

New Building Housing PA and PT Programs Opens Soon

Faculty and students of the Physician Assistant and Physical Therapy programs are excited by the prospect of moving soon to their new campus address.

“With the opening of the new academic building, we are thankful for the opportunity to provide innovative instruction in built environments that enhance our mission of serving, searching and healing,” said Dean Donald Simpson, PhD, MPH. The two programs will be housed on the second and third levels, respectively, and the College of Nursing will be located on the first level. Some classes will be held in the new building this summer and it will be fully occupied in the fall. Details about opening celebrations in the fall will be announced soon. The open house will include dedication of the Donor Wall of Distinction and a facility tour.

According to Steve Marks, director of Educational Communications, “the building will contain a variety of teaching spaces offering traditional



The new academic building nears completion

presentation technology, as well as integrated distance learning and recording equipment.” Each classroom may be transformed into an active learning environment accommodating multiple small group computer/tablet workstations to share a flat panel display. The PT spaces will be combined classroom and laboratory rooms with additional monitors and cameras for demonstrating and practicing therapeutic techniques. The PA area will include a simulation suite

where students can practice procedures with high-fidelity simulation mannequins.

Marks added that a 350-seat lecture room, the largest gathering space on campus, will feature video projection and sound for large-venue presentations.

Students also will be able to access a variety of common learning and social spaces throughout the building. Other features include a café and indoor /covered accessibility to the Library, Upstate University Hospital and West Parking Garage. Renovation of spaces to enhance the remaining Health Professions programs will follow.

The Campaign to Empower Learning

• **Enhance Healing** is supporting the College of Health Professions and its facility, equipment, and other educational needs. For more information, visit

www.upstatefoundation.org/CHPNewAcademicBuilding or call the alumni office at **315-464-4416**.

KeyBank Provides Scholarships for Undergrads

KeyBank is a strong and consistent supporter of Upstate’s alumni and its students. In Fall 2015, KeyBank donated \$5,000 for undergraduate scholarships which were awarded to several students



*Stephen Fournier
of KeyBank*

who met academic and community involvement criteria.

“At KeyBank, we recognize that an educated workforce plays an integral role in the success and vibrancy of any community. The

educational opportunity that Upstate Medical University Foundation provides enhances not only the lives of those attending, but adds to the vitality of Central New York as a whole,” commented Stephen Fournier, president of Central NY Market for KeyBank.

Four CHP students were selected to receive KeyBank awards: Rachael Parkinson, Medical Imaging Science; Matthew Powell, Clinical Laboratory Science; William Prestemon, Radiation Therapy; and Mary Pysnik, Clinical Laboratory Science.



*Rachael
Parkinson,
MIS '16:
“This helps
me achieve
my life goal
of a career in
medical
imaging.”*

See inside for the 2015 Donor List and notes from grateful alumni scholarship recipients.

Health Professions AlumniConnection

The SUNY Upstate Medical University Health Professions Alumni Association publishes *Alumni Connection* quarterly. Distribution is free to college alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends.

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Connect online at:
www.upstatefoundation.org/chpalumni

Perfusion Chair Tapped for New State Licensing Board

Three years ago the State of New York passed a licensure bill to identify professional scope of practice and establish licensure for perfusionists to be enacted in October 2016. At that time, **Bruce Searles, MS, CCP '93**, chair of



Bruce Searles, MS, CCP '93, in perfusion simulation laboratory

Upstate's Cardiovascular Perfusion program, was president of the New York State Society of Perfusionists; and the Upstate program's clinical coordinator, Edward Darling, MS, CCP, served on the board as well.

The newly established NYS Perfusion Licensure Committee that is overseeing implementation of the licensing track has tapped Searles as a member. The Committee serves under the NYS Board of Medicine and "is writing the regulations and creating the application process, so that we can meet the perfusion legislation deadline of accepting applications by October 2016,"

according to Searles. "Then there is a two-year period by which all state practicing perfusionists will need to secure a license either through the regular pathway or through the grandfathering pathway."

"While the state licensure will not impact student education," he further explained, "the new law identifies that students in an accredited training program are allowed to practice perfusion under the direct supervision of a licensed perfusionist. New graduates hired into positions in New York State will be able to apply for a limited permit which will allow them to practice for one year. This time should be sufficient for them to take their national certifying exams to qualify for full licensure."

