institute's most prestigious alumni honor. Nicole Silva '11, MS, CCC-SLP, received the Emerging Leader Alumni Award, which recognizes an individual who has graduated within the past 10 years.

Allan Smith

An associate professor and chair of the University of Maine Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, Dr. Smith has distinguished himself as a scholar, teacher, mentor, and administrator since graduating from the MGH Institute in 1996.

For the past dozen years, Dr. Smith's research efforts have focused on acoustic measurement of speech in children. In particular, he studies the timing of brief speech events such as syllables, words, and pauses to better understand typical and atypical speech and language development. This approach has helped identify a greater number of toddlers who have reading disabilities.

Currently, he and his students are investigating ways to detect earlier signs of speech, language, and reading disorders to improve understanding of how to remediate these problems.

Dr. Smith graduated from the Institute with a Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology and received his PhD from the University of Connecticut in 2002. He has co-authored more than a dozen peer-reviewed articles in highly prestigious journals, and delivered numerous presentations at national and international conferences.

"The MGH Institute can be especially proud of Dr. Smith's accomplishments because he shares the School's dedication to educating the next generation of health care leaders," said CSD Department Chair Gregory L. Lof, PhD, CCC-SLP. "Many of the program's graduates are helping remediate the shortage of speech-language pathologists in Maine to meet the related health care needs of the state's largely rural population."



Silva, left, and Smith have made their mark since graduating from the Institute.

Nicole Silva

Since graduating in 2011 with a Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology, Silva has been a leader at Hartford Hospital in improving treatment for patients who have communication and swallowing disorders.

Silva collaborated with physicians and respiratory therapists to create a tracheostomy team that has improved patient care through better communication and coordination among all health care professionals.

She also co-developed the first-of-its-kind disposable pressure-measurement device, which measures and tracks the progress of patients with a tracheostomy tube more accurately. The Pylant-Silva Manometer, which she designed

with respiratory care medical team coordinator Rogers Pylant, helps therapists identify when a patient should use a speaking valve. The device allows patients to communicate sooner and more effectively with loved ones and health professionals, has led to improved swallowing function, and has improved both patient functioning and satisfaction while also reducing infection rates and costs.

Silva has also led efforts to educate hospital staff on oral care and safe feeding of patients with swallowing disorders, and has collaborated with the nursing team to develop and incorporate new guidelines for oral care in patient care plans.

"Nicole continues to demonstrate an eagerness to promote evidence-based practice through her quest for knowledge and her passion for teaching others," said Rachel Slater, a speech-language pathologist, who was a mentor to Silva at Hartford Hospital. "Her initiative and drive to improve care for all patients is a unique quality that further exemplifies her passion for health care."

Reidy Named 2014 Nancy T. Watts Award Recipient

The drive to incorporate innovative teaching methods and put the interests of students first were major factors why School of Nursing Clinical Associate Professor Patricia Reidy, DNP, FNP-BC, was named the recipient of the 2014 Nancy T. Watts Award for Excellence in Teaching.

“The best thing I do is to prepare our students to become excellent nurse practitioners when they graduate,” said Dr. Reidy, who teaches theory and clinical courses in the Master of Science in Nursing program. “It’s a joy to see how far they’ve come and how much they’ve learned by the time they graduate three years after starting the program.”

Dr. Reidy joined the faculty in 2004, following a successful career as a family nurse practitioner. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Fitchburg State College and Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Lowell. Almost from the start, she played an influential role in advancing how the Institute prepares its students.

“Her commitment to her students’ educational experience and her personal relentless pursuit of excellence has never wavered,” said Assistant Dean Catherine Franklin, DNP, RN, FNP-C.

Dr. Reidy was instrumental in creating the first of the simulation labs on campus that are now used by nursing, physical therapy, and speech-language pathology students—an initiative that resulted in the school receiving a Laerdal SimMan Patient Simulator from the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education in 2009. Using a separate grant to develop critical learning situations, she then helped create the home health care simulation unit on the first floor of the Shouse Building.

