

STATEside News



Arkansas State University, College of Nursing and Health Professions, State University, AR 72467-0910

Spring 2015

Jonesboro, AR

STATEside News

Radiologic Sciences to Offer Entry-Level Bachelor's Degree

Beginning in the spring of 2015, the radiography program will transition from offering an associate's degree in radiologic technology to offering only a Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Sciences degree. This is in response to two driving forces: feedback from current clinical sites and the U.S. Department of Labor.

Clinical sites utilized by the programs in the Department of Radiologic Sciences have suggested a multi-competent practitioner is much more desirable and practical in the current healthcare environment. The Bureau of Labor Statistics says radiologic technologists who are credentialed in multiple modalities have better job prospects than those with just one area of expertise. This past year, Radiologic Sciences faculty made the decision to work toward this goal and established the following as our guiding mission statement:

"The Mission of the Department of Medical Imaging & Radiation Sciences is to provide comprehensive, multi-skilled education, preparing students for entry-level practice into the medical imaging and radiation therapy professions. Students will be competent in at least two emphasis areas upon graduation from the program."

The new Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Sciences degree will work as follows: Students will apply to the BSRS program during their sophomore year, after they have completed all general education and prerequisite work and have taken the HESI entrance exam

Continued on p. 5



ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

College of
Nursing & Health Professions

Dean's Corner

2015 has a nice "ring" to it. I can't believe it has already been 15 years since we worried about computers crashing as we entered the new millennium. Nothing has crashed here except one of our computer labs during finals (not a good thing).

Just a quick update on what has been transpiring in the college. We have submitted our candidacy application to the accrediting body for our Occupational Therapy Doctorate (OTD) and Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) programs. The accreditors will review the materials and determine if our programs are in good enough shape to accept our initial class of students. If that happens, we will be reviewing applications for our first class in late spring, with a fall 2015 start date. I would like to thank Dr. Lisa Tekell, who has been our consultant on the candidacy piece. You may see her name again as we begin hiring our support faculty for both programs. I would like to introduce you to Dr. Tracy Morrison, who will lead our OTD program and chair our OT department, and Eric Hicks, who will be the program director for the OTA program. We are very fortunate to have these individuals under contract. They both have excellent experience and skills to bring to the continued evolution and growth of our programs.

In other news, Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences is undergoing a major revamp of their undergraduate curriculum (see associated story in newsletter). In looking at the market and hiring practices of our health care facilities, and in conversation with our advisory board and others, faculty worked hard in building something that would serve all parties well. It still has some curriculum hoops to jump through but the plan is well designed. Check with Ray Winters, department chair, for more information.

Social Work will have an accreditation site visit this spring from the Council on Social Work Education. I would like to commend Dr. Loretta Brewer, interim chair, and her faculty for finalizing the self-study this fall. We are looking forward to meeting our site visitor on April 28. Good luck to SW.

Our BS degree in Health Studies has gotten traction. We are teaching classes in the first year of the professional program (junior year) and have a large number of students who have declared this as their major. Beverly Parker is new to A-State but not to our college. She is now leading the program and talking with our health community about options for student employment upon graduation. As you might recall, this is a non-licensure-based program, but contains many elements of study that will be of value in the current and evolving structure of our health care delivery system.

A sad note. Thoughts and prayers to the family of Wayne Baker who was a former member of our College Advocacy Board. He died in December. What wonderful contributions he and his wife Virginia made to our community.

Much more to share but you can read pieces in our newsletter. Check our website for additional information and updates.

Holiday time is for giving thanks and sharing so I want to share with all of you how thankful I am to have you as part of our family.

Susan Hanrahan,
Dean

College of Nursing
& Health Professions
hanrahan@astate.edu



STATEside News

COLLEGE NEWS

DR. SUSAN HANRAHAN has been elected to the City Water and Light Board of Directors.

PAM TOWERY, nutritional science, **DR. LIBBY NIX**,

nursing, and **BILINDA NORMAN**, nursing, co-authored an article titled *Breakfast Blitz: An Innovative Nutrition Education Program on*

Breakfast accepted for publication in *Dimensions of Early Childhood*, Vol 42 No. 3 pp 24-29.

NURSING

BILINDA NORMAN was elected to the board of directors for the Jonesboro Church Health Center and appointed to the advisory board for the Nutritional Science program.

DR. ANGELA SCHMIDT presented a poster, co-authored by MSN graduate student Lauren Johnston, titled, *The Effects of Pet Therapy on Food Consumption and Eating Behavior in Dementia Residents*, and **DR. DARLENE BAKER** presented a poster, co-authored by **KACE ALTON**, titled, *Is There a Relationship Between Health Literacy and HbA1c in Adult Patients with Diabetes?* at the 14th Annual Nurse Educator Institute on April 9-11, 2014. Drs. Schmidt and Baker also presented, *Get Plugged In: eHealth for Health Literacy and Adapting Teaching/Learning Strategies for the*

Multi-generational Online Classroom, which earned an award for outstanding paper, at the Association for Advancement in Computer Education International Conference on October 27-30, in New Orleans, La. The papers will be published in the *EditLib Journal*.