Details on how to apply for the professional license will be distributed in October 2016.

Leader in State Licensure Designated AARC Fellow

Joseph Sorbello, RRT, AAS '73/BS '77, MSED, FAARC, chair of the Respiratory Therapy program, was designated a Fellow of the American Association of Respiratory Care. The award ceremony was held in November at the AARC International Congress in Tampa, FL.

"This is a great honor for me since you can only be nominated by others who have received this designation," said Sorbello. Dedicated to his students and the profession, his commitment to service was instilled in him early on, he says, "by my mentors and teachers, especially Frank L. Smith, Jr., who is now president of Franciscan Companies." Sorbello joined AARC

in 1973. His BS class of 1977 was Upstate's first bachelor's degree class in Respiratory Therapy. "Each one of us went on to leadership positions in the profession," he noted.

Sorbello served on the state's Society for Respiratory Care Board of Directors, including as president in 1988-89. He served as chair of the AARC Education Section from 2012-14 and on its board of directors. He was an integral part of the effort to gain professional licensure for respiratory therapy in New York State, chairing the licensure committee in 1992, the year the law passed.

Physical Therapist Stands Up for Those at Risk of Falling

Mariana Wingood, DPT '12, CEEAA, GCS, is not standing still for those prone to take a fall. She is a geriatric specialist who works tirelessly as a physical therapist for inpatient acute rehab at the University of Vermont (UVM).

“There’s nothing more rewarding than taking an individual who on evaluation can’t sit on the edge of the bed, to having them walking out of the facility with no assistance!” she says. “I feel that I am helping them get their lives back after a tragic life event or diagnosis.”

A certified exercise expert for aging adults (CEEAA), her focus “is to make sure older adults are not forgotten and that they receive the medical care they deserve. They have done so much for our society and I want to thank them all by helping them maintain their functional mobility, ability to continue with their passions – may that be family,



On her own time, Mariana Wingood does ultramarathons, ultracycling and travels the world. She recently trekked through Patagonia and Peru, completing the breathtaking Incan Trail.

hobbies or sports – and maintain their independence.”

Wingood immerses herself in the movement to educate peers and the public on the prevention of falls which cause more than 650,000 hospitalizations and 20,000 deaths each year, according to the American Physical Therapy Association.

Serving on APTA’s GeriEDGE Task Force, she helped to develop a systematic review for fall risk assessment tool for the PT Journal. She has presented at CSM conferences and is helping to develop a course for PTs on fall risk assessments and continuum of care for those at risk. Additionally, Mariana became chair this February of the Special Interest Group on Balance and Falls for the Academy of Geriatrics, and is its program co-chair.

Mariana co-coordinates a statewide event called StaySteady Vermont to

promote community awareness and is the APTA Vermont Section secretary. When her schedule allows, she enjoys mentoring students, is a clinical instructor and teaches about geriatrics at UVM.

“I love the fact that every patient is different and that I will never, ever stop learning,” she said.

Respiratory Therapist Awarded for Developing National Mentorship Program



Kerry (Connor) McNiven, RT, AAS '80/BS '82, was named Delegate of the Year by the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) House of Delegates in

December 2014 because of her success building its mentor program into a national model.

As director of Clinical Education for Respiratory Care at Manchester Community College (MCC) in Connecticut, Kerry knows that being

mentored by experienced practitioners is key to a successful education. Her program is emulative, she says, of what she had found at Upstate – “an atmosphere of encouragement by faculty.” For MCC, Kerry develops curriculum, and teaches and arranges clinicals at regional sites.

Under Kerry’s leadership as committee chair since 2009, the AARC’s mentor program provides opportunities for students from all states and different degree programs to attend AARC meetings and be paired with leaders in the field. Students may participate with a delegate partner in the summer forum as well as the winter

international conference.

“These students can network and learn what is happening on the national level as well as what states are initiating and dealing with on different issues. As a result, our students often choose to get involved,” she said. In developing a structured mentoring program, “I hope to grow our professionals to become leaders of the future.”

Kerry is also active in the society’s state chapter, sits on the American Thoracic Society’s Pulmonary Section and Planning Committee, and volunteers for the American Lung Association.

