



Physical Therapy
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
PT LINK NEWSLETTER

September/October 2011: Volume 6, Number 5

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



It's hard to believe we are already into the Fall! We have welcomed **our new class** of 101 students, a record for the department! Our faculty has worked hard to accommodate this larger class, and we appreciate the extra effort and resourcefulness that has helped get this year's cohort off to a great start. For our graduating class of 2011, **Convocation** will be held on Tuesday, November 8th. Once again, the awards ceremony will be held in the Medical Sciences Building, in the McLeod Auditorium, Room 2158, followed by a reception in the Stone Lobby.

I am very pleased to announce that Dr. Kelly O'Brien has accepted the position of Assistant Professor, Tenure Stream, for the Department of Physical Therapy, effective January 1st. Kelly has been a Lecturer for the Department since 2001. She is also a Postdoctoral Fellow and Assistant Clinical Professor at McMaster University in the School of Rehabilitation Science. Kelly received her PhD in Clinical Epidemiology from the Department of Health Policy, Management & Evaluation at the University of Toronto. Kelly's areas of research include HIV, disability and rehabilitation. Her teaching will focus on the research curriculum within the MScPT program. We know Kelly's experience, expertise and talent will continue to be of great benefit to the Department. Congratulations Kelly!



Sheila Ritcey was presented with an Arbor Award on September 13th for her outstanding personal service to the University. The award is presented each year at the President's residence, to alumni who help make the U of T a better place to learn and work through their dedication and generosity. Sheila continues volunteer her services to the Department of Physical Therapy, and is currently the Director of Research and Development at Closing The Gap Healthcare Group.

L to R: Past winners Diane Gasner and Mary Sauriol; Katherine Berg; Gaye Walsh (winner - Occupational Science/Occupational Therapy); Susan Rappolt, Chair, Occupational Science/Occupational Therapy; Sheila Ritcey

Mark your calendars! Following are some upcoming events of interest:

- **October 13th, 2011:** Celebration to honour the full professorship of Dr. Dina Brooks (*see 'Department News' section below*)
- **November 3rd, 2011:** Rehab Rounds, Ian Joiner, Manager, Rehabilitation and Mental Health, CIHI
- **November 23rd, 2011:** Rehab Rounds, Robert Imrie, Professor at King's College in London. (*Full schedule below under 'Events'*)



Katherine Berg
Chair, Department of Physical Therapy

PT PROFILES

INNOVATIVE AND COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIES TO IMPROVING GERIATRIC CARE AT MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL

By Denise Lai, PT. Physiotherapy Professional Practice Leader, Mount Sinai Hospital and Lecturer, Department of Physical Therapy, University of Toronto

By 2030, Canada's population of seniors 65 years and older is expected to double. This demographic shift is reflected in the rise in numbers of older and sicker patients being cared for in hospitals, with seniors currently filling about 60% of hospital beds at Mount Sinai. Already, 44% of health care spending in Canada goes towards older adults. To adequately address the challenges of managing this population, Mount Sinai Hospital became the first Canadian hospital to make geriatrics a core strategic priority in 2010. Since then, an innovative, evidence-based and integrated approach to geriatric care has been launched, providing patient and family centred care, improved outcomes and quality of life for older patients throughout the continuum of care from admission to discharge.

Arrival at Emergency Room (ER):

Upon arrival at ER, elderly patients who show symptoms of falls, delirium, dementia, depression, malnutrition or functional decline undergo screening and comprehensive assessment by Geriatric Emergency Management (GEM) nurses. Consultations by physiotherapists, occupational therapists and social workers are done in a timely fashion to facilitate safe discharge from ER.