DR. SUSIE SNELGROVE had a manuscript titled, *Putting Residents First: Strategies Developed by CNAs to Prevent and Manage Resident-to-Resident Violence in Nursing Homes*, accepted for publication in *The Gerontologist* journal.

DR. PHYLLIS SKORGA and **DR. CHARLOTTE YOUNG** co-authored an article titled, *Transdermal Fentanyl for Cancer Pain*, that was published in *Clinical Nurse Specialist*, Vol. 28, Issue 5 and

Benefits of Vitamin D Supplementation in Aging Adults, published in the *Arkansas Geriatric Education Center Newsletter, Partners*, Vol 14, Issue 4, pp 4.

DR. KATHLEEN WREN has been elected to the Arkansas Association of Nurse Anesthetists Board of Directors.

DR. PAIGE WIMBERLEY gave a poster-presentation titled, *Flipping the Research Classroom*, at the Drexel University Nursing Education Institute, June 16-19, 2014, in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

DR. CHARLOTTE YOUNG presented a workshop titled, *The Many Faces of Cultural Competence*, at the Delta Health Disparities Annual Conference on November 12, 2014, at A-State.

PHYSICAL THERAPY

JONATHAN CORDELL, a May 2014 graduate of the PTA program, scored a perfect 800 on the national licensing examination administered by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy. The 2014 class had a

first-time pass rate of 93 percent.

DR. CHRISTY PHILLIPS had a manuscript titled, *The Link Between Physical Activity Cognitive Dysfunction in Alzheimer's Disease* accepted for publication in *Physical Therapy Journal*.

The 4th Annual PTA Alumni Day was held in conjunction with A-State Homecoming on Saturday, Oct 4, 2014 with approximately 45 alumni in attendance.

CLINICAL LAB SCIENCE

ANNETTE BEDNAR is presenting a break-out session at the Clinical Laboratory Educators Conference in February in Cincinnati, Ohio, titled *Survivor Kit for the New MLT/MLS Faculty Member*. She has also been appointed to the American Society of Clinical Laboratory Science

(ASCLS) Government Affairs Committee for a three-year term beginning in August 2014. In addition, she has been reelected to the Arkansas Chapter of Clinical Laboratory Management Association (CLMA) Board of Directors for a two-year term.

DR. STACY WALZ authored a capsule commentary for the *Journal of General Internal Medicine* for an article by Kantor et al. titled, *Pending Studies at Hospital Discharge: A Pre-Post Analysis of an Electronic Medical Record Tool to Improve Communication at Hospital Discharge*.

NUTRITIONAL SCIENCE

PAM TOWERY gave an oral presentation titled, *Dietetic Students' Participation in Interprofessional Education Project at Southeastern*

University on October 21, 2014.

The **STUDENT NUTRITION & DIETETIC ASSOCIATION** (SNDA) sponsored a food drive on November

8, 2014, at the A-State home football game. Food and money collected was presented to Astate C.A.R.E.

SOCIAL WORK

DR. REJOICE ADDAE, **DR. PATRICIA WALLS** and MSW spring 2014 graduate, **ASHLEY STEWARD** attended the Global Awareness International Society's 23rd annual conference in Montego Bay, Jamaica, on May 22-26, 2014, where they participated in a service learning project, donated school supplies and participated in

sessions that focused on many global issues. Ashley Steward presented an abstract, co-authored by Janice Hill, titled, *Food Insecurity: Implications for Global Social Work and World Peace*. The abstract won one of four \$5,000 Dr. and Mrs. Chang S. Roh and Family Global Awareness Scholarships. Dr. Addae presented

a paper titled, *The Impact of Older Workers on Organizations*, and Dr. Walls and Dr. Addae co-presented *Kinship Care: Implications for Social Work Practice and Global Social Welfare Policy*. A-State was specifically acknowledged for making a major contribution to this year's conference.

RADIOLOGIC SCIENCE

VERONICA MANNING has been appointed by Governor Mike Beebe to the Arkansas Radiologic Technologist Licensure board.

COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

DR. CHRISTINA AKBARI presented a poster titled, *Vowel Epenthesis in Initial Consonant Clusters by Persian Speakers of English*, at the national convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association on November 21, 2014 in Orlando, Fla.

