DUAL-TASK RESEARCH: FROM DUAL-TASK PERFORMANCE TO ALLOCATION ATTENTION ABILITY

Featuring Dr. Joseph Siu
University of Nebraska Medical Center

November 11, 2016 | 12:00 - 1:00 pm | HPER 112

ABSTRACT

As people get so busy, talking on a cell phone while walking becomes a routine daily living of activities. Although the two tasks seem trivial, the ability to perform two tasks at once becomes more challenging through ages. More evidence indicate dual-tasking increases the risk of injurious fall in older adults. Why people fall when they perform two tasks is the central question of this presentation. This seminar will highlight some research works in dual-task performance at different ages and in older populations with cognitive impairments, and research in dual-task training. The results of these works will allude to the interrelationship between the dual-task performance and the attention allocation. The capability to allocate attention could be the key of success in dual-task performance.

ABOUT DR. SIU

Dr. Siu is an associate professor in the Division of Physical Therapy Education at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC). He is the director of the Clinical Movement Analysis Laboratory at UNMC and teaches research related courses in the Division. His primary research area is in motor control and biomechanics, focusing on elderly population and minorities. It includes fall prevention in aging, rehabilitation, and intervention. He is interested in studying the mechanism of human balance control, locomotion and developed training program for community-dwelling older adults, and currently extending this research in minority populations. His second research area is focusing on motor learning in human performance. It includes skill acquisition, medical education, simulation technology and telemedicine.