Dean’s Corner

Fall semester is here already and there are some noteworthy changes that I would like to reflect on. The first is that Dr. Les Wyatt, our system president, has stepped down to pursue other interests. Dr. Wyatt came to ASU on July 1, 1995 (the same day as me) as university president so I have not worked at ASU without the presence of Dr. Wyatt. Even when he moved exclusively to the ASU System, he was still working to support the development and growth of the college. Dr. Eugene Smith was the one who brought me to Jonesboro while he was serving as interim president. Dr. Wyatt hired me in a permanent capacity and I will be forever grateful.

Over the time that Dr. Wyatt served as university president, the college experienced tremendous growth. He supported opportunities for program development and implementation at a time when the university and the state did not have funds for that purpose. With the “start-up” assistance of state and regional hospitals and his approval of the operations plan, the college was able to begin nurse anesthesia, expand BSN nursing, extend our off campus delivery sites and start diagnostic medical sonography to name only a few. That was a tremendous boon for our regional healthcare community who were experiencing significant shortages in those health disciplines.

In addition, Dr. Wyatt was the one who allowed us to participate in a “facility needs review” that was being conducted by the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation. When the Foundation selected our college to submit a formal proposal, Dr. Wyatt was with us every step of the way. That outcome will forever change the “face” of the college but would not have happened without his support of the program growth piece or his personal involvement with the Foundation proposal.

Another person leaving his position who has been instrumental to the growth of our college is Mr. Ben Owens, St. Bernards President. When I moved to Jonesboro one of the first people I went to see was Ben because of all of our students they were allowing to do clinical work at their facilities. My intent was to see what we could do for them. That started a series of visits that helped me build the college’s 10-year curriculum plan. Ben not only encouraged me to be aggressive with workforce growth initiatives but was one of the financial supporters of each one of them over that period of time. He welcomed me into the medical community through his invitations, contacts and conversations and to him also, I will be forever grateful. I will miss him so hope he doesn’t mind responding to my e-mails while he is relaxing on the lake so I can pick his brain about something.

Lastly, Congressman Marion Berry has chosen not to run for re-election. I recall shortly after I first moved here that Marion was launching his bid for Congress. He has been a “strength” in the first district. Congressman Berry has continued to listen to me talk about health care workforce needs as well as Veteran’s issues. He has been an advocate for ASU and is someone (as well as his capable staff) to whom we owe a great deal of gratitude. I know he will still be around and am thankful that we can continue to visit with he and Carolyn.

So, some big changes for me after 15 years of this type of support. However, I am excited about the transition teams in place. Drs. Potts, Howard and Jones at ASU, Chris Barber at St. Bernards and a for Congress until the November election. My hope is that we will have an equally strong next 15 years—if I can make it that long. ☺

Special thanks to these outgoing leaders and visionaries—Dr. Les Wyatt, Mr. Ben Owens and Congressman Marion Berry.

Susan Hanrahan, Dean
College of Nursing & Health Professions
hanrahan@astate.edu

College Advocacy Board

The College Advocacy Board has been in existence since 2004. The purpose of each member of the board is to learn about the college and advocate on its behalf. The intent of our meetings is to inform members of our larger community of who we are, where we are and where we want to go. Since its inception some board members have rotated off the board including Jane LeBlanc, Dr. George Herndon, Martha Caldwell, John Freeman, Joe Gammill, Harry Hardwick, Dr. Susan Irvin, Dr. David Smalley, Harold Thomas (deceased), Vicki Crego, Greg Spears and Dr. Joe T. Wilson. More recent appointments are Irene Martz, E. Paul Milam, Dickey Hays, Ritter Arnold, Pam Crowson, Kevin Hawley, Barbara Martin and Dr. Bill Keisker. Remaining board members include Wayne Baker, Beverly Bartels, Angela Fowler, Cecelia Killough, Julia Turner-Robinson, Brent Stidman, Shirley Turner and Dr. Don Vollman. The board meets formally one time per year and informally around other events of the college during the academic year. We are grateful for these individuals’ service and thank them for their work on behalf of the college.
College News

Julie Isaacsen, Dr. Mike McDaniel, Dr. Beverly Boals, and Dr. Louella Moore presented their article, “Developing and Implementing a System of Shared Governance From a Faculty Perspective” at the American Institute of Higher Education’s Fourth International Conference held in Williamsburg, VA on March 17 – 19, 2010.

