



Kines Grad Connection

Kinesiology Graduate Program Newsletter — June 2009, vol. 3, issue 2

From the Chair...

This is my last newsletter as graduate program chair. Professor Rod Fort from the Department of Sport Management will be taking over as Chair of the Kinesiology Graduate Program in July 2009. It has been a pleasure to serve as Chair the last three years. I have watched our graduate enrollment grow from 38 students in 2007 to 58 students in 2009. Funding for our doctoral students has steadily increased to reach 100% this past academic year. There are many more indices I could cite to praise the achievements of our students and faculty, but suffice it to say that our graduate program has grown in both quantity and quality during the last three years. As a way to highlight some of the recent successes of our program, this newsletter provides an update on our recent doctoral graduates to find out what they are doing now. I also want to wish Prof. Fort well as I am confident he will lead the graduate program to continued growth and success.

Sincerely,

Daniel P. Ferris, Ph.D.
Kinesiology Graduate Chair



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- From the Chair
- Publications
- Presentations & Awards
- Alumni Updates
- Thank you, Dr. Ulrich
- Commencement
- Dissertations



2008 Doctoral Student Publications

Angulo-Barroso R, Burghardt AR, Lloyd M, and Ulrich DA. Physical activity in infants with Down syndrome receiving a treadmill intervention. *Infant Behavior & Development* 31: 255-269, 2008.

Burton WN, Chen CY, Schultz AB, and Edington DW. The association between a tiered pharmacy benefit plan and medication usage, health status, and disability absence days - one employer's experience. *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine* 50: 1176-1182, 2008.

Burton WN, Chen CY, Schultz AB, and Edington DW. The prevalence of metabolic syndrome in an employed population and the impact on health and productivity. *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine* 50: 1139-1148, 2008.

Chang CL and Ulrich BD. Lateral stabilization improves walking in people with myelomeningocele. *Journal of Biomechanics* 41: 1317-1323, 2008.

Fling BW, Bernard JA, Bo J, Langan J. Corpus callosum and bimanual coordination in multiple Sclerosis. *Journal of Neuroscience* 28(29): 7248-7249, 2008.

Funai K and Cartee GD. Contraction-stimulated glucose transport in rat skeletal muscle is sustained despite reversal of increased PAS-phosphorylation of AS160 and TBC1D1. *Journal of Applied Physiology* 105: 1788-1795, 2008.

Goble DJ and Brown SH. The biological and behavioral basis of upper limb asymmetries in sensorimotor performance. *Neuroscience and Biobehavioral Reviews* 32: 598-610, 2008.

Goble DJ and Brown SH. Upper limb asymmetries in the matching of proprioceptive versus visual targets. *Journal of Neurophysiology* 99: 3063-3074, 2008.

Knuth ND, Remias DB, and Horowitz JF. Adding carbohydrate to a high-fat meal blunts postprandial lipemia in women and reduces meal-derived fatty acids in systemic circulation. *Applied Physiology Nutrition and Metabolism* 33: 315-325, 2008.

Lu CF, Schultz AB, Sill S, Petersen R, Young JM, and Edington DW. Effects of an incentive-based online physical activity intervention on health care costs. *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine* 50: 1209-1215, 2008.

Palmieri-Smith RM, Thomas AC, and Wojtys EM. Maximizing quadriceps strength after ACL reconstruction. *Clinics in Sports Medicine* 27: 405-424, 2008.



2008 Doctoral Student Publications (continued)

Sawicki GS and Ferris DP. Mechanics and energetics of level walking with powered ankle exoskeletons. *Journal of Experimental Biology* 211: 1402-1413, 2008.

Smith BA and Ulrich BD. Early onset of stabilizing strategies for gait and obstacles: older adults with Down syndrome. *Gait & Posture* 28: 448-455, 2008.