Admission to Hospital:

When an admission to hospital is deemed appropriate, patients 65 years and older with an acute medical illness may be admitted to the **Acute Care for Elders (ACE) Unit** if they meet three or more of the following criteria:

- Recent decline in functional abilities
- Recent change in cognition or behaviour
- Problems common to older adults (e.g. falls, incontinence, acute and/or chronic pain, adverse drug reactions, delirium)
- Complex social issues
- Identification of Seniors at Risk (ISAR) score of two or more on ER assessment

Opened in April 2011, Mount Sinai's ACE unit is the first of its kind in Ontario. Prior to the opening of the ACE unit, nurses and allied health staff working in the unit underwent extensive geriatrics training and team building. The 28-bed unit provides an elder friendly environment where hazards

associated with hospitalization are minimized. There is a strong emphasis on early assessment, mobilization and self-care activities. For example, patients are up in chair for meals, have regular bathroom routines, and lines like IVs or foley catheters are used minimally to remove any hindrance to mobility. The unit adopts the Releasing Time to Care model, whereby safety checks are performed regularly and the following measures are formally tracked: new or worsening pressure ulcers; falls; new delirium; and unnecessary foley catheterization. The unit embraces a collaborative, interprofessional team-based approach to providing care. The team also works closely with community partners to ensure that appropriate supports are in place for a safe and sustainable transition home. The success of the ACE strategy is already reflected in these outcomes: 38.5% drop in catheter use; 6.25% drop in average length of stay; 4.7% decrease in readmission; and a 2% increase in the number of patients able to return home.

Physiotherapists have been crucially involved in the planning and development of the ACE unit. The unit is staffed by 1.5 Physiotherapists (PT) and 1 Physiotherapist Assistant (PTA) during the week. Recognizing the value of the physiotherapist's role in early assessment, mobilization and discharge planning for this patient population, the hospital has secured additional funding for weekend physiotherapy coverage, which consists of one PT and one PTA on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

Geriatric patients who are admitted to hospital but do not meet ACE criteria also benefit from the following services at Mount Sinai Hospital:

- Having the geriatrician integrated into the ICU team to provide specialized geriatric care to elderly ICU patients
- Comprehensive geriatrics assessments for all hip fracture patients 65 years and older
- Professional consultations by Geriatrics Medicine, Geriatric Psychiatry and Palliative Medicine
- Geriatric Consultation Team: This interprofessional team consists of the geriatrician, a pharmacist, social worker, occupational therapist and physiotherapist. The team provides comprehensive assessment and consultation to elderly patients with complex medical and social issues throughout the hospital, and links patients to appropriate community resources. The physiotherapist role is a new addition to this team and is anticipated to add tremendous value.
- MAUVE—Maximizing Aging Using Volunteer Engagement
This program links volunteers with older adult patients in the hospital. It provides training and support for volunteers to work with elderly patients, which in turn improve their quality of life and reduce the risk of functional decline while being hospitalized.

Discharge from Hospital:

Upon discharge from hospital, patients could be referred to the following in-house or community services:

- House Calls: This program is a partnership with the Geriatrics program at Mount Sinai Hospital to provide care to seniors at their homes.
- Outpatient Palliative care and Geriatric Psychiatry programs at Mount Sinai
- Mount Sinai's Integrated Geriatrics and Palliative Care Clinic
- Reitman Centre for Alzheimer's Support and Training: Based at Mount Sinai, this centre offers support to caregivers of patients living at home with dementia. The program equips caregivers with the skills to cope with emotional difficulties around caring for their loved

- ones, and provides formal training on how to manage challenging behaviours in the home as a result of dementia.

The hospital's Interprofessional Geriatric Steering Committee and Interprofessional Network for Geriatric Care are driving strategies to improve geriatric care throughout the hospital. As an example, all frontline clinical and non-clinical staff who work with elderly patients undergo a specialized geriatrics education program, which focuses on the prevention of complications during hospitalization of older patients. For more information on geriatrics initiatives at Mount Sinai, please contact Denise Lai at dlai@mtsinai.on.ca

DEPARTMENT NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY AWARDS CEREMONY 2011

Each year, the Department of Physical Therapy acknowledges those individuals who have provided great learning environments, guidance, supervision, or have been inspirational to our PT students with **Department of Physical Therapy Recognition Awards**. The Awards Ceremony will be held on **Thursday January 19th, 2012 between 12-1pm**.

Stay tuned for more information on submitting nominations for Recognition Awards in the next PTLINK!