DR. JOY GOOD presented a poster session titled, *Using Morphological Awareness to Promote Success in Literacy*, at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Schools Convention on July 26, 2014 in Pittsburgh,

Pa. She also presented a clinical session titled, *The ABC's of Emergent Literacy Intervention*, at the Arkansas Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention on October 10, 2014 in Little Rock, Ark. On Nov. 20, 2014, she presented a technical session titled *Successful Literacy Outcomes Through the Use of Morphological Awareness Intervention* at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention in Orlando, Fla., and had a manuscript titled, *The Effects of Morphological Awareness Training on Reading, Spelling, and Vocabulary Skills*, accepted

for publication in *Communication Disorders Quarterly*.

DR. AMY SHOLLENBARGER received a Faculty Development Award for \$1500. She also presented a technical session titled, *First Graders' Awareness of Final Consonant clusters in Monomorphemic Words: Does Dialect Matter?*, at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention on November 21, 2014 in Orlando, Fla. **DR. SHOLLENBARGER** earned her Ph.D. from University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in May 2014.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

DR. BRAD HOLLOWAY has been appointed to serve as the mental health lead on the Regional Capacity Work Group for the regional office of the American Red Cross. He has also been appointed to serve on the board of directors for the Northeast Arkansas Chapter of the American Red Cross.

The Arkansas State University Small Business and Technology Development Center (SBTDC) and the **REGIONAL CENTER FOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS** held a seminar titled, *Disaster Preparedness for Small Business*, on Jan. 30, 2015, at the Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce. Area small business owners were

offered an opportunity to learn how basic planning tools can increase the likelihood of survival for their small business in the event disaster strikes. Participants walked through the steps of a continuity of operations plan and learned the importance of having a plan in place.

GRANTS/CONTRACTS

DR. CHRISTINA AKBARI submitted a \$5,000 grant application to CAPCSD for her project titled, *Utilization of COMPASS: Competency Assessment in Speech Pathology and Understanding the Clinical Formative/Summative Assessment Tools Used Nationwide*.

BRENT COX submitted a \$9,960 grant proposal to the Agricultural Safety and Health Council of America (ASHCA) for *Sustainable FARMEDIC Training for Agricultural Workers and First Responders in Arkansas: Decreasing Agricultural*

Accidents through Standardized Training.

DR. SUSAN HANRAHAN was awarded a \$60,000 grant from the DAV Charitable Service Trust to provide counseling, advocacy and educational programming for veterans at Astate.

BRINDA MCKINNEY received a \$4,940 Academic Partnerships Faculty Research Grant for her project titled, *Academic Partnerships: RN-BSN Program at A-State Jonesboro*.

DR. ANGELA SCHMIDT was awarded a \$10,000

grant proposal by Arkansas Geriatric Education Center for her project titled, *Partnering for a Competent Workforce for Dementia*.

DR. AMY SHOLLENBARGER submitted a \$5,000 grant application to CAPCSD for her project titled, *Using Book Clubs to Facilitate Student Learning about Neurogenic Communication Disorders*.

THE BECK PRIDE CENTER received \$15,000 distribution of settlement funds from Attorney General Dustin McDaniel under Act 763 of 2013.

GOOD-BYE TO:

CAMILLE ALLENSWORTH, Administrative Specialist II, Social Work

DR. KAT CARRICK, Social Work

NANCY CLARK, Administrative Specialist I, Speech and Hearing Center and Beck Pride Center

HADYN HUCKABEE, Program Director, Health Studies

SKYLA TALLEY, Administrative Specialist II, Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management and Nutritional Science

DR. LISA WAGGONER, Nursing

WELCOME TO:

BARBARA BROOKS, Administrative Specialist II, Social Work

ERIC HICKS, Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Director

DR. TRACY MORRISON, Chair of Occupational

Therapy and OTD Program Director

DR. KAREN OLSON, FNP Coordinator, School of Nursing

BEVERLY PARKER, Program Director, Health Studies

AMBER SHIPMAN, Administrative Specialist II, Disaster Preparedness & Emergency Management and Nutritional Science

MARY WILLIAMS, Administrative Specialist I, Beck PRIDE Center and Speech & Hearing Clinic.

IN SYMPATHY:

DAVID LOVELACE on the loss of his father, Thompson Gene Lovelace.

DR. RICHARD NEELEY on the loss of his father-in-law, Ernest Miles, and mother-in-law, Betty Charlene Tiley Miles.

DONNA PARKER on the loss of her mother, Cora Haas.

DR. PAIGE WIMBERLEY on the loss of her father-in-law, H. M. (Tink) Wimberley.

DR. CHARLOTTE YOUNG on the loss of her sister, Mildred "Tunkey" Kennerty.

BRENDA GOODWIN on the loss of her sister, Karen Adams.