She laughs that she has become a victim of her hard work: “It’s harder to book the sim lab space because more and more faculty are using it,” said Dr. Reidy, who earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in 2009 while continuing to teach full time.

She also played a leading role in bringing to campus an Electronic Health Records system so students can apply the most up-to-date record-keeping process in their clinical rotations.



(L-R) Nursing Assistant Professor Ellen Long-Middleton, left, and Reidy (2nd from left) with students at Commencement.

Most recently, she spearheaded the Institute’s participation in the Crimson Care Collaborative, where nurse practitioner students team with Harvard Medical School students to provide interprofessional care to patients at several Massachusetts General Hospital health care facilities in greater Boston.

“She truly believes in pursuing groundbreaking educational methods to create practical educational experiences, cultivating exceptional nurse practitioners,” said Ryan Waters, MS ’14, who participated with Dr. Reidy at the extracurricular collaborative over the past two years. “She goes above and beyond the classroom to bring aspiring students into real-world practice, promoting application-based learning.”

According to Dr. Reidy, who maintains a clinical association at Family Health Center of Worcester, it’s just how she teaches. “It’s a lot of work, but it’s very fulfilling and worth the effort,” she said.

Stories from the Class of 2014, *continued from page 9*

Cary Kandel

Just months after being diagnosed, she volunteered to help at the annual Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society’s Cape Cod Getaway bike fundraiser; in 2013, she completed the 150 mile race with a team that included several classmates.

“Having MS is something that’s always going to be in the back of my mind,” admitted Kandel, who will perform at the Ailey Citigroup Theatre in NYC as part of the Ailey Extension’s World Dance Celebration over the summer. “I’m going to keep enjoying life and my job.”

Kaleigh Gilpin

But through it all, she was able to recreate her notes, borrow textbooks, and catch up in her clinical courses.

“I had come this far so I was determined to finish on time,” said Gilpin, who in 2013 was in a restaurant just blocks away from the second Boston Marathon bomb and plans to run the 2015 race in memory of the fallen firefighters. “I can’t say enough about the help I received from everyone at the Institute.”

Kayla Suarez

“It was frustrating not being able to give students the one-on-one attention they deserved, so working as a speech pathologist appealed to me,” she said.

Her family, including her parents, her youngest brother, and other family members, cheered her on at Commencement. But while she plans to stay in the Boston area for now, the fact that Nevada is among the states most in need of SLPs may eventually lead her back home.

“I have a lot more to learn, so maybe I can bring that knowledge back to Nevada some day.”



SCHOOL of HEALTH and
REHABILITATION SCIENCES
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COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS



Carla Ryder Rousin '99 is still rocking it out in the Boston music scene, where she recently performed at Johnny D's in Somerville. After working the past 13 years at an elementary school in Mattapan with regular-education, autism, and sub-separate classrooms, in September she is scheduled to move to the Conley School in

Roslindale where she will be working with Early Childhood pupils.

Amanda (St. Jean) Martino '05 and her husband, Jeremy, had their first child, Julianne Lees Martino, in January. Martino is working at the Coventry Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Coventry, RI.



Kristen Zoller Chapin '09 (above) and her husband, Ian, had their second son, Ezra Jon, in January. He joins his older brother Jonah, who turned two in February. Chapin is a school-based SLP in central Maine.

Anna Hutt Fredman '10 co-presented the webinar *Beyond the Basics: Taking Visual Schedules to the Next Level* in May for the non-profit organization My Gateway to Overcoming Autism in Life (MyGOAL).

Caring for High-Profile Patients

It's not easy providing care to a celebrity, but two faculty members have done this in recent times without getting caught up in the media spotlight.

Department of Physical Therapy Clinical Assistant Professor Anne McCarthy Jacobson, PT, DPT, MS, NCS, and Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders Professor Marjorie Nicholas, PhD, CCC-SLP, detailed their efforts to an audience of students, faculty, and staff during a Schwartz Center Educational Rounds in April, entitled "Caring for a High-Profile Patient."

