

HANDS ON

SCHOOL OF PHYSIOTHERAPY

WINTER 2003



State of the Art Motion Analysis Laboratory Up and Running



Testing in Progress.

We have now established a major new motion analysis laboratory. The lab is located in a purpose built circular building and provides a world class facility for motion analysis research. A fifty-metre runway extends through the middle of the building when the double doors are opened allowing the opportunity to evaluate sprinting and related activities. We have been successful in acquiring significant funding to allow us to purchase a new 6 camera Peak motion analysis system and to upgrade our existing Peak system. The cameras and force platforms are



Geoff Straus, Paul Davy & Anne Crouch examine the data.

now operational so the lab is open for business. Associate Professor Leon Straker will use the laboratory to conduct an NHMRC funded research study in coming months and it is envisaged that the facility will be used for a wide variety of research studies in the future.

Graduate Entry Master of Physiotherapy

The School of Physiotherapy is proud to announce that it has graduated its first cohort of Master of Physiotherapy (Graduate Entry) students. This program provides an alternative avenue for admission into Physiotherapy. The eleven students graduating from the School have diverse backgrounds including Human Movement and Exercise Science, Anatomy and Human Biology, Life Sciences, Kinesiology, Health and Physical Education. Two of our graduating students are from Canada, two from Victoria and the remaining are from Western Australia.



Master of Physiotherapy (Graduate Entry) students



Christopher Napier

We all admire the tenacity and courage of these students who have paved the way for subsequent student groups. It has been a learning experience not only for the students but also for the school and we are very pleased that the program has been so successful.

We are also proud to announce that Christopher Napier has been awarded two prizes for his achievements in the Master of Physiotherapy program. They are: Lifecare Award for the most outstanding final year student and the National Physiotherapists in Leadership and Management (WA Chapter) of the Australian Physiotherapy Association Prize for the most outstanding student. At the end of each semester

of the program the students, clinical tutors and facility supervisors and educators within the School of Physiotherapy were involved in providing feedback about the program and their teaching and learning experiences. As a result of this feedback and discussions, a number of changes have been implemented particularly with respect to the introductory and clinical programs and the research stream.

Clinicians, facilities and educators have commented that the main strengths of the Master of Physiotherapy students are their maturity, interpersonal and communication skills, willingness to learn, motivation and enthusiasm. A special feature of this first group of graduates is the supportive and collaborative dynamic that exists in the group. The Students selected for this program are required to have demonstrated an above average academic performance in their undergraduate degree and have appropriate pre-requisites. The characteristics of a successful student lie with them entering the program with a sound knowledge in human anatomy, human biology or physiology and psychology and in them having a great desire and commitment to learn and be a physiotherapist.

The School of Physiotherapy Prize Giving Ceremony for our top 2002 students was held in February.

Congratulations to the following outstanding students.

PHYSIOTHERAPY PRIZES

- The Australian Physiotherapy Association (Western Australian Branch) Prize for: The first year physiotherapy student with the highest academic results
Kym Tognolini
- I.O Thorburn Prize for : The First Year Physiotherapy Student with the Highest Results in Anatomy
Kym Tognolini
- The Australian Physiotherapy Association (Western Australian Branch) Prize for: The second year physiotherapy student with the highest academic results
Alison Baird
- Dr Lindsay Michael Prize for : The Second Year Physiotherapy Student with the Highest Results in Anatomy
Natalie Iddon
- National Continence and Women's Health Group of the Australian Physiotherapy Association (WA Chapter) Prize for : The third year student with the highest results in the Women's Health module of Physiotherapy Practice 352:
Mark Gince and Olivia Moulton
- The Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Australia (WA Chapter) Prize for : The third year student with the highest results in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy:
Jane Osborne
- National Cardiothoracic Group of the Australia Physiotherapy Association (WA Chapter) "Jane Kinging" Prize for : The third year physiotherapy student with the highest results in Cardiopulmonary Science:
Lisa Shircore
- National Gerontology Group of the Australian Physiotherapy Association (WA Chapter) Prize for: The third year student with the highest results in the Gerontology module of Physiotherapy Practice 352:
Lisa Shircore
- Blackwell Scientific Publications Prize for: The Third Year Physiotherapy Student with the Highest Results in Sports Physiotherapy
Laura Matthews
- The National Neurology Group (WA Chapter) of the Australian Physiotherapy Association prize for : The 3rd year student with the highest results in Neuroscience
Serena Blackney
- The National Private Practitioners' Group of the Australian Physiotherapy Association (WA Chapter) Prize for : The fourth year physiotherapy student with the highest results in Physiotherapy Management 450
Cristina Chiari, Kyla Moyle, Hayley Woods