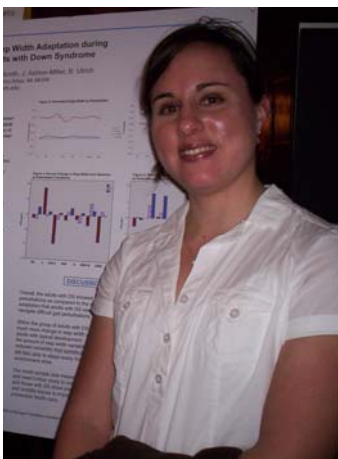
Tainsky S and Winfree JA. Financial incentives and league policy: the example of Major League Baseball's steroid policy. *European Sport Management Quarterly* 8: 67-80, 2008.

Ulrich DA, Lloyd MC, Tiernan CW, Loooper JE, and Angulo-Barroso RM. Effects of intensity of treadmill training on developmental outcomes and stepping in infants with Down syndrome: A randomized trial. *Physical Therapy* 88: 114-122, 2008.

Wu JH, Ulrich DA, Loooper J, Tiernan CW, and Angulo-Barroso RM. Strategy adoption and locomotor adjustment in obstacle clearance of newly walking toddlers with Down syndrome after different treadmill interventions. *Experimental Brain Research* 186: 261-272, 2008.

Winter 2009 Presentations

Kinesiology Graduate Students present their research at various conferences across the country. This gives them a chance to exercise their communication skills as well as display their results outside the university—giving them a fresh perspective. Their hard work, dedication and perseverance throughout the year is evidenced by these presentations.



Beth Smith

Conference: American Physical Therapy Association

Location: Las Vegas, NV **Date:** February, 2009

Beth traveled to Las Vegas this year to present her Poster entitled "Effects of Environmental Perturbations on Adaptations and Variability of Gait Patterns in Older Adults with Down Syndrome."

The Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) is a unique conference that focuses on programming designed by all 18 of APTA's specialty sections. This spectacular event brings together more than 7,000 physical therapy professionals from around the nation for 5 stimulating days of cutting-edge programming and networking opportunities.



Winter 2009 Presentations Continued



Megan MacDonald

Conference: *UM Doctoral Student Health Research Symposium*

Location: Ann Arbor, MI **Date:** March, 2009

Megan presented her research about the *"Physical activity patterns of children with DS during school."* This year the Symposium focused on the multi-disciplinary approaches for improving public health. The 2009 Health Research Symposium was the second annual student-led multi-disciplinary health-related research conference at UM.



Katsu Funai

Conference: *Michigan Diabetes Research and Training Center Symposium*

Location: Ann Arbor, MI **Date:** March 7, 2009

Katsu presented his work on the *"Increased TBC1D1 phosphorylation accompanies elevated insulin-independent glucose transport in rat skeletal muscle immediately post-exercise, but is not essential for increased insulin-stimulated glucose transport at 3 or 27 hr post-exercise."* The Michigan Diabetes Research Symposium focuses on work in the area of diabetes, its complications and related endocrine and metabolic disorders.



Melissa Wright

Conference: *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*

Location: Washington, DC **Date:** November 15-19th, 2008

Melissa presented her work at the Society for Neuroscience Meeting focusing on her research *"Upper limb coordination during sequential bimanual tasks."*

Conference: *American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine*

Location: Toronto, ON **Date:** October 15-19th, 2008

She also presented her work in Toronto on her research in *"Home sensorimotor training to improve hand control in older adults."*



Winter 2009 Presentations Continued



Brett Fling

Conference: *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*

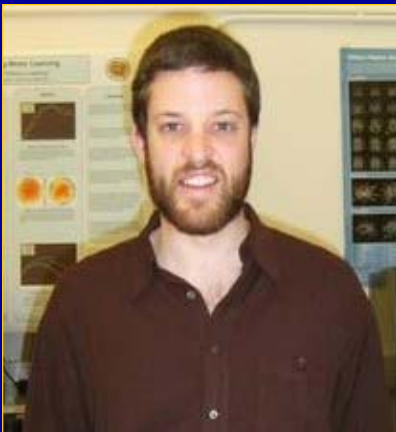
Location: Washington, DC **Date:** Nov. 15-19th, 2008

Brett presented three different research posters:

- *Neural Correlates of Complexity on a Motor Tapping Task*
- *Motor Cortex Reproducibility During Finger Tapping in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis*
- *Functional Connectivity of Motor Networks in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis*

The Society for Neuroscience annual meeting is the premier venue for neuroscientists from around the world. Since 1971, the meeting has offered attendees the opportunity to learn about the latest breakthroughs and network with colleagues.