STUDENT NEWS

KATIE BLALACK, a nursing major, received a \$2000 SURF award for her project titled, *Student Perceptions of the Challenges of Blood Glucose Regulation During the Freshman Year of College*. **DR. SUSIE SNELGROVE** is her research mentor.

MAEGAN INZER, a graduate student in Communication Disorders, presented *An Investigation of Dialect Variation and Spelling: First Graders' Representation of Final Consonant Clusters* at the state convention of Arkansas-Speech-Language-Hearing Association on October 10, 2014, in Little Rock, Ark.

MORGAN CAPLES, a communication disorders major, presented a research project titled, *Fluent Communication as a Measure of Hearing Aid Benefit* at the 5th Annual Arkansas Academy of Audiology Convention, held May 1-3, 2014, at Mount Magazine State Park, in Paris, Ark.

BETHANY BURKEEN, a graduate student in communication disorders, will present her research project titled, *Behavioral Measures of Audibility as Indicators of Hearing Aid Benefit*, at the 6th annual Arkansas Academy of Audiology Convention in spring of 2015.

The College of Nursing and Health Professions **RED CROSS CLUB** received recognition for Outstanding Service and Support to the local chapter at the Red Cross Recognition banquet

at the A-State Pavillion on August 26, 2014.

The **STUDENT NURSE ASSOCIATION** attended the Arkansas Nursing Students Association convention in Little Rock, AR, on October 8-10, 2014. Four students were elected to the board of directors. **KRISTEN RATLIFF** was elected vice-president. **CHASIDY CATES** was elected secretary. **TERRISENA FREEMAN** was elected breakthrough to nursing director (recruiter). **ALLISON HOPKINS** was elected district III director.

The A-State chapter won the Community Service Award, Empowering Resolutions award, Financial Excellence award and Chapter of Excellence award. **LACEY BOYETT** earned the \$250 District III Scholarship.

Faculty Adviser **LANCE WILCOX** was elected Chapter Adviser of the Year. The ANSA Board donated \$500 to the Post-Traumatic Disorder Foundation of America in honor of his service as a ANSA Board consultant over the past two years.

The A-State chapter was able to raise approximately \$1,400 to go toward funding the trip to the 2015 NSNA National Convention in Phoenix, Ariz.

HOLLI WERNER, a disaster preparedness and emergency management student, was featured in the Student Spotlight on the FEMA web site.

Hollie was one of the first students to attend a Technical Emergency Response course (TERT) to train responders with Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, or Explosive specific and all hazards response skills, enabling them to respond safely to either event.

The **PTA CLASS OF 2015** participated in several community service projects including: United Day of Caring on Sept 26, 2014; Region 4 Nursing Home Senior Olympics on October 16, 2014; fundraiser for TuckerFest (sanfillipo syndrome-raised \$1,000); and Special Needs kickball during the month of October.

The **AASN STUDENTS** from A-State Mountain Home, lead by the class officers, Patrick Williams, President, Vice Presidents Ashley Bowlin and Bryan Martin, Treasurer Kimberly Smith, Secretary, Katlyn Shrable, and Historian/Photographer Elizabeth Gambill, and Pete Waddell put together a float for the Mountain Home Christmas parade. Their goal was to emphasize that the traditional RN program in Mountain Home is an A-State-Jonesboro program. The students had fun and the crowd really enjoyed the student nurses caring for the "Grinch" at A-State hospital after he crashed his sleigh into a tree. The float won first prize in the parade.

A-STATE C.A.R.E. 2015

By Dr. Brad Holloway, Director

A lot of GREAT things have been going on at A-State C.A.R.E. over the past several months. The location has changed and is now located in the spacious Magnolia Road Community Services Center. Two additional Social Work interns have been added for the spring semester, Elizabeth Spurlock and Karina Mashburn, both senior BSW majors. Both Butch Gilliam and Felicia Sanders are returning from the BSW program and Waynette Banks, is returning from the MSW program. John Bolding, graduate assistant, will continue to serve as the office manager, and Dr. Brad Holloway will continue to serve as the program director.

The 2014 year brought a number of positive changes that included a great deal of inter-professional collaboration. A number of disciplines from Arkansas State University and the Jonesboro community worked directly with A-State C.A.R.E. to provide services to record-breaking numbers.

