Alex Aruin, professor of PT, and Joelle Lantz, assistant dean for academic affairs and administration, will both be recognized on Nov. 1 at the UIC Forum as honorees of UIC’s 2012 Employee Recognition Awards Program. Joelle received an Award of Merit, and Alex received an INSPIRE Award.

This year the Dept. of Physical Therapy again served as the official physical therapy partner for the Susan G. Komen 3-Day, held Aug. 10-12 in metro Chicago. Under the leadership of clinical instructor Heather Feldner, 37 PT students volunteered, and seven participated in “full crew,” staying all three days and camping over both nights. It’s the largest group of student volunteers PT has ever assembled for the event, which they began staffing in 2009.

David Marquez, assistant professor of kinesiology, was recently awarded an R01 grant from the NIH’s National Institute of Nursing Research. He will test the impact of the BAILAMOS© dance program on lifestyle physical activity and health outcomes (physical function, cognitive function, and self-reported functional limitations and disability) relative to a health education control group among older Latino adults.

Fabricio Balcazar, professor of DHD, was elected president of the Society for Community Research and Action, Division 27, of the American Psychological Association. Fabricio began serving his three-year term in August.

Karen Troy, assistant professor of kinesiology, was awarded a four-year NIH grant for her research, "A prospective study of human bone adaptation using a novel in-vivo loading model." The project proposes a series of experiments that are designed to clarify the links between physical activity, bone health, and how these factors can affect bone's response to the application of mechanical forces.

In September, Michael Brown, professor of kinesiology, attended the American Heart Association Conference on High Blood Pressure Research in Washington, DC, where all three of his doctoral students presented. The review of abstracts is extremely competitive for this meeting.

Glenn Hedman has been appointed chair of the Assistive Technology Standards Board of the Rehabilitation Engineering & Assistive Technology Society of North America. Glenn is a clinical associate professor of DHD and is head of that department’s Assistive Technology Unit.

On Sept. 25, Angela Odoms-Young, assistant professor of nutrition, presented at “Mini-Rounds,” a forum sponsored by the University of Illinois Hospital and Health Sciences System that strives to increase awareness on campus about all the health issues we address at UIC. Angela was not only the first representative from AHS, she was also the first non-physician presenter.

An article by DHD’s Sarah Parker-Harris, assistant professor, Rob Gould, research assistant professor, and Randal Owen, postdoctoral research associate, was published in Society & Disability this month. An abstract and the full text of “Parity of participation in liberal welfare states: Human rights, neoliberalism, disability and employment” are available online.

Joy Hammel, professor of OT and disability studies, has been awarded a center grant as co-PI on a project entitled “Community and Work Participation Disparities: A Program of the ADA Participation Action Research Consortium.” The work is funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) under its priority for a Disability and Rehabilitation Research Project.

Craig Horswill, clinical assistant professor of kinesiology, was interviewed in early October for an ABC7 news story about the 10-minute fitness craze. The piece was postponed once and is now slated to air on Thursday, Oct. 25, during the 10 p.m. HealthBeat segment with Sylvia Perez.
Since the summer, director of coordinated nutrition programs Jamie Shifley has been serving as president of the Chicago Dietetic Association.

Under the guidance of clinical professor of kinesiology Mary Lou Bareither, the Dept. of Kinesiology and Nutrition has entered its second year of welcoming UIC College Prep seniors for intensive, semester-long research experiences in the anatomy lab. Fifteen students are participating this term. Developing this yearly enrichment program into a repeatable model is the master’s project of KN MS student Melissa Taylor, who is additionally supported by 10 undergraduates and two Americorps teachers from UICCP.

On Sept. 28, the Dept. of Kinesiology and Nutrition hosted its first “C2C: Cells to Community” event. Coordinated by nutrition associate professor Giamila Fantuzzi, the event showcased research projects—eight oral and 15 poster presentations—by students and fellows from the departments of Kinesiology and Nutrition and Physical Therapy. All were focused on the fields of integrative pathophysiology and health promotion. About 50 people attended, and the departments hope to repeat the event in the spring semester.


The five-volume Encyclopedia of Disability (Sage) by Gary Albrecht, professor emeritus of disability and human development, was recently translated into Japanese. Gary is general editor of the Sage Reference Series on Disability, which comprises eight volumes. The series will be released in books and on the Sage electronic platform by the end of December.

Alex Aruin, professor of PT, gave two invited lectures at the 2012 American Orthotic and Prosthetic Association’s National Assembly and New England Chapter combined meeting, Sept. 6-9 in Boston. Their titles were, “The Role of AFOs in the Outcomes of Clinical Tests of Balance,” and “Proprioceptive Effects of AFOs.” (Hint if you need it: AFO stands for ankle foot orthosis.) In addition, Alex gave the lecture “Anticipatory postural adjustments: What we know and what we don’t,” at the international Motor Control 2012 conference in Wisla, Poland, Sept. 27-29. Lastly, Alex’s PhD student Neeta Kanekar received the "Love of Learning Award" from the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi to help support career development.

Kinesiology’s Mary Lou Bareither, clinical professor, and Jane Marone, clinical associate professor, are co-authors of “Clay modeling versus written modules as effective interventions in understanding human anatomy,” recently published online by the journal Anatomical Sciences Education. The paper was also co-authored by four student researchers who were then undergraduates: Vered Arbel ’12, Meghan Growe ’12, Emily Muszczynski ’11, and Adam Rudd ’11. An abstract is available here.

Assistant professor of kinesiology Tracy Baynard delivered one of the few oral presentations at The Obesity Society meetings in San Antonio, Sept. 20-24. The title of her talk was “Aerobic exercise training differentially affects autonomic function in obese individuals with either low or high parasympathetic modulation.” Tracy will also have a paper, “Children and adolescents with Down Syndrome, physical fitness and physical activity,” published in the Journal of Sport and Health Sciences in December. Co-authors are collaborators from Wichita State and Mississippi State universities.


Andy Boyd, assistant professor of health informatics, will present an abstract entitled “Educating Physicians about Electronic Health Records” at the Association of American Medical Colleges Annual Meeting, Nov. 2-7, in San Francisco.
EVENTS

Save the Dates: Alumni Weekend, May 3-4, 2013
Says Dean Bo Fernhall: “Hold the dates and plan to attend!”
As part of the UIC 30th anniversary celebration, our college is planning an all-alumni reunion and awards celebration for the weekend of May 3-4, 2013. Activities are still being planned, but will definitely include a reception and an awards banquet. There will also be opportunities for AHS faculty and students to exhibit their research. We will seek your input about other potential activities.