Graduate Student Awards



Joe Gwin

National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate (NDSEG) Fellowship

Joe was awarded a three-year fellowship from the Department of Defense to fund his doctoral studies. Joe's fellowship application was one of approximately 200 selected from more than 3,000 applications received this year. This is the first NDSEG fellowship received by a UM Kinesiology doctoral student. Congratulations Joe!



Stephen Salaga

**Institute for Social Research
Rackham Summer Training Award**

Steve will use this award to participate in the ICPSR summer program. This award is given to those students interested in quantitative social science research methodology. Congratulations Steve!



Graduate Student Awards Continued

Katsu Funai **Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship**

The Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship goes to a Ph.D. Candidate that will complete his/her Ph.D. within 6 years. This year's award candidates must be on the road to completing their degree in the Spring or Fall of 2009 with the intentions of finishing their PhD by August of 2010. Congratulations, Katsu, for receiving this prestigious award and towards the completion of your Ph.D.



Brett Fling **Stan Kemp Scholarship & Lucille M. Swift Honor Award**

These two Scholarships are awarded to outstanding Kinesiology Students. The Stan Kemp Scholarship looks for the qualities that Mr. Kemp preserved in his own persona: leadership, scholarship, integrity and idealism. The Lucille Swift Award upholds students that demonstrate professional promise and superior scholarship. Congratulations Brett!



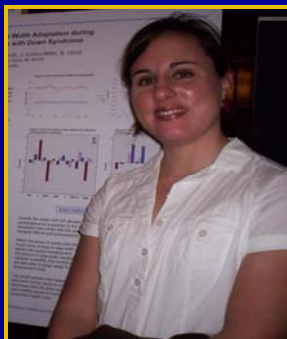
Abbey Thomas **Living Memorial Graduate Scholarship**

Students that are members of the Great Lakes Athletic Trainers' Association (GLATA) are eligible to receive awards to preserve the memory and accomplishments of deceased members. These awards also perpetuate the standards, ideals and professionalism of Athletic Training. Congratulations Abbey!



Beth Smith **Paul A. Hunsicker Memorial Award**

The Paul A. Hunsicker Memorial Award honors the memory of Professor Paul Hunsicker, Chair of the Department of Physical Education for Men, 1958-70 and Director of the Department of Physical Education, 1970-76. The award recognizes one graduate and one undergraduate student who have demonstrated superior scholarship and professional zeal and promise. Congratulations Beth!



Updates on Some Former Doctoral Students

Cathy Larson, Ph.D. (Graduated Spring 2002) Advisor: Susan Brown

Current Position: Senior Physical Therapist and CSCIR Research Coordinator, Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan, Detroit Medical Center.

After graduation, Cathy went directly to the Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan, Detroit Medical Center. She also teaches part-time within Oakland University and Wayne State University's DPT, transitional DPT, MSPT and DScPT programs.

Current Research Focus: Outcomes in Individuals with Spinal Cord Injury and Stroke following Innovative, Intensive Physical Therapy Intervention.

Cengiz Yakut, Ph.D. (Graduated Fall 2002) Advisors: Charles Worringham and Susan Brown

Current Position: Assistant Professor, Health and Physical Education Department, Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania. After graduation, Cengiz was an Assistant Professor of Kinesiology at The University of Texas of the Permian Basin, Odessa, Texas before going to Lock Haven University in January 2005.

Current Research Focus: The role of motor control deficiencies in adapting multi-component visual-motor tasks in children with attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder.