Thank You to our 2015 Donors!

We extend our gratitude to the alumni, faculty, students and friends who contributed to the Upstate College of Health Professions Alumni Association 2015 annual campaign, including restricted funds and endowments. Donors are listed below according to gifts received between January 1 and December 31, 2015.

A.C. Silverman Society*

Named in honor of respected pediatrician, epidemiologist and public health administrator A. Clement Silverman, the society recognizes donors who have given lifetime gifts of \$2,500 or more to the alumni association and/or have given annually for 10 or more consecutive years. Special thanks go to founding members who have given for 23 years – every year since the alumni association was formed.

GOLD SOCIETY

Gifts of \$5,000 - \$14,999

The Upstate Foundation, Inc.*
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Gifts of \$1,000 - \$4,999

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General Alumni Scholarship

"This scholarship enables me to be less dependent on loans for the cost of my education toward my dream career in physical therapy. I am so grateful that I have received the honor of this scholarship and the recognition of academic excellence that it brings. I deeply value academic excellence and I am continuing to pursue it in my DPT program at Upstate."
-Amy Potter, DPT '18



Patricia L. Carroll* -23 years
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Barbara Haas
Noel P. Harding* -14 years
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Sue and Ron Clark
Carol Conolly



In addition to scholarships, your donation helps the alumni association support the College of Health Professions in many ways. For example, the association provides a sparkling new white coat for each incoming student at the annual fall White Coat Ceremony. The alumni association also supports faculty enrichment, student professional development, alumni reunion events, and building and equipment needs.

General Alumni Scholarship

"I am very grateful for the Health Professions Alumni Scholarship which I'll use to purchase textbooks and other supplies for classes. When I use these materials, I will think of the kindness and generosity members of the alumni association have shown me and my fellow students. I hope that one day I can make a difference in the life of a CHP student at Upstate by supporting the scholarship fund."



—Haylee Keefer, MIS '17

Anthony P. Cusano
John T. De Noyelles, DPT

Erdenechimeg Demberel
Ann C. Dennis* -11 years
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Lisa A. Parlato & Clark M. Brown Radiation Therapy Continuing Education Scholarship

"This alumni support will reduce my financial strain by helping to pay for rent and essentials. I'm getting a lot of great experience in my program, but a full work week in the clinic leaves little time to generate supplemental income."



—William Prestemon, RADT '16

Therese M. O'Brien*
Sharon L. Osuchowski
Larry T. Peacock* -23 years

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Anne M. Perkins*
Michelle M. Pisik*
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Drs. Joseph and Jean Sanger
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Elaine M. Shine
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Kelly M. Hunkins
Sheryl L. Williams
David F. Wolfe* -18 years
Dr. and Mrs. Gary Wood
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RADIATION THERAPY ALUMNI SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, October 8, 2016

Noon to 5 pm | 4th floor, New Academic Building

For details, watch the alumni website or:



Upstate Radiation Therapy Alumni & Students



Goodman and Novak Awards Support Professional Enrichment

Two Health Professions faculty members and a professional staffer will attend professional development conferences with assistance from alumni-supported funds. The **Donald C. Goodman Endowment for Faculty Enrichment** and the **Cynthia Anne Novak Memorial Endowment for Professional Development** support faculty and staff pursuing scholarship, professional degrees and professional travel. A champion for health professions education, Donald Goodman served 12 years in the 1980s and early 1990s as CHP dean and was an interim Upstate president. Cynthia Novak, who died at 37 in a car accident, was a 1986 Cytotechnology alumna. She was an active leader in her profession, a clinical instructor and mentor who believed in lifelong learning.

Clinical Laboratory Science Professor **Linda Miller, PhD, MP(ASCP)SI**, and Medical Imaging Sciences Assistant Professor **Kerry Greene-Donnelly, MBA, RT (R) (M) (CT) (QM) (AAS '95)** were each selected for a Goodman Award. **Linda Curry**, administrative assistant to the dean, was given the Novak Award.



