As I write this in March, the harbingers of spring are arriving in Vancouver - croci, white snowdrops, robins, and... allergies! <a-choo!> Spring is a time for renewal. We come out of our houses, dust ourselves off, and get back at it, after that temporary interruption called winter... (yes, I am writing this from the 49th parallel and fully realize I’m whining and shouldn’t be complaining!!)

In keeping with renewal, you’ll notice a new look to The Globe. I now have some great, new graphics software that allows me much more “artistic licence!” As I get my feet wet with it, I hope to produce a “snazzier” version of this newsletter!!

This is our biggest newsletter yet - six pages! We have a lot to tell you (I guess so - I have just run out of space!). Happy spring everyone!

Carolyn

And the winners are...

Our annual Clinical Educator Award is designed to recognize excellence by clinicians in the education/supervision/mentoring of students. Nominations come from the students themselves. Depending on the number of submissions received the actual number of awards given out can change, but there is the possibility of three awards per year - one for each placement level.

This year’s winners are:

**Level 2: Rowan Kimball** (The Centre for Child Development-Surrey)
**Level 3: Lone Ross** (Rutland Physical Therapy, Kelowna)

Congratulations!

Rowan and Lone (and last year’s winner, Ramsey Ezzat) will be formerly recognized at the 2013 Physiotherapy Practice Forum.

Our second group of winners are from our V.I.P. Clinical Educator Recognition Program. Started in 2012, after feedback from our frontline Educators, this program is a lottery chance for those who have take our students on clinical placement.

Every time you supervise an MPT student on a clinical placement you earn points. When you have attained sufficient points you can submit an application for a draw (at various levels) and have the chance to win $300, $500, or $1,000 (+ a 1-year PABC membership)!!

Draws are twice a year in March and October.

Congratulations to the winners of our March 31, 2013 draw:

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<tr>
<th>Cobalt Level ($300)</th>
<th>Clare Faulkner</th>
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<td>Island Hand Therapy</td>
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<th>Sapphire Level ($500)</th>
<th>Alannah Howard</th>
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<td>Oceanside Physio &amp; Work Conditioning Centre</td>
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<td>Parksville</td>
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<tr>
<th>Royal Level ($1,000 + 1-yr PABC membership)</th>
<th>Anna Ogden (Moore)</th>
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<td>Surrey Memorial Hospital</td>
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For more information on the V.I.P. Recognition Program, or to apply, click here.
Greetings from the North! The first official day of Spring brought a blizzard to Prince George which about describes the activity level surrounding the Northern and Rural Cohort! Since our last newsletter in the Fall, we have celebrated the official opening of the Physiotherapy Plinth Lab at UNBC. Together with UNBC president George Irwama, local MLAs Pat Bell and Shirley Bond, Cathy Ulrich (CEO of Northern Health), and Faculty of Medicine representatives Dr. Dave Snadden, Dr. Geoff Payne, and Dr. Paul Winwood, our own Department Head Dr. Jayne Garland cut the Theraband on the Plinth Lab. Students from the first official Northern and Rural Cohort were in Vancouver at UBC and so took part via videoconference, demonstrating the functionality of the lab as a distributed learning site. Showcasing the importance of community partnerships in education, Regan Daoust, MPT2 student in the pilot NRC and native of Prince George demonstrated a shoulder assessment on retired physiotherapist Eira Olausen, who was Chief Physiotherapist at the Hospital in Prince George in the 1970s (and is now in her late 80s). It was a wonderful event and successfully showcased the Plinth Lab and UNBC as the clinical education hub of the North.

Christmas brought an announcement from the provincial government that they are interested in receiving a proposal from the Faculty of Medicine for possible expansion of seats in Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Pathology, and Midwifery. There was mention of a 20-student Physical Therapy academic cohort in the north, so a number of meetings and discussions have taken place as we work through what a distributed model could look like if it was ever to receive funding. As a proof of concept, we will be piloting a one week case-based course at the UNBC Plinth Lab with the NRC students in Prince George.

