Looking back on the past 6 months, the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences has continued to have a presence in the University Community and Southwest Florida through all of our programs, athletic training, exercise science, occupational therapy, and physical therapy. We have graduated students from all of our programs and are looking forward to welcoming students in the fall.

The college has recently experienced a name change, The Elaine Nicpon Marieb College of Health & Human Services, honoring famed textbook author and renowned philanthropist, Dr. Elaine Nicpon Marieb. Dr. Marieb’s support of the college will help create a positive, rich, student-centered learning environment.

Several of our Athletic Training students and a Physical Therapy student were featured in FGCU360 Magazine highlighting their work with the Boston Red Sox while completing one of their clinical rotations. The Athletic Training students were well represented with one of our graduates receiving the FGCU Soaring Eagle Award and another student receiving the Dean’s Award for Undergraduate Case Study. The program continues to move forward with the development of the Master’s level curriculum.

The Exercise Science students assisted Dr. Hunt when the Florida Department of Law Enforcement visited Marieb Hall as a part of their Physical Training Certification Course. Our department is also proud to recognize the Exercise is Medicine On- Campus team, led by Exercise Science faculty, Dr. Renee Jeffreys-Heil.

Occupational Therapy students and faculty have been recognized for their talents. One of our students was announced as a leader during the Second Annual Summer Institute for Future Scientists in Occupational Therapy and Dr. Edwin Myers was awarded the Junior Faculty Teaching Excellence Award. The Occupational Therapy Program remains active through regular attendance at national conferences and through their presence in community fieldwork.

The Physical Therapy students have been well represented in the profession and in the community. Students participated in volunteer work with the Special Olympics and one of our recent graduates was awarded Graduate Student of the Year within our college. Faculty member, Dr. Kathy Swanick was recognized by the American Physical Therapy Association and awarded the APTA Lucy Blair Service Award.

We are excited to have attended the American College of Sports Medicine Annual Meeting with an exhibitor booth representing programs in the Marieb College of Health & Human Services, Department of Health Sciences, and the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences. At the same time, students and faculty participated with platform presentations and posters.

We hope that you enjoy reading about the exciting things happening in our programs! We look forward to the upcoming semester and more news to share.

Eric Shamus, PT, DPT, PhD, CSCS
Chair, Department of Rehabilitation Sciences
Marieb College of Health & Human Services
Florida Gulf Coast University
4-5 Awards and Honors
6 Graduating Classes of 2017
7 A Generous Gift to FGCU
8-10 Presentations and Posters
11 Continuing Education Events
12 New Faculty and Staff
13 In the Community
14-17 Alumni Spotlight

18 FGCU 360 Magazine
19-20 2017 Scholarly Activity
21 Department Services
22 OT & PT Career Fair
23 Social Media
23 Apply to the t-DPT program
24 Make a Difference

FGCU REHABILITATION SCIENCES, Summer 2017
Congratulations Dr. Kathy Swanick!

Dr. Swanick, faculty member in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program, was awarded the Lucy Blair Service Award from the America Physical Therapy Association. The Lucy Blair Service Award honors physical therapists who are either members or life members of the APTA whose contributions to the APTA are of exceptional quality. This award is only given to a small number of physical therapists each year.

We are very proud of Dr. Kathy Swanick and the contributions she makes to the APTA and the profession as a whole.

FGCU Soaring Eagle – Mr. Jeremy Howard!

The FGCU Soaring Eagle Award, from the Office of Alumni Affairs, was presented to Jeremy Howard, BSAT, graduate of the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences Athletic Training Program. This is awarded to FGCU alumni who have dedicated time and committed resources to their community and to FGCU.

FGCU Junior Faculty Teaching Excellence Award – Dr. Edwin Myers!

Dr. Edwin Myers, faculty member within the Masters of Occupational Therapy Program, earned the FGCU Junior Faculty Teaching Excellence Award. Each year, one faculty member in the university receives this award for demonstrated dedication to students and commitment to learning. Dr. Myers fosters an atmosphere of engaged learning and critical thinking.
AWARDS

Graduate Student of the Year – Dr. Tyler Golde!

Tyler Golde DPT, a recent graduate of the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program, was awarded the FGCU Marieb College of Health & Human Services Graduate Student of the Year Award. A prestigious award that recognizes one student each year who has demonstrated leadership, scholarship, and qualities that make for success.

Congratulations to the Exercise is Medicine Team!