Tal Shafir (Liberzon), Ph.D. (Graduated Summer 2003) Advisors: Charles Worringham and Susan Brown

Current Position: Research Fellow at the Molecular and Behavioral Neuroscience Institute, University of Michigan. After graduation, Tal was a post-doctoral student in the Center for Human Growth & Development (CHGD) at the University of Michigan before going to the Molecular and Behavioral Neuroscience Institute.

Current Research Focus: Emotion regulation and the brain mechanisms underlying the relationship between movement and emotion.

Jake Streepey, Ph.D. (Graduated Summer 2003) Advisor: Rosa Angulo-Barroso

Current Position: Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Education, School of Physical Education and Tourism Management Indiana University Purdue University – Indianapolis.

After graduation, Jake held a post-doctoral position at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago before starting his current position at Indiana University Purdue University in the Fall 2006.

Current Research Focus: Effects of early prism adaptation training on balance in stroke patients with hemispatial neglect.

Ugo H. Buzzi, M.S. (Spring 2004) Advisor: Beverly Ulrich

Current Position: Assistant State's Attorney, Cook County State's Attorney's Office. After leaving Kinesiology, Ugo attended law school at the Michigan State University College of Law. He completed his J.D. in 2008, and was admitted to the Illinois Bar in November 2008.



Keith Gordon, Ph.D. (Graduated Winter 2005) Advisor: Daniel Ferris

Current Position: Post doctoral fellow, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago.

After graduation, Keith went directly to the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago.

Current Research Focus: Investigating the effects of proprioceptive feedback on walking performance in spinal cord injury subjects.

Jason Scibek, PhD (Graduated Fall 2005) Advisor: Richard Hughes (2003-2005) and Paul Borsa (2001-2003)

Current Position: Assistant Professor (tenure track) Duquesne University.

After graduation, Jason accepted a job at Eastern Michigan University, teaching in their accredited athletic training education program before going to Duquesne University in August 2006.

Current Research Focus: Assessment of shoulder biomechanics. In addition to continuing to look at alterations in scapulohumeral rhythm, he is currently working on developing a clinically based means of quantifying tri-planar scapular motion during humeral elevation activities.

Simon Schenk, Ph.D. (Graduated Winter 2006) Advisor: Jeff Horowitz

Current Position: Post-Doctoral fellow, University of California, San Diego.

After graduation, Simon went directly to the University of California.

Current Research Focus: Pathways that regulate nutrient-induced changes in insulin sensitivity in skeletal muscle. His research focuses on identifying pathways responsible for improvement of insulin sensitivity with calorie restriction.

Gerry Conti, Ph.D. (Graduated Winter 2007) Advisor: Susan Brown

Current Position: Assistant Professor, Occupational Therapy at Wayne State University.

After graduation, Gerry went directly to Wayne State University.

Current Research Focus: Upper limb reach, hand grasp and the kinematics of handwriting across the lifespan with special interest in aging. She is also studying the application of principles of neuroscience to assistive technology design.

Hyun Seok Hwang, Ph.D. (Graduated Spring 2007) Advisor: Marvin O. Boluyt

Current Position: Research Fellow, Vanderbilt University Medical Center. After graduation, Hyun went directly to Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

Current Research Focus: Calcium signaling in cardiac arrhythmias.



Elizabeth Wuorinen, Ph.D. (Graduated Fall 2007) Advisor: Katarina Borer
Current Position: Assistant Professor in the Biology and Physical Education Department, School of Mathematics and Sciences, Norwich University.
After graduation, Elizabeth went directly to Norwich University in Vermont.
Current Research Focus: Non-pharmacological ways to help combat obesity through exercise and daily food intake.

Daniel Goble, Ph.D. (Graduated Fall 2007) Advisor: Susan Brown
Current Position: Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Belgium. After graduation, Daniel went directly to Katholieke Universiteit.
Current Research: Bimanual coordination in the elderly. Dan will also soon be studying proprioceptive function using MRI technology. He hopes to determine age-related differences in brain activation patterns that are associated with various sensory and movement tasks.