China group picture taken at World Health Office in Beijing

CNHP teamed with the ASU Study Abroad Program to offer a 3 credit course trip to China in May. The trip exposed current and future health care providers to Chinese methods of delivering healthcare while allowing them to learn and appreciate Chinese culture. John Pate, who works for ASU in China, and Ray Winters, Chair of the Department of Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences, lectured and guided the group and visited places such as the World Health Office, Peking University and the Forbidden City to name a few.

Dr. Rebecca Matthews and Dr. Shawn Drake authored, “Healthy Ager: An Interdisciplinary Service – Learning Experience.” Matthews will be giving the presentation at the 37th Annual National Conference by the Professional Nurse Educator’s Group in Baltimore, MD in October.

Dean’s Office

Dr. Angie Schmidt has been appointed Associate Dean of Special Projects beginning July 1. She will serve in this capacity half time while continuing her role as director of the MSN programs.

Beck PRIDE Center

Susan Tonymon spoke as a presenter/facilitator at The Veteran Success Jam, a three-day live online virtual collaboration that brought together thousands of veterans and their families, service members, campus leaders, nonprofit organizations, and government agencies from around the country to discuss various aspects of veteran’s lives. The Veteran Success Jam was sponsored by the American Council on Education (ACE) and the Kresge Foundation.

Northeast Arkansas American Red Cross presented the Beck PRIDE Center with 12 Wii game systems and other items worth more than $2500 in May. Systems were for family and program use. Arkansas State University has been named by G.I. Jobs magazine as a Military Friendly School for 2011. This honor ranks ASU in the top 15% of all colleges, universities and trade schools nationwide.

Physical Therapy


Ashley Mott-Murphree will be presenting her abstract submission, “Providing Literature and Resources to Expectant Mothers of Children with Down Syndrome” for the ASAHP 2010 Annual Conference Poster Session held in Charlotte, NC.


Nursing

Dr. Debbie Persell, assistant professor of nursing and coordinator of Regional Training Center for Disaster Life Support at Arkansas State University, was named “Academic Nurse of the Year” at the 2010 School of Nursing Alumni Awards Reception at the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC). Congrats, Debbie!

Annette Stacy was appointed to the Arkansas Spinal Cord Commission. The appointment expires in Jan. 2015. Our congratulations go out to Dr. Susie Sifford for successfully defending her dissertation this past March!

Dr. Sifford also received the Eric Ashworth Hodges Best Dissertation Award and the Outstanding Future Nurse Leader Award at the UAMS College of Nursing Recognition Ceremony in May.

Dr. Sifford will be presenting her abstract submission, “In Their Shoes: Strategies Developed by Certified Nurses’ Assistants to Manage and Prevent Resident-to-Resident Violence in Nursing Homes” at the Annual Gerontological Society of America in New Orleans in November. Congratulations to Dr. Lisa Waggoner on the completion of the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree in May.

Brenda Anderson has been accepted to give her abstract presentation, “Use of Rubrics in the Clinical Evaluation of the Associate and Baccalaureate Nursing Students” at the October 2010 RNAO Conference: “Knowledge, the Power of Nursing: Celebrating Best Practice Guidelines” held in Toronto, Canada.

Dr. Debbie Persell will be presenting her abstract submission, “Lessons Learned from the College of Nursing and Health Professions Involvement in the University’s Response to H1N1” at the ASAHP 2010 Annual Conference held in Charlotte, NC.

Dr. Sue McLarry was invited to be on the Steering Committee for the Johnson & Johnson Promise of Nursing in Arkansas gala. Watch for statewide information on this great opportunity to celebrate nursing and raise monies for nursing scholarships.

Stacy Troxel, Nursing, earned her Specialist Degree in Education from ASU during the May commencement ceremony.

Radiologic Sciences

Congratulations to Ray Winters who became President elect of the Association of Collegiate Educators in Radiologic Technology. This is a five-year commitment which includes one year as President elect, two years as President, and two years as Chair of the Board.

Clinical Lab Sciences

Bill Payne was a contributing author to a new textbook entitled, Clinical Laboratory Microbiology. Co-authors include Karen Kiser from St. Louis Community College and Teresa Taff from St. Jon’s Mercy Medical Center in St. Louis. Dr. Elizabeth Zeibig is the series editor from St. Louis University. Bill wrote 5 very long chapters and co-authored 4 additional chapters in a 42 chapter text. His areas of focus were on fungal cultures, medical mycology, parasitology, gastrointestinal system, final identification, susceptibility testing, acid-fast bacilli cultures, viral, chlamydial and rickettsial specimens and intracellular microorganisms. Many of the photos in his chapters were his own. Congratulations on this significant effort!

