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## PTA ALUMNUS STARTS HER OWN INNOVATIVE COMPANY

**Jessica (Pepe) Lalicata** graduated from the Touro College Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program in 2001 with her Associate in Applied Science degree. While at Touro College she received numerous awards including highest clinical and academic achievement, the distinguished student award, and the New York State Physical Therapy Association Leadership Awards.

After graduating, **Lalicata** worked in sub-acute, rehabilitation, and outpatient settings and currently works as a PTA in a private practice on Staten Island. In addition to being a certified PTA, she is a certified Nerve Conduction Velocity technician.

In 2001, after years of research and input from pediatricians, psychologists, early intervention therapists, childcare centers, nursery schools and parents, **Lalicata** and her husband founded Jeckida Inc. which sells innovative toilet art and toilet training products. Jeckida Inc. is committed to making toilet training more accessible, fun and easy for children and their parents using creative characters and tattoo art to brighten up the bathroom for kids and adults (<http://www.toiletbuddies.com>).

Jeckida's first product was Toilet Buddies™, plastic, non-toxic and easy-to-clean character art that adheres to the toilet with hook and loop fasteners. The innovative product features a cast of cute, colorful characters that invite children to the toilet and reduces toilet training fears. Distributed in nearly 50 countries, Toilet Buddies™ has won more than 25 awards, including the Creative Child Magazine Preferred Choice Award, National Parenting Seal of Approval, and iParenting Media Award. Toilet Ink™ (<http://www.toiletink.com>), Jeckida's latest invention is transferable adhesive tattoo art that can be affixed to the toilet using water, designed by some of the best tattooists in the business.

The **Lalicatas** believe in giving back to the community. They donate 10% of their profits to cancer, autism, and Alzheimer's foundations, and are strong supporters of the American Psychological Association, the Autism Society of America, and the World Toilet Organization. Now an expert in the field of toilet training, **Lalicata** also speaks to the public on the topic.

Touro College congratulates **Jessica Lalicata** for all of her achievements since graduating from the PTA program. Her work in clinical practice, service, research, education, and administration truly exemplifies the leadership Touro College strives to develop.



## CLINICAL EXPERTISE: A KEY FACULTY FOCUS

While all Physical Therapy faculty members teach and perform research, the Touro College faculty is best known for its clinical expertise. Touro College has more clinical specialists certified by the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialists (ABPTS) on the full-time faculty than any other program in the northern United States. Our 11 clinical specialists have specialized expertise in the areas of orthopedics, hand therapy, and pediatrics. This year, two faculty members completed advanced clinical training.

**Adrienne J. McAuley** gained fellowship status in the prestigious Academy of Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapists. She is the first Touro College Physical Therapy faculty member to earn this prestigious recognition. She teaches orthopedic, manual therapy, and professionalism content in the DPT Program in Manhattan, where she is an Assistant Professor.

**Emil Euaparadorn** (PT-02, NY) completed his training as a Certified Functional Manual Therapist (CFMT) with the North American Institute of Orthopedic Manual Therapy. Dr. **Euaparadorn** is an Assistant Professor in the PTA program where he teaches modalities, kinesiology, and orthopedic topics.

**Sylvene Blissett** recertified with the ABPTS as a Pediatric Certified Specialist. Dr. **Blissett** has been with Touro College since 1989, serving as an Assistant Professor and Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education over the past 18 years. Dr. **Blissett** was the first faculty member to receive a DPT degree and has served on the board of the New York Physical Therapy Association. She also volunteers time and clinical expertise in Jamaica and Africa annually.

**Frances Corio** recertified with the ABPTS as an Orthopedic Certified Specialist board. Dr. **Corio** has worked in orthopedics for many years and has been a partner of a private practice.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION AT TOURO: RAFAEL CUEVAS PRESENTS THE MEDEK TECHNIQUE

Rafael Cuevas, the renowned Chilean Physical Therapist who founded the Cuevas Medek Exercise (CME) programme for developmentally-delayed children, came to the Manhattan campus to present an introduction to the treatment technique he developed. 30 clinicians attended his lecture, which was offered free to clinical instructors and coordinators, alumni, and students in June 2007.

