



Accolades and Achievements



Congratulations to RORC REAP investigator Bruce Vogel, PhD and co-authors/fellow center investigators

Tracey Barnett, PhD, Diane Cowper Ripley, PhD, and Xingping Wang, PhD. Their abstract titled "*Is Acute Rehabilitation More Cost-Effective than Sub-Acute Rehabilitation?*" was chosen as one of the AcademyHealth 2008 Annual Research Meeting's Best Abstracts.

The AcademyHealth Annual Meeting, held June 8th-10th in Washington, DC, provides a forum for health services researchers, providers, and key decision makers to discuss the challenges faced by the health care delivery system in the United States.

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The abstract, submitted to the Comparative Effectiveness and Technology Assessment theme was featured in a meeting special session on Tuesday, June 10.

To view Dr. Vogel's PowerPoint presentation from the AcademyHealth Meeting, please visit: http://www1.va.gov/rorc/library/Vogel_AcademyHealth2008.pdf



The RORC REAP would like to welcome Jeffrey Loomis, FACHE, former Associate Director and Research Coordinator of the University of Florida Center for Telehealth and Healthcare Communications. As Director of Clinical Informatics for the RORC REAP, Mr. Loomis will

be involved with assisting center investigators with proposal development and implementation of new telehealth initiatives. His expertise in facilitating collaborative multidisciplinary research on distance approaches to healthcare research, service, and education fits perfectly with the RORC REAP mission to improve the health, function and community reintegration of post-deployed veterans and veterans with neurological impairments.

Congratulations to RORC REAP Pre-doctoral Fellow Sergio Romero, who successfully defended his dissertation, "*Minimal Detectable Change and Patient Reported Outcomes in Falls Rehabilitation,*" on July 2, 2008. Under the mentorship of RORC REAP Investigator Craig A. Velozo, PhD, the dissertation committee endorsed Mr. Romero's work and gave final clearance for him to receive his PhD in Rehabilitation Science from the University of Florida. The newly awarded Dr. Romero received both his Bachelor's and Master's degree in Exercise and Sport Science from the University of Florida in Gainesville. Dr. Romero has accepted a position as a Post-Doctoral Fellow at the RORC REAP and is currently developing his VA Career Development Award proposal to be submitted December 2008.



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