Accreditation News - Congratulations to our CLS department for receiving NAACLs accreditation awards for Clinical Laboratory Technician (AAS) and Clinical Laboratory Science (BS) degree programs.

Social Work

Dr. Young Hong’s proposal Generational Differences in Learning Styles and Use of Technology of Social Work Students has been accepted as a POSTER for the October 2010 Annual Social Work Program Meeting in Portland, Oregon.

Dr. Patricia Walls took part in “Women from Around the Globe” summit at ASU, in which she held a workshop “The Global Impact of HIV on Women Around the World.” The event was sponsored by the Office of Diversity Initiatives & Reaching Across Differences.

Dr. George Jacinto was appointed to the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Passing Score Panel. The panel consists of social workers across the United States and Canada who recommend the passing standards for new social work licensing examinations to be released in 2011.

Dr. George Jacinto recently published, Caregivers Working Through Self-Forgiveness (VDM Publishing House, Ltd., 2010) based on his dissertation. The book explores how caregivers of individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease work through self-forgiveness as part of the grief process.

Dr. Gauri Bhattacharya did a presentation in celebration of Black History Month entitled “Equity and Equality in Social Development.”

Dr. Guitele Rahill was invited to write a medium length entry in the upcoming Encyclopedia of Immigrant Health on International Health Care. The completed work will represent the joint efforts of a panel of editors and authors from all over the globe.

Two presentations were accepted by the 2010 Rural Social Work Conference in July: “Social Work Ethics” by Dr. Barbara Turnage and “Rural-Based Clinical Practice” by Dr. Barbara Turnage and Dr. George Jacinto.

Dr. Loretta Brewer submitted an abstract proposal, “Ancestors, Elders, and the Role of Spirituality in Late Life,” which was accepted for the 2011 International Conference on Religion and Spirituality in Society to be held in Chicago, IL in February.

Dr. Loretta Brewer submitted another abstract proposal, “Population Aging, Workforce Shortages, and the Challenge to Develop Geriatric Competencies” which was accepted for the 30th Annual Arkansas Aging conference. The presentation will be held in October at the Hot Springs Civic and Convention Center, Hot Springs.

Accreditation News - At its June 2010 meeting the Commission on Accreditation (COA) voted to reaffirm the BSW accreditation for eight years, ending in June 2018.

ASU CARE

The Dept. of Social Work will begin a new project in the fall entitled ASU CARE (Community Action Reinforcing Empowerment). Faculty and students will provide “case management” for individuals who live in the area north of the ASU campus. The goal of the Center is to focus on issues such as substance abuse, crime, employment seeking activities, health disparities, education, social capital, family services, youth development, etc. The project is in conjunction with revitalization work identified by the Mayor’s office. An opening date has not been established. Look for additional information on the Dept. of Social Work website. Dr. George Jacinto is the Center Coordinator.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Sue Hale will be the speaker for the CNHP fall faculty development session. She will discuss “Professional Partnerships in the University Setting: Maximizing the Effectiveness.” Sue is the Director of Clinical Education and Assistant Professor in the Dept. of Hearing and Speech Sciences at Vanderbilt University. She served as President of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in 2009 and is currently serving as Immediate Past President. She is a frequent presenter in the areas of clinical supervision, counseling and professional ethics as well as an author and co-author of articles and book chapters.

GRANTS/CONTRACTS:

Dr. Angie Schmidt (Nrs), awarded from DHHS/HRSA Nurse Anesthetists Traineeships, $25,777. Dr. Guitele Rahill (SW) awarded National Science Foundation (NSF) research grant, $45,441. Project titled “Re-Housing Urban Haiti After the Earthquake: The Role of Social Capital.”

Dr. Dick Freer (SW) awarded, Alternative Dispute Resolution from the 20th Judicial District Court, State of Arkansas, $10,000.

