News from the Foundation for Physical Therapy

Recipients in the News

Mark Dyer Diehl, PT, MPT, PhD, recipient of a Mary McMillan doctoral scholarship in 2003 and a Promotion of Doctoral Studies (PODS) II scholarship in 2006, recently completed his doctorate at the School of Medicine, Virginia Commonwealth University. He now is Assistant Professor at the Krannert School of Physical Therapy at the University of Indianapolis. His dissertation was titled “Visual Contributions to the Vestibulo-ocular Reflex During Balance Recovery Tasks.”

Two articles appearing in this month’s issue of PTJ are based on Foundation-funded research.

Stacey C Dusing, PT, PhD, recipient of a 2002 Mary McMillan scholarship and a 2005 PODS II scholarship, co-authored “Gross Motor Development of Children With Hurler Syndrome After Umbilical Cord Blood Transplantation” with Deborah E Thorpe, PT, PhD, PCS, Vicki S Mercer, PT, PhD, Angela E Rosenberg, PT, DrPH, Michele D Poe, PhD, and Maria L Escolar, MD. The findings are based, in part, on Dusing’s dissertation work, which was supported by her Foundation awards. This is a companion paper to “Temporal and Spatial Gait Characteristics of Children With Hurler Syndrome After Umbilical Cord Blood Transplantation,” written by this group and published in the August 2007 issue of PTJ. Thorpe received a doctoral training grant from the Foundation in 1997.

“Age-Related Changes in Strength, Joint Laxity, and Walking Patterns: Are They Related to Knee Osteoarthritis?” co-authored by Katherine S Rudolph PT, PhD, Laura Schmitt, PT, PhD, and Michael Lewek, PT, PhD, is based, in part, on research done by Schmitt while supported by a 2004 PODS II award.

Rudolph is a member of the Foundation’s Scientific Review Committee. She received a doctoral training grant in 1997. Lewek also received a PODS II scholarship (2002).

The Foundation’s Policy on Research Integrity

Since the 2005 discovery that Woo Suk Hwang and members of his laboratory at the Seoul National University in South Korea fabricated embryonic stem cell research findings that were published in Science magazine in 2004 and 2005, the issue of integrity in research has become a much discussed topic within the research community and at research institutions. These discussions have led to many institutions creating and adopting research integrity policies. The Foundation has always expected research of the highest integrity, and, to ensure that all applicants for Foundation funding are aware of the Foundation’s position, the Board of Trustees recently codified its ethical expectations into a policy. The policy states:

The inherent requirement of integrity in the quest for knowledge and in the conduct of research is fundamental to any scholarly endeavor. The Foundation for Physical Therapy expects that the highest ethical standards and compliance with public laws and regulations will be adhered to by all recipients when undertaking any type of research supported by Foundation funds. It is expected that Foundation recipients will:

- Be intellectually honest in proposing, performing, and reporting research;
- Be accurate in representing contribution in research proposals and reports;
- Be fair in peer reviews;
- Be transparent in conflicts of interest or potential conflicts of interest;
- Ensure the protection of human subjects in the conduct of research in compliance with the Department of Health and Human Services’ regulations governing the protection of human subjects;
- Ensure humane care of animals in the conduct of research in compliance with Public Health Service’s policy on humane care and treatment of laboratory animals; and,
- Adhere to the mutual responsibilities between investigators and their research teams.

All applicants for Foundation funding must agree to meet these standards to be considered for funding.

CSM Events Benefit the Foundation

You are invited to attend 2 events hosted by APTA sections during Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) 2008, in Nashville, Tennessee, that will benefit the Foundation.

The Sports Section will host the “Rockin’ and Swingin’ in Music City” Gala and Silent Auction on Thursday, February 7, from 8:00 PM to midnight. The Gala will include live music, dancing, raffles, door prizes, and the ever-popular Sports Physical Therapy Section Silent Auction.

The Home Health Section will host the “Starbucks Coffee Open House” on Friday, February 8, from 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM. Enjoy a variety of coffee blends and food pairing samples while you chat with Foundation-funded researchers, friends, and colleagues over coffee. Gentiva, a
Foundation Partner in Research, is sponsoring the Coffee Tasting for the third year.

Tickets for each event are $20 ($10 for students) and may be purchased by calling the APTA Service Center at 800/999-2782, ext 3395.

**Give the Gift of Good Health: Age-Defying Fitness**

Give the gift of good health to your friends and loved ones this holiday season. On sale now through the Foundation is: *Age-Defying Fitness: Making the Most of Your Body for the Rest of Your Life*, written by two leaders in the physical therapy profession, Marilyn Moffat, PT, DPT, PhD, CSCS, FAPTA, and Carole Lewis, PT, PhD, GCS, FAPTA.

Each book is autographed by both authors and comes with a Theraband resistance band to use with the easy-to-follow exercises for increasing strength, muscle tone, balance, and vitality. Order your gift copies from the Foundation at $21 each or 2 for $36, a $6 savings. Find an order form on the Foundation Web site at www.FoundationforPhysicalTherapy.org under Applications/Guidelines for Scholarships and Grants. If you need further assistance, please contact Victoria Matthews at 800/999-2782, ext 8505, or victoriamatthews@apta.org.

**Use Your IRA to Advance Physical Therapy**

Before the end of 2007, you can use your individual retirement account (IRA) to advance the physical therapy profession.

The Pension Protection Act of 2006, which continues until the end of this year, presents a new giving opportunity for anyone who is age 70½ years or older to make a gift to the Foundation and receive the highest tax advantage.

The law allows donors to make gifts to qualified charitable organizations using funds transferred directly from their IRA. You will not have to pay taxes on the amounts transferred. And you can transfer any amount, up to $100,000, until December 31, 2007. That’s when this special provision expires.

If you would like assistance in making a gift from your IRA, please contact Christine Williams at 800/875-1378 or 800/999-2782, ext 3178, or Foundation@apta.org. For more ideas about making a gift to the Foundation, go to www.FoundationforPhysicalTherapy.org.


**Scholarship and Fellowship Application Deadline in January**

Mark your calendars! **Tuesday, January 15, 2008**, at 5:00 pm (ET), is the deadline for submitting an application for the Foundation’s Promotion of Doctoral Studies (PODS) I and II scholarships and New Investigator Fellowship Training Initiative (NIFTI) fellowship.

Submissions will be accepted only through the Foundation’s online proposal application system. The guidelines, instructions, and online applications for both funding opportunities can be found at www.FoundationforPhysicalTherapy.org under Applications/Guidelines for Scholarships and Grants. If you need further assistance, please contact Victoria Matthews at 800/999-2782, ext 8505, or victoriamatthews@apta.org.