



## Welcome to our First CHA/PA Enewsletter!

We will be sending out our newsletter every quarter to current students, alumni, prospective students, preceptors, and everyone else interested in the program. We hope it is informative and provides an opportunity for you to stay in touch with current happenings.



**1st Annual Alumni Dinner --  
A Success!**



## Partnering With South Africa

We had our first annual Alumni Dinner and Charity Silent Auction on April 28th. We had an overwhelming response with over 300 people in attendance, packing out the Grand Hyatt in downtown Denver. The CHA/PA Silver Society did a fantastic job of organizing the event, which honored Sandy Hoops, MS, PA-C, Class of 1981. Over \$4800 was raised for The Family Tree, which provides a broad range of services and shelter to families and youth of metro Denver to overcome child abuse, domestic violence, and homelessness.

Thanks to all of you who made this event such a success, in particular the CHA/PA Silver Society! We look forward to continuing this tradition with future events.

The CHA/PA Program was selected last year by the American International Health Alliance for a unique partnership with Walter Sisulu University in South Africa as their Clinical Associate Program takes hold and expands throughout the Eastern Cape Province. The Clinical Associate Program (PA) was the first of three in South Africa. The challenges for these new providers are striking. The Eastern Cape has the highest rate of poverty, unemployment, and HIV/AIDS in South Africa. Almost half of S. African children who die before the age of five are killed by HIV/AIDS.

Despite the overwhelming challenges, a group of compassionate, young S. African students are taking a stand against the odds. The first WSU Clinical Associate Program graduation was held in May of 2011. Anita Glicken, our Program Director,



## Stay Tuned!

Our next enewletter will showcase CHA/PA's new initiatives utilizing simulation equipment.

attended this momentous event and offered a few words at the ceremony. "You have become an indelible and important part of your country's history, actively building a better future for families and communities on the Eastern Cape. An occasion like this happens only once in the lifetime of a country. The Univ of Colorado CHA/PA Program is privileged to be your partner in this exciting journey."



## Alumni Profile

Thomas Stewart hopes his patients and clients perceive him as a "trusted resource who will work diligently to see that they receive top-quality care." As a



## CHA/PA on Facebook

We now have a [facebook page](#) for the program as a whole that will allow us to keep you up to date! "[Like](#)" us on Facebook to hear what current



## Interested in Precepting?

We all remember our first encounters with patients. Precepting has such a profound impact on the education of our students. Practicing providers can earn

CHA/PA program graduate (Class of '99), Thomas has had the opportunity to weave together his previous career as a lawyer with his interest in medicine. He has utilized his medical training to benefit individuals with Multiple Sclerosis. Thomas practices at Metro Community Provider's Network, where he created a care model for people with MS who are uninsured or underinsured.

Thomas' passion for those dealing with MS includes tackling the federal disability application process.

students are doing, what is going on with the program, and what alumni are up to. We want to hear from you!!



## **Class Representatives Needed!**

In our efforts to establish a greater connection with alumni, we are recruiting a representative from

Continuing Medical Education hours and the opportunity to become Clinical Faculty at the University of Colorado.

Modeling provided by preceptors, in all types of clinical settings, provides students with a tremendous learning experience. Students are afforded the opportunity to have first-hand patient encounters while preceptors provide mentorship and instruction. Contact David Eckhardt for more information by [email](#) or call 303-724-7963.

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MS sufferers deal not only with the symptoms of MS itself, but also the common ramifications of the disease such as loss of income, loss of access to care, and at times, homelessness. Nationally, only 35% of disability claims result in the award of benefits. Thomas works closely with clinicians and specialists to provide the necessary medical base to his clients to increase those odds to 90%.

Additionally, he finds time to collaborate with community-based neurologists and researchers to conduct clinical trials.

each graduated class. The class representative would network with classmates and collect news that could be included in future newsletters, where a section will be devoted to "Class News". This important role doesn't require a lot of time, yet is pivotal in keeping tabs on our alumni. Interested? Email [Anita Glicken](#), our Program Director.



## Comings & Goings

May 26th turned out to be a beautiful day for our Convocation. The Class of 2011 was excited to participate in this transitional event, moving from the life of a student to that of a health professional. Friends and family gathered to celebrate these students as did School of Medicine Dean Dr. Richard Krugman and Pediatric Chair Dr. Stephen Daniels who addressed the students as well as invited Convocation speaker Dr. Dan Johnson. A special



Class of 2011 at Convocation

One of which involves an agent intended to promote remyelination, and possibly axonal growth. These developments would profoundly affect those with MS and other neurological diseases. We are grateful that Thomas Stewart chose the PA profession and graduated from our program, and we are confident that MS patients feel the same.



Class of 2014 Reciting the Oath

guest was Regent Joseph Neguse who awarded diplomas to our graduates, including to his sister, Sarah Neguse.

Graduation is always bittersweet. As we said goodbye to the Class of 2011, we welcomed our new class of 2014. The new students gathered in early June for orientation and an opportunity to become further acquainted before launching into their summer semester. The Class of 2014 includes 44 students with many new faces from outside Colorado, including North Carolina, Alabama, and Texas.

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MOVING? NEW CONTACT INFORMATION? Please email the office at [PA-Info@ucdenver.edu](mailto:PA-Info@ucdenver.edu) so that we can keep in touch with you!!



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