Dr. Shawn Drake (PT), Dr. Rebecca Matthews (Nrs), and Dr. Loretta Brewer (SW) submitted proposal An Interdisciplinary Approach for Older Adults with Multiple Chronic Conditions from Clagett Family Foundation for Physical Therapy, $270,000. (pending) Dr. Susie Sifford (Nrs), submitted proposal Victims’ Perceptions of Triggers of Resident-to-Resident Violence in Nursing Homes from American Nurses Foundation, $1,906. (pending)

Dr. Debbie Persell (Nrs), submitted proposal Disaster Camp from Craighead County Foundation, $2,200. (pending)

Dr. Susan Hanrahan (Dean’s Office), awarded $200,000, Donald W. Reynolds Foundation, Art Award.

Dr. Gauri Bhattacharya was awarded a grant by the Middle East Studies Committee to fund her research proposal, “Israeli-Arab Relations: How Globalization Influences Individual Perceptions of Conflict” for the 2010-2011 academic year.

Ariane Pait, Merrill Catt and Tisha Pierce – OASIS Institute – submitted to Dept. of Education $1.1M. (pending)

Dr. Susan Hanrahan, Roy Aldridge and Becky Keith – Hippotherapy for Veterans, submitted to Disabled American Veterans. $40,000. (pending)

Dr. Sue McLarry (Nrs), awarded Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2nd Degree Accelerated Nursing Scholarships, $50,000.

Dr. Sue McLarry (Nrs), awarded DHHS/HRSA Advanced Nurse Education Traineeship, $43,318.

Dr. Susan Hanrahan and Susan Tonymon – Special Projects for Beck PRIDE – Assisi Foundation, $125,000. (pending)
Susan is very service focused—received researchers and their projects in her career. She has been primary advisor to 40 student attention to detail are unmatched and when she arrived we needed some senior leadership. She was willing to help with student problems, teaching methods and area of licensing exam performance, student problems, teaching methods and case studies among other more clinical scholarship pieces. Even though adult is her area, she does not discriminate on the age of the population she is studying as she has published in both the Journal of Pediatric PT as well as the Journal of Geriatric PT. She has been primary advisor to 40 student researchers and their projects in her career.

Susan is very service focused—received two service awards while on faculty here, a good thing has come from it. She has established the Helen and Bill Roehrig Memorial Endowment with an annual award going to a PT student with an interest in geriatrics or neurology who exhibits exceptional professional behaviors. The first award was given last year.

It is bad enough that we are losing a quality faculty member in our college but the worst part is we are losing one named Susan (Susan Marie at that) and that is even more sad to me. Thank you, Dr. Susan Roehrig for your service to ASU and our college.

**Goodbye to Other Personnel:**

**Jill Self** – Administrative Assistant II, Nurse Anesthesia Program. Jill was accepted to the PTA program at ASU.

**Jennifer King** – Coordinator, Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences.

**Lisa Kenyon** – Assistant Professor, Physical Therapy.

**Mitch Watrous** – Assistant Professor, Clinical Lab Sciences.

**Sherri Griffin** – Computer Operator, Dean’s Office.

**Welcome to:**

**Dr. Joe Williams**, Ph.D., CRNA, has been appointed Associate Professor of Nurse Anesthesia. Dr. Williams is relocating here from Fort Worth, TX and received his doctorate from Union Institute University in Cincinnati, OH.

**Tanya Pankey**, M.S.N., R.N., who has taken an Assistant Professor position in Nursing in the West Memphis office. Tanya obtained her Masters of Science in Nursing from Walden University, Baltimore, MD.

**Heather Dawn McPike**, MSN, APN-BC has taken a position as Assistant Professor in Nursing. Ms. McPike received her Masters of Science in Nursing at Arkansas State University.

**Amber Wooten**, BSRS, RDMS, Adjunct Faculty has taken a position as a full-time, temporary faculty of MIRS. Amber received her degree at ASU.

**Blinda Norman** MSN, APN, CDE has accepted an Assistant Professor position in Nursing. She received her BSN and MSN at ASU and is a Diabetes Educator.

**From Temporary Full-Time to Permanent:**

**Annette Bednar**, Assistant Professor of Clinical Lab Sciences

**Linda Latting**, Assistant Professor of Nursing – Mountain Home

for one year because of the transition the department was in, which she did, and I will be forever grateful.

Even though she lost both of her parents while on faculty here, a good thing has come from it. She has established the Helen and Bill Roehrig Memorial Endowment with an annual award going to a PT student with an interest in geriatrics or neurology who exhibits exceptional professional behaviors. The first award was given last year.