Dr. McCarthy Jacobson treated New England Patriots linebacker Tedy Bruschi for several months when he suffered a stroke after the team's 2005 Super Bowl victory. Because of the media attention surrounding one of the region's most recognizable athletes, Dr. McCarthy Jacobson treated him primarily at Gillette Stadium rather than at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, where she has been a practicing physical therapist specializing in neurology rehabilitation for more than 20 years.

Dr. Nicholas, who has focused on adult neurogenic communication disorders throughout her career, assisted former Arizona Democrat Rep. Gabrielle Giffords to relearn many communication skills. The congresswoman, who had been shot in the head during the tragic January 2011 shooting, was afflicted with aphasia, an inability to speak caused by brain trauma.

Dr. Nicholas, who also is Associate Chair of CSD and Associate Director of the PhD in Rehabilitation Sciences program, collaborated with colleague and mentor Nancy Helm-Estabrooks.

Both faculty spoke of the challenges of working with famous people while adhering to confidentiality standards.

"I had to overcome being star struck and maintain my professionalism to care for Gabby," said Dr. Nicholas. Added Dr. McCarthy, "It helped that I wasn't known by the media, so I could slip past them without them knowing who I was treating."

Eventually, both were publically recognized for their efforts: Dr. McCarthy Jacobson was prominently mentioned in Bruschi's book, *Never Give Up: My Stroke, My Recovery, and My Return to the NFL*, while Dr. Nicholas was interviewed on WBZ-TV 4 and in the *Boston Globe*.



Nicholas, left, and McCarthy Jacobson both faced challenges from the media.

"So many people wanted to know about him that there was a lot of misinformation published on the Internet," said Dr. McCarthy Jacobson. "I became very protective of him."

"It was disturbing when the media was so wrong," noted Dr. Nicholas. "I had to say things in a general way, like 'She's doing fine.' and 'It's great to work with her.' It was

a challenge not to say anything more that wasn't already in the public domain."

One issue both professors faced to various degrees was inquiries from their other patients about the level of care Bruschi and Giffords received. Most insurance plans have strict reimbursement caps on the amount of care and the duration of each session. At times, Bruschi and Giffords were treated several hours a day for several consecutive weeks—far longer than what is covered by insurance companies.

"Did Tedy get better faster because of the intensity of his treatments? Absolutely, but not everyone gets that," Dr. McCarthy Jacobson noted.

"People said it's not fair, and they are right," said Dr. Nicholas regarding Giffords' intensive treatment. "I wish we could give everyone the amount of care we gave to Gabby."

Seven Recognized at APTA Conference

Seven members of the greater MGH Institute physical therapy community were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the profession at the American Physical Therapy Association's 2014 NEXT Conference & Exposition on June 11-14.

Three alumni were named Catherine Worthingham Fellows of the APTA, the association's highest membership category honor, and four people received other awards.



The 2014 Catherine Worthingham Fellows are: Meryl I. Cohen, PT, DPT, MS, CCS (tDPT '03), instructor in the Department of Physical Therapy in the Miller School of Medicine at the University of Miami; Kathleen M. Gill-Body, PT, DPT, MS, PT, NCS (tDPT '02, MS '86), current adjunct faculty and former full-time faculty at the MGH Institute, and a senior physical therapist at Newton-Wellesley Hospital; and Nancy R. Kirsch, PT, DPT, PhD, (tDPT '05), professor and program director in the Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Sciences at the Rutgers School of Health Related Professions.

The Lucy Blair Service Award went to: Jane S. Baldwin, PT, DPT, NCS, interim associate chair for operations, clinical assistant professor, and coordinator of the Physical Therapy Center for Clinical Education and Health Promotion; and William Boissonnault, PT, DPT, DHS, FAAOMPT, FAPTA (tDPT '08), professor in the Department of Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine.