Please Join Us

For The Department of Physical Therapy's Celebration to Honour the
Full Professorship of Dr. Dina Brooks

Thursday, October 13th, 2011: 3:00pm – 4:30pm
The University Club, 380 University Avenue, The Main Lounge

3:00pm	Welcome: Dr. Katherine Berg, Chair, Dept of Physical Therapy
3:10pm	Opening Remarks: Dr. Alison Buchan, Vice Dean, Research and International Relations
3:15pm – 3:30	Tributes: Roger Goldstein, Director, Respiratory Rehabilitation, Dept of Medicine Molly Verrier, Director of Distributed Rehabilitation Sciences Education, Rehabilitation Sciences Sector
3:30 – 4:30	Wine and Cheese Reception RSVP by October 3rd: pt.reception@utoronto.ca For more information contact: 416-978-2769

SHELLY GAUTIER'S ROAD TO THE 2012 PARALYMPICS IN LONDON

As reported in previous issues, Shelley Gautier, a graduate of the Department of Physical Therapy program, is currently competing her way toward the 2012 Paralympic games in London. On September 9th **Shelly won the gold medal** at the world Para-Cycling Championships in Roskilde, Denmark. She took home her second prestigious rainbow jersey. Following is a link to her interview: <http://www.on-sport.dk/video/3228411/canadian-shelley-gautier-wins>. Canada is now ranked as the top nation in the women's ranking at these championships.

Shelly has a new blog address, and you are invited to follow her accomplishments:
<http://shelley-roadtolondon.blogspot.com/>

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR 'IMAGINE'

Beginning in January 2012, IMAGINE (Interprofessional Medical and Allied Groups Improving Neighborhood Environments), a student-run interprofessional clinic, invites physiotherapy (PT) to join our interprofessional student team (currently medicine, nursing, social work and pharmacy) to create a team of five students and five preceptors from corresponding faculties to care for our clients.

IMAGINE was initiated in 2007 by the Community Affairs portfolio of Medical Society, University of Toronto in collaboration with the University of Toronto Office of Health Professions Student Affairs. It was created as a noncurricular volunteer-based initiative to create opportunities for civic engagement and interprofessional education. Partnerships were formed with community organizations that worked with marginalized populations and had facilities at which a student clinic could be established.

Treatment includes addressing a variety of conditions including sprains and muscle injuries, counseling on sleep posture, helping manage chronic pain, and foot care. The time commitment is approximately 6 hours on only one Saturday (9:00AM-3:00PM) between the dates Jan 14-April 21 (preceptors may wish to volunteer for more than one Saturday if desired). After receiving an orientation package and a brief on-site orientation on their volunteer date, the PT preceptor will mentor and supervise the PT student and together with the student come up with a plan and deliver care to the client as necessary.

Preceptors will also participate in the debrief at the end of the Clinic (Clinic day is from 10-2) with the whole team on the clients of the day, how care for the patients can be improved, and how the running of the Clinic can be improved. As Jan 2012 will be the start of PT's integration into the IMAGINE Clinic, preceptors in this term will also have the opportunity to help define the role and scope of care PT will deliver as part of an interprofessional team providing drop-in primary care services to the under-housed population.

Thank you once again for your support!

For more information and to sign up, please contact:

Directors of IMAGINE: Enoch Ng; Kan Cheung imagine.clinic@gmail.com

HONOURS AND AWARDS

CONGRATULATIONS TO DINA BROOKS!

Dina Brooks has been selected to serve on the **Advisory Board for the Institute for Circulatory and Respiratory Health** (ICRH) of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). ICRH supports research into causes, mechanisms, prevention, screening, diagnosis,

treatment, support systems, and palliation for a wide range of conditions associated with the heart, lung, brain (stroke), blood, blood vessels, critical care and sleep. It is one of thirteen institutes, each with a specific focus, that together make up the CIHR.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SUNITA MATHUR AND VINCE LO!

Sunita Mathur and Vince Lo received a research grant from the Canadian Respiratory Health Professionals (The Lung Association) for "Functional outcomes following electrical muscle stimulation in critically ill patients: a pilot randomized controlled trial".

CONGRATULATIONS TO STEPHANIE NIXON!

Stephanie Nixon has been awarded a Connaught Foundation (Ontario) award for The "Poz-Brain" Study: Exploring the Experiences of Women Living with HIV-Associated Neurocognitive Challenges.