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The St. Bernards Medical Center Auxiliary presented $20,000 in nursing and health professions 2010 scholarships to 10 individuals. Among them were Lisa Weir, Brookland, AR; Erin Weeks, Walnut Ridge, AR; Lori Kercheval, Corning, AR; Kayla Hendrix-Burks, Rose Bud, AR; Hannah Bruce, Mable Prunty, and Meg Bradley of Jonesboro, AR.

Congratulations!

The Arkansas Methodist Center Auxiliary awarded $1000 scholarships to residents of Greene County. Among them were Hannah Johnson, Radiologic Sciences, and Tabetha Johnson, BSN.

Chapter CF of the Philanthropic Education Organization, presented a check for $1500 to Stephanie Faber, a nursing student at ASU.

Inductees into Phi Kappa Phi
Kelli Camp – Nursing
Amy Gibson – Nursing
Shibu Koshy – Nurse Anesthesia
Jessica Appleby – Communication Disorders
Carol McFarlin – Social Work
Tim Rigsbee – Nursing
Sarah Jones – Nursing
Crystal Kent – Nursing
Ashley May – Nursing
Catelyn Williams – Communication Disorders
Our AV coordinator, Sherry Griffin, was also inducted. She is earning her degree in Mid-Level Education.

Miss Amy McKinney, Graduate student in Communication Disorders, completed her two-year term as Student Vice President of the ASU Chapter 141 of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi. Two new students were elected as Student VPs for the next two years: Ashley May, a junior majoring in Nursing, and Catelyn Williams, a junior majoring in Communication Disorders. The Phi Kappa Phi chapter also recognized the accomplishment of Paige Snyder, an undergraduate major in Communication Disorders. Snyder was awarded a Study Abroad Scholarship from the National Headquarters of Phi Kappa Phi.

Officers from our college include President, Rick Neeley, Communication Disorders, newly installed President, Annette Stacy, Nursing, and President Elect, Dick Freer, Social Work.

In Sympathy
Darlene Avery, BSN senior nursing student, and her family on the loss of her son, Matt.

Nonie Wiggins, Nursing, on the loss of her grandmother, Frances Burris.

Penny Head, Physical Therapy, on the loss of her grandfather.

Cathy Hall, Nursing, on the loss of her brother-in-law.

Dr. Sue McLarney, Nursing, on the loss of her husband, David.

Kathleen Lorance and her husband, Mark, on the loss of Mark’s father, Bernard A. Lorance and the loss of Kathleen’s mother, Phyllis Williams.

William “Bill” Payne, Clinical Lab Sciences, and his wife, Penny Payne, in the loss of Bill’s father, Charles C. Payne.

Stacy Troxel, Nursing, on the loss of her father.

Convocation of Scholars Honorees
University Awards:
Chancellor’s Scholar – Amber Woods (Nursing). Faculty advisor – Julie Isaacson.
Other graduating seniors with a 4.0 GPA who received Academic Excellence: Tiffany Timms (Nursing), Advisor - Nonie Wiggins and Tim Rigsbee (Nursing), Advisor - Libby Nix.

Graduating in University Honors: Ashlie Anderson, BSN, Kristi Cheshire, BSN, Candace Moore, BSN, and Jessica Stevens, BSN
Graduating in Honors: Shawn Austin, BSN, Allyn Cohen, BSCLS, Stephanie Dorris, BSN, and Amber Woods, BSN
Honors Certificate: Sarah Mouser, BSN, and Bridget Reyes, BSN

Program Award Recipients
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCES
Program Academic Scholar – Allyn Cohen
Outstanding Clinical Student – Amber Gazaway
ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE IN CLINICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY
Program Academic Scholar and Outstanding Clinical Student – Scotty Hall
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNICATION DISORDERS
Outstanding Undergraduate Student - Robin Pruett
Outstanding Undergraduate Student - Kandace Dyson
MASTER OF COMMUNICATION DISORDERS
Outstanding Graduate Student – Brandi Messer
ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE IN PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT
Program Academic Scholar – Eric Oliver
Outstanding Student – Jesse Whittemore
Outstanding Student – Randy Johnson