Chia-Lin Chang, Ph.D. (Graduated Winter 2007) Advisor: Beverly Ulrich
Current Position: Post Doctoral Scholar, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, University of Pittsburg.
Current Research Focus: Neuroplasticity and rehabilitation.

Nick Knuth, Ph.D. (Graduated Spring 2007) Advisor: Jeff Horowitz
Current Position: Postdoctoral Fellow, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), National Institute of Health (NIH).
After graduation, Nick went directly to the National Institute of Health.
Current Research Focus: Effects of reduction in dietary carbohydrate versus fat. Nick is studying obese adult volunteers to assess the changes of whole-body metabolism, endocrine physiology, psychology, as well as regional brain metabolism and reward circuitry in response to a selective reduction of dietary fat versus carbohydrate by cross-over design.

Joaquin Anguera, Ph.D. (Graduated Summer 2007) Advisor: Rachael Seidler
Current Position: Postdoctoral student at the University of California, San Francisco, working with Dr. Adam Gazzaley.
Current Research Focus: The effect of aging on cognition in humans. Joaquin recently received a post-doctoral minority fellowship through the National Institute on Aging for two years of support.



Gregory Sawicki, Ph.D. (Graduated Summer 2007) Advisor: Daniel Ferris

Current Position: Assistant Professor, Department of Biomedical Engineering at The University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and North Carolina State University (Joint Department). After he finished his Ph.D. on robotic exoskeletons for locomotion, Dr. Sawicki was a Post Doctoral Research Associate in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Brown University under Prof. Tom Roberts.

Current Research: Understanding the influence of tendon elasticity on muscle contraction mechanics. Greg studies muscle-tendon dynamics *in vivo* using ultrasonography on humans during movement and *in vitro* on isolated frog muscle-tendon. Greg is ultimately interested in applying his findings to improve the design of lower-limb assistive devices (i.e. robotic exoskeletons, powered prostheses).

Diane Adamo, Ph.D. (Graduated Fall 2007) Advisor: Susan Brown

Current Position: Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Therapy, Wayne State University.

After graduation, Diane obtained post-doctoral training in the area of cognitive neuroscience under the auspices of a National Institute of Health Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Program in Aging and Urban Health grant awarded to Wayne State University before starting her current position.

Current Research: Age effects in spatial navigation, and upper limb asymmetries associated with the perception of limb movement and force as a function of hand preference.

Meghann Lloyd, Ph.D. (Graduated Spring 2008) Advisor: Dale Ulrich

Current Position: Junior Research Scientist, Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario Research Institute, and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, The University of Ottawa. After graduation, Meghann completed a one semester post-doc with Dale Ulrich, Ph.D. and then started her current position in Ottawa in May 2008.

Current Research Focus: Assessment of Physical Literacy

Julia Looper, Ph.D. (Graduated Spring 2008) Advisor: Dale Ulrich

Current Position: Assistant Professor, Physical Therapy Program, University of Puget Sound.

After graduation, Julia went directly to the University of Puget Sound.

Current Research Focus: Effective physical therapy interventions for children with Down syndrome.



Christopher Herman, Ph.D. (Graduated Winter 2008) Advisor: Dee Edington

Current Position: Assistant Professor, School of Health Promotion and Human Performance at Eastern Michigan University.

After graduation, Chris went directly to Eastern Michigan University.

Current Research Focus: Developing a research agenda in physical activity.

Scott Tainsky, Ph.D. (Graduated Summer 2008) Advisor: Jason Winfree

Current Position: Assistant Professor in Sport Management, University of Illinois, Department of Recreation Sport and Tourism. After graduation, Scott went directly to University of Illinois.

Current Research Focus: The demand for television broadcasts of the National Football League, specifically the relationship between fan population movement and television ratings.