The Exercise is Medicine Team, led by Dr. Renee Jeffreys-Heil, received the FGCU Team Faculty Excellence Award. The Department of Rehabilitation Sciences is represented in this group by: Dr. Renee Jeffreys-Heil, Dr. Lynn Jaffe, Dr. Peter Reuter, Dr. Eric Shamus, and Dr. Patricia Bauer.

Future Scientist in Occupational Therapy – Ali Sabella!

Ali Sabella OTS, a student in the M.S. Occupational Therapy Program, was recently announced as a winner of the second annual Summer Institute for Future Scientists in Occupational Therapy awarded by the American Occupational Therapy Foundation and the American Occupational Therapy Association. Winners participate in a one-day program where they are matched with doctoral, post-doctoral mentors and occupational therapy scientists to discuss possibilities within OT science, potential doctoral programs, and career opportunities as a scientist. Winners were also invited to the sixth annual Occupational Therapy Summit of Scholars held at Boston University in June.
GRADUATING CLASSES

Congratulations to the Doctor of Physical Therapy Class of 2017!

Congratulations to the Occupational Therapy Class of 2017!

Congratulations to the Athletic Training Class of 2017!

Congratulations to the Exercise Science Class of 2017!
Renowned textbook author, educator and philanthropist Dr. Elaine Nicpon Marieb has pledged $10 million to Florida Gulf Coast University’s College of Health Professions and Social Work. In honor of her very generous gift, the College was renamed the Elaine Nicpon Marieb College of Health & Human Services. This generous gift to the school will help attract scholars from across the nation, further support faculty development in teaching and research, and help enable the creation and support of faculty-led clinical health centers on campus and elsewhere.

Read more here: https://fgcu360.com/2017/02/10-million-gift-to-enhance-health-professions/
Twenty-three Occupational Therapy students, along with all of the OT faculty and many recent alumni, attended the 2017 AOTA Annual Conference & Centennial Celebration. This year the conference celebrated the 100th year of the Occupational Therapy Profession. Students were able to present research at the conference in Philadelphia, PA and attend educational sessions.

FGCU alumni, Kristen Hubbell, and Dr. Fabrizi presenting their study on pre-school play groups at the 2017 AOTA Annual Conference & Centennial Celebration.

Second year Occupational Therapy students, Maria Keely, OTS, Britnie Melton, OTS, Laurel Smith, OTS, and Deborah John, OTS (left to right), and Dr. Myers presenting posters on licensure portability for AOTA at the 2017 AOTA Annual Conference & Centennial Celebration.
Presentations/Conferences
2017 FGCU Student Research Day

Left: Athletic Training student Kahila Williams presenting her poster “Asymptomatic Meniscal Tear in Professional Soccer Player.”

Right: Kyle Sellers, Athletic Training student, accepting the Dean’s Award for Undergraduate Case Study.

Below: Exercise Science student Laura Laviolette presenting her poster “Handedness Effect on Bilateral Transfer.”

Above: Chantelle Gutierrez Athletic Training student presenting her poster “Femoral Trochlear Dysplasia in College Level Golf Athlete.”

Left: Tyler Corbin Athletic Training student presenting his poster “Right Posterior Labral Tear.”
Left: Professor Tony Burkett, Dr. Shawn Felton, and Dr. Mitchell Cordova present their poster “Body Composition Changes in Female Collegiate Soccer Athletes from Preseason to Postseason.”

Left: Dr. Eric Shamus, Liza Malley, Dr. Jacqueline van Duijn, and Dr. Arie van Duijn take a moment to pose for the camera at ACSM! FGCU hosted a booth to promote the department and the majors offered in the Marieb College of Health & Human Services.

Left: The poster “Diagnostic Ultrasound Imaging in Assessing Medial Elbow Joint Space in College Baseball Pitchers.” by Dr. Shawn Felton, Dr. Arie van Duijn, Dr. Eric Shamus, and Dr. Mitchell Cordova.
CONTINUING EDUCATION EVENTS

FGCU hosted a myofascial decompression course. Students and professionals learned more about the method of ‘cupping’ and how to apply it to patient populations.

Promising Pathways is a collaborative, annual conference held at Florida Gulf Coast University. Promising Pathways remains committed to the community in promoting methods of best practice in serving individuals with autism spectrum disorder. This year marked the 10th Anniversary of the Promising Pathways Conference.