In addition: Poonam Pardasaney, PT, DPT, MS (tDPT '06, MS '04), who works as a research public health analyst at the nonprofit RTI International in greater Boston, received the Dorothy Briggs Scientific Inquiry Award for being the lead author of a research paper published in *Physical Therapy Journal*; and Diane U. Jette, PT, DSc, FAPTA, incoming associate chair and professor in the Department of Physical Therapy, received the Jules M. Rothstein Golden Pen Award for Scientific Writing for her overall writing contributions to the physical therapy profession.

School of Nursing Receives 10-Year Accreditation, *continued from page 1*

interviewed Institute trustees, the administration, and key members of the School's primary clinical sites, which include Massachusetts General Hospital, Brigham and Women's Hospital, and other locations.

"This is a wonderful achievement," said Dean Laurie Lauzon Clabo, PhD, RN. "It is gratifying that the School of Nursing is accomplishing its goal of providing an outstanding education for our students and that this work is recognized by our peers in nursing regulation."

The CCNE's evaluation report highlighted the School's status in four standards: Mission and Governance,

Institutional Commitment and Resources, Curriculum and Teaching-Learning Practices, and Aggregate Student and Faculty Outcomes. The evaluation team lauded the SON's use of rigorous quality-improvement processes to achieve measurable outcomes.

"This is an example of the accreditation process at its best," said Dean Lauzon Clabo. "This was true peer review, which applies both an inside and outside lens to examine everything we do. It confirms what we do well and focuses us on areas where we want to direct our attention toward being even better in the coming years."

Susan Fulginiti-Schmidt '11, a Certificate of Advanced Study in Reading graduate, received an award from the Stand for Children Leadership Center in Massachusetts for being an outstanding teacher at the Gardner Pilot Academy in Allston.

Carolyn Hsu '13 performed as Cinderella's Mother/Granny/Giant in Wakefield Repertory Theatre's spring production of Stephen Sondheim's *Into the Woods*. She works in the inpatient and outpatient services department at Whittier Rehabilitation Hospital in Westborough.



PHYSICAL THERAPY

Karen Gage Bensley '88 received the Distinguished Clinical Faculty Award from the University of New England's Department of Physical Therapy, where she is an adjunct assistant clinical professor. The award recognizes superior teaching within the university and outstanding clinical practice outside the university setting.

Ellen Tighe-Ventola '97 received two awards at the first annual Massachusetts General Hospital Service Excellence Awards in March. Tighe-Ventola, who works at the hospital's Revere HealthCenter Center, was recognized in the Most Improved in Staff Helpfulness and Exceeding the 90th Percentile in MD categories.

Julie Bastille '02, who works at Northeast Rehabilitation Hospital in Portsmouth, NH, was guest speaker at the monthly meeting of the Rochester Parkinson's Support Group in February, where she discussed and provided demonstrations of Neuro-Yoga, a program for people with movement disorders.

Michael Sullivan '02, Director of Physical and Occupational Therapy Services at Massachusetts General Hospital, received a Target Achievement award at the hospital's first annual Service Excellence Awards in March.

Andrew Bennett '04 served as a faculty member at the fourth annual Manipalooza, which was held at the University of Colorado Denver in May. The three-day festival featured hands-on learning in manipulation, soft-tissue techniques, pain management strategies, sports physical therapy, and practice management.

Lisa MacDonnell '05 was cited in a *Foxboro Reporter* story in March for her contributions in developing the Adapted Physical Education program for the Foxboro school system.

CLASS NOTES

Susan A. (Tkatch) Gaetani '06 presented a research poster entitled "Improving Mandibular Asymmetry Associated with Congenital Muscular Torticollis Using an Early Physical Therapy Intervention" at the APTA's CSM event in February. She has been a senior physical therapist at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh since 2010.

Marilyn Moffat '06 shared ways to promote balance with age to minimize the risks of falling in an article in the Gloversville, NY, *Leader-Herald* in April.

Bryan Coleman-Salgado '07 was appointed to the rank of assistant professor in the Department of Physical Therapy at California State University in Sacramento.

