Dean’s Update

July - August 2009

Faculty and Staff Retreat

The 2009 Faculty and Staff Retreat was held on Monday, August 10, at the Indiana University Emerging Technology Center in downtown Indianapolis. The morning session was a chance to reflect on our accomplishments from the past year in relation to our strategic plan. We also discussed some of the continuing goals for the next year and beyond.

In the afternoon, the faculty held a session that focused on our research efforts – with an eye toward continuing to increase our grant awards. The staff participated in an engaging session on communication led by Mary Ellen McCann of the Organizational Development team from Human Resources at IUB. Our future is indeed bright and we’re excited about all of the possibilities of the coming year.

Incoming Student Class/ Convocation

On Thursday, August 27 we welcomed our incoming student class at the annual Convocation, held in the Lilly Auditorium at the Riley Outpatient Center. Our keynote speaker was Kimberly Quaid de Cordon, PhD of the Indiana University Center for Bioethics. The evening was a great success and was a wonderful way for us all to get the year started off right. The students who received Fellowships were recognized, as were all first year students.

Anthony Bowen

We are pleased to announce that Anthony Bowen has joined us in the capacity of Graduate Assistant in the Dean’s office. He will be assisting me in executing tasks related to our Development efforts. We are excited about the increased visibility this arrangement allows our school in terms of keeping up with our various donors and alumni.

SHRS Alumni Board

I am pleased to welcome Sue Klinger as the new President of our Alumni Association Board of Directors. The SHRS Alumni Board will be hosting a pizza reception on Tuesday, September 22 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to welcome students.

News from the Departments

The Department of Health Sciences

- Over the summer, we admitted another student into the PhD program bringing the total number of incoming students to 4. Dr Mac Kinnon has scheduled 2 information sessions to inform prospective students about our PhD program. We have targeted people who have faculty appointments in related programs at IU and Ivy Tech but who do not have PhD degrees, although anyone is welcome to attend the sessions.

- Our three new undergraduate certificates were formally accepted by the Board of Trustees at the June meeting. We are offering three new courses online this fall:

  W310 Aging and the Older Person, W320 Adaptive Rehabilitation Technology, and W340 Psychological Aspects of Disabilities. The instructor for W340, Elaine Voci, was featured in an article in the Indianapolis Star on Sunday, August 23.
At its August meeting, the University APPC reviewed our BS in Health Sciences proposal and recommended that it move forward. We anticipate receiving approval to start the program next fall.

Christina Mushu-Brunt has been selected to be a member of the inaugural cohort of the Next Generation @IUPUI Program.

The Department of Nutrition and Dietetics

- The IU SHRS received approval for the e-Learning Graduate Certificate Program

Leadership in Clinical Pediatric Nutrition.

The Department of Occupational Therapy

- Drs. Liu, and Schmid (study of the impact of mobility on social participation after stroke, funded by the Indiana CTSI) were busy recruiting and testing subjects for their respective research projects.

- Dr. Fisher Participated in a Canadian CARF survey (June 24 – 26) and attended orientation for his new role as an elected Director to the AOTA Board.

- Faculty and Fieldwork Educators participated in a two day Faculty Development Workshop given by Joy Hammel, PhD, OTR, FAOTA, Associate Professor in OT and Director of Disability Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago on August 6 and 7. The topic was on “Participation and Persons with Disabilities, OT is Integral.”

- Dr. Crabtree’s service contract with IndyGo Para transit Service was terminated effective 8/31/09. A new provider began providing services September 1, 2009.

- Dr. Schmid (Drs. Altenburger and Dierks are co-investigators) received a grant ($100K) through the VA focused on secondary stroke prevention. The investigators are developing and testing a yoga based intervention to improve blood pressure and fear of falling related inactivity in veterans who have had a stroke.

- US Senator Evan Bayh came by the Department of Occupational Therapy Retreat at the Campus Center to congratulate OT faculty on being the top OT professional program in the state of Indiana and to listen to comments about health reform.

- The entire graduate student class of the Indiana University Occupational Therapy Department went to the 2009 Indiana State Fair to mobilize 3 special activities for the Riley Hospital Fun Zone at the Clarian Healthy Lifestyles Pavilion. The graduate student class divided into 3 teams and team leaders then worked with Riley Hospital Community Education and Child Advocacy to plan for the carrying out of these activities on August 19, 20th and 22nd. "We were grateful to Dr. Patricia Scott and Laura Carpenter for their willingness to explore new ways that their students could be of service to children and families through the venue of the Indiana State Fair," says Dr. Karen Bruner Stroup, Director of Riley Community Education and Child Advocacy.

The Department of Physical Therapy

Student Information

- Fall Orientation was held on August 13, 2009 for 38 newly admitted physical therapy students forming the class of 2012.

- All second and third year students successful completed their clinical internships this past summer.

- The DPT Class of 2009 has a 100% pass rate on the national board exam with approximately 85% of the
Dr. Bayliss, Dr. Warden, Dr. Fuchs, and Professor Loghmani all had research submissions accepted for presentation at the American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting for February 2010.

The IU Physical Therapy Department will have 10 DPT students presenting research at the 2010 APTA Combined Sections Conference.

Professor Loghmani and Dr. Warden had their research article published in the Journal of Orthopedic and Sports Physical Therapy.


Dr. Warden also had two other publications this summer one in the British Journal of Sports Medicine and the other in Scientific Signal

Prophylactic misuse and recommended use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs by athletes.

Mechanobiology of the skeleton.
Turner CH, Warden SJ, Bellido T, Plotkin LI, Kumar N, Jasiuk I, Danzig J, Robling AG.

Dr. Fuchs and Dr. Warden have submitted a book chapter that will be in press later this fall.


Dr. Dierks will be collaborating with Dr. Arlene Schmid from Occupational Therapy on a project entitled Post-Stroke Mobility and Its Association with Social Functioning. This project received a grant award of $20,000 for 1-year through CTSI.

Dr. Dierks, Dr. Altenburger, and Dr. Schmid will also be working on a project entitled “Yoga as a Complex Intervention for Veterans with Stroke.” This project will be funded through the Department of Veterans Affairs for $100,000 for 1-year.

The Margaret Goldsmith Riley-Clarian-IU Center for Robotic Rehabilitation is set to receive its first robotic device in the fall of 2009. The center is designed to provide therapeutic robotics intervention for rehabilitative and research endeavors. Initial studies include Robot-Mediated Task-Specific Training In Cerebral Palsy: Block Versus Random Presentation. This initial project is being funded through the Cerebral Palsy International Research Foundation for $100,000 for 2 years, renewable.

Dr. Warden has submitted an impressive dossier for tenure and promotion consideration.

Upcoming events

Occupational Therapy - Perspective Student Information Session; Friday, October 2, 2009 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Riley Hospital Outpatient Center, Ruth Lilly Learning center-Lower Level, Auditorium.

Austin O. Agho, Dean