A number of new activities are planned for 2015 highlighted by the after-school tutoring program that begins on January 12, 2015, and will run through May 12, 2015. There are a total of 10 children preregistered for the program to be

The following is a summary of activities and services provided in 2014:

A-State CARE Direct Client Service 2014

Service Organization	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Ma y	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Yearly Totals
A-State CARE Assessments									25	35	45	26	131
CSC Food Pantry	156	145	137	165	160	175	150	150	160	150	140	115	1803
Women's Discovery Center	20	15	20	10	15	10	10	12	10	0	0	0	122
Hispanic Center of Jonesboro	40	42	38	40	42	20	20	20	10	0	0	0	272
JURHA (Housing Authority)	40	38	40	38	40	40	40	36	40	15	12	0	379
Advantage Program	20	15	10	15	12	10	10	8	10	0	0	0	110
Monthly Client Total	276	255	245	268	269	255	230	226	255	200	197	141	2817
CSC Demographic													
** Children	167	164	200	209	197	221	154	195	161	170	225	106	2169
**Adults	278	261	306	256	242	302	255	255	251	230	231	209	3076
** Seniors	24	24	30	40	53	29	28	30	32	50	33	40	413
	469	449	536	505	492	552	437	445	444	450	489	355	5623
Community Service Projects													
* Community Education participants						8	25	50		30			113
* Food Drive (in lbs.)				600							1100		1700 lbs
* Diaper Drive (# of diapers)								1000			500		1500

held two-days per week from 4 – 6 p.m. A State C.A.R.E. will continue to work with the Community Services Center in the development and implementation of a Community-Wide

Food Network program. Ongoing collaboration will continue with the Hispanic Center, The Women's Discovery Center, JUHRA, and several others.

Radiologic Sciences to Offer Entry-Level Bachelor's Degree

Continued from p. 5

for health care providers. Once admitted, students will begin coursework in the spring of their sophomore year and continue for 18 months in the radiography portion of the degree. It should be noted, much thought went into the design of the program, so students will continue to receive the same clinical experience as provided in the past. After completing the radiography portion, students will apply to one of seven tracks*:

Track 1: Computed Tomography and Magnetic Resonance Imaging

Track 2: Computed Tomography and Mammography

Track 3: Radiation Therapy

Track 4: Sonography

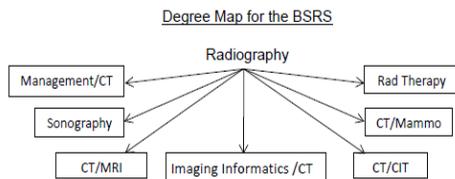
Track 5: Computed Tomography and Cardiovascular-Interventional Technology

Track 6: Computed Tomography and Medical Imaging Informatics

Track 7: Computed Tomography and Radiology Management

*Several of the tracks will actually give the graduate competency in three imaging modalities.

Pictorially, the degree looks like this:



Radiologic Technologists who currently possess an associate degree or certificate from an accepted accredited program at another institution may pursue the BSRS in General Radiography through the "Bridge" Program. Once admitted to the Bridge Program, students will receive credit by articulation for their associate degree/certificate radiologic science educational work (46 hours). These will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Technologists who have successfully passed an appropriate national professional examination and have worked at least 1,000 hours in that specialty over the past two years are eligible to receive credit for work experience.

We are excited about this new approach to medical imaging and radiation therapy education. We will be the second university in the country to utilize this approach and believe it will serve our students and clinical sites very well.

DELTA HEALTH DISPARITIES CONFERENCE 2014

By Dr. Kat Carrick

The A-State Department of Social Work sponsored the second annual Delta Health Disparities Conference open to the public on November 12th, 2014. The conference was open to local community residents and health care practitioners, and featured 10 free workshops on issues that affect health outcomes in the Arkansas Delta. Workshop choices were as diverse as prematurity and pregnancy outcomes, child abuse and trauma, drug addictions, obesity and nutrition, financial literacy and poverty, autism support for parents, homeless youth, breast cancer risks,

aging and support caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's, and strategies to reduce sexually transmitted diseases and HIV. Our keynote speaker for the event was Chris Masingill, federal co-chairman, Delta Regional Authority, who discussed economic development and health disparities: identifying tools to combat poverty in the Delta. The Arkansas Department of Health, Division of AIDS, STD, Hep C., and Northeast Arkansas Regional AIDS Network (NARAN) provided free, confidential HIV and STD testing, as well as offering individualized prevention counseling to 42 conference participants.

Each of the 263 conference participants received a conference packet with a program booklet, health information, and a "Health Passport" stamped for participation in workshops or the free health screenings stations. Health Passports were then traded in for tickets randomly drawn to win \$2,000 in incentive gift certificate prizes.

A silent auction held during the event had participants bidding on an array of items donated from The Edge Coffeehouse, Black Arrow Tattoo, Alexander and Dunn Tax Professionals, Crate Escape of Jonesboro, Melissa Donner Photography, Chick-fil-A, St Bernards Health & Wellness, Panera Bread, Inc., One Love People, Godsey's Grill, NARAN, Pier One, The Red Goose Deli, Shear Glitz, Dillard's, Skinny J's, Larry's Pizza, Garner Studio, Gearhead Outfitter's, 10 Fitness and Connie Ryan. Our silent auction event generated \$800, with all proceeds supporting a student HIV social work scholarship.