Carole B. Lewis '07 was featured in an article in the April edition of the *Arthritis Foundation* magazine. She works at Professional SportCare & Rehab in the Washington, D.C., area, and is an adjunct professor in the department of geriatrics at George Washington University

William G. Boissonnault '08, who has been president of the Board of Trustees of the nonprofit Foundation for Physical Therapy since 2009, announced the organization raised \$3 million to fund a new Center of Excellence which will be dedicated to training physical therapists in health services research.

Bert Reid '08, co-owner of Olympic Physical Therapy in Middletown, RI, authored the article "Smart Fitness: Rebuilding You – Getting ready for 'Fitness Season'" in *The Independent of Rhode Island* in March.

Jesse Resari '08 was recently promoted to lead physical therapist for the Center for Acute Back Care at Kaiser Permanente in Fontana, CA. He also received recertification as an orthopaedic clinical specialist through 2023.

Mark Lueck '12 authored the article titled "Managing the Meniscus (Part 1)," which was published in *Dynamic Chiropractic* in May. He is a staff physical therapist specializing in outpatient orthopaedics at Bay State Physical Therapy in Arlington.

Brett MacLennan '13 began a 13-month orthopaedic residency program in January at the University of Delaware.

Mohini Rawat '13, clinical director of Hands-On EMG Testing in Astoria, NY, recently became one of the state's only four clinical specialists in electrophysiology testing.

Institute to Co-Sponsor Two Events with Mass General Hospital

The MGH Institute and Massachusetts General Hospital are teaming up to co-sponsor two conferences in September.

- On September 13, the Institute and Massachusetts General Hospital Academy will present "Demystifying Marijuana: A Multidisciplinary Examination" at Bunker Hill Community College. Continuing Education credits are available. To register, go to www.mghcme.org/marijuana.
- On September 27, the Institute and the hospital's physical therapy department will present the annual Marjorie K. Ionta Symposium, "Innovations in Rehabilitation of Lower Extremity Amputees from Blast Injuries." Held at the Institute's Navy Yard campus, it is open to all rehabilitation health care providers. Special rates for alumni at www.mghihp.edu/ionta.

Doctor of Occupational Therapy Begins, *continued from page 1*

care, care of others, and to resume their roles and responsibilities in the community is the essence of client-centered occupational therapy," said Dr. Connor. "To have the capability to train students to work with clients in a home-like setting equipped with state-of-the-art technology and integrated classroom and laboratory space is an incredible opportunity."

The OTD program is part of the Institute's School of Health and Rehabilita-

tion Sciences (SHRS). Together with physical therapy and speech-language pathology, SHRS now offers a full complement of rehabilitation health professions education degrees.

"Now, all students at the Institute will have opportunities to work with and learn from each other using an inter-professional model of education that has been a hallmark of the Institute since its founding," said SHRS Dean Leslie Portney, PT, DPT, PhD, FAPTA.

Boston Strong at 2014 Marathon, *continued from page 1*

was in the medical tent at last year's marathon and did not leave until the last patient had been taken care of. "She said she got it and wore it specifically to give to a volunteer to show her support. This small, thoughtful gesture quickly helped to return normalcy to a fun event and, once again, reminded me of how most people are truly good."

Other volunteers included Dave Nolan DPT '06, who once again led more than 80 physical therapy professionals and students at the Copley Square finish line, Roz Puleo NS '11, and Michael Monteiro DPT '13.

The three members of Team IHP who were unable to complete the 2013 race—Communication Sciences and Disorders faculty members Joanna Christodoulou and Margaret Kjellaard '97, and Physical Therapy alumna Kate Breen Grevelding '00, '02—were joined this year by Kara

Beckwith Coffin SLP '11 and Master of Science in Nursing student Matthew Ellam '15. All five finished this year.

Others who ran included: first-year Master of Science in Nursing student Megan Hall (for Massachusetts General Hospital for Children, where she is a member of the Pediatric Oncology team), and MGH Institute Board of Trustees member Oswald "Oz" Mondejar and Physical Therapy alumna Jessica Guilbert '11, both of whom work for Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital.