The CME technique is intended to stimulate proximal stability and function and is founded on the principle of whole body neurological response to instability. Señor Cuevas' presentation used clinical video clips to demonstrate the progress patients can make after using the CME technique and included a question and answer session.

His passion for the field was evident and the audience benefited from the opportunity to be introduced to this technique by its originator. Touro College was grateful for his willingness to speak to our clinical faculty.



Other continuing education opportunities for clinical faculty include discounts on courses offered in the transitional DPT program such as Functional Orthopedics I, offered in conjunction with the Institute of Physical Art (<http://www.ipaconed.com/>).



## FIVE FACULTY RECEIVE DOCTORAL DEGREES

Over the past year, four more faculty members earned their doctoral degrees. As of September 2007, 90% of the Touro College Physical Therapy Department faculty held doctoral degrees. The faculty had accelerated its pursuit of advanced education since 2001, when only 32% held doctorates. This enhanced credentialing has coincided with the conversion of the entry-level physical therapy program to the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree, first awarded in 2004

Congratulations to our new doctors!

**Frances Corio**, Chair of the post-professional Doctor of Physical Therapy program, is the third physical therapist on the faculty to earn a PhD. She completed her PhD in Health Science Education and Research at Touro University International, California. Dr. **Corio** began teaching at Touro College in 1987, and initiated and developed the Advanced Masters Program in Orthopedic Physical Therapy in 1993. She has been the Chair of the post-professional DPT program since its inception in 2001.

**Emil Euaparadorn**, Assistant Professor in the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program, received his Doctor of Science degree from Andrews University in 2007. A 2002 graduate and Maimonides Award recipient of the Touro College Physical Therapy program, Dr. **Euaparadorn** (PT-02, NY) was appointed to the full-time PTA program faculty in 2005.

Three Physical Therapy Department faculty members graduated from the Touro College post-professional Doctor of Physical Therapy (PDPT) program in 2007:

**Roslyn Sofer**, Assistant Professor in the Bay Shore DPT Program, has taught at Touro College since 1985, simultaneously maintaining her private practice, Community Physical Therapy, in Rego Park, New York.

**Elisheva Neumann**, Assistant Professor in the Bay Shore DPT Program, served as the first Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education (ACCE) of the Touro College Physical Therapy Program, from 1985 through 2004. Since that

time she has focused on didactic teaching and scholarship.

**Laura Hagan**, an alumna of the Advanced Masters Program in Orthopedic Physical Therapy (MSOPT-04, PDPT-07), started at Touro College as an Assistant Professor and assistant ACCE in the PTA program in 2005. Dr. **Hagan** was promoted in 2007 to ACCE for the PTA program.

## RECORD CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE SHOWS SUPPORT FOR THE APTA

The Physical Therapy Programs at Touro College have always been strong supporters of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA). This year the Physical Therapy Department was a recipient of the APTA Facilities Challenge Award, which recognizes institutions that have 100% APTA membership. Not only do all faculty members belong to the APTA, but all students in the Physical Therapy educational programs as well.

This year, 46 students from the Physical Therapy Department, an extraordinary number, attended the 2007 APTA Combined Sections Meeting in Boston. From the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program, 25 members representing all the 2007-2009 class years from the Manhattan campus attended, as did 8 DPT students from the Bay Shore campus. In addition, 13 Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program students representing both the Evening and Day programs attended.

The students were joined by 6 faculty members, including chairpersons Dr. **Robert Troiano** (PT-88, LI) from the Bay Shore campus and **Jill Horbacewicz** from the Manhattan campus. Also in attendance were Drs. **Juli Deng** and **Rita Joseph** (PT-06, NY) presenting their research poster.