Cristina Chiari, Kyla Moyle & Hayley Woods receive their prize from Ms Liz Perrott, President, WA Branch, APA

- The National Paediatric Special Group (WA Chapter) of the Australian Physiotherapy Association Prize for : The fourth year student who demonstrates enthusiasm for paediatric physiotherapy, innovative practice and a strong theoretical knowledge in the completion of a self-directed placement:
Ern-Minn Lim, Crystal Loi
- Physiotherapy Research Foundation Prize for : The First Class Honours student submitting the best thesis
Anna Mein
Effects of lifestyle changes on bone mineral density in young women. Supervised by Dr Kathy Briffa
Craig Wilson
Knee flexor muscle group active/passive stiffness: influence of induced fatigue via repeated concentric and eccentric contractions
Supervised by Geoff Strauss
- Lifecare Award for: The most outstanding Honours student with the highest clinical marks:
Craig Wilson
- The School of Physiotherapy Prize for the best Honours Presentation
Ariane Aldus
Identifying physically active adolescents using long and short self report questionnaires Supervised by Dr Tom Briffa
Anna Mein
Effects of lifestyle changes on bone mineral density in young women Supervised by Dr Kathy Briffa
Royce Vermeulen
Protection after exercise-induced muscle damage against repeated bouts of eccentric exercise in mdx mice
Supervised by Peter Hamer and Geoff Strauss
Craig Wilson
Knee flexor muscle group active/passive stiffness: influence of induced fatigue via repeated concentric and eccentric contractions Supervised by Geoff Strauss
- The Australian Physiotherapy Association Marcus (Joe) Rosen Prize for: The graduating student (not undertaking Honours) with the most outstanding clinical results:
Alicia Misztal

POSTGRADUATE PRIZES

- Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Australia (WA Chapter) "Brian Edwards" Prize for: The Master in Manipulative Therapy students with the best clinical results
Jane Freure
- Sports Physiotherapy Australia (WA Chapter) Prize for: The most outstanding student with the highest clinical result:
Timothy Smith
- Archive Book Merchants Prize for : The best Master of Manipulative Therapy student in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy
Jane Freure
- The Sports Medicine Australia (WA Branch) Prize for The most outstanding student in the Master in Sports Physiotherapy
Timothy Smith
- The Elsevier Book Prize for the Masters or Doctoral student publishing the best article in a Scientific Journal. Article entitled : Is there a difference in hip joint position sense between young and older groups?
Christine Pickard



Chris Pickard receives her prize from Dr. Leon Straker

Retirement of Professor Joan Cole

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Prof. Joan Cole for her enormous contribution to the School and the Physiotherapy profession over the years and wish her well for her retirement. I realise that retirement is a relative term because Joan will undoubtedly remain busy with a range of projects for several years to come.

Professor Cole has a very long association with the School having joined the staff in 1975 when the School was part of WAIT. She has fulfilled many different roles over the years and was of course Head of School for more than 10 years prior to stepping down from that position in 2000. Joan's leadership was of great importance to the expansion and development of the School in the 1990s.

Joan has also made a major contribution to the broader University having been Chair of Academic Board and acting Deputy Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences as well as contributing to many university committees and other initiatives.

Joan has made a very significant contribution to physiotherapy and health care generally through her research contributions over the years. Her research on pre-term neonates has had a significant impact on clinical practice in Australia and internationally. It is a great credit to her that her research has actually made a difference to the lives of many individuals. As Physiotherapy research has emerged and developed at Curtin, Joan has played a very significant mentorship role in supervising Higher Degree research students. She is well known for the thoroughness of her approach to supervision and her ability to keep students on track. It is to her great credit that she has supervised 12 PhD students and a large number of Masters students to completion of their research degree. That large cohort of graduates is a lasting contribution that will ensure the development of physiotherapy research in years to come.

Professor Cole has fulfilled many roles within the APA including a term as National President. She served a period as Editor of the Australian Physiotherapy Journal and was chair of the Physiotherapists Registration Board of WA for many years. Currently she is working with ACOPRA to develop a new examination process for overseas Physiotherapists.

Joan is to be congratulated on a very illustrious career in which she has made a really substantial contribution to health care and physiotherapy.

Joan will continue to make a contribution to the School in the role of Emeritus Professor.



Prof. Joan Cole (2nd from right) celebrates her retirement

Graduate Entry Masters Program

We are happy to announce that the Graduate Entry Master of Physiotherapy program has received accreditation for 12 months from ACOPRA. This approval will allow graduates from the program to be registered within all jurisdictions in Australia.