Linda Miller

Miller, also director of the Medical Biotechnology program, will attend the annual meeting of the Association of Medical Laboratory Immunologists in Pittsburgh. "In addition to new discoveries in immunology and emerging technologies in laboratory medicine, it offers collaborations for development and growth," Miller said. Miller will incorporate the information especially in a new undergraduate course and in new curriculum for the Med Tech MS degree with specialization in molecular diagnostics. Thanking alumni, she said being able to attend

will also help her maintain ASCP certification in molecular biology.



Kerry Greene-Donnelly

Greene-Donnelly will attend the Radiologic Society of North America annual meeting in Chicago, the world's largest radiology meeting. "It is a means of showcasing the most technologically advanced systems to our community," she noted. "This is great news for me and my students. It helps to instill lifelong learning practices in our students, and for me to stay current across the three modalities of specialty in which I teach."

Greene-Donnelly will attend the Radiologic Society of North America annual meeting in Chicago, the world's largest radiology meeting. "It is a

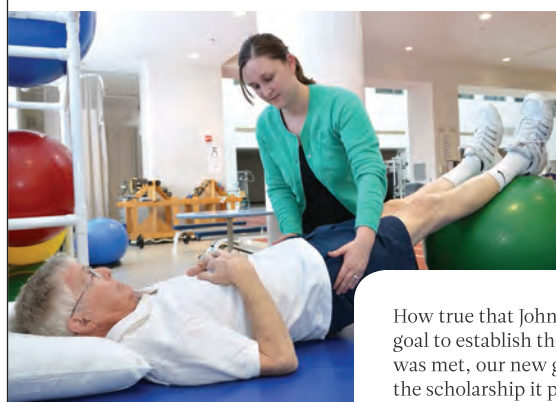


Linda Curry

Known as "the welcoming face of the College of Health Professions," Linda Curry is a problem-solver and master of

office technology in the dean's office. She will be attending the Administrative Assistants Conference (Skill Path Seminars). The conference, which covers a host of skill sets, will empower her in maximizing office efficiencies and administrative abilities as a crucial member of the College's office team.

"Arriving at ONE GOAL is the STARTING point to ANOTHER."



UPSTATE
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

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SECURELY
ONLINE**

www.UpstateFoundation.org/CHPAIumGramet

How true that John Dewey quote is for our College. While the goal to establish the **Dr. Pamela Gramet Endowed Scholarship** was met, our new goal is to add \$5,000 to the endowment so the scholarship it provides can be at the \$1,000 level.

Think how that award can lift a third-year physical therapy student struggling with financial obligations to finish the DPT degree and begin a successful career in the profession.

Dr. Pamela Gramet went above and beyond to exemplify the qualities of caring and compassion as she taught students and helped to lead the PT program for over 30 years. *Today, you can help push the total over the mark.*

Plus, your gift of \$250 or more could be matched, adding \$500 or more toward the goal!

Consortium Offers Students Global Research Opportunities

The Center for Global Health and Translational Science (CGHATS) is a consortium for the global health activities at Upstate Medical University. Its mission is to execute directed translational research to develop products for the greatest challenges of global health – tropical diseases and cancers.

Its research center focuses on diseases of the developing world, offering students opportunities both in Syracuse and abroad. CGHATS has several ongoing phase I and II vaccine trials in Syracuse. Most notably, CGHATS has been supporting a vibrant research program on emerging infectious diseases and public health interventions in southern coastal Ecuador since 2012.

“We work with Upstate student interns and trainees here and in Ecuador with a broad range of backgrounds, from undergraduate students to post-doctoral level trainees,” said Christina Lupone, director of CGHATS. The consortium “encourages students to integrate into our team of investigators conducting research in Ecuador and we work with each student to find a

suitable project based on their course of study and skills.”

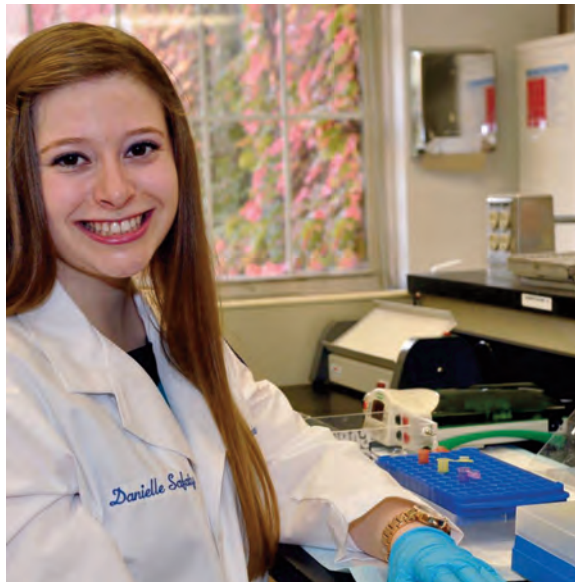
Students traveling to Ecuador first attend a two-week Medical-Spanish Immersion program through the Centers for InterAmerican