Committee members for this year's conference included Dr. Kat Carrick (conference chair), Candence Williams, Rebekah Craig, Dr. Bill Roe, Jared Palver, Debbie Biazio, Dr. Cherisse Jones-Branch, Connie Ryan, Terry Thomas, Bianca Jordan,

Continued on p. 7



Dr. Darlene Baker and Angela Schmidt receive the Outstanding Paper Award for their presentation titled, Adapting Teaching/Learning Strategies for the Multi-generational Online Classroom. at the Association for Advancement in Computer Education International Conference.



Karen Blue and Cathy Hall visit with Scarlet and Howl at senior preview day. The event was one of a series planned by the Office of Recruitment. The event was held in the Reng Student Center in Centennial Hall.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI HONORED

Seven outstanding graduates of the College of Nursing and Health Professions were honored as distinguished alumni during Homecoming activities, Saturday, Oct. 4. The distinguished alumni include **SARA FENTER, JERRY FENTER, MERRILL CATT, KEVIN DECKER, DEANNA BARYMON, JOYCE FILES** and **ADAM WATKINS**. They were recognized during a 2 p.m. ceremony in the Reynolds Center for Health Sciences.

After opening in 2006, **JERRY** and **SARA FENTER** have kept a close eye on Fenter Physical Therapy and watched it grow substantially. The pair has increased the size of their Marion location by 30 percent to add more space and equipment. In 2012, the business expanded into West Memphis to open Delta Orthopedics Sports Medicine Rehab Institute. In 2013, the business reached further into the delta to open a clinic in Forrest City and Brinkley.

The Fenters are involved within the community with Chamber of Commerce membership in both West Memphis and Marion, and provide scholarships to Mid-South Community College. In addition, they donate their services to youth organizations, schools and senior citizens. Fenter Physical Therapy was recently honored by Business Leader magazine as one of the "Top 300 Small Businesses of the Year" for the southern region. This award is given based on revenue growth, business achievement, positive impact on local economy and making a difference in the greater community.

MERRILL CATT earned her master's degree in speech-language pathology from A-State in 1984. After a 25-year career as a speech-language pathologist in the public school setting, she returned to A-State in 2007 as a faculty member in the Communication Disorders Department. In that role, Catt taught undergraduate didactic courses, including introduction to communication disorders and phonetics, while serving as a supervisor of clinical practicum experiences for both undergraduate and graduate communication disorders majors.

With her years of experience in the profession prior to her employment at A-State, Catt earned the respect of her students and faculty colleagues as an outstanding clinical educator. Both undergraduate and graduate students developed clinical skills and competencies under her guidance and support.

KEVIN DECKER is the distinguished alum for the Clinical Laboratory Science Department. He completed his bachelor's degree in 1987 in what was then called medical technology. He went on to receive a Master of Science degree in Operations Management from the University of Arkansas in 1992, while working his first job as a

medical technologist. He currently serves as chief executive officer of Forrest City Medical Center.

Decker credits his fraternity and Arkansas State University with his lifelong focus on philanthropy and community involvement, along with time management and multi-tasking skills.

DEANNA BARYMON is a 2002 graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Radiologic Sciences in Sonography. She also completed the Master of Science degree in Health Science Education. She holds credentials in abdomen, Ob/Gyn, Vascular, and Adult Echocardiography from the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS). She is currently clinical coordinator.

She is a Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (JRC-DMS) site visitor, and serves on the National Society of Medical Sonographers (SDMS) Education Committee. Barymon has been recognized by both Lambda Nu, the national honor society for radiologic sciences, and by Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. Locally, she has been involved with the Jonesboro Jaycees and has recently become involved with the Community Health Education Foundation.

JOYCE FILES is a graduate of A-State's School of Nursing's associate program. During her 27-year career in northeast Arkansas, she has been viewed as a "nurse's nurse" by all who know her. She consistently demonstrates not only compassion for her patients, but also a passion for nursing.

In 1995, she became the nurse for a local cardiologist, Dr. Michael Isaacson. In this position, she is able to use her extensive cardiac skills as she works with Dr. Isaacson to provide comprehensive cardiac care. In addition, she is a Basic Life Support Instructor, certified in Advanced Cardiac Life Support and certified as an instructor/trainer for LifeVests (wearable defibrillators) by Zoll.

Files continues to give back to the community through her service work. In 2005, she served at a local shelter for Hurricane Katrina refugees. In 2009, following the devastating ice storm, she assisted at a temporary shelter set-up at Arkansas State's Convocation Center. She was also nominated for the NEA Nurse of the Year Award in 2006.

