Fall 2002

The Review - Fall 2002

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PT Reunion
Drs. Erdmann and Cooter
Take the Lead

New Nursing Chair

DI Students Score
In This Issue

3 Message From the Dean
4 Drs. Erdmann and Cooter Take the Lead
5 Physical Therapy Class of 1992 Together Again
6 Mary G. Schaal, New Nursing Department Chair
7 Diagnostic Imaging Students Discover Presentation is Important
8 Special Occasions Make Special News
9 JAVA Keeps Admissions Brewing
10 Your Alma Mater Needs Your Support
10 Changing Spaces – Campus Housing Gets a Face Lift
11 Federal Stafford Loan and Interest Rates At An All Time Low
11 Barbara Schock Retires
12 Alumni and Almost Alumni
13 Alumni Updates

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Change of address may be submitted via web site or by email (both addresses listed above).

Send correspondence to: Editor, The Review, 130 S. 9th St., Suite 705, Philadelphia, PA 19107-5233 or contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 215-503-7709.
Dear Alumni and Friends,

In our last issue, I reported to you on the transition taking place at your College, shared some of my philosophy, and promised that Dr. Cooter and I, though in an acting capacity, were not going to serve as caretakers since no institution can stand still without losing ground. We promised to look for opportunities to continue the growth of the College in reputation and in financial stability. This commitment has been renewed and reinforced since our respective roles have become permanent. We believe that with your support and involvement, we can bring our College to even greater heights of academic excellence, contribute even more to the development of the health professions workforce and society’s healthcare, and deepen your pride in your alma mater.

I say with your support and involvement because I am convinced that without the active participation of students, faculty, and alumni, we will not achieve our goals. The University is about to embark on a self-study that is part of the regular reaccreditation of the University by the Middle States Association. This is a marvelous opportunity to look critically at all of our programs and policies, take stock of our strengths and weaknesses, and develop strategies for enhancing our assets, eliminating our shortcomings, and reaching our goals. We will be seeking your participation in this self-study in a real and meaningful way. The most effective and efficient way to obtain your participation will be by way of the Web.

Our first step will be to post the 2001-2002 Annual Report of the College on our website for your perusal and comment. If you have not visited our College’s website (www.jefferson.edu/jchp), please do so. We welcome your reactions and suggestions for its improvement. Provision will be made for you to send your thoughts and suggestions. These will become part of the ongoing deliberations of the Middle States task forces. Your comments are of critical importance. You are our ultimate reality test, to make certain that faculty and administration are providing the best preparation possible for our graduates.

Of particular value will be your suggestions on the roles that alumni and friends can play in executing some of the recommendations that emerge. In addition to giving us advice on ways to improve the quality of educational programming, you can provide critical supportive roles in helping with recruitment of students, in volunteering as clinical instructors, reviewing career guidance materials, and so forth. I believe strongly that, as graduates, you have a significant stake in your alma mater, and I am convinced that we need to partner with you in securing Jefferson’s future.

The following summary of significant accomplishments is extracted from the “State of the College” section of the Annual Report. The full text will be made available on the website.

Our name has been changed to Jefferson College of Health Professions (JCHP).

Continued recognition of our academic excellence by accrediting bodies … included a full 10-year accreditation renewal for Nursing, successful site visits for Radiography, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, and Cardiovascular Technology in the Department of Diagnostic Imaging, and full term accreditation for Physical Therapy following submission of a supplemental report to CAPTE.

Commitment to leadership in the academic areas … with the appointment of Mary Schaal, RN, EdD, as the Chair of the Department of Nursing (Dr. Schaal had served as Acting Chair) and a renewed emphasis on the recruitment of a new Physical Therapy Chair.

Commitment to enhanced facilities … with the construction of a new class-room/clinical laboratory on the seventh floor and renovation of classrooms on the ninth floor of the Edison Building. As part of a longer-term solution, the College is joining the Medical College in the planning of new educational space that will support each of the University’s academic divisions in the proposed Education Research Building to be constructed over the existing Jefferson garage.

Enhanced recruiting efforts and commitment to Dean’s Scholarships … resulted in an overall increase in college enrollment, with the greatest increases in Nursing and Diagnostic Imaging. Enrollment efforts have been further assisted by an increased allocation and full utilization of the Dean’s Merit Scholarship fund….Another effort in this direction was the decision in planning the 2002-03 budget to restrain increases in

(continued on page 4)
Together Again!

They were together again, 10 years later. Twenty-eight of the 40 members of JCHP’s Department of Physical Therapy, Class of 1992 were back in Philadelphia on October 26 to catch up, hang out, eat, drink and dance till the wee hours. The brainchild of Carole High Gross, now living in Ottsville, Pennsylvania, the festivities took place at the Hilton Garden Inn in Philadelphia’s Center City.

“A cheery roar of laughter and conversation were in the air all night!” exclaimed the eight-month pregnant Gross who chaired the reunion committee and was instrumental in the success of the event.

For those who could not attend, you were remembered and missed!”

The alumni came with old class pictures and new life stories. “I thought it was a wonderful night of reminiscing,” said Amy Fernandez Morris, who traveled from Illinois. “It was terrific to get caught up with all the old classmates.”

A Hilton employee commented that “it was like a good ’ol family reunion.”

Carol High Gross and husband, Dwayne.

The alumni traveled near and far to celebrate. Ronda Reasner came from Utah, Laura Gallagher Barrios from Nebraska, Amy Fernandez Morris from Illinois and many from Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. Even professors Maggie Rinehart-Ayers, PT, Ph.D., and Paul Howard, PT, Ph.D., came to demonstrate their support.

“I am extremely grateful for the incredible support from Jefferson College of Health Professions’ Alumni Association,” stated Gross. “We appreciate their efforts to support so much of
Donna Merkel Molony and Joe Molony.

and talking about their favorite school memories. It was a good time to catch up with friends and learn where everyone's career is taking them. Kathy put together a newsletter about her classmates and was responsible for sending news on to the Alumni Office. Many thanks to Kathy and her classmates for their interest, enthusiasm, and loyalty to Jefferson.

The evening was definitely an “uplifting experience.”

We began in 1967 as the School of Allied Health Sciences. Two years later, the name was changed to the College of Allied Health Sciences. In 1997, we became the College of Health Professions. In 2002, we have again changed our name, this time to Jefferson College of Health Professions (JCHP). According to James B. Erdmann, PhD, dean, “We want to increase the emphasis on the College’s connection with Jefferson Medical College, the College of Graduate Studies, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital and the Jefferson Health System. One way we can further that objective is to change the name of the College slightly to make certain everyone identifies us with the Jefferson enterprise.”