CONGRATULATIONS TO KELLY O'BRIEN!

Kelly O'Brien received a CIHR Catalyst Grant for a HIV/AIDS community-based research program: 'Health-Related Challenges Living with HIV: Research Partnerships to Examine Disability and Services Use Among People Living with HIV in Canada'.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NANCY SALBACH!

Nancy Salbach has been invited to co-chair the Research in Continuing Education (RICE) group with Dr. Simon Kitto through the Office of Continuing Education and Professional Development in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto. This interdisciplinary group of researchers and education scholars meets from 4-6 pm every two months. Meetings include invited presentations and lively discussion to foster collaboration and research to advance evidence-informed continuing education. The preliminary presentation schedule is:

- Tuesday, September 27, 2011 4:00-6:00pm (presenter: Tina Martiminiakis)
- Tuesday, November 22, 2011 4:00-5:30pm (presenter: Paula Ravitz)
- Tuesday, January 17, 2012 4:00-6:00pm (presenter: Thomas Ungar)
- Tuesday, March 20, 2012 4:00-6:00pm (presenter: Susan Rappolt)
- Tuesday, May 15, 2012 4:00-6:00pm (presenter: Marlys Christianson)

Interested individuals are welcome to attend and can contact Nancy Salbach for more information (nancy.salbach@utoronto.ca).

Nancy Salbach (PI), Julie Clyde, **Dina Brooks**, and Jill Cameron are recipients of a Continuing Education Research and Development Award from the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto to conduct a research project entitled "Evaluating the psychometric properties of the Evidence-based practice confidence (EPIC) scale among occupational therapists".

COURSES/PRESENTATIONS/EVENTS

REHAB ROUNDS – SCHEDULED DATES FOR 2011-2012:

Date	Speaker	Location
November 3 rd 12:00 – 1:00	Ian Joiner Manager, Rehabilitation and Mental Health, CIHI	140
November 23 rd 12:00 – 1:00	Robert Imrie Professor, King's College London, UK	140

December 1 st 12:00 – 1:00	Sara McEwen Research Scientist, St. John's Rehabilitation Hospital	140
January 5 th 12:00 – 1:00pm	Suzanne Cook, Ph.D. Post-doctoral Fellow Rotman Research Unit Research Centre for Aging and the Brain Baycrest	140
February 2 nd 12:00 – 1:00	Michael Carter Professor, University of Toronto	140
May 3 rd 12:00 – 1:00	Elizabeth Hannah Interprofessional Education Specialist, Bridgepoint Health	140

GRADUATE DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION SCIENCES
REHABILITATION RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

September 2011- December 2011

Time: Thursdays, 3:00 to 5:00 pm

Location: Rehab Science Building 500 University Avenue

Course Faculty Professors Dina Brooks and Katherine Berg
Tel.: (416) 978-0173 (Berg) and (416) 978-1739 (Brooks)
Email: katherine.berg@utoronto.ca or dina.brooks@utoronto.ca

Date and Room	Presenter and Topic	Co-coordinator Present
Sep 29th Rm 132	Professor Heather Carnahan: Role of the Thesis Supervisor	Dina Brooks
Oct 13 th Rm 140	Professor Pascal van Leishout: Research Ethics: where it came from and where it is now	Dina Brooks
Oct 27 th Rm 140	Student Presentations: "Ambulatory Monitoring of Assistive Device Use: Novel Approaches to Assessing Community Ambulation in Neurological Populations". <i>Justin Chee</i>	Katherine Berg
Nov 10 th Rm 140	Student Presentations: "Attentional focus and postural stability in individuals with traumatic brain injury". <i>Olinda Habib Perez</i> "An Organizational Study of Stigma Towards Mental Illness Within the Workplace Setting". <i>Cindy Malachowski</i>	Dina Brooks
Nov 24 th Rm 132	Student Presentations: "TBA". Anna Tang "Understanding the Dimensions of Work-Related Quality of Life from the Perspectives of Rehabilitation Professionals". <i>Maria Lung</i>	Katherine Berg

BRAIN MATTERS: SPASTICITY MANAGEMENT IN PAEDIATRICS AND ADULTS

Anatomy, Medical Management and Therapy Clinical Practice for Physiotherapists and Occupational Therapists

Saturday, November 19, 2011

This workshop emphasizes and integrates the anatomy, clinical assessment and skills and medical management of spasticity. The morning will include a review of the neuro-anatomy and medical management of spasticity. The afternoon will focus on the clinical assessment and interventions for persons with spasticity involvement from a medical, physical and occupational therapy perspective.