ADAM B. WATKINS graduated from the A-State Bachelor of Social Work program in May 2006 and from the Master of Social Work program in May 2011. A strong social worker, Watkins is involved in service to diverse communities including AIDS/HIV, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) organization, rural and impoverished populations.

Furthermore, Watkins serves on the Department of Social Work Community Advisory Council. He is invested in improving community perceptions of the department and the caliber of students who graduate from Arkansas State. He also helps to train and supervise at least one BSW field student every year. His compassion for those in dire circumstances and advocacy for system changes, as well as advocacy on behalf of individual clients, provides an excellent role model.

In addition, Watkins volunteers on the Wesley Board of Directors and serves as a congregational coach, working with both pastors and congregation.

UPDATES FROM BECK PRIDE CENTER

by Linda Nash, Director

A fun evening to support the Beck PRIDE Center was offered on September 16 at the Fowler Center. An evening with Bill Johnson, who has entertained audiences as "Bob Hope" jokingly, covered a wide range of Mr. Hope's favorite topics, including our nation's Armed Forces, Washington D.C., the game of golf, and Hope's dear friend, Bing Crosby. Two on Tap also performed song and dance routines. A-State choir and jazz band performed several musical selections.

R & R luncheons were held to welcome veteran students back to school for the fall semester and to celebrate Veteran's Day. The A-State Student Veteran's Association (ASVO) participated in the Veteran's Day parade. The ASVO participated in the fall tailgating season to support the football program and to encourage socialization of student veterans and their families.

The Governor Mike Beebe Veteran's Gala was October 2; the fund raiser helps to support the scholarships offered to veterans or their dependents. The fall 2014 semester had 17 recipients of the Governor Mike Beebe Scholarship for a total of \$20,000. A-State has been designated a military veteran friendly campus for the fourth year.

The Beck PRIDE Center was the recipient of a DAV grant for \$60,000 to assist with psychoeducational workshops, training and therapy needs of participants. Kimberly James, Social Work Master's Program intern, for the Beck PRIDE Center, participated in the Arkansas Community Development Society grant competition, October 30, 2014. After writing the grant proposal, she was selected to present in a competition against three other programs, and was the selected winner. The grant proposal for \$5,000, included workshops or "Lunch & Learns" to continue educating community members on the needs of veterans, and initiate more support groups for veterans and their families on topics

including PTSD, moral injury and substance abuse issues.

A workshop on Moral Injury and PTSD was offered October 29 for mental health clinicians and spiritual leaders in Northeast Arkansas. 85 participants attended the workshop. This was completed with the assistance of Northeast Arkansas Veteran's Action Clergy (NEAVAC).

Eight food baskets were distributed to veterans for Thanksgiving. Veterans and their family members were able to ride the BNSF Holiday Express; this is a unique vintage passenger train that pays tribute to the men and women of the armed forces on December 4. A holiday party was held December 9 for veterans and family members. Stockings were assembled and distributed to the children in attendance.

Presentations have been made to the Daughters of American Revolution (DAR), who collected snack items for the day room and the Craighead County Teachers Association, who collected school supplies for students. The Lake City Home Extension Club set up a booth regarding Beck PRIDE Center services for the Northeast Arkansas Fair.

Future projects include serving on the Veteran's Court development committee; the development of workshops and psychoeducational groups and the continuing combat support group.

HEALTH DISPARITIES CONFERENCE

Continued from p. 5

Melissa Lee, Ric Keefer, Barbara Bruden, Janice Hill, and Adam Watkins.

We are so grateful for our funders that allowed for this event to be successful. Co-sponsors included A-State College of Nursing and Health Professions, March of Dimes, A-State College of Business, Research and Technology Transfer, A-State Multicultural Center, BSW and MSW Social Work Student Organizations, Arkansas Department of Health, St. Bernard's Medical Center, Mid-South Health Systems, North Arkansas Regional AIDS Network (NARAN), and the Dean B. Ellis Library.

Save the date for the 2015 Delta Health Conference and make plans to join us on November 11, 2015.

DR. ELIZABETH STOKES SELECTED FOR WALL OF HONOR

The Arkansas State University Faculty Association recognized Dr. Elizabeth Stokes, Ed.D, Professor of Nursing, 1991 - 2006 and 30 other former faculty members who were selected for the Distinguished Faculty Wall of Honor during the association's annual holiday event on Wednesday, December 10, 2014.

CNHP SPONSORING 6TH TRIP TO CHINA

By Ray Winters, Chair,
Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences

In May, students and faculty from the College of Nursing and Health professions will take a 10-day trip to China. This trip will expose current and future health care providers to Chinese methods of delivering healthcare while allowing them to learn and appreciate Chinese culture.