More PT Fun

Additional class spirit by Physical Therapy alumni was demonstrated by the Class of 1998. On June 1, 2002, the class gathered together for a four-year reunion at the Irish Pub in Philadelphia. Organized by class member, Kathy Crop Ucciferri, 21 members of the class, including one from California, attended. The class enjoyed dinner, drinks,
Accomplished nurse-educator and Jefferson alumnus Mary G. Schaal, R.N., Ed.D., has been named Chair of the Department of Nursing at Jefferson College of Health Professions. Dr. Schaal, who had previously served as Acting Chair of the Department, has been instrumental in enriching a program that has already earned a national and international reputation for the education of leaders in the nursing profession. She succeeds former chair Pamela Watson, Sc.D., R.N., who resigned in 2001.

Dr. Schaal joined the College as Associate Professor, Vice Chair and Director of the Graduate Program for Nursing in 1997. Prior to her appointment at Jefferson, Dr. Schaal was an Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies at Allegheny University of the Health Sciences. She also held an administrative position in graduate studies at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey.

“Dr. Schaal has done an outstanding job of guiding the department over the last eight months and has earned the opportunity to lead the department as its regular chair,” said James B. Erdmann, Dean of the Jefferson College of Health Professions. “She has already had a very positive impact on the department, both in terms of new programs and in terms of management. We are fortunate to have the expertise and enthusiasm that Dr. Schaal brings to her position.”

Dr. Schaal has been a noted contributor to nursing education in the areas of curriculum design, development and evaluation, distance learning and health promotion. At Jefferson, she was instrumental in the revision and redesign of the graduate nursing program, the development of a one-year accelerated program for second degree students and a web-based nursing program option. The fruits of her labor have resulted in a 200% increase in enrollment in the graduate nursing program and an increase from 80% to 97% in the pass rate on the licensure examination for last year’s graduates of the undergraduate program. Under Dr. Schaal’s leadership, the JCHP Department of Nursing has assumed a lead in the University’s entry into distance education.

“The faculty and I are committed to developing strategies to alleviate the acute nursing shortage immediately and in the long term,” explained Dr. Schaal. “I view as essential collaboration with the nursing leaders in the Jefferson Health System to develop strategies to meet their needs for nurses at all levels and in all areas of practice. Dr. Mary Wakefield, the Department’s Nurse Scholar for 2002, addressed interdisciplinary education as a priority for healthcare providers in order to deliver safe, effective care. Dr. Wakefield indicated that TJU is an environment that is well suited to take a lead in interdisciplinary education. Therefore, I have initiated work with Jefferson Medical College to develop a model for life-long interdisciplinary education between nurses and physicians.”

In 1995, Dr. Schaal received a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant to support the development of an interdisciplinary community-based educational program. The following year, in collaboration with Planned Parenthood Federation of America, she received an award from the Office of Population Affairs to develop a distance-based RN-to-MSN educational program.

Dr. Schaal, a Cinnaminson, New Jersey resident, has been active in numerous national and local health, nursing, education and community organizations and currently serves on the JHS Health Policy Forum, Nursing Shortage Task Force, Faculty Club, Board of Directors, Graduate Council, and Awards and Fellowships Committee.

Dr. Schaal received her diploma and Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from Thomas Jefferson University, a Master of Science degree in Community Health Nursing from the University of Pennsylvania and her Doctoral degree in Education from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. Last year she received an Alumni Special Achievement Award from JCHP.

“My 38-year career as a professional nurse has been rewarding and filled with accomplishments I attribute to the strong foundations provided in the nursing education I received at Jefferson,” commented Dr. Schaal.
For the third consecutive year, JCHP students have been invited by the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography to present their original research abstracts at the annual scientific presentation competition. Thousands of sonographers as well as students each year vie for the coveted opportunity to publish and present. At the 2002 competition held in Atlanta, Georgia this October, three of those four slots were filled by JCHP cardiovascular technology students.

They were Cyrena Mailloux, Ava Horrell and the combined efforts of Jacqueline Park and Christine Craig. The single mother, the doctor's wife and the energetic young traditional students are all members of Cynthia Shillingsburg's cardiovascular seminar. They came together to write papers that overwhelmed the selection committee. Park and Craig garnered second place for their paper, “The Advantage of Intraoperative Duplex Ultrasound for Carotid Endarterectomy.” They worked with two Temple University vascular technologists at their clinical site and consulted with Philadelphia Heart Institute physicians for this abstract.

Horrell took third place for her work on “The Utilization of Duplex Ultrasound in Differentiating Distal Internal Carotid Artery Occlusion from Distal Internal Carotid Artery Dissection: A Case Study.”

In exchange for their 15-minute presentation based on their 250-word abstract, the Jefferson students received a complimentary three-day conference registration and the valuable opportunity to network with prospective employers and associates.

JCHP’s winning streak began in September of 2000 when students were accepted to present at the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers 17th annual conference in Dallas, Texas. Kristi Maiese and Danielle Miller were recognized in the student poster competition.

Last year in Las Vegas, Lauren Saulin won the coveted first place for her “Carotid Angioplasty/Stenting for the Management of High Grade Carotid Stenosis: A Case Report.” Third place was awarded to Charla A. Brown, Karen M. DiSandro and Patricia Gilroy, RVT.

Shillingsburg’s course is a weekly seminar in which students are required to write a research paper or case study that pertains to one or more of the specialties of cardiovascular technology. The paper has to be presented via an oral report and submitted to a journal for publication. Michael Hartman, Shillingsburg’s colleague, has a similar seminar in which students submit a research poster.

Students choose topics that are personally interesting. Shillingsburg, Clinical Coordinator for Cardiovascular Technology in JCHP’s Department of Diagnostic Imaging, explains that the winners demonstrate awareness of new trends, demonstrate a complete understanding of the topics and are able to answer questions.

“What we stress in the course is that they familiarize themselves with the various journals so they can target their submissions more effectively. The valuable lessons they receive over and above the actual writing in this project include soliciting sponsorship from vendors whose products are used in the study. When they leave us, they have the confidence and the employer gets a mature worker who is a valuable asset. Everybody wins.”

JCHP’s Diagnostic Imaging program has the distinction of last year receiving a full 10-year accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) in collaboration with the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (JRCDSMS). Shillingsburg says her course is a unique combination of college resources, willingness of clinical sites to collaborate and great mentors who support their students and promote student ownership of their own projects and, consequently, confidence and success. Most of Shillingsburg’s students can add “published” to their resumes when they graduate.