## ALUMNI AND FACULTY PRESENT AT APTA CONFERENCES

Physical Therapy Department faculty and alumni present research each year at American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) and other professional conferences across the country.

In Denver at the APTA annual conference and exposition, **Kevin Basile** (PT-99, NY) presented “Physical therapy documentation in workers compensation cases: assessing the level of compliance of documentation compared to the existing APTA policy statements.” This research platform was based on **Basile**’s work as director of clinical services at MedRisk Inc., a specialty managed care services company, in collaboration with Expert Clinical Benchmarks, the company’s research arm which examines outcomes and evidenced-based practices ([www.medrisknet.com](http://www.medrisknet.com)).

**Phaleau Cunneen** (PT-02, NY) also presented a case report entitled “Rehabilitation following a two-stage reimplantation with a unique custom femur spacer and total femur prosthesis for infection and periprosthetic fracture.” **Cunneen** works at the Hospital for Special Surgery, where he and **Jaime Edelstein** (PT-99, NY) have been speakers in the Current Concepts in Sports Medicine professional development course series. Dr. **Christopher Kevin Wong** and Manhattan DPT Program Assistant Professor Dr. **Stephen Kanter** also attended the conference.

At the 2007 Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) **Dr. Maryanne Driscoll** conducted two educational workshops based on her collaborative research with former Manhattan PT Program Chairperson Dr. Margaret Plack:

- “Systemic effective instruction: grabbing your audience’s attention & maintaining it throughout your presentation.”
- “Action learning: solving ‘real world’ problems using cycles of reflection & action.”

Faculty also presented several research posters at the CSM. Drs. **Driscoll** and **Hagan** (MSOPT-04, PDPT-07) presented their research “The effects of yoga on flexibility in females ages 20-45 years old.”

Also presenting a research poster, on “The reliability and predictive validity of the sit-to-stand navicular drop test,” were Drs. **Wong, Deng** and **Joseph** (PT-06, NY).

**Adrienne McAuley**, Manhattan DPT Program Assistant Professor, presented her research “Attitudes and perspectives of physical therapy students toward problem-based learning: A grounded theory study.” Her complete work with same title was published in the 2006 volume of the *Creative Teaching Journal*.

**Join us at the upcoming Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) in Nashville, Tennessee, February, 2008.** As with every conference, an informal Touro College Physical Therapy gathering will be held on Friday night. Contact Dr. Wong for details ([ckwong@touro.edu](mailto:ckwong@touro.edu)).

## A CLINICAL PARTNERSHIP: SOUTHSIDE HOSPITAL

Southside Hospital in Bay Shore, Long Island and Touro College have partnered for many years in the training and education of physical therapists. Southside Hospital offers a full range of acute care, rehabilitation, out-patient, and home care services, including Long Island's only New York State-designated adult brain injury rehabilitation center, a state-of-the-art balance and vestibular clinic, and the Southside Health Institute for Physical Therapy started by the late **Jeffrey Ellis** in 1987 (MSOPT-99).

Each year Touro College sends multiple entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) students to train at the Southside Health Institute where the many advanced clinicians on staff provide excellent clinical education. Among them are Touro College alumni **Donald Porter** (PT-92, LI), **Christine (Lipari) Osman** (PT-98, LI; PDPT-06), **John Abbate** (PT-00, LI; PDPT-07), and **Thomas Giammarino** (PT-00, LI).

In addition to partnering in the clinical education portion of the DPT program, Dr. **Kevin Cerrone** (PT-90, PDPT-06), Assistant Chief Physical Therapist, also teaches Evaluation and Management of the Spine. Southside Hospital has been a source of many adjunct professors over the years; currently Dr. **Jim Megna**, Director of Rehabilitation and Administrator Pat McQuade both teach in the post-professional DPT program.