In the meantime, we continue to work with Northern Health on a number of very exciting initiatives that will provide both clinical education opportunities for students but also serve to increase access to rehabilitation services for a number of significantly underserved populations in the North. In partnership with Northern Health we are establishing a student-led clinic in the Prince Rupert Hospital. Set to open in June 2013, work is underway to renovate a large room on the main floor (with a beautiful view of the harbour and islands) into a large clinic with space for patient assessments and treatment as well as group education. The clinic will operate on a population health approach to integrated primary health care so students will provide services along the continuum of care, not just in an outpatient setting. Initially, the clinic will focus on providing rehabilitation services by PT and OT students, however the model will be expanded to include other health professionals and offer services in a student team model, with students from Medicine, Nursing and Social Work working collaboratively to address patient’s needs. A fulltime Physiotherapy Clinical Instructor will be hired to lead this innovative program.

Not only is April 22 Earth Day but it is also the first day of placement for the first Northern and Rural Cohort. The North will be host to 12 students for 1A and 15 for 1B. A big thank you to all our preceptors! As we increase the number of preceptors in northern and rural BC, it prompted us to consider how we could better support continuing professional development (CPD). So beginning in April we will be launching a provincial wide needs assessment of continuing professional development for Physiotherapists. This will be a partnership between UBC Departments of Continuing Professional Development and Physical Therapy and with the support of the College of Physical Therapists of British Columbia and the Physiotherapy Association of BC. So watch for an opportunity to have your say about how CPD fits into life-long learning and professional competency, what CPD you need, and how you prefer it to be delivered. This will help UBC Dep’t of PT determine how to best support clinical educators in CPD. Speaking of which, we are thrilled that Dr. Bahram Jam is coming to Prince George April 13 and 14th to offer a shoulder and thoracic spine course. We have a number of other exciting CPD courses and workshops lined up for May, June and September, so keep your (rabbit) ears (Easter is coming after all) pointed north!

Robin Roots
Coordinator for Clinical Education, Northern and Rural Cohort
Prince George/UNBC Campus
Making a Difference

Written by Lara Brady & Jessica Willemse, MPT2 students

As a student, it can be difficult to summarize your experience with a Clinical Educator, especially one as accomplished and dedicated as Hilary. Before leaving for our international placement, we wondered what kind of person it would take to bring students overseas, not to mention a place like India. In fact, Hilary has brought OT and PT students from Queens and UBC to India for several years to work with Samuha, a not-for-profit organization that works to improve the quality of life of people with disabilities in the state of Karnataka. The organization itself has a diversity of sectors, from vocational training for people with spinal cord injury to Early Intervention Centers for children with disabilities. Hilary has been working with Samuha since 1994, and the impact she has had there is summed up by the term with which the staff at Samuha refer to her - their Guru. It is no small title to live up to, but she certainly does!

While in India, Hilary coordinated and supervised us, the students, in three different settings: the Early Intervention Center; home visits to children with disabilities; and the new Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation Center, the only one in the state of Karnataka. To do so she needed to be able to recognize each student’s strengths and weaknesses; this allowed her to help us all on an individual level. She also needed to trust in our physiotherapy skills and cultural sensitivity. She helped us get our feet wet when we first arrived, taking the time to accompany each of us with our respective clients, then gave us independence to work alongside the rehabilitation workers from Samuha to try our skills and learn new ones. Having the trust of our supervisor in such a setting was invaluable, as it allows us to feel confident and supported and begin to incorporate skills learned in school with our own clinical judgement.

Hilary is an inspiring person and having had the opportunity to learn from her was a privilege. We often expect Clinical Educators to be a form of role model for us students, someone we can look up to, follow, and learn from. Hilary is a role model in every aspect of the word. Whether it be a new physiotherapy skill we were learning or refining an old one, or discussions regarding moral or ethical concerns, or even just watching her dedication to the people of Karnataka with her packed daily schedule and nightly meetings seven days per week for five full weeks, we were always learning from her. It goes without saying that it takes a very passionate and caring person to receive the 2013 Enid Graham Memorial Award. For students to be able to learn from a physiotherapist as skilled and devoted as Hilary is truly priceless.