MASTER OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
Program Academic Scholar – Shanna Painter
Outstanding Student – Shanna Painter
ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE IN RADIOLGIC TECHNOLOGY
Program Academic Scholar – Lauren Garner
Outstanding Clinical Student – Dalton Marshall
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN IMAGING SPECIALIST & RADIOLOGY MANAGEMENT
Program Academic Scholar - Lori Anderson
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN RADIATION THERAPY
Program Academic Scholar - Derek Morgan
Outstanding Clinical Student - Brittany Richey
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING
Program Academic Scholar - Ryan Boozer
Outstanding Clinical Student - Katy Warren
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN SOCIAL WORK
Outstanding Student - Lauren Bridges
Outstanding Field Student - Caleigh Catt
ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE IN NURSING
Program Academic Scholar - Tracy Waymaack
Outstanding Clinical Students:
Jonesboro - Rachel Loomis
Beebe (Traditional) - Victoria Crompton
Beebe (LPN to RN) - Melissa Cook
Mountain Home Traditional) - Kristin Willett
Mountain Home (LPN to RN) - Samuel Baroi
West Memphis (Traditional) - Sharon Kale
West Memphis (LPN to RN) - Roslyn Nichols
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING
Program Academic Scholar - Tiffany Timms
Program Academic Scholar - Tim Rigsbee
Program Academic Scholar - Amber Woods
Outstanding Clinical Student - Tim Rigsbee

Stephanie Dorris, BSCLS, Allyn Cohen, BSN, and Tim Rigsbee, Clinical Lab Sciences, and his wife, Penny Payne, in the loss of Bill’s father, Charles C. Payne.

Shanna Painter, BSN
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Outstanding Undergraduate Student - Robin Pruett
Outstanding Undergraduate Student - Kandace Dyson
MASTER OF COMMUNICATION DISORDERS
Outstanding Graduate Student – Brandi Messer
ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE IN PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT
Program Academic Scholar – Eric Oliver
Outstanding Student – Jesse Whittemore
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Outstanding Clinical Student - Tim Rigsbee
MAGNET RECOGNITION 2017

The College of Nursing and Health Professions congratulates the 68th May graduates for their hard work and dedication.

MAIN HALL CEREMONY 2017

Dr. Penny Story, Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions, displayed AMERICAN HONOR SOCIETY IN NURSING plaques to the following outstanding students

- Elizabeth Adams
- Teresa Austin
- Ashley Bell
- Sarah Beers
- Rebecca Black
- Emily Blake
- Madison Borden
- Ashley Brown
- Sarah Bruemmer
- Emily Buchanan
- Samantha Burnham
- Megan Butcher
- Mandi Rutlen
- Sarah Camper
- Samantha Camp
- Laura Carpenter
- Amber Carritt
- Kayla Carr
- Natalie Cash
- Jenny Carey
- Jennifer Cassel
- Ashley Carter
- Jamie Catterton
- Rachel Cawthon
- Samantha Cawthon
- Kyle Cawthorne
- Jennifer Cherry
- Sang Choe
- Elizabeth Choate
- Samantha Click
- Tracy Clark
- Samantha Clark
- Whitney Coates
- Jamie Collier
- Sarah Collier
- refreshing refreshments. Our faculty and friends were provided with a variety of cold and hot beverages, as well as a range of snacks, including bagels, fruits, and pastries.

The College of Nursing and Health Professions would like to thank the staff for their hard work and dedication in organizing this event. They are the heart of the College of Nursing and Health Professions and play a vital role in supporting our students and faculty.

We would also like to thank the College of Nursing and Health Professions for their support and encouragement throughout the year. Their continued commitment to our students and faculty is greatly appreciated.

In addition, we would like to thank our families and friends for their support and encouragement. They are the ones who have been with us throughout this journey, and their love and support have been a source of strength.

Finally, we would like to thank our students for their hard work and dedication. They have worked tirelessly to achieve their goals, and their success is a testament to their determination and resilience.

We are proud of our class of 2017, and we look forward to seeing where their journey takes them in the future.
Latinos in the United States have been disproportionately affected by HIV and AIDS. As the largest minority group in the country, the impact of the HIV epidemic in this community is alarming, particularly as the Latino population continues to grow in the U.S. During the 2nd annual World AIDS Day Conference hosted by Arkansas State University on December 1st, 2009, this important issue was a key component of event’s agenda. This year’s conference included, for the first time, a component exploring the impact of HIV among Latinos. Stakeholder and members from the Latino community were in attendance to participate in a Town Hall meeting to discuss HIV and its impact on the community. The event included a presentation by Mr. Francisco Sastre, from Florida International University (Miami, FL), and an open forum to discuss HIV-related topics.

Mr. Sastre’s presentation, Viviendo positivo