Presented by:

University of Toronto, Faculty of Medicine
Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy
And Department of Physical Therapy

REGISTRATION FEES

\$150 for status appointments PTs & OTS UofT (PT/OT Dept) before October 15th
\$160 before October 15
\$175 after October 15

Speakers

Dr. Anne Agur; Dr. Denyse Richardson, BScPT, MD, MEd, FRCPC; Dr. Darcy Fehlings, MD, MSc; Tracy Paulenko, BSc PT; Debbie Hebert, BSc OT, MSc; Kin; Irene Koo, BSc, BSc PT, MHSc; Linda Fay, BSc OT, OT; Sophie Lam-Damji, BSc OT

For further information: <http://www.physicaltherapy.utoronto.ca/events/upcoming.htm>

CENTRE FOR FACULTY DEVELOPMENT 2011/2012 WORKSHOPS

To view upcoming workshops and to register, please go to:

<http://www.cfd.med.utoronto.ca/programs/upcoming-workshops.html>

For more information, contact Jackie McCaffrey, Project Coordinator at:
mccaffreyj@smh.toronto.on.ca (416) 864-6060 x6546

NDT ADVANCED COURSE IN THE MANAGEMENT AND TREATMENT OF THE HEMIPARETIC UPPER EXTREMITY

Date: October 11-15, 2011

Location: Toronto Rehab - The specific site will be determined as we get closer to the event.

This five-day course is designed for physical and occupational therapists interested in further developing their assessment and treatment skills to enhance functional recovery of the hemiparetic upper extremity. The interrelationship of the upper extremity with various body segments and systems is emphasized. Analysis of functional tasks, specifically the movement components that contribute to a person's independent performance of tasks will be addressed.

Contact Conference Services at 416-597-3422 x.3693 or conferences@torontorehab.on.ca. For more information, please visit <http://www.torontorehab.com/Events/Corporate-Events/NDT-Advanced-Course-in-the-Management-and-Treatmen.aspx>.

NDT (BOBATH) CERTIFICATE COURSE IN THE MANAGEMENT AND TREATMENT OF ADULTS WITH HEMIPLEGIA

Date: October 17-21, 24-28, and November 28-December 3, 2011
Location: Toronto Rehab, 2nd Floor Auditorium, 550 University Ave, South Tower

This year, we will again offer the NDT/Bobath Certificate Course in the Management and Treatment of Adults with Hemiplegia. Successful completion of this 16-day course provides eligibility to apply for the NDT Certification Program.

Contact Conference Services at 416-597-3422 x.3693 or conferences@torontorehab.on.ca. For more information, please visit [http://www.torontorehab.com/Events/Corporate-Events/NDT-\(Bobath\)-Certificate-Course-in-the-Management-.aspx](http://www.torontorehab.com/Events/Corporate-Events/NDT-(Bobath)-Certificate-Course-in-the-Management-.aspx).

TORONTO REHAB'S 7TH ANNUAL RESEARCH DAY

Date: Thursday, November 17, 2011
Location: Sheraton Centre Hotel, 123 Queen Street W.
Thursday 9:00am – 3:00pm

The call for poster and interactive display submissions is now open! Researchers, students and clinicians affiliated with Toronto Rehab are invited to participate in Research Day 2011.

Research Day is an opportunity for members of our research community to come together to present their work to colleagues, decision-makers and the public. Back by popular demand, this year's event will include our innovative "Minute Madness" oral presentation format along with posters and interactive research displays.

- Application forms, registration information and accessibility guidelines are available on the [Research Day website](#).
- The deadline for abstracts, posters, interactive display plans, and Minute Madness slides is **Monday, October 17**.

