



**BUILDING NEW PARTNERSHIPS TO STUDY DISABILITY-SPECIFIC PATTERNS OF
PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IN SHANGHAI OLDER ADULTS**

Shanghai, China

Duke Physical Therapy and Geriatrics' Faculty Dr. Jama Purser has been awarded a 2-year Global Aging and Population Sciences Research grant from Duke's Global Health Institute. Her proposal is entitled "Building New Partnerships to Study Disability-Specific Patterns of Physical Activity in Shanghai Older Adults." In January, 2009 Dr. Purser and colleagues hosted a visit to Duke by Drs. Xiong Zhang and Zhihong Zhen from Shanghai University of Finance and Economics (SUFE), and in May, 2009 Drs. Purser, Pamela Duncan, and Qiushi Feng will travel to Shanghai, China to begin to build these research partnerships with faculty in Economic Sociology and Aging. The team will also meet with faculty at the Shanghai Aging Research Center, present at an International Conference ("Facing an Aging Society: International Experiences and Choices of Shanghai," May 22-26, 2009 in Shanghai, China) and at Zhejiang University Hospital, and conduct focus groups with Chinese elderly around Shanghai. While in Shanghai, Dr. Purser's team will explore the potential for developing and implementing physical activity promotion and research programs in China, which has the world's largest aging population. We will also spend several days just prior to the Shanghai work to visit with Dr. David Matchar's group in Singapore, where we will meet with researchers with similar interests in collaborative work on aging and disability in Singapore. Dr. Purser's team also attended the recent Duke-Singapore symposium on May 7 to further explore these possibilities prior to our Singapore trip May 17th-21.