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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.

In this newsletter, we have a student athlete spotlight. Our website has spotlights from many other of our alumni.

The Athletic Training Program will begin its first class of Master’s students summer 2019. This Fall was the last entering class for the Bachelor’s degree.

Our students and faculty have been active in the community and profession. Our students and faculty have been recognized for their scholarly achievements. Dr. Sarah Fabrizi received the AOTA Jeannette Bair writers award. Many other faculty and students presented at local and national conferences.

*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.*
Student-Athlete Spotlight

**Madeline Marck-Sherk** Senior Exercise Science Student

"I’m from Niagara Falls, Ontario Canada, and I began golfing at the age of 7 and competing at the age of 12. I had always wanted to pursue golf in the south in order to play golf all year round. I have also always been interested in the human body and the exercise portion of athletics. Exercise Science was a perfect fit for me, and I have achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.81 since being in the Exercise Science program. I was positioned at NCH Whitaker Wellness as my experiential learning site for my Fall semester, where I worked with a wide variety of clients, including those who had prior shoulder and hip replacements, stroke patients, and highly competitive athletes. I was able to create workout regimens for these clients, as well as teach a variety of classes to the various populations within the NCH Healthcare system. I also got the opportunity to observe orthopedic surgeries and attend health fairs to promote health and wellness."
Student-Athlete Spotlight

As a freshman, I was named all A-SUN Freshman Team, and since then I have had a record two top-10 finishes at the ASUN Championship, becoming one of 41 players in ASUN history to have done so. In my career I have had 14 par or better rounds, which is only one short of the FGCU record of 15 total par or better rounds as an individual. As a sophomore I won a tournament individually with scores of 71, 71, and 70 (-4). The following year I contributed to our team 1st place finish at the same event.

I have played in all golf events throughout my college career and contributed to the women's golf team breaking the record 6 times, 4 times being this last Fall season. The last round of the Fall season, the team set the record of (-5) with scores of 68, 70, 71, and 74. During the practice round of this tournament, I got my second hole in one from 169 yards. As of November 2018, I am ranked 14th in the Canadian Order of Merit, out of amateur players in all of Canada.

After graduation, I hope to pursue golf or continue schooling at FGCU. Our Spring season begins with our event in Lakewood Ranch, Sarasota on February 4th and 5th."
We would like to congratulate the following faculty all from the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences for receiving the Marieb College of Health & Human Services Faculty Awards 2018

Dr. Russell Hogg: MCHHS Faculty senior teaching award

Dr. Sarah Fabrizi: MCHHS Faculty scholarship award

Dr. Ed Myers: MCHHS Faculty junior teaching award

First place in the Florida Occupational Therapy Association student scientific poster competition!!

Occupational Therapy Students Perspectives of Intervention Research as Psychosocial Fieldwork Experience: A Mixed Methods Feasibility Study

Nathaniel Blichmann, OTS; Emily Kartiganer, OTS; Juliah Mancia, OTS; Kirstin Purdy, OTS; Annemarie Connor, PhD, OTR/L
Awards

Congratulations to Dr. Ellen Donald, PT PhD, for her election to the position of Director on the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) Board of Directors.

Congratulations to Dr. Edwin Myer, OTD, OTR/L, ATP, for his election as a Florida representative to the American Occupational Therapy Association Representative Assembly.
Congratulations! It is our pleasure to share with you that Dr. Sarah Fabrizi has been chosen to receive the AOTA Jeannette Bair writer's Award at the 2019 Annual Conference & Expo in New Orleans, Louisiana. The Jeannette Bair Writer's Award is presented every year to recognize the author(s) of a feature article in OT Practice that inspires occupational therapy practitioners to use their management and leadership skills to create better access to occupational therapy services and to promote the profession.

Dr. Fabrizi is being recognized as one of the co-authors of the article, “Enriching kids’ lives: Addressing the effects of poverty on the health and well-being of school-aged children and their families,” which appeared in the May 21, 2018, issue of OT Practice.
We would like to congratulate Dr. Mollie Venglar for receiving her 25 year pin for APTA membership.

We would like to congratulate Dr. Kathy Swanick and Bill Dryden who received an FPTA award for PT/PTA clinical team.
Volunteering

FGCU DPT & Exercise Science students volunteered at the SWFL MDA (Muscular Dystrophy Association) Gala! We love to give back to our community and show our support to a wonderful organization. Go Eagles!