Questions? Email ResearchDay@torontorehab.on.ca or call 416-597-3422 ext. 7854

PAIN MANAGEMENT ACROSS THE CONTINUUM: BRIDGING THE GAP FROM ACUTE CARE TO REHABILITATION AND INTO THE COMMUNITY

Date: Friday November 18, 2011

For more information: Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, Conferences Services
Phone 416-597-3422 x 3693 Email: conferences@torontorehab.on.ca

Website: <http://www.torontorehab.com/Events/Corporate-Events/Pain-Management-Across-the-Continuum--Bridging-the.aspx>

NON-UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO COURSES/EVENTS: The following courses/events are from outside the University of Toronto, and are not being promoted by the Department of Physical Therapy.

DISABILITY, ATTENDANT SERVICES, AND SEXUALITY PEER FACILITATOR TRAINING

The Sexuality and Access Project is offering a free, two-day training (Sudbury, Kitchener/Waterloo, Toronto) intended to support community members to create meaningful conversations about sexuality and disability with others in your community.

If you want to learn more about how to get those conversation started or facilitating workshops about sexual health, safety, and pleasure, then this training is for YOU!

- Learn about, and engage in, conversations about sexuality and disability.
- Discover how others have worked collaboratively to create opportunities for people to realize the range of sexual expression.
- Address issues of sexuality and sexual safety in a way that respects both workplace safety and reflects individual and social justice.

The Sexuality and Access Project is a project of Springtide Resources
Generously funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

For more information on how to register for the training contact: Cory Silverberg
Email: sexuality.access@gmail.com Tel: 416-358-4090 Skype: sexuality-access-project

2011 CANADIAN HYPERTENSION CONGRESS GLOBAL ATHEROSCLEROSIS RISK REDUCTION: HYPERTENSION AND BEYOND

Annual Scientific Meeting October 2 – 5, 2011

Nottawasaga Inn and Resort, Alliston, ON

The event is planned to give participants a wide range of information and networking opportunities. The meetings will include scientific sessions, workshops, poster sessions, and exhibits. Hypertension Canada's annual general meeting and CHEP Consensus Conference will be held in conjunction with the meetings.

Please see their website for more information and to register:
www.hypertension.ca/chs/meetings/annual-meeting-2011

USC HOSTS 3RD EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE INSTITUTE

The University of Southern California Division of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy will host their 3rd Evidence-Based Practice Institute for physical therapy faculty on **October 21-22, 2011** at USC's Westside Campus in Los Angeles. Since its inception, faculty members from 25 institutions around the country have attended the institute. These faculty members have benefited from ample opportunities for networking and exchanging ideas for developing students' EBP skills, knowledge, and habits.

During the institute, effective strategies for teaching search skills, critical appraisal, and evidence application to students in entry-level programs are presented. Each participant develops a component of his or her curriculum (multicourse, single course, teaching methods) at the institute. We have discounted the registration fee for multiple participants from one faculty.

Cost to Attend:
\$595 for Individual Registration

Learn more about the institute and register online:

<http://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=939112>

FIRST ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM ON REGENERATIVE REHABILITATION

HOLD THE DATE: November 3, 4, 2011

Location: Pittsburgh, PA.

As you know, medical advances in the field of Regenerative Medicine are accelerating at an unprecedented rate. Biological technologies such as stem cell transplantation, scaffolds, and artificial devices are now being tested in clinical trials throughout the country, opening up a novel population of patients to clinicians and exciting new areas of investigation for rehabilitation scientists. As a field, physical therapists would benefit from a careful examination as to the implications of such advancements on our clinical practice, research agenda, and educational programs.

This conference has the goal of stimulating reflection and debate as to the emerging role of physical therapeutics in the field of regenerative medicine.

Who should attend? Program directors/ faculty members of Physical Therapy and Physiatry programs, Scientists and clinicians working in the fields of Regenerative Medicine and/or Rehabilitation, and graduate students with related interests are all welcome to attend.