This could not have been achieved without the very important contribution that a small cohort of people has made in steering the program through the accreditation process. Bea Tucker, Sue Jones and Geoff Strauss have done a tremendous job in putting together all of the information required by ACOPRA and Marilla Hogan made a terrific contribution in pulling together all of the paperwork. They have also been instrumental in ensuring the success of the program and progressing it to the stage where the first cohort of graduates is now completing their studies. Thanks for all of the hard work that this group and other staff in the School have put in to ensure the success of the GEM program.

We should also acknowledge the support of the profession for the GEM program. A great many people have made a contribution through committees and developmental processes and through the provision of clinical education opportunities. Thanks for that support.

This has been an important new initiative for the School and it is very pleasing to get such a resounding approval from the accreditation body and to see the graduates performing so well.

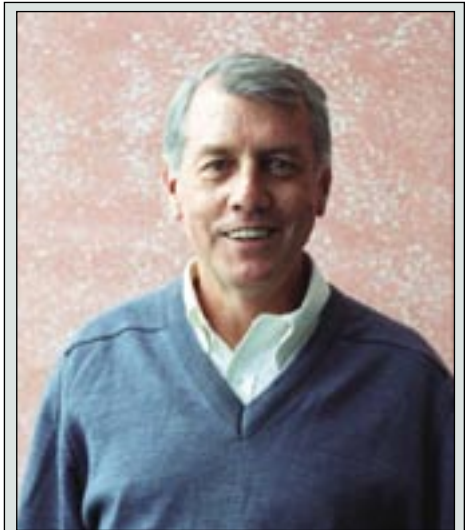
TONY WRIGHT

Outstanding Student Honoured

Congratulations to Craig Wilson, an Honours graduate on winning the 2002 Curtin Academic Staff Association Medal. Craig was selected from a field of high achieving Curtin University students across all disciplines. Craig's academic performance has been exceptional: he has received two awards for his Honours performance, as well as being on the Vice-Chancellor's List in each year of his program.



Pictured with Craig, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Lance Twomey and his parents Wilma and Ron Wilson.



Thankyou Bob Celebration at the School

A celebration was held in honour of Bob Elvey Friday May 30 who retired from his role as Coordinator of the Master of Manipulative Therapy. The Vice-Chancellor in his speech praised Bob for his outstanding contribution to the Manipulative Therapy program at Curtin. Bob has made an outstanding contribution to Physiotherapy over the years. He has an international reputation as an innovator in clinical practice and as an excellent teacher. Many students have come to Curtin from all parts of the world to train with Bob. Thankfully Bob will continue on as sessional lecturer.

2003 Physiotherapy Research Symposium

The annual Physiotherapy Research Symposium, which was held on February 28th, again showcased the diverse and high quality research being undertaken by both staff and students at Curtin School of Physiotherapy.



In a departure from tradition, invitations were extended to all graduating physiotherapy honours students in Australia to present their research alongside Curtin's top honours graduates. Director of Research for the School, Sara Carroll was delighted with the response with 13 interstate Honours graduates submitting abstracts and applying for travel bursaries. Melinda Purnell from the University of Sydney and Rebecca McInerney from the University of South Australia were selected to present their research together with Curtin's top graduates Anna Mein and Craig Wilson. All four honours graduates gave excellent presentations, demonstrating that the future of our profession is in good hands.

Not to be outdone by new graduates, Curtin staff and postgraduate

students also gave excellent presentations of their research work. Staff members Jenneper Downs and Helen Slater gave overviews of aspects of their PhD studies while Associate Professor Stephen Edmondston described a collaborative study on neck pain being undertaken at Osborne Park Hospital. Fittingly, the Symposium was concluded with a presentation by soon-to-retire Professor Joan Cole who took the audience on a historical journey through her interesting research career. The full lecture theatre of staff, students and clinicians attests to the success of the annual symposium; details about the 2004 Symposium will be included in the Summer Edition of Hands On.

The influence of fatigue on passive and active knee flexor stiffness

Mr Craig Wilson
Curtin University of Technology

Injuries in adolescent dance students: occurrence, perceived causes and treatment

Ms Melinda Purnell
The University of Sydney

Predicting outcome in total hip replacement patients using the Harris hip score and the 36 item short form health survey

Ms Rebecca McInerney
The University of South Australia

Effects of lifestyle on changes in bone mineral density in young women

Ms Anna Mein
Curtin University of Technology

The effect of education on home self management of chest treatments for primary schooled aged children with cystic fibrosis

Ms Jenny Downs
Curtin University of Technology

Designing and validating an experimental model for "tennis elbow"

Ms Helen Slater
Curtin University of Technology

Optimising clinical measures for patients with mechanical neck pain

Assoc Professor Steve Edmondston
Curtin University of Technology

Identifying opportunities for clinical research

Professor Joan Cole
Curtin University of Technology