Southside physical therapists, including Drs. **Cerrone, Abbate, and Osman**, have enhanced their own education by earning a transitional DPT degree at Touro College. Likewise, Touro College faculty regularly augment their clinical skills by attending advanced orthopedic manual therapy continuing education courses offered at the Southside Health Institute.

Clinical partners can be eligible to receive discounts on tuition or continuing education courses and have access to the Touro College virtual library. The clinical and educational partnership between Touro and Southside is the foundation of a strong bond between clinical practice and education.

## FACULTY BOOK PUBLICATIONS

**Lisa Morrone, PT** has been a Touro College adjunct professor in the entry-level and post-professional physical therapy programs on Long Island since 1990, teaching orthopedics topics in a variety of courses.



**Lisa** is happy to announce the publication of her first book, *Overcoming Back and Neck Pain*, by Harvest House Publishers, 2008. This volume, available in stores and online in February, is written in easy-to-understand lay-language. It is a treasure-chest filled with many tips on patient education and instruction used during **Lisa's** twenty years of experience specializing in spine treatment. Intended for patients and therapists alike, it can improve physical therapy outcomes by offering key instruction in posture, core stability, stretching, strengthening, disc recovery, ergonomics and proper movement patterns.

Come out and celebrate with **Lisa** at her book-signing, scheduled to take place on February 25, 2008 at the *Book Revue* in Huntington Village, Long Island, NY ([www.BookRevue.com](http://www.BookRevue.com)). RSVP at: [Lisa@RestoringYourTemple.com](mailto:Lisa@RestoringYourTemple.com) so **Lisa** can save a seat for you.

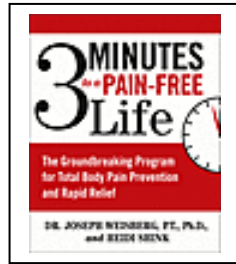
**Lisa's** second book, *Overcoming Headaches and Migraines*, will follow closely on the heels of her first, and is due out in September 2008. Books can also be purchased through **Lisa's** website: [www.RestoringYourTemple.com](http://www.RestoringYourTemple.com).

Dr. **Joseph Weisberg**, dean of the School of Health Science at Touro College and an early director of the Physical Therapy Program at Touro College, recently published his book, *3 Minutes to a Pain Free Lifestyle*.

His new book describes a 3-minute maintenance method for all ages and fitness levels that can eliminate the conditions that lead to pain.



Dr. **Weisberg's** passion for teaching the public about the prevention of dysfunction and disability is a natural extension of his ongoing work as clinician, researcher, and administrator.



Dr. **Weisberg** is currently working on his second book for Simon & Schuster (<http://www.simonsays.com>), addressing ways to recognize what people can do for themselves to prevent further injury and facilitate self-recovery as soon as a dysfunction problem arises.

## POST-PROFESSIONAL DPT GRAD DOES IT ALL!

Physical therapists have been drawn to the Touro College transitional Post-professional DPT program not just to add to their credits but to enhance their careers for the future. At this year's ceremonies, a record 27 graduates received doctorates; many will go on to leadership roles in physical therapy clinical practice, research, administration, education, and service.

One graduate who has taken her degree and taken off in all areas is Dr. **Pamela Morrison Wiles** (MSOPT-1999, PDPT-06).

Since graduating, she presented her post-professional DPT research "Common physical therapy findings in patients with chronic vulvar pain" at the International Society for the Study of Vulvovaginal Diseases Conference in Alaska. She also presented her case study "Myofascial release techniques by a physical therapist to treat clitoral phimosis" the International Society for the Study of Women's Sexual Health Conference.

Dr. **Morrison Wiles**, who received her Advanced Masters in Orthopedic Physical Therapy at Touro College, is certified as a specialist in pelvic muscle dysfunction and

recently received her Integrative Manual Therapy certificate. She has been practicing for more than 15 years in the areas of sports medicine, orthopedics, and pelvic health issues and administers her own private practice <http://www.pamelamorrisonpt.com/>.