For information: Contact Fabrisia Ambrosio ambrosiof@upmc.edu

HEALTH AND WELLBEING IN DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES: ENGAGING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

**Delta Chelsea Hotel, Toronto
November 7-8, 2011**

Registration is OPEN and workshops are filling
The Early Bird Deadline - **October 9, 2011** - is fast approaching!

The Agenda is now available: <http://www.healthandwellbeingindd.ca/agenda/>

For information/Registration: <http://www.healthandwellbeingindd.ca/registration-and-fees>

The Planning Committee:

Central West Specialized Developmental Services: *James Duncan*

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Dual Diagnosis' Program: *Susan Morris*

Community Living Huronia: *Tony Vipond*

Community Network of Specialized Care, Central Region: *Megan Primeau*

Geneva Centre for Autism: *Debbie Irish*

Griffin Centre: *Bill Gopen*

Continuing Education and Professional Development, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto:
Nancy Bush

Surrey Place Centre: *John Flannery, Chiara Frigeni, JoAnne Jackson*

York Support Services Network: *Jean West*

OTHER NEWS

"DIAGNOSIS DAY"...HISTORY IN THE MAKING

On September 1, 2011, legislation came into effect that allows physiotherapists to communicate diagnoses to patients. Below is the letter published by the President of the Ontario Physiotherapy Association on that day:

Dear fellow members,

Today is a historic day for our profession!

Although for many years physiotherapists have had the expertise to diagnose injuries within our scope of practice, it was not until today, September 1, 2011 that the legislative and regulatory environment has actually allowed us to communicate a diagnosis to our patients.

The efforts required to achieve this goal started over five years ago. At that time, the Ontario Physiotherapy Association recognized the need for legislative change that would allow physiotherapists to work to their full potential, enabling us to be better partners to our healthcare colleagues and most importantly, better healthcare providers to our patients.

Of course the ability to communicate a diagnosis only forms part of the significant changes to our authorized activities that will continue occurring over the coming months; nonetheless, today marks the opportunity for us to celebrate our success as we move forward as a profession.

This process involved the work of many individuals and many key partnerships. I would like to extend our thanks to our partners, the College of Physiotherapists of Ontario and the academic chairs at the five Ontario university physiotherapy programs. I would also like to extend my gratitude to current and past Board members of the OPA, including Past-Presidents Mark Beadle and Kim Wolny. And finally, I particularly wish to extend sincere appreciation to the staff of the Ontario Physiotherapy Association and especially our Chief Executive Officer, Dorianne Sauv  who have worked so hard to help make this day a reality.

Happy "Diagnosis Day" everyone!

*Yours sincerely,
Christopher Winn
President, Ontario Physiotherapy Association*

REHAB SCIENCES SPACE AVAILABLE FOR RENT!

Event space is available to rent in the Rehabilitation Sciences Building at 500 University Ave. The Rehabilitation Sciences Building is located just north of Dundas St, close to University Health Network, Hospital for Sick Children, Mount Sinai Hospital and the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute. We are also close to the Ryerson University Business School at Bay and Dundas, and the Ontario College of Art and Design on McCaul St.

We have two step-style classrooms with desks that seat up to 90 persons and a number of flat classrooms that seat from 40 up to 90. In addition, there are a number of small 'break out' rooms available that can be used for groups of 12. We also have a computer lab with 44 desktop computers that can be used for testing or training. PT also has two clinical labs which provide great opportunities for practicing and teaching clinical skills. The building has a small caf  on the ground floor. You can view pictures of our facilities on the Rehab Sector web site, www.rehab.utoronto.ca.

For availability and rates, please contact the Rehab Sciences Sector at: 416-946-8554

Email: rehabsector.reception@utoronto.ca.

About PT Link

To subscribe please email pt.link@utoronto.ca and type "Subscribe" in the subject line.
To unsubscribe please email pt.link@utoronto.ca and type "Remove" in the subject line.

Past issues of the U of T PT Link will be posted on the Department of Physical Therapy website.

Please submit content by the **15th** of each month in Word format to Cindy Mallory at pt.link@utoronto.ca with the following information:

Heading: (as listed above)

Title of content:

Submitted by: (name)

Removal date/expiration date:

For course information, please provide the title of the course, a brief description, the term it will be offered, and the website where more information on the course can be obtained.