Many who assisted survivors in hospitals last year were part of the record crowd of spectators. "Growing up in Boston, Patriot's Day was always a big deal," said Vanessa Marie Arone DPT '11, who works at Massachusetts General Hospital. "It was good to see Bostonians showing off their resilience and spirit."



Schweitzer Fellow Plan Will Provide Free Extended Care to Brain Injury Patients

Jie (Kingsley) Yang, PhD, will spend the next year as an Albert Schweitzer Fellow creating a sustaining program that will provide free rehabilitation service and save thousands of dollars in out-of-pocket expenses for people living with the long-term effects of concussion and traumatic brain injury (TBI).

A first-year student in the Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology program, Yang will use the fellowship's \$2,000 stipend to spend 200 hours designing and implementing the initiative to provide free extended rehabilitation to brain injury survivors at the Institute's Speech, Language and Literacy Center.



Yang in the Speech, Language and Literacy Center, where she will work with patients during her year as an Albert Schweitzer Fellow.

"With patients being allowed just 20 visits over six months in many cases, that's not even close to covering what they truly need to recover," said Yang, who is the 34th IHP student to be named a Boston Schweitzer Fellow since the program was started in 1992 and one of just 14 graduate students in the 2014-2015 cohort. "I'm not aware that there's a free service like this anywhere else in the Greater Boston area, so it will be important to reach out to these patients to fill the gap in the community."

She plans to recruit patients through the Spaulding Rehabilitation Network, where she will work with speech pathologist Magdalen A. Balz, MS, CCC-SLP, at the hospital's new Navy Yard facility. She is being mentored at the Institute by Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders Professor Marjorie Nicholas, PhD, CCC-SLP, and Assistant Professor Lauren Zipse, PhD, CCC-SLP.

Yang, who earned a PhD in psychology from Beijing Normal University in her native China, moved to the United States and started her post-doctoral research on brain functions of people with TBI at Wayne State University School of Medicine. While there, she worked with an interprofessional team of neuroim-

aging scientists, neuropsychologists, neurologists, and emergency medicine physicians at Detroit Medical Center.

After completing her post-doc work, she moved to Boston to enter the Institute's SLP program where, despite a heavy course schedule, she was determined to improve TBI patients' quality of life.

Through her initiative, called the Extended Cognitive and Psychosocial Enhancement Program, she will focus on three core components: cognitive skills, psychosocial strategies, and self-reflection approaches to help people with TBI regain connections with their life.

"If people with TBI can function better and be more aware of their strengths and weaknesses, they're more capable to handle going back to work and participating in social life," Yang said. "That moment of synergy in their recovery is when we know we have done something meaningful for them."

Theresa Sweeney Barnett '96 recently accepted a position as primary care provider at the University of Connecticut Health Center in Farmington. She is also part of a research team for the Yale University Program on Aging, and is an active member of the state's Mothers Against Destructive Decisions Advisory Board.

Katie Regan '97 joined the Stanford Cancer Center's Department of Hematology in February as a nurse practitioner.

Timothy Walsh '97, deputy fire chief of the Woonsocket, RI, fire department, was appointed director of the city's Emergency Management Agency.

Julie Lane Frederiksen '02 has joined Coin Neurology in Wilmington, NC, as a nurse practitioner.

Walid Zairi '10, who works at Maimonides Hospital in New York, was one of only 12 applicants recently accepted into the Hartford Anesthesia program. He plans to pursue his CRNA through its Master of Science in Biological Sciences program with a specialization in anesthesia.

Malisa (Iannino) Frakes '11 married Michael Allan Frakes in June. She works as a nurse practitioner in the neonatal intensive care unit at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center in Worcester.



Photography by Zev Fisher

Jennifer (Singer) Morris '13 married Scott Morris in September 2013. She recently started a new position at Massachusetts General Hospital in the Blood Transfusion Service in the Department of Pathology. "I am currently working with outpatient blood and blood-product transfusions, as well as performing apheresis procedures for stem cell collection and therapeutic plasma exchange. I am getting lots of IV experience over here," she writes. Previously, she worked at Chelsea Skilled Nursing Rehabilitation on a rehabilitation floor.



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