Attention Masters of Art and Masters of Science Alumni: Next issue we will be continuing our series “Alumni Today” by featuring distinguished Masters students. Please email your updates to Charlene Ruloff (cruloff@umich.edu). Remember to include your name, the year you graduated, your path after graduation and information about your current position. We would love to hear from you!



In his spare time, Simon Schenk, Ph.D. 2007, is Head Coach/Director of Operations/ Star Player for the San Diego Lions Australian Rules Football Club. All those years playing American football with the UM Kinesiology Intramural flag football team must not have been enough to convert him.

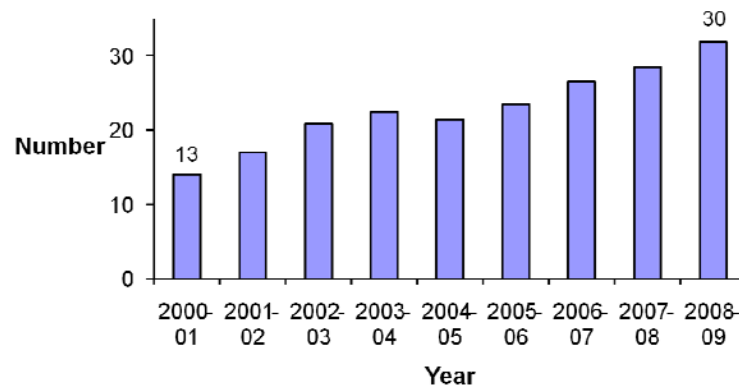




Reaching a Goal

The School of Kinesiology's Graduate Program would like to thank Beverly Ulrich, Ph.D., for 10 years of service, dedication and support. Dr. Ulrich stepped down as Dean in December 2008. At the beginning of her tenure, she set a goal to grow the graduate program. Ten years later, the success of the graduate program is apparent in many ways. Thanks to her support, we saw the enrollment in the Ph.D. program go from 13 students in 2000 to 30 students in 2008. Her dedication to the students also showed in the amount of funding received. Graduate student research assistantships and postdoctoral fellowships in Kinesiology have tripled over the past five years. The Masters program continues its success and has over 30 enrolled students. As Dr. Ulrich stated, "If we want to maintain the high quality we've established in Kinesiology, we need to nurture and support the next generation of Ph.D.'s". We are looking forward to her continued support as a mentor to future graduate students in the School of Kinesiology. Thanks, Bev!

UM Kinesiology Doctoral Students



2009 Kinesiology Commencement Ceremony



Friday, May 1, 2009— 8:00 p.m.
Hill Auditorium
825 North University

Master of Arts

Naveen Das
Ronnie Brant
Gabriella McDonald
Joe Piscotty
Derek Swenson
David Nasternak
Michael Carr
Leah Howard
Michael Knill
Jennifer Mandock
Soo Wang
Tzu Wang

Master of Science

Abhijit Bhat
Michael Borack
Brandon Snead
Elizabeth Carr
Lauren Shapiro
Christopher Yee

Graduating Class of 2008-09

Dissertation Defense Calendar

Date	Time	Name	Title	Advisor	Locations
4/20/2009	11:00	Beth Smith	Changes in Gait Variability Across the Lifespan in Persons with Down Syndrome	Beverly Ulrich, Ph.D.	Rackham Building, 4th Floor West Conference Room
4/22/2009	10:00	Beth Crane	Measures of Emotion: How feelings are Expressed in the Body and Face During Walking	Melissa Gross, Ph.D.	3040 CCRB
5/13/2009	1:00 pm	Pei-Chun Kao	Mechanisms of Motor Adaptation when Walking with a Powered Exoskeleton	Daniel Ferris, Ph.D.	Bickner Auditorium



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Sizes: Adult S-XL



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Future information for “Kines Grad Connection” – If you would like to submit information to be published in future editions of “Kines Grad Connection”, please email cruloff@umich.edu.



For more information about a graduate degree in Kinesiology, please contact,
Charlene Ruloff: cruloff@umich.edu, or visit www.kines.umich.edu