This year's group will be led by Dr. Kathy Wren, chair of Graduate Nursing and Nurse Anesthesia program director. The group will leave May 17 and return May 27. Students may obtain up to three hours college credit for the experience. Practicing CRNAs can receive up to 20 hours CE for the trip. (Contact Dr. Wren for details). Guiding the group will be John Pate, who works for ASU in China. Pate is a native Arkansan who has lived in China for 10 years.

The 10-day trip will begin in Hong Kong. Hong Kong is truly a cosmopolitan city and is the jewel of all Chinese cities. There they will tour the city and explore the many cultural sites the city has to offer. They will also participate in the "Festival of Lights" in the harbor.

The group will then bus to Guangzhou area, where they will visit a disabled children's hospital and a traditional Chinese medicine hospital. Both of these are unique opportunities to see the Chinese healthcare system at work. Participants will view first hand demonstrations of acupuncture, moxibuxiton, cupping and other traditional Chinese approaches to healthcare. The group will participate in a mountain white-water rapids

excursion, as well as other cultural events. The group will then fly to Beijing. While in Beijing, they will tour the antique district; tour the Hutong district and shop at the famous "Silk Alley" market, tour the Great Wall, Forbidden City, and more. The group will go to the Chinese office of the World Health Organization where they will see a presentation regarding healthcare in China and its role in world health. Woven through the itinerary are experiences at Chinese hotels and Chinese

cuisine. An additional Thailand pre-tour excursion for fun in the sun and sand, snorkeling and scuba diving is available for only \$1,100 (double occupancy), which includes three nights hotel and round trip airfare from Hong Kong. Total cost of the trip, which includes travel insurance, is \$3,600 (excluding the Thailand excursion).

Plans call for this to be an every-other-year event, so if you can't go this year, perhaps in you can plan for spring of 2017. The cost is very reasonable and would be hard to beat for the value of this trip. Current students are eligible to apply for travel assistance monies through the Office of International Studies. Alumni of any CHNP programs are welcome to go, as well as their spouses, friends and family. There are 40 slots available and reservations should be made by mid-February. If you think you are interested and want more information or to be placed on a waiting list, contact Dr. Kathy Wren at 870-972-3394 or kwren@astate.edu.

We believe this opportunity provides a unique opportunity for our students that they wouldn't get at other universities. It will also provide an opportunity for alumni to learn the differences and similarities in health care delivery in one of the world's fastest growing economies.



Photo Courtesy of Dr. Kathy Wren

2015 GRIEF SEMINAR

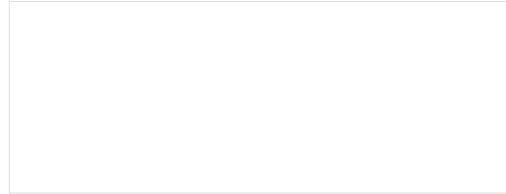
The Billy Joe Emerson Grief Seminar is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19 at A-State's Fowler Center. Phyllis Kosminsky, Ph.D., a clinical social worker from New York specializing in grief, loss and trauma, will be presenting, *Helping People Heal from Grief: Using our Minds and our Hearts*. Watch our web site for more information at www.astate.edu/conhp.



ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

College of
Nursing & Health Professions

PO Box 910, State University, AR 72467



Spring 2015

Schedule of Events

February 20	Nutritional Factors in Alzheimer's Disease Prevention Video Conference
March 23-27	Spring Break
March 30	2015 Wound Symposium, A-State Fowler Center
April 20	Convocation of Scholars
April 24	Clinical Instructors Seminar, A-State Fowler Center
April 27	Last Day of Class
May 9	Commencement (A-State Jonesboro)
May 17-May 27	China Trip
May 19	Billy Joe Emerson Grief Seminar
June 1	Summer Term 1 Classes Begin

2015 WOUND SYMPOSIUM

The College of Nursing and Health Professions and St. Bernards Wound Healing Center are sponsoring the 2015 Wound Symposium on March 30, 2015 at the A-State Fowler Center. Speakers will include Dot Wier, RN, CWON, CWS, from Orlando Regional Health Central Hospital Wound Healing Center, Lee C. Ruotsi,

MD, Medical Director of the Catholic Health Advanced Wound Healing Centers in Buffalo, NY and J. Stephen Guffey, PT, EdD, President, Physical Therapy Plus and Professor of Physical Therapy at the College of Nursing and Health Professions at Arkansas State University .

Registration will begin at 7:30 am with the

symposium starting at 8:00 am. Participants in the full-day event may be eligible for up to 6.5 CEUs.

The registration brochure is available at www.astate.edu/college/conhp. For more information or to register, contact St. Bernards Education Department at 870-207-4909.