All in all, Hilary is someone who holds herself to the highest of standards and lives by her values, so to be a student under her could seem daunting. However, she is surprising in her compassion, attentiveness and consideration for our learning. Despite the demands placed on her given her role of expert teacher at Samuha, she never failed to make sure our needs as physiotherapy students were met. When we asked her why she continues to take students to India, considering the amount of work required and risk she takes each time, she humbly replied “Well, everyone seems to enjoy it and learn a lot from it, so why not?”

HILARY CROWLEY

To read Hilary’s blog @ samuha.ca click on this box

Gu·ru

[goor-oo, goo-roo]
1. Hinduism. a preceptor giving personal religious instruction.
2. an intellectual or spiritual guide or leader.
3. any person who counsels or advises; mentor;
4. a leader in a particular field.
Have you ever wondered how independent students should be with their caseload? The likely answer is that they should be more independent than you think! While the level of independence will vary with student performance and the type of clinical area the student is practicing in, it is important to remember that Clinical Education should be based on adult learning principles, one of which is that a student should have active participation in the learning. While it can be useful to have a student watch a specific treatment or treatment technique (particularly at the beginning of their placement, or with a new or complex technique), once an observation has occurred it is important for students to have “hands on” experience and put their new knowledge into practice.

If have seen the student perform a technique competently and you are sure they and the patient are safe, it is usually time for the student to practice the technique or the treatment on their own. This means that by the end of the placement students should have progressed to the point that they are independent with a number of patients in their caseload, or, in a complex clinical area, independent with at least some parts of the treatment.

Two common themes of feedback from students are that they “didn’t have enough patients” and that “the supervisor hovered over me too much.” While close supervision is extremely important in the early stages, students need to be independent when it is safe for them to do so, in order to build confidence and skills in problem solving and clinical reasoning.

**Pan-Canadian Evaluation Tool — Update**

Coming soon to a student near you! We have been talking about this for a long time, but the draft of the new form (which will be called the Canadian Physiotherapy Assessment of Clinical Performance or ACP form) is now ready for pilot testing. The form is based on the Competencies in the Essential Competency profile for Physiotherapists in Canada, and has been developed with input from all the Canadian PT programs.

Now it is your turn to provide feedback and suggestions before it is finalized! In the coming weeks we will be asking some of the preceptors who are hosting students between now and December 31st to pilot test the form and provide feedback. The format of the pilot test will be similar to the one we did for the APP form, i.e., preceptors will need to complete the CPI and the new form (unfortunately they will not be able to use the APP form in the pilot test). If we invite you to participate we hope you will provide your consent for this as it is important to have a “BC perspective” in the finished product.

Several preceptors have asked why we do not simply adopt the APP form rather than go to all the work of developing, testing and validating a new form. The answer is that, although many programs were keen on using the APP (as we were), we could not get country-wide agreement that this is the tool we should use. In fact we could not agree on any of the currently developed tools, which is why we went ahead and created one that will hopefully be specific to our needs and relevant to the Canadian context.

“Good things come to those who wait.”

- The Heinz Ketchup Company (!)

**CLIN ED | TEACHING TIP**

**com·pe·tence**
[kom-pi-tuhns]
1. the quality of being competent; adequacy; possession of required skill, knowledge, qualification, or capacity.

If you have a great idea to share, click here to send it to Carolyn.
If you are receiving this newsletter, it is likely that you are already a strong supporter of our Clinical Education program – for which we thank you very much. But did you know that if you offer placements for our students, you are one of only a small percentage (less than 10%) of physiotherapists in BC who are involved in our MPT Clinical Education program?

We know that everyone is busy, caseloads are high and there are many unfilled positions, but we are in desperate need of more placements, particularly in private practice. We appreciate that taking a student in a private environment has its own set of challenges; however some private practices take students on a regular basis and find it stimulating and successful.

We welcome the opportunity to meet with clinic owners and associates who have questions or would like more information about what hosting students actually involves. Please let us know if you (or your friends who practice in that environment) would like more information - we would happily come to your clinic to discuss the challenges and various models of placement that are tailored to the private setting and which might provide options for students. We are also more than happy to host a condensed or weekend workshop for private practice physiotherapist (perhaps in the same company or in the same clinic). As long as we can have 6 or more registered, we will happily set something up. Please contact Sue Murphy for more information.