Our DPT students assisted Lee Health with the open house of their new clinic! A beautiful facility is now located in Bonita Springs, Fl.
Volunteering

Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Exercise Science students volunteered at the Health and Benefits fair at FGCU!

Biodex balance screening, InBody Body Composition and the Achilles Bone Ultrasonometer were performed.
Events

FGCU graduate fair. The Occupational Therapy and Athletic Training faculty represented the department. The Athletic Training program advertised the new Master’s degree in Athletic Training! Thank you to the faculty in attendance. The new banner displays look great.

Our Occupation Therapy first year students participated in the FGCU Ropes Course. Lots of Highs and Lows!
Events- Heart Walk

FGCU Marieb College of Health & Human Services were represented at the Lee County Heartwalk. Dean Joan Glacken and Exercise Science students had over 120 registrants for the Heartwalk.

Two of the Exercise Science students lead the yoga that morning. Heart shaped ice pack were handed out.
Events- Heart Walk
The junior level Exercise Science students participated in Zumba Craze and helped with InBody testing. Over 40 students at Zumba Craze downloaded the app and got tested with the InBody!
Events

Three of our Doctor of Physical Therapy students, Taylor Millheim, Kenna Valdovinos, Rachel Witkovski, at the Fit2Run store did a presentation and heel bone density screenings.
**Events**

*Mathic Officer Association of America (MOAA) Lee Coast Chapter.*

The FGCU Veteran Support Committee held its FGCU Veteran’s Luncheon in honor of all FGCU Veterans (Faculty, staff and students). The event is graciously sponsored by the Bickell family who are dedicated supporters of Veteran issues on the FGCU Campus.

This year Dr. Belanger, Assistant Professor of Occupational Therapy and President of the Lee Coast Chapter of the Military Officer Association of America (MOAA), in collaboration with President Martin announced the creation of a $25,000 Endowed Scholarship for a Student Veteran at FGCU. Dr. Belanger has worked to provide alternative sources of funding for Veterans who share a desire to contribute to FGCU and want to pursue post graduate degrees.
The Occupational Therapy and the PGA Golf Management Programs teamed up to conduct research that is being featured in the first ever “Research Roadshow”. Three teams of unique faculty-student research are being showcased in a “TED-talk” style presentation. PGM Senior Thor Parrish, Tara McKenna, (Director of the PGA Golf Management Program), Dr. Maria Colmer (Occupational Therapy), and team of OT Graduate students (Danielle Chini, Amanda Erwin, Karlen Geldmaker, and Katelyn Kidwell) conducted research using the technology in PGM swing labs about “Adopting a Less is More” Golf Swing.

The show went on the road to the SWFL Event Center in Bonita Springs on November 15, 2018 and will be held Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center in Fort Myers on February 7, 2019.
Conferences

Four of our Exercise Science students and Dr. Craddock attended the National Strength and Conditioning Conference (NSCA) in Indianapolis. Great way for students and faculty to meet and learn.

The Physical Therapy program had a booth at the Florida Physical Therapy Association Annual Conference in Orlando, Fl. The department provided information about upcoming continuing education events and information about the transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy program.
Student Training

Athletic Training students practicing Spinal Boarding on our new Astroturf and outdoor lab facility.

Lots of exciting stuff happening in our college every day!

Go Eagles!

Lee County EMS taught our AT students about spinal injuries, cervical spine injuries, and how to transport injured athletes safely.

This is a great place to take graduation pictures!
Student Training

Dr. Sillevis and our Doctor of Physical Therapy students they are practicing manual therapy techniques.

Contact us about our new FGCU manual therapy certification program!
Student Training

Our OT Students at their best learning splinting and doing clinical check outs.

Three of our Anatomy faculty at a training course in Anatomy in Clay. Dr. Peter Reuter, Dr. Valerie Weiss, Dr. Amy Lehigh
Student Training – Option 1

From Our OT Labs

Occupational Therapy, hands on training!
Check us out on Online!

Take a peak at how we are encouraging FGCU students to get moving! A group of Exercise Science students have been working hard to create this video to promote Exercise is Medicine at FGCU. Give this video a thumbs up to help our video take the lead!

If you would like, check out our department website:
~ Physical Therapy (DPT)
~ Occupational Therapy (MS)
~ Athletic Training (MS)
~ Exercise Science (BS)

Thank you to all of our students, faculty, clinical instructors, and community partners for making this semester so great!