FGCU had an incredible line-up of past keynote speakers. A number of students from the Rehabilitation Sciences Department volunteered at the event. World-famous researchers in treatment, genetics, and behavior studies related to autism spectrum disorders shared their work with the families, educators, and health care professionals in our community. On the day before the conference, Florida Gulf Coast University also hosted a day-long symposium that gathered community stakeholders together to explore and discuss benefits to best practice for autism spectrum disorder in the community of Southwest Florida.
Dr. Annemarie Connor joined FGCU in July as an Assistant Professor in the Occupational Therapy Program. Dr. Connor earned a Bachelor of Arts in Biology and English from Lehigh University, a Master of Science in Occupational Therapy from Western Michigan University, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Rehabilitation Counselor Education from Michigan State University. Dr. Connor practiced as a registered and licensed occupational therapist for 15 years, with a primary emphasis on pediatric practice in schools and outpatient rehabilitation, and additional experience in home healthcare, skilled nursing, and adult outpatient settings. Her topical area is neurodevelopmental disabilities, with an emphasis on postsecondary transition. She is an active member of the American Occupational Therapy Association and the National Council on Rehabilitation Education.

Liza Malley joined FGCU in February as an executive secretary. She completed her B.S. at the University of Wisconsin- Eau Claire in Kinesiology with an emphasis in Human Performance. Prior to coming to FGCU, she worked in vocational rehabilitation, serving individuals with disabilities in Wisconsin. During her undergraduate studies, Liza interned at a CrossFit affiliate gym and acted as the representative for Women’s Track and Field in the Student Athlete Advisory Committee. Liza co-authored a research study, titled “Increased energy expenditure in a modified versus traditional college classroom setting.” She presented a poster of her research at the Northland Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine 2014 Spring Tutorial and the National Conference of Undergraduate Research in 2015.
IN THE COMMUNITY

Eight first year Occupational Therapy students on a Level I Fieldwork placement at Justin’s Place, working with clients on work-related skills and job-search knowledge.

FGCU DPT students volunteered at the Special Olympics this year, performing Physical Therapy Screenings. Students screened for balance, flexibility, strength and endurance in special olympic athletes. Pictured are front (left to right): Tyler Capellan and Brittany Mouttet. Back: Mitchell Todd, Sean Gilbert, Woodly Sineus, Kyle Bojda.

The OT program applied and was accepted for membership to the Pi Theta Epsilon chapter at Florida Gulf Coast University. Pi Theta Epsilon is a scholastic society that recognizes academic achievement among students in Occupational Therapy.

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement visited Marieb Hall this May as a part of their Physical Training certification course led by Sgt. Jason Fields. Dr. Dennis Hunt facilitated the learning modules on Body Composition Analysis and Metabolic Fitness with assistance from the Exercise Science students. Each officer taking the course has their body composition analyzed, where their body fat and fat free mass is estimated. In addition, the course provides individualized information to each participant on basal metabolic rate, total daily energy expenditure, and hydration level. The Exercise Science Program at FGCU has been a part of this ongoing certification course for several years.
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

Adrian Lores
DPT graduating class of 2015
- Adrian works at small, private practice clinic in downtown Miami
- He primarily treats patients with orthopedic issues
- Words of Wisdom: “The better questions you ask, the better answers you will find.”

Erin Pauley
DPT graduating class of 2015
- Erin works at a private outpatient physical therapy clinic in San Antonio, TX
- She specializes in athletic populations
- Words of Wisdom: “You get out what you put in.”

Sean Landis
DPT graduating class of 2013
- Sean works in a skilled nursing home and outpatient services in Bonita Springs
- Words of Wisdom: “If you are willing to try a little harder, it is amazing what you can get out of the programs.”
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

Robert Sorenson
BS Human Performance (now Exercise Science) graduating class of 2012
- Robert is working toward Doctorate in Education in Health Professions
- Now working as the Assistant Director of Wellness at Moorings Park in Naples
- Words of Wisdom: “Trust the process and know that your professors have your best interest in mind.”

Kristie Centner
DPT graduating class of 2014
- Kristie works as the PT Manager at a skilled nursing facility/outpatient clinic and long term care in Miami
- Words of Wisdom: “Keep passionate about your work and your patients and you will carry that with you throughout your career.”

Jaime Fernandez
BS Human Performance (now Exercise Science) graduating class of 2013
- Jaime works as the Strength and Conditioning Specialist for Home Base’s Southwest Florida Warrior Health and Fitness Program
- Words of Wisdom: “[Each program] should become a cohesive unit and work collectively as they all have the same goal.”
**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS**

**Darcy Dean**  
MSOT graduating class of 2016, BS in Community Health class of 2014  
- Darcy works as an OT at Cypress Cove in Cape Coral and PRN at a skilled nursing facility  
- Words of Wisdom: “The real-life learning that occurs during internships and fieldwork is the most crucial part in gaining confidence and applying what you have learned in the classroom.”

**Stefani Soucy**  
DPT graduating class of 2003  
- Now working as Regional Manager of Operations for a company that provides integrated clinical programs for sub-acute and long term care rehabilitation providers  
- Words of Wisdom: “Never stop learning and never stop caring.”

**Lori Lang**  
MSOT graduating class of 2014  
- Stefani works as an OT in an inpatient rehabilitation setting  
- Working in the same facility where she completed her Level 1 fieldwork  
- Words of Wisdom: “Use the Golden Rule. Treat your patients how you would want to be treated.”
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

Armando Hernandez

BS Exercise Science graduating class of 2014
- Now working as Program Director for Home Base
- Armando received the FGCU Soaring Eagle Alumni Award in 2016
- Words of Wisdom: “Every experience is a learning opportunity.”

Brian Bochette

BS Human Performance (now Exercise Science) class of 2007, MSPT graduating class of 2010
- Brian works as a PT, adjunct teaches at FGCU and co-owner of a local CrossFit box
- Words of Wisdom: “Take every occasion to learn and treat every day as an opportunity for professional growth.”
Check out Tyler Corbin and fellow FGCU senior athletic-training majors Justin Bommarito and Kyle Sellers — along with Josh Bridge DPT graduate who were featured in FGCU 360 Magazine with their work with the Red Sox.

https://fgcu360.com/2017/05/eagle-health-professions-interns-land-jetblue/


SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY


Zabala A, Felton S, Craddock J. *Closed non-displaced transverse patellar fracture in a recreational 64 Y.O. female hiker: Physiological changes of aging and comorbidities such as Osteoporosis and Chronic Lung Disease that limit recovery process of a patient.* Florida Gulf Coast University Student Research Day. Fort Myers, FL. April 18, 2017. Poster presentation.
DEPARTMENT SERVICES

The Department of Rehabilitation Sciences offers metabolic testing, VO2 Max testing, and other performance measurements. Additional services include unweighted walking and running in the Alter G treadmill or in the Hydroworks pool. Training sessions can be purchased for different levels of customized exercise training.

Visit our store front website:
https://secure.touchnet.com/C20748_ustores/web/store_main.jsp?STOREID=30&SINGLESTORE=true

Contact MeLinda Coffey: mcoffey@fgcu.edu
Join the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences at FGCU for their annual Career Fair for medical centers, hospital, institutes and rehabilitation centers to meet and discuss job and internship opportunities with more than 100 of our Physical Therapy, and Occupational Therapy students.

**FGCU Cohen Center Ballroom**  
**Thursday, November 16, 2017**  
**11 am — 2 pm**

**Registration & Information:**  
www.fgcu.edu/mariebcollege/rs  
click on “Department Store”

We encourage registration using the online **Department Store** located on the Department of Rehabilitation website. If your company requires payment in the form of a check, please contact Melinda Coffey, mcoffey@fgcu.edu for a registration form.
SOCIAL MEDIA
Be sure to follow us on social media to keep up to date with the most recent happenings in the department!

Florida Gulf Coast University
Department of Rehabilitation Sciences on Facebook

#FGCU_rehabsciences on Instagram  #FGCU_DORS on Twitter!

Complete your tDPT Degree at Florida Gulf Coast University
Now Accepting Applications
  • Distance Learning Format
  • 30 credit hours required for BSPT Graduates
  • MSPT Graduates may transfer up to 12 credits

Contact mcoffey@fgcu.edu for questions.
Information is available on our website at http://www.fgcu.edu/mariebcollege/rs
YOU CAN MAKE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT for deserving REHABILITATION SCIENCE STUDENTS by making a gift of any size today.

WITH YOUR SUPPORT, THE DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION SCIENCES can:
- Purchase new laboratory equipment & supplies
- Provide scholarship support
- Enhance academic programs
- Increase research opportunities

TODAY’S GIFT drives tomorrow’s success for REHABILITATION SCIENCES

DONATE ONLINE AT fgcu.edu/donate
Specify other designation: Rehabilitation Sciences

Your giving provides INSPIRATION to those who go on to inspire others, a transformative POWER we call THE FGCU EFFECT.

For questions, email Sean LeBlanc at gifts@fgcu.edu or call 239-745-4347