Ready to take a student? Is a student in your immediate future?? Find out when the next UBC PT Clinical Educators Workshop is by checking online on our Clin Ed web pages. The calendar is updated regularly, and if you find a workshop you’re interested in all you have to do is follow the link to the online registration page. Fill out the form, and two minutes later, you’re registered!

Click here to go to the Clinical Educators Workshop Calendar page

Ingrid’s Corner: “The Big Stretch”

Often, when you go to a physio appointment you leave clutching some stickperson drawings of exercises to do. Here is Ingrid’s look at her “big stretch!!”

Well, I feel as though I should be able to do the splits by now but that is not the case! I sure have had enough practice!

I will follow my exercise prescription and keep stretching. It is a good thing I am limber for it helps me to gain enough clinical placements for each student in each level and helps me with the communication and coordination needed between UBC and all of our loyal sites and preceptors. I will continue working on my stretch until the next newsletter when my exercise prescription may change!

Stay tuned!
New resource document
re: student knowledge per placement

A very common question from prospective Clinical Educators (i.e., physiotherapists thinking about taking a student on clinical placement) or those taking a student for the first time is “What exactly will my student know?”

It’s a good question, and that’s why we have now put together a concise document that will provide an overview of our MPT students skill and knowledge, for each placement level. This way, you will know what to expect from a student at any level.

This new document provides basic information on the students’ curriculum (what they are learning, and when); the dates of each placement level; and, a better understanding of the clinical skill level a student will be at for each placement.

Click here, to view the document (which can be found in the “For Clinical Educators” section of the Clin Ed web pages).

Site Profile project update

This project, which will provide a much needed “search engine” for students to learn more about placements sites, is in its final stages!! All that is left is to input the 250+ sites information and photos. Once in place, our MPT students will be able to search for site profiles based on many different criteria, e.g., by city, placement category, facility type, or Northern & Rural-specific sites.

Although providing information is voluntary, we do urge all of our clinical sites to take the time (about 5-10 minutes) to fill in the information and hit submit! Click here if you’d like to add your site’s profile!

Customized inservices
and educational presentations

Our preceptor workshops are always very well received with participants saying they come away more comfortable with their role as a Clinical Educator and that they enjoyed the day. But our workshops are not all we do! Providing we have at least 4-6 interested people we will come to your site and providing 30-90 minute inservices on topics such as “theory based clinical placements,” “providing feedback,” “the 2:1 model,” or other topics related to Clinical Education. If you have a topic of interest to you, or want to discuss some options, don’t’ hesitate to let us know!

Come say hello at our Forum booth!

Are you planning on attending the 2013 Physiotherapy Practice Forum on Saturday, April 27? We are - and we would love to say hello. Stop by our booth in the “UBC Lounge” area and speak with us about your ideas on Clinical Education. You can meet Carolyn and Ingrid (and Sue and Robin) and pick up a special Clin Ed goodie!

TO THE FOLLOWING
NEW CLINICAL SITES

“An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.”
— Benjamin Franklin

Active Living Physiotherapy
Campbell River, BC

Coastal Hand Clinic
Surrey, BC

Creston Physioworks & More
Creston, BC

Dawson Creek Physiotherapy Clinic
Dawson Creek, BC

Cook Street Village Health Centre
Victoria, BC

Canadian Forces – Esquimalt
Victoria, BC

Children’s Therapy and Family Resource Centre
Kamloops, BC

Dhulikhel Hospital
Kathmandu, Nepal

Osoyoos Physiotherapy and Active Living Clinic
Osoyoos, BC

Sun City Physiotherapy
Kelowna, BC

Spinal Injury Rehabilitation Centre
Bhaipath, Sanga Kavrepalanchowk, Nepal

Vancouver Whitecaps FC
Vancouver, BC

Victoria Sports Physiotherapy
Prince George, BC

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By the way, have you…
…supervised UBC MPT students?
…or served on a UBC committee?
…or instructed in the MPT program??
Are you interested in becoming more involved at UBC?
Did you know you could become a UBC Clinical Faculty member?
Look here, or contact Carissa Dyck for more information!

WHAT’S NEW?
Tidbits of information worth knowing!

Click here to sign up to our newsletter email list