Thank you CGMC Amputee Unit

A big thank you to Rory Arrow, Ren Gallet and Gary Nash for the practical assistance they have provided to Roderick van Os, Jan Willem de Joode and Marre Kaandorp, the overseas students working on projects at REHABTech over the last 3 months. Together they have worked well to produce some of the innovative designs that have been reported in previous editions of TechLINK. Below is Marre’s report on her work.

Flexible Prosthesis—Design & Construction

“I began working on the CAD/CAM project at REHABTech in early January. The purpose of the project was to achieve a design process which results in an optimised prosthesis for an individual amputee. Part of my research was used to design a flexible prosthesis since other research has shown this creates a better walking pattern and more comfort to the user than a rigid pylon. Combining both flexibility and the individual characteristics in one design, I tried to create a prosthesis, which would be made for one person, using their weight, length etc. and would have dynamic properties based on the preferences of the amputee. The picture shows a first prototype. The small foot works as a lever to create a desired moment in the pylon. In order to simplify production, the cosmesis foot does not have toes but is still able to hold the shoe in the proper position. Thanks Rory and Gary for helping me build this “strange-looking thing”.

"It’s an Honour."

In the most recent Australia Day honours three people, familiar to many of us, received honours ("a gong") for their work in the amputee/prosthetic field. REHABTech, would like to congratulate them on these well justified awards as well as their tireless contributions!

Mrs Lillian White “Chris” McCONNELL - Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) Citation:
For service to the community through a range of health and safety organisations, particularly organisations dedicated to improving the quality of life for amputees.

Mr Christopher John NUNN - Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) Citation:
For service to sport as a coach, particularly to athletes with a disability, and for providing Australian Paralympic squads with elite sporting opportunities.

Ms Valma Esme ANGLISS - Member in the Order of Australia (AM) Citation:
For service to occupational therapy, rehabilitation medicine and education, particularly through the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics.
Farewell and Welcome

It is time to say farewell to our three Dutch students, Roderick, Jan Willem and Marre. The students have been with RehabTech over the last three months, undertaking a number of design projects as part of their study placement and have been active contributors to the social scene at REHABTech. REHABTech wishes these students every success in their studies and future careers. At the same time, we would like to welcome Karsten Giertz from Germany. Karsten is here on study placement for the next six months.

Positions Vacant

New Graduate Prosthetist–Brisbane

A permanent full time position with Brisbane Prosthetics is available. Applicants will be required to demonstrate ability in all aspects of service delivery including prosthetic involvement in a multi-disciplinary clinical environment as well as a range of prosthetic and technical patient applications. Highly developed communication skills and a personable manner are also required. Attractive salary package including company vehicle will be negotiated.

Please send or email written applications and resume to:

Mr J Barrientos, State Manager, Brisbane Prosthetics,
PO Box 425, Archerfield Qld 4108 Email: brispo@ozemail.com.au

Alternatively, please phone Jaime Barrientos on (07) 3277 1582 during business hours.
Further information on this position is available on the JobWATCH section of our website at www.monash.edu.au/rehabtech

COMING EVENTS

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| 20–22 June, 2002 | ISPO ASM —
Rydges Plaza, Alice Springs contact Network PR
Tele: (08) 8376 6061 asif@ozemail.com.au |
| 10–11 October, 2002 | International Symposium on Stroke Rehabilitation
Contact Diff'rent Strokes Symposium Secretariat, PO Box 6129, Halifax Street, Adelaide SA 5000. Tele: (08) 8227 0252
Fax: (08) 8227 0251 Email: strokes@sapro.com.au |