She has eagerly shared her clinical expertise by lecturing internationally and teaching courses in the area of women's health. In addition to serving patients, students, and peers, Dr. **Morrison Wiles** serves the profession and community through membership in the National Vulvodynia Association, International Pelvic Pain Society, International Cystitis Association and the International Society for the Study of Women's Sexual Health and other professional organizations.



Pamela Morrison-Wiles

Dr. **Morrison Wiles** exemplifies the well rounded professional who is dedicated to the field of physical therapy and constantly strives for excellence in all areas. Touro College is proud to have made a contribution to her career path.

## YOUR HELP MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE!

Make a donation to the "Touro College Physical Therapy Alumni Fund." Earmark money for the Research Laboratory or for Student Professional Development. Your contributions help the Physical Therapy programs develop quality research that is presented across the country, and professional leadership abilities in our students. You can contribute at multiple donor levels:

- **Pewter** up to \$36
- **Bronze** \$37 - \$118
- **Silver** \$119 - \$360
- **Gold** \$361 - \$499
- **Platinum** \$500 - \$999
- **Diamond** \$1000+ and sustaining gifts

Send your contribution care of Robert Troiano at 1700 Union Boulevard, Bay Shore, NY, 11706

## PHYSICAL THERAPY FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP IN PRINT

The faculty of the Physical Therapy Programs has been producing scholarly works at a rate of over 24 works per year for several years. Known first for its clinical expertise, the faculty now demonstrates a powerful commitment to scientific inquiry and scholarly productivity. In the last year, faculty publications include peer-reviewed textbook chapters, journal articles, and invited articles. In addition, faculty has given numerous presentations and conducted educational workshops at seven different conferences across the country. These works are those not listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

### Text Chapters

- Sofer R. Impaired joint mobility, motor function, muscle performance and range of motion associated with localized inflammation. In *Musculoskeletal Essentials: Applying the preferred physical therapist practice patterns*, Moffat M ed., 2006. Slack, Inc. Thorofare, NJ

### Articles

- Wong CK, Blissett S. Assessing performance in the area of cultural competence: an analysis of reflective writing. *J Phys Ther Educ*, 2007;21(2):40-47.

### Platform and Poster Presentations

- Plack MM, Driscoll M, Marquez M & Greenberg L “Peer facilitated action learning groups enhance learning and reflective thinking on a pediatric clerkship.” Poster presented at Pediatric Academic Societies Annual Conference, Toronto, 2007.
- Garcia RK, Blissett S, Dinewitz E, Kartalian M, Lau L, Reveldez L. The use of the guide to physical therapist practice by physical therapy students during clinical affiliations. Poster presented at Annual Conference & Exposition of APTA, June 2006.
- Garcia RK, Driscoll M, Darbouze D, Arenas H, Lang D, Chen B. The effects of video and standard written instructions on home exercise compliance in young adults. Poster presented at Annual APTA Conference, 2006.
- Fardy PS, Wang H, Azzollini A, Magel JR, Herman A. “A unique school-based physical education program that promotes wellness in urban teenagers: the PATH program.” Presented at the 4<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Exercise Physiology in Children, Universities of Blaise Pascal and Clermont-Ferrand, France, October 2006. *Proceedings of the 4<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Exercise Physiology in Children, Clermont-Ferrand, France, p.11, November, 2006*
- Fardy PS, Briks M, Dunat A, Wang H, Azzollini A, Magel JR. “The effects of fitness and fatness on cardiovascular disease risk factors and self-perception of health in urban teenagers: the PATH program.” Presented at the National Convention of the American Alliance for Health and Physical Education, March 2007. *Research Quarterly for Exercise & Sport. 78 (1): p. A-27, February, 2007*
- Sofer R, Szabo P, Krosowski S, Intraiva D, Lane J. Effect of Low Intensity Laser on Pain Pressure Threshold at the Radial Head of Asymptomatic Individuals. Poster presented at APTA National Conference, 2006.
- Shazeen S, Szabo P, Agur A. Innervation of the Articular Muscle of the Elbow: a Novel Three-Dimensional Representation. (abstract) Poster presentation, 23<sup>rd</sup> Mtg AACA, July 2006.