Demand for these highly qualified cardiovascular technologists is great. Salaries are reported at $45,000 to start plus sign on bonuses. For those who are willing to be on call, salaries could double this amount.

Says Christine Craig, of Salisbury, Maryland, who graduated this past May, “I had three great job offers before

(continued on page 8)
Special Occasions Make Special News

Please use the inserted form or e-mail us with all of your news. However, please keep in mind that we particularly want to highlight your big events in print!

Weddings Are Wonderful, Tell Us About Yours!

Please let us know about your recent wedding, so we can include your happy announcement in a future issue of The Review. Include with your announcement a picture we can print and we will send you a Jefferson gift. You can e-mail us a picture or send us one in the mail. (Please clearly identify the picture.) Also, include your name at graduation, your year, your married name, your spouse’s name, the date of your wedding, and your address.

We Bet You Had A Beautiful Baby!

Please, tell us more, so we can include your baby announcement in a future issue of The Review. Include in your information, your baby’s name, date of birth, and any other information you would like to share about your joyous event. Also, please include your name, your spouse’s name, your name at graduation, your program and year and address. Baby pictures are extra special and a welcome addition to your announcement. Please send us a picture we can print or e-mail one to us. We have a Jefferson baby gift ready to send out to you!

Special Occasion News, Any News And Change of Address Can Always Be Sent Via:

- E-Mail via our web site www.jefferson.edu/jchp/alumni or use the form below
- E-Mail, Mail, Phone, or Fax Contact: Dorothy Grieb
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  Philadelphia, PA 19107-5233
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Diagnostic Imaging Students Discover Presentation is Important (continued from page 7)

graduation…Peninsula Regional, Pennsylvania and Cooper Hospitals. And the employers certainly do take note when they see that you have already been published.” Ava Harrell, ’02, moved with her physician husband from Kansas to Philadelphia. “Jefferson has a reputation in the field. Those at Johns Hopkins, Dartmouth, Vanderbilt all know the caliber of Jefferson students.” Harrell took a job in the vascular lab at Misericordia Hospital part of the Mercy Health System.

Cyrena Mailloux ’02, a single mother and Drexel Hill, PA resident, gained experience in more than research while doing her paper, “Utilization of Contrast Agent Optison in Transthoracic Echo Evaluation of the Left Centricle.” She gained expertise in working with product manufacturers as she solicited funding and negotiated product use. Mailloux comments that while a student she had been working in one of the Jefferson Health System’s Echocardiography labs and “a terrific job just fell into my lap.” She was weighing her options but felt that she would ultimately choose Jefferson.

Kimberly Pockevich, ’01, was thrilled to discover that The Journal of Vascular Technology accepted her article for publication. According to Shillingsburg, “This was a real accomplishment. Jefferson and our department were cited in the footnote.” Continued Shillingsburg, “I am so proud of these great young women. They are graduating at the forefront of this profession. It is a pleasure for me to mentor and teach them, to share my expertise and in so doing, contribute to the growth of our field.”
Join JAVA And Help Keep Admissions Brewing!

Mark your calendars and help spread the word. We need your help in identifying and motivating talented students to choose a career in healthcare. Your presence at these events offers students a unique perspective from someone who has been there – YOU! Training and parking reimbursement are available. Call Karen Jacobs, Director of Admissions and Enrollment Management at (215) 503-1040 or e-mail Karen.Jacobs@mail.tju.edu to sign up. Current opportunities to help are as follows:

**DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING WORKSHOPS**
- Wednesday, December 11, 2002
  - 10 am - 1 pm
- Wednesday, February 12, 2003
  - 10 am - 1 pm
- Saturday, April 12, 2003
  - 10 am - 1 pm
- Wednesday, May 7, 2003
  - 6 pm - 8 pm
- Wednesday, June 4, 2003
  - 10 am - 1 pm

**NURSING OPEN HOUSES**
- Tuesday, December 10, 2002
  - 6 pm - 7:30 pm
- Tuesday, February 12, 2003
  - 6 pm - 7:30 pm
- Tuesday, April 15, 2003
  - 6 pm - 7:30 pm
- Tuesday, June 10, 2003
  - 6 pm - 7:30 pm

**LABORATORY SCIENCES WORKSHOPS**
- Saturday, February 8, 2003
  - 10 am - 1 pm
- Wednesday, March 12, 2003
  - 6:30 pm - 8 pm
- Wednesday, April 16, 2003
  - 6:30 pm - 8 pm

**OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY WORKSHOPS**
- Wednesday, February 19, 2003
  - 6:30 pm - 8 pm
- Saturday, April 26, 2003
  - 10 am - 12 pm

**PHYSICAL THERAPY WORKSHOPS**
- Wednesday, February 19, 2003
  - 6:30 pm - 8 pm
- Saturday, April 26, 2003
  - 10 am - 12 pm

**SPRING PHONATHONS**
- DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING
  - Wednesday, March 12, 2003
  - 6:30 pm - 8 pm
- LABORATORY SCIENCES
  - Wednesday, March 12, 2003
  - 6:30 pm - 8 pm
- NURSING
  - Tuesday, March 18, 2003
- OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
  - Tuesday, March 11, 2003
- PHYSICAL THERAPY
  - Tuesday, March 13, 2003
- SPRING OPEN HOUSE
  - Saturday, March 29, 2003
  - 11 am - 2 pm

**OTHER EVENTS**
- PACE WELCOME PICNIC
  - Monday, June 23, 2003
- AFFILIATE SCHOOL LUNCHEON
  - Tuesday, June 24, 2003
- PACE ADVISING DAY
  - Friday, June 27, 2003

Joan Kane Amick, a pillar of the nursing community of Thomas Jefferson University and an educator of many Thomas Jefferson University Diploma nurse and BSN students, passed away on May 18, 2002. Joan was an active and dedicated member of the Delta Rho chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International holding positions as president, corresponding secretary, archives and heritage committee, chair of the by-laws committee and newsletter editor. Joan was a leader and a major contributor to Delta Rho's current success. She also served International as a regional mentor and a member of Internationals wisdom council, mentoring committee and the dean's task force. Because of Joan's commitment to mentorship and her love of Delta Rho, the board of directors has voted to memorialize the annual academic scholarship in her honor.

Contributions to the scholarship may be made to Delta Rho Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau and note on the check that the donation is for the Joan Kane Amick Academic Scholarship. Checks may be mailed to: Delta Rho Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, Thomas Jefferson University, Jefferson College of Health Professions, 130 South 9th Street, 12th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107.
Changing Spaces – Campus Housing Gets a Face Lift!

Safe and attractive student housing is a major asset to any college or university campus. Add to that a residential living program that provides social, educational and support services for students, and you have a vital component of student life. For decades, Jefferson students have enjoyed the benefits of living in Orlowitz, Barringer and Martin Residences. Our three residence halls provide a variety of housing options from traditional “dormitory-style” rooms in Martin to three-bedroom apartments in Orlowitz and Barringer. Maintaining these facilities is always a financial challenge, especially during these demanding times in the healthcare industry. As Orlowitz and Barringer have aged, we have needed a large infusion of capital funds to replace building systems and to upgrade worn finishes such as carpeting, cabinetry and drapes.

With the high demand on University funds for academic, clinical and research programs, we decided to enter into an innovative partnership with Lubert-Adler Management, Inc. Lubert-Adler is an investment firm that specializes in the development and refurbishment of residential housing and has recently entered into several arrangements similar to ours at other universities in the area. The agreement with Lubert-Adler is a long-term lease of the Orlowitz and Barringer buildings that results in an investment of $25-$30 million in capital improvements. The end result will be modern apartments with wireless access and the latest in life safety systems (sprinkler and fire alarm systems).

A huge benefit in addition to upgraded facilities is that Lubert-Adler, owners of the Victory Building on the corner of 10th and Chestnut Streets, will renovate and restore that Victorian masterpiece to create 50 to 60 apartments for our students and provide expanded space for the Jefferson bookstore. Although Orlowitz and Barringer are leased to Lubert Adler, the University continues to provide residential living programs and service to students. The extensive renovation should be completed by the end of next summer. When the dust settles, Jefferson students can look forward to campus housing that is more attractive and varied than any previously available.

Barbara Schock Retires

Many alumni who resided on the Jefferson campus remember Barbara Schock, Director of Housing and Residence Life, as a tireless advocate for the campus housing community. After providing the University with 25 years of dedicated service, Barbara has retired.

She started her career at Jefferson in the late 70’s and began serving as the University’s chief housing officer in 1983. In 1987, she was named Director of Housing and Residence Life. During her tenure as Director, she created a highly effective residential living program as well as a successful and profitable short-term housing program that has served many University visitors and patient families.

Your Alma Mater Needs Your Support

Each year, Jefferson College of Health Professions asks alumni to give to the Annual Fund. Annual giving by alumni is an important source of financial support at every college and university in the country. Although each year many schools’ alumni contribute millions of dollars, contributions from our JCHP alumni are more modest, barely breaking the five-figure threshold.

At a time when you are besieged by organizations asking for money via telephone and forced to endure public television “beg-a-thons,” why should you respond to an appeal from your College? There are lots of good reasons. First and foremost, our tuition does not cover the cost of education. Hard to believe, but true. In addition to tuition, we rely on federal and state grant support, income from our endowment, and, yes, gifts from alumni and friends of the College.

What do we do with your gift? Some of it goes to scholarships for current students. The Christopher Rivera Memorial Scholarship for Physical Therapy students is a good example. New patient simulation labs and expanded computer facilities for students are expensive but well worth the cost. To stay abreast of the latest technology and curricular innovations requires a significant financial commitment, and your gifts can help us achieve that goal. By supporting these initiatives, you assist our current students and, at the same time, enhance the Jefferson reputation, which is a direct benefit to you as a graduate of the College.

So when you are contacted by the College and asked to contribute to the Annual Fund, please say “yes.” Even a small gift can make a big difference for your College.

You will also find a postage-paid envelope included in this magazine. Please take this opportunity to give something back to your school.
Federal Stafford Loan And Federal Consolidation Interest Rates At An All-Time Low!

For the second straight year, Federal Stafford Loan rates and related federal consolidation rates dropped to an all-time low!

The formula for Federal Stafford Loans disbursed after July 1, 1998 is based on the 91-day T-Bill plus 1.7% while in school, grace or deferment and 2.3% while in repayment or forbearance. A similar formula exists for loans disbursed between July 1, 1995 and June 30, 1998 with the corresponding rates of T-Bill plus 2.5% while in school, grace or deferment and T-Bill plus 3.1% while in repayment or forbearance.

Applicable Federal Stafford Loan rates for the period July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003 are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FEDERAL Stafford Loan Disbursement Date</th>
<th>In-School, Grace and Deferment Rate</th>
<th>Forbearance and Active Repayment Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7/1/1998 - 6/30/2003</td>
<td>3.46%</td>
<td>4.06%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/1/1995 - 6/30/1998</td>
<td>4.26%</td>
<td>4.86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/1/1994 - 6/30/1995</td>
<td>4.86%</td>
<td>4.86%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Considering that Federal Stafford Loan interest rates are so low, now is a great time to think about ‘consolidating.’ Federal Consolidation is the process by which borrowers may combine all of their federal debt into one ‘refinanced’ loan. Federal loans eligible for consolidation include:

- Federal Stafford Loan (subsidized and unsubsidized)
- Federal Direct Loan (subsidized and unsubsidized)
- Federal Perkins Loan
- Health Professions Student Loan (HPSL)
- Nursing Student Loan (NSL)
- Federal Insured Student Loan (FISL)
- Auxiliary Loan to Assist Students (ALAS)
- Federal Supplemental Loan for Students (SLS)
- National Direct Student Loan (NDSL)
- Health Education Assistance Loan (HEAL)
- Federal Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students (PLUS)
- Loan for Disadvantaged Students (LDS)

Consolidation is extremely helpful if the borrower has many federal loans with different lenders. However, consolidation may be done even if the borrower only has federal loans with one lender.

ADVENTAGES OF CONSOLIDATION

Lock in your interest rate. A consolidation loan will have a fixed interest rate associated with the new loan. The interest rate for the Federal Consolidation Loan is fixed and is equal to the weighted average of the interest rates of the loans being consolidated, rounded up to the nearest 1/8th of one percent, not to exceed 8.25%.

Monthly payment is reduced. As a repayment period of up to 30 years may be granted based on loan size, monthly payments will be much lower than an original payment based on a 10-year repayment period.

Save money on payment incentives. Some lenders are offering payment incentives in the form of interest rate reductions.

Make one monthly payment to one lender for all of your federal loans.

DISADVANTAGES OF CONSOLIDATION

More interest may be paid on the borrowed funds if you extend payment based on options offered under federal consolidation.

Eligible deferment options may change.

Payment incentives you currently are receiving on the loans you want to consolidate may be forfeited.

Only federal loans may be included in the Federal Consolidation Loan. Institutional loans and private loans may not be included.

If you have any questions regarding the Federal Stafford Loan or the Federal Consolidation Loan, please contact your Federal Stafford Loan lender(s) or contact the University Office of Student Financial Aid at (215) 955-2867 or financial.aid@jefferson.edu.
It’s Official!
Drs. Erdmann and Cooter Take the Lead

James B. Erdmann, PhD, and Raelynn Cooter, PhD, have been named Dean and Senior Associate Dean, respectively for Jefferson College of Health Professions. They had served in “acting” capacities since December 2001.

Dr. Erdmann joined Thomas Jefferson University as Jefferson Medical College’s Associate Dean of Administration and Special Projects in 1987. Continuing his role as Associate Dean of Administration, Dr. Erdmann also became Registrar of the Medical College in 1990 and the University Registrar in 1997. Dr. Erdmann is also Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, JMC and a professor in the Departments of Medicine and Psychiatry and Human Behavior.

Before coming to Jefferson, Dr. Erdmann was the Director of the Division of Educational Measurement and Research at the Association of American Medical Colleges, Washington, DC and Clinical Associate Professor at George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences. Previously, Dr. Erdmann was Associate Professor of Medical Education and Educational Psychology at Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan and Acting and Associate Director of the Loyola Psychometric Laboratory and Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology at Loyola University in Chicago.


Raelynn Cooter, PhD, will serve as University Registrar as well as JCHP’s Senior Associate Dean of Administration. Since last December, she has been serving as Acting Associate Dean for Administration of JCHP and Interim University Registrar. As University Registrar, she will report to the Dean of Jefferson Medical College, consistent with past policy.

Dr. Cooter joined the University in 1984 as the Coordinator of Financial Aid for Jefferson Medical College, assuming the role of Director of Financial Aid for the Medical College in 1990. When the College offices were consolidated in 1997, through December 2001, Dr. Cooter served as Director of the University Financial Aid Office.

She received her Bachelor’s Degree in Sociology from the State University of New York at Oswego, her Master’s in Human Services Administration from Rochester Institute of Technology and her PhD in Higher Education Administration from the University of Pennsylvania.

Jefferson Generations Update

Thanks to all of you who have sent us your interesting Jefferson generation stories. Due to editorial considerations, we are now planning to make this a feature of our Spring/Summer ‘03 issue of The Review. Hence, there is still time to participate. Here are the details: If you are part of a Jefferson family, from any of the three divisions, (Jefferson College of Health Professions, Jefferson Medical College, or Jefferson College of Graduate Studies), we would love to hear from you. If you have an interesting story or just want to tell us about your Jefferson family connection, please let us know and we will contact you for a telephone interview, if necessary. Please e-mail us with your name, program/division, class year, telephone number, and include any of the same pertinent information about your relative(s). We, of course, would welcome photographs as well. Please e-mail this information to Dorothy Grieb, Director of Alumni Relations, and she will follow up with you for any necessary details. dorothy.grieb@mail.tju.edu
Occupational Therapy
Gets New Classroom

There’s a new classroom on Edison’s 7th floor. This multi-purpose room (711) will be used primarily for occupational therapy lab courses. In their new and expanded space, OT students will be able to practice their early intervention skills with school-aged children and their families. Other populations served will include children with sensory integration dysfunction as well as adults and senior citizens.

A portion of this space will house the OT Assessment Library containing a wide range of standardized assessments used to evaluate occupation-based problems.

Move Over
Career Development Center

Where in the world is the Career Development Center now that the OT classroom resides there? It is just around the corner. Room 707, directly ahead as you enter on the left side of the floor, is now the CDC’s new home. According to David Westhart, Director of the CDC, “The new location makes our resources more accessible to the students and provides them with a bright, friendly environment.”
The second annual Pizza Day was held on the first day of spring exams, April 29, 2002. Once more, in record time, our students consumed more than 50 pizzas and ten cases of cold drinks. Our students love pizza!

The long-standing tradition of alumni speakers at Class Night continued on May 16, 2002. Participating this year were Kate Guzzetti, OT ’96, Joann Ludwig, DI ’67, Anne Malin, N’93, Beverly Zimmerman, LS ’97, and Joanne Gauthier, GS, 00. Also, blue portfolios with the Jefferson seal were distributed to all graduates along with their alumni cards.

On May 23, 2002, the JCHP Alumni Association hosted 85 people for a DI Luncheon. Attending the event at the Trump Taj Mahal in Atlantic City were more than 50 alumni, faculty, current students, and clinical preceptors. This event was held in conjunction with the annual Leading Edge in Diagnostic Ultrasound Conference, a major East Coast professional event. Guests were treated to a wonderful buffet lunch and heard greetings from Dorothy Grieb, Director of Alumni Relations, and Betty Bisaccia-Hanson, Director of Marketing and Public Relations for the College. Alumni in attendance participated in a drawing and many won Jefferson Alumni sweatshirts.

Alumni and Almost Alumni – It’s All for You!

JEFF ALUMS: ARE THE BEST IN THE WORLD, ARE WORLD CLASS, ARE THE SWEETEST IN THE WORLD, HAVE THE WORLD ON A SPRING, HAVE THE KEYS TO THE WORLD were themes invoked in the Annual Senior Salute held on February 28, 2002. Participating seniors were delighted to pick up everything from stress balls to slinkys printed with these “worldly” sayings. The Alumni Association provided the theme for the annual event which is sponsored by the University Registrar’s Office. “Almost alumni” register for graduation, pick up their caps and gowns, have the opportunity to purchase class rings, and stop by information stations provided by the Office of Alumni Relations, the Office of Student Affairs, the Career Development Center, the Center for Collaborative Research, and the University Bookstore.

The National Student Nurse Association held its national annual conference in Philadelphia the week of April 1, 2002. The Office of Alumni Relations honored our nursing graduates that week by providing a welcome table for nurse alumni attending the Annual Nurse Scholar program on April 3, 2002. On April 15, 2002, the alumni office also honored our own student nurses by delivering box lunches and Jefferson Nursing Notepads to the Department of Nursing for all students and faculty. On April 16, 2002, a hoagie lunch was held for the Jefferson RN to BSN students based at the Atlantic City Medical Center in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

“The Tradition Starts Here” theme echoed twice this summer, as Registration/Orientation was changed to two summer dates, July 9, 2002 and August 6, 2002. While new students attended to the business of getting their ID badges, filing paperwork and learning about housing, activities and programs, they were greeted at the Alumni Association table with a gift of their traditional alumni coffee mugs. Many students also won Jefferson travel mugs as well by participating in a drawing.

It was, “HOT, HOT, HOT”. On October 18, 2002, Jefferson Occupational Therapy Alumni attended a reception in their honor at the annual Pennsylvania Occupational Therapy Conference held at the Renaissance Hotel, Philadelphia. Nearly 75 guests, including 27 alumni, students, faculty, and others, were treated to favors (miniature bottles of Tabasco sauce with the words, “Jeff Alums Are Hot Stuff”). Some alums also took home prizes of Tabasco sauce beanbags with “Jefferson OT Alums Are Hot Stuff” ribbons tied to them.

It was fun, it was nostalgic, and no one wanted to go home. Those words best describe the Physical Therapy Class of ’92 Tenth Year Reunion held on October 26, 2002 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Philadelphia. Please see cover story on page 4. Our heartfelt thanks to Carole High Gross, PT 92, Reunion Chair, for her tireless efforts, persistence, loyalty and enthusiasm.
DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING

Jennifer Plum, DI, ’01 has been elected to a two-year term as a member of the JCHP Alumni Association Board of Directors. Jennifer is currently employed as a sonographer in parinatal high-risk ultrasound at Drexel University.

John Bauer, DI, ’95 has been elected to a two-year term as a member of the JCHP Alumni Board of Directors. Jack is employed as the chief vascular technologist and technical director of the UMDNJ Vascular Laboratory in Stratford, New Jersey.

Laurie Miller, DI, ’87 has been elected to a two-year term as a member of the JCHP Alumni Board of Directors. Laurie is a per-diem chief sonographer at the Delaware Valley Institute of Fertility and Genetics in Marlton, New Jersey.

LABORATORY SCIENCES

Jill Carroll, LS, ’96 has been elected to a two-year term as a member of the JCHP Alumni Board of Directors. Jill works at Thomas Jefferson University as the laboratory coordinator of the Tay-Sachs Prevention Program. She is also on the Board of Directors of the National Tay-Sachs and Allied Diseases, Delaware Valley Chapter. Jill is married with two daughters, Deryn Sage, age four, and Payton Morgaine, nine months old. A true Jeffersonian, Jill was born at Jefferson as were her two children. She earned her bachelor’s degree, is beginning pursuit of her master’s degree at Jefferson, and is a full-time Jefferson employee.

Lisa Mucciola, LS, ’93 has been elected to a two-year term as a member of the JCHP Alumni Board of Directors. She is employed as a clinical medical coordinator at Merck & Company, Inc, in Horsham, Pennsylvania.

Helen Claire MacDonald Ogden-Grable, LS, ’81 is employed as the clinical educator for DSI Laboratories at Naples Community Hospital in Naples, Florida. She also serves as an ASCP State Advisor for Florida and is a member of the Editorial Advisory Board for Laboratory Medicine magazine (ASCP). In addition, Helen serves as secretary for the Professional Association of Laboratory Medicine (PALM), in Fort Myers, Florida. This organization is a regional association providing continuing education to medical technologists in a five-county region in southwest Florida.

April O’Connor, LS, ’01 e-mailed the Office of Alumni Relations with a request for a new Jefferson Alumni bumper sticker to replace the one she got from the Alumni Association when she graduated. She wrote, “Well, to make a long story short, my car was recently stolen and the Jefferson bumper sticker which I had displayed in the rear window was also stolen. My car has since been recovered, but the bumper sticker was never found. I am proud to be a TJU alumna and I would really appreciate it if you could send me a replacement bumper sticker.” We sent a new one to her and told her, obviously the car must have been stolen to get that valuable bumper sticker!

Patricia Kalck, LS, ’94 began a new job in June 2002 at Esoterix Inc.-Clinical Trial Services in East Windsor, New Jersey. She is the key operator of hematology/urinalysis in the central safety lab. Patricia is part of the start-up team of this new lab, which implemented, correlated and validated the instrumentation for lab licensure by NJ, NY and CAP. Patricia was previously employed in the hematology lab at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital for eight years and was the clinical instructor of body fluids at the Jefferson College of Health Professions for seven years.

Doris Thomas Rowell, LS, ’51 retired as a medical technologist in 1995. In 2001, she received recognition of being registered by the American Society of Clinical Professions for 50 years. Doris reports great pride of being part of the medical professions for so many years.

NURSING

Brian Bixby, BSN, ’93 has been elected to a two-year term as a member of the JCHP Alumni Board of Directors. Brian works at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, where he is the project manager of a NIH-NNR sponsored nursing research grant assessing needs of elders and their caregivers with cognitive impairment.

Anne Malin, BSN, ’93 has announced her engagement to Chris Markham and a May 3, 2003 wedding is planned in Philadelphia. Anne is currently working as a nurse practitioner/clinical research coordinator for infectious diseases at Thomas Jefferson University. She is also an instructor for the Jefferson College of Health Professions Department of Nursing in the Oncology Advanced Practice Nurse Tract.

Rebekah Sinclair Syverson, BSN, ’93 is married with five boys (seven and under!) and lives on a small farm in Northern Idaho. She has been a labor and delivery nurse at night for nine years.
Joyce Gosnicak, BSN, ’97 is getting married in May 2003 to long-time boyfriend, Michael Southers. Joyce graduated from New York University with an MA in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing and is now working as a psychiatric nurse practitioner at the Bronx-Lebanon Medical Center in New York City.

Paula Dean Jackson, BSN, ’93 is currently working as a pediatric nurse practitioner at Reliance Medical System at the Atlanticare Healthplex in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Kim Ragone, BSN, ’95 works as a registered nurse at Pennsylvania Hospital in the operating room as part of the plastic surgery teams serving both cosmetic and reconstructive patients. In addition, she practices as an RN clinical aesthetician for Dr. Louis Bucky, a plastic surgeon with the University of Pennsylvania Health System. She provides specialty skincare services including microdermabrasion, chemical peels, laser hair removal, and IPL. Photofacial Treatments. Kim likes to spend the good weather on the golf course and on the beach.

Michelle Campbell, BSN, ’00 and her husband Rob became parents on January 27, 2002 to twin girls, Alexis and Sofia.

Cheryl Kinslow Carlson, BSN, ’81 is employed as a neonatal nurse practitioner at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, South Carolina.

Melissa Stone Doebley, BSN, ’96 is employed at Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania as a certified nurse practitioner.

Holli Pheasant-Viscusi, MD, BSN, ’90 recently celebrated her 5th wedding anniversary with her husband, Johnny and nearly two-year old son, Salvatore. Holly also graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1994 and completed a family practice residency at Bryn Mawr Hospital in 1998. After four years of private practice in Blue Bell, Pennsylvania, she has joined Lancaster Emergency Associates in the fast care at Lancaster General Hospital, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Lisa Ann Plowfield, PhD, BSN, ’86 was recently named by the John A. Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing of the New York University Division of Nursing as a Scholar in its 2002 Geriatric Research Scholars and Fellows Program. She was one of eleven nurses from the Northeast region selected for having conducted significant research in gerontologic nursing and for her strong leadership potential. Lisa was recently appointed Chair of the Department of Nursing at the University of Delaware. She is also an associate professor in the Department of Nursing at the university and is the director and principal investigator of several major grants related to program evaluation of geriatric health programs and nursing education including demands of family caregiving as well as the socialization of the marital couple after a spouse’s stroke. She also recently received federal funding for a research study on promoting healthy lifestyles among the elderly and underserved populations in Delaware.

From the Alumni Update:

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Maureen E. Dimakopoulous Kerns, Esq., BSN, ’88
was recently elected partner at regional law firm Fox Rothschild O’Brian & Frankel, LLP.

Maureen had previously worked at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in intensive care and graduated from Widener Law School. Her law practice includes general corporate, real estate and transactional law, specializing in healthcare regulatory and transactional law, where she represents both institutional clients and professional practice groups. She is a member of the firm’s Health Law Group.

Michele Vaccome Butler, BSN, ’94 and her husband announce the birth of their son, Cade Patrick Butler on June 25, 2002. He was 9lbs., 5oz. and 22 1/4 inches at birth!

Bethany Hall-Long, RN, PhD, FAAN, BSN, ’86 was recently inducted as a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing.

Our condolences to the families of Mary P. Mallard, BSN, ’97 and Stephen Barch, BSN, ’92, both of whom passed away earlier this year, and to the family of Irene Catherine Cardell, BSN, ’83, who passed away in November, 2001.

Jennifer R. Paklo, OT, ’99 has been elected to a two-year term as a member of the JCHP Alumni Board of Directors. Jennifer is a staff occupational therapist at the HMS School for Children with CP in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She has served as senior occupational therapist at Magee Rehabilitation in Philadelphia and is also a period occupational therapist for the Moorstown Visiting Nurses Association. In addition, Jennifer serves as program co-chair for District V of the Pennsylvania Occupational Therapy Association. She reports that she recently completed a beginner’s sailing class and enjoys running and spending time at the shore.

Rachel R. Wagner, OT, ’00 has been elected to a two-year term as a member of the JCHP Alumni Board of Directors. Rachel is a pediatric occupational therapist with Mercy Health System/Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital, and works primarily in the public schools. She also sees pediatric outpatients and has enjoyed supervising Level I and II Occupational Therapy Students from Jefferson.

Jeanne Fetch Quinn, OT, ’91 is a present day caregiver who is celebrating the one-year anniversary of her company “B.Able Inc.” in Warrington, Pennsylvania. B. Able provides innovative healthcare and easy-living products and services at discount prices. The company benefits seniors, caregivers, other health professionals and anyone who is having difficulty performing daily tasks. It is also a distributor for companies like Sammons Preston, Rolyan, North Coast, Ali-Med, Rubbermaid/Carex, and Pride Mobility. Consumers and health professionals can also make purchases through catalog shopping, in-home consults, inservices, group demonstration shows and a “traveling store.”

Christine Werley Miller, OT, ’93 and her husband Marc are living in Overland Park, Kansas and announce the birth of their daughter, Lauren Caroline Miller, on October 11, 2002 in Shawnee Mission, Kansas.

Linda Pahlke Galbraith, OT, ’89 is the occupational therapy clinic lead at Inglis House in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
Colleen Gownley, OT, ’00 is employed as a staff occupational therapist at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

Stephanie Kerns, OT, ’01 is a work unit supervisor at the Philhaven Behavioral Healthcare Services in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.


PHYSICAL THERAPY

Amy Bennett Metrena, PT, ’97 married David Metrena on April 27, 2002 in Sea Girt, New Jersey. After a honeymoon in Aruba, Amy and her husband are residing in Danbury, Connecticut where Amy works for the Danbury Public Schools and the Danbury Visiting Nurse Association.

Nanette Michelangelo McKenna, PT, ’92 gave birth to a baby girl, Sarah Leigh McKenna on November 11, 2001. Nanette is a physical therapy supervisor at the Healthsouth Harmarville Rehabilitation Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Lisa Herbinski, PT, ’92 was married on August 3, 2002 to Glen C. Hebel. After a honeymoon in Hawaii, they are currently living in Perry Hall, Maryland.

Michele Zande, PT, ’01 has been working in the stroke unit of the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific in Hawaii. She is planning a move to Boston in early 2003.


Nelson Aviles, PT, ’98 lives in Homestead, Florida with his wife, Yvette, and daughter Adrian, age 4. They are currently building a new house and Nelson is working as a consultant for a company called Therapist.

Mary Beal, PT, ’98 lives in Columbus Ohio and is director of therapies (PT, OT, ST) for Health Care Personnel, a home-care agency.

Drew Betton, PT, ’98 works at the Crozer Chester Medical Center, rotating among outpatient, inpatient-ortho, trauma, and rehabilitation. Drew works with other Jefferson graduates who are contract therapists.

Kathryn Caucci, PT, ’98 lives in Turlock, California and works at the Emanuel Medical Center in outpatient ortho and as an ergonomics consultant. She has also bought a home in 2000, ran her first marathon in 2001, and passed the OCS exam in June 2001.

Kathy Crop Ucciferri, PT, ’98 married Marco Ucciferri in September 2001. She works at an outpatient ortho facility in Glenolden, Pennsylvania and is taking classes at Temple for a transitional DPT.

Matt Cross, PT, ’98 is living in Cherry Hill, New Jersey and is working at Frankford Hospital in Philadelphia.

Angela Dalla Palu Donnelly, PT, ’98 and her husband, Rob, are parents of Samantha Nicole, born on October 3, 2001. Angela works at an outpatient health and wellness center owned by Hunterdon Medical Center in New Jersey. She also has had research published in the Journal of Orthopaedic Sports and Physical Therapy.

Steve Decker, PT, ’98 lives in Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania and works in outpatient ortho. He reports he is the proud parent of Lody, a boxer puppy.

Cynthia Dougherty, PT, ’98 is engaged to fiancé Bill. While working as acting director at the Pennsylvania Hand Center, she is also working towards her CHT.

Mary Dougherty, PT, ’98 is working for Electric Mobility as a rehab product specialist. She will be competing in an Ironman Triathlon in November 2002.

Jeanne Erthal, PT, ’98 has been married to husband John for 19 years. They have a son, John, 14, and a daughter, Julie, 12. Jeanne works with three to five year olds in home and center-based early intervention and three to twenty-one year olds in school-based therapy (autism and PPD children).

Bonnie Feiner, PT, ’98 is working on a TCU at Frankford Hospital in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. She is no longer teaching aerobics but is involved with spinning.

Ken Friedman, PT, ’98 had been working on Broadway doing physical therapy with dancers. He is now working on Rehab and LTC with geriatrics.
Aimee Graffstrom, PT, ’98 does a lot of traveling and is working at Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital in Darby, Pennsylvania.


Timothy Greer, PT, ’98 and wife Michele became parents of Keara Lynn, born on November 16, 2001. Timothy works in outpatient ortho at Nova Care in Burlington, New Jersey.

Annette Hagmaier, PT, ’98 lives in Somerville, Massachusetts and is working for Regional Rehabilitation Associates, an outpatient company.

Bob Hickman, PT, ’98, wife Cathy and daughter Abigail, one and a half years old, live in San Diego, California, where Bob works in outpatient. He also earned his certification in McKenzie last year.

Brenda Hollandsworth Murphy, PT, ’98 got married after she finished her last clinical and is now the mother of Jessica Lynn, nearly two years old. Brenda is currently working in outpatient, treating neuro, ortho, SCI and wound care for a company that owns two hospitals.

Rebecca Ironside, PT, ’98 lives in Union, New Jersey and works in a senior center with an elder Spanish and Russian population where she gives dancing lessons and ultrasounds. She reports she has married Diego, a native of Colombia.


Keith Kmieczzak, PT, ’98 spent 13 months in California before heading to the Slovak Republic to work as an English teacher. He is currently a physical therapist with Health South in Boston but will be heading back to Pennsylvania soon.


Jay Marcinowski, PT, ’98 married Dotty on October 9, 1999 and lives in Edinboro, Pennsylvania. He is working as a rehab director at Rolling Fields, LTC facility.

Emily Metcalf Soriano, PT, ’98 married Jovie on October 6, 2001. She is working at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland in acute inpatient rehab and acute care neuro.

Karen Richard-Monaghan, PT, ’98 and husband Mark are the parents of Cecilia Elizabeth, born on July 22, 1999. Karen works for Genesis Eldercare-Chestnut Ridge and also works PRN for LTC.

Stephanie Muth, PT, ’98 is working at Moss Rehabilitation Hospital in Philadelphia and also for Journey Home, which is Diane Levy's non-profit community health promotion organization.

Deanna Pinto Falcone, PT, ’98 married Mike in October 2000. She is currently working for Kessler Home Health.


Mason Rockwell, PT, ’98 lives in Mannington, West Virginia and works at Mountain State PT. He is the Mannington West Virginia clinic manager and a staff PT at the Fairmount location.

Susan Rudy, PT, ’98 married her fiancé Karl on June 15, 2002. She works at Lancaster General Hospital in outpatient and does home care with visiting nurses of Lancaster County Pennsylvania. Her research has been published in the Journal of Orthopaedic Sports and Physical Therapy.

Lauren Schwartz Ceisler, PT, ’98 married Andy on October 7, 2001. They live in New York City and she works at Florence Nightingale Health Center and Rehabilitation Institute of New York, a subacute unit and NH.

Molly Snyderman, PT, ’98 has moved to North Carolina and is planning her wedding to fiance Matt on May 10, 2003.

Max Sunder, PT, ’98 works at Monmouth Medical Center in New Jersey in outpatient and acute care PRN. He and his wife are the parents of three children, Kathryn Maria, age 3, Christina, age 10 and Maxie, age 8.

Suzanne Syed, PT, ’98 works in home care with an agency through Shore Memorial Hospital in New Jersey. She is building a new home and is the mother of two daughters, Jennah, age 3, and Anisa, age 2.


Melissa Wolfe Glass, PT, ’98 and husband Rob were married on April 21, 2001 and celebrated the arrival of a baby girl, Ellie Wolfe Glass, on July 31, 2002. Melissa works at Apple Hill Medical Center in Pennsylvania.
The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts was the brand new venue hosting this year’s commencement ceremony on May 17. Jefferson College of Health Professions’ Class of 2002 included 254 graduates, consisting of 240 bachelor of science degree recipients in the disciplines of nursing, occupational therapy, diagnostic imaging and laboratory sciences; seven post-baccalaureate certificate recipients in laboratory sciences and seven associate degree graduates. Also included in the totals were physical therapy students who completed their combined BS-MS degree program during the summer and received their degrees at a closing convocation earlier in May at the Independence Seaport Museum at Penns Landing.

University President Paul C. Brucker, MD conferred the degrees. Dean James B. Erdmann, PhD, addressed the students and their families and presented the JCHP Student Life Award to Jacqueline Titus, an OT graduate from Mechanicsburg, PA. Janice Burke, PhD, OTRL/L, Chairman and Associate Professor, Department of Occupational Therapy, served as the Grand Marshal.

Honorary Doctor of Laws recipient and commencement speaker was Leslie Anne Miller, a partner and shareholder in the law firm McKissock and Hoffman, P.C. Miller has received many awards during her distinguished career. In recent years she became the first woman president of the Pennsylvania Bar Association (1998), was named a Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania by Governor Tom Ridge, received the Sandra Day O’Connor Award (1999) and was named one of five “Women Making History” by the Greater Philadelphia Chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners (2002). The setting for JCHP’s commencement exercises this year is a fitting tribute to Miller’s accomplishments. She was a driving force in overseeing final preparations for the December 2001 opening of the Kimmel Center and completing the $265 million Campaign to Build the Kimmel Center. In November of 2002, she was appointed General Counsel to Pennsylvania Governor-Elect Edward Rendell and will serve in his cabinet.

(l to r) Douglas MacMaster, Jr., Esq., Chairman of the Jefferson Board of Trustees; Leslie Anne Miller, Esq., honorary degree recipient; Paul C. Brucker, MD, University President; James B. Erdmann, PhD, JCHP Dean.
Goodbye for Now!