Cuenca through the Centers for InterAmerican Studies or, they may continue onto the Global Health Infectious Disease research platform in Machala, Ecuador. Students have spent from two weeks up to one year abroad with investigators.

The ongoing infectious disease research in Machala currently focuses on emerging vector-borne diseases, such as dengue fever. A dengue surveillance program has been established through multiple clinics and a central hospital in Machala to recruit participants with clinically diagnosed dengue into Upstate’s study. Dengue diagnostic samples are completed at Upstate with the help of student interns to determine dengue serotype by RT-PCR.

Danielle Safaty, a medical biotechnology student, interned with the Center for Global Health and utilized Ecuador surveillance samples to perform RNA extraction, cDNA synthesis, and ultimately, RT-PCR to determine dengue serotype for her senior year internship in Fall of 2015. (See story below.)

For more information, visit www.upstate.edu/cghats.



Danielle Safaty, MBT '16, in the research laboratory

Studies based in Cuenca, Ecuador. After the intensive language program and visits to Ecuadorean clinics and hospitals, students may be placed with a public health non-profit organization or hospital/clinic in

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Danielle Safaty, MBT '16, (above) took full advantage of what opportunities were offered her at Upstate for a required senior year biotechnology internship. Since Danielle’s plan is to eventually attend medical school, she wanted a laboratory experience that would integrate a clinical-patient component. Through CGHATS, she participated in an ongoing epidemiology study to find a vaccine for the dengue virus using samples from individuals infected in Ecuador, where it is endemic. The first day her student ID was activated to enter the

Institute of Human Performance research laboratory, she recalls becoming “immediately overwhelmed with a sense of excitement.”

“I was about to partake in an educational experience that would surmount any typical classroom setting. I was eager to apply the techniques I had learned and gain an experience that simply cannot be provided in any textbook or lecture.”

She found the internship profoundly informative.

“I learned an enormous amount

regarding the dengue virus and the importance of outbreak prediction, prevention and public health intervention.” In addition to learning all about this vector-borne illness, Danielle gained insight about what working in a team truly means.

“All the group members were dedicated to achieving a common goal and the passion I found in CGHATS was refreshing. Everyone was genuinely interested in their jobs and determined to make a difference in this public health investigation,” she commented.

Alumni Connection

Health Professions Alumni Association News

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Empower Learning Enhance Healing

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Support equipment, technology, and other needs for the new Academic Building – and renovation of Silverman Hall – with your gift today. Make sure your name is there when the **Donor Wall of Distinction** is unveiled!

Call the Alumni Office at
(315) 464-4416 or visit
www.upstatefoundation.org/chpalumni

Students Volunteer to Give Back to Community



McDonald, Kristina Tripodi (class officer/coordinator), Kayla Crouch and Danielle Safaty (sitting).

As an example of the many volunteer activities of CHP students throughout the year, Clinical Laboratory Sciences students gathered in December to design 100 holiday cards for veterans at the Syracuse VA Hospital, sponsored by the Class of 2016. Pictured are

(left to right) Katie



University's Veterans Day ceremony last November.

Students and former Marines Lou DeMarco (left), Respiratory Therapy Class of 2017, and Andrew Brown, Radiation Therapy Class of 2017, took part in the

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New Upstate President Meets the Community

Danielle Laraque-Arena, MD, FAAP, (front at left) officially took the reigns as the new Upstate president on January 14. Laraque-Arena has made it a personal priority to meet the Upstate community through a series of events and departmental visits, as well as to introduce herself to local and statewide leaders. As Upstate's seventh president, she oversees the region's largest employer with more than 9,000 employees, educating more than 1,500 students in its four colleges and including a \$30-million-plus research enterprise and the area's largest hospital.