### Educational Workshop

- Plack MM, Driscoll M & Greenberg L “How are we addressing reflective practice as it relates to professionalism in residency education?” Educational workshop of original work presented at Association of Pediatric Program Directors Annual Conference, Toronto, 2007.
- Plack MM, Driscoll M, Marquez M & Greenberg L “The reflective process: stimulating higher order thinking through the use of effective questions.” Educational workshop of original work presented at Pediatric Academic Societies (PAS) Annual Conference, Toronto, 2007.

### Other Publications

- Sofer R. Book review of Translatory Spinal Manipulation, in JAPTA, June 2007



## ALUMNI ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Dr. Sloan Yoselowitz** (PT-06, LI) and his wife Rebecca proudly welcome the birth of their child Max. **Sloan** has been working at Nassau University Medical Center.



Janet and Dr. **Ray Scherer** (PT-04, NY) just had a baby girl last summer. Lauren (7 lbs, 14 oz, 20 inches) was born on August 22, 2007. **Ray** is working at Greenwich Hospital, CT and in Scarsdale at Westchester Sports PT.



**Jaime Edelstein** (PT-99, NY), a graduate of the first year of the Manhattan PT program, has published the chapter “Lateral ankle reconstruction” with a colleague as part of the new textbook *Post-Surgical Rehabilitation Guidelines for the Orthopedic Clinician*, by Mosby. An advanced clinician in the Sports Rehabilitation and Performance Center at the Hospital for Special Surgery, Jamie is currently pursuing a doctor of science degree at Andrews University and certification by the North American Institute of Manual Therapy.

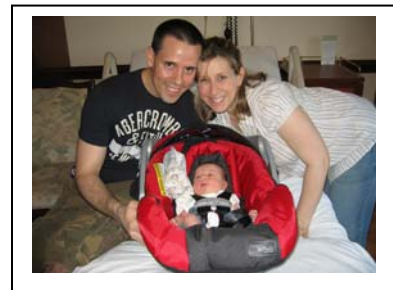
Dr. **Maria Meigel** (PT-90, LI; PDPT-06) has just been named PT Practitioner of the Year by *Advance for Physical Therapists & Physical Therapist Assistants*. **Maria** owns a private practice in Hampton Bays, teaches at SUNY Stony Brook and the post-professional DPT program at Touro College, and administers Integrative Manual Therapy

Solutions (IMTS) founded by **Jeffrey Ellis** (MSOPT-99) for which she also teaches continuing education courses. Read more about **Maria** at <http://physical-therapy.advanceweb.com/Editorial/Content/Editorial.aspx?CC=99927>.

**Daniel Pinto** (PT-02, NY) has published the article “Management of low back pain: a case series illustrating the pragmatic combination of treatment- and mechanism-based classification systems,” with colleagues in the *Journal of Manual and Manipulative Therapy*. **Daniel** completed the Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Residency at the University of Wisconsin and Meriter Hospital and became an Orthopedic Certified Specialist certified by the ABPTS in 2006. He works in Denver, CO, as the PT supervisor of the Wellness program for the Denver Regional Transportation District and an adjunct professor at Regis University.



**Beth Seder** (PT-06, LI) and her husband Jesse welcome the birth of their boy Jesse John Jr. on July 4, 2007, 9 lbs 3 ozs. **Beth** has been working in a Wantagh private practice.



Send your announcement and pictures to [kwinterberg@touro.edu](mailto:kwinterberg@touro.edu).