



Final Intern Paper – Summer 2012
By Kasey Duncan

It's hard for me to believe that the ten weeks of my internship are already over and I have said goodbye to the Foundation and to D.C. I have had the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of activities during my internship, from attending PT 2012 in Tampa, to attending an advisory council meeting at the NIH and participating in my first all-day staff meeting.

Through my work with the Foundation's literature repository of scholarship and grant recipient publications, I have gained experience using reference database software that will be useful throughout both my academic and professional careers. As the summer progressed and I spent more time with the publications written by Foundation alumni, I was excited to find myself more often recognizing names of researchers. I have greatly enjoyed delving deeper into the world of physical therapy research.

This summer was also my first experience as a part of the planning team for an event such as the Legacy Gala at PT 2012. While most of the work was completed before I arrived, it was neat to help with the finishing touches and see it all come together in Tampa.

During the latter part of the summer, I worked on putting together the 2012-2013 Pittsburgh-Marquette Challenge Kit to distribute to the participating schools. It's an exciting year for the kit, as we are presenting it in a new format as an interactive PDF. Throughout the process of putting it together I have become more familiar with various computer programs and have learned many new skills. It has been fun to let the creative juices flow as the Foundation staff collaborates to make this a successful starting point for the Challenge.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of the wonderful ladies at the Foundation - Barbara, Karen, Wendy, Rachael C., Susan, Jessie, and Rachael E. - for making me a part of the team for the summer. It has been a pleasure to get to know each of you. I look forward to keeping in touch while I finish my time at Marquette and as I go "Beyond the Challenge!"

I am so thankful to all of the previous interns' efforts to make the Marquette Challenge a success. Without their hard work, I would not have been able to partake in all of the incredible opportunities I have had this summer. As the Challenge enters its 25th year, I look forward to contributing to its continued growth. I will be able to use the knowledge and enthusiasm I have gained from my time at the Foundation to generate excitement for supporting vital physical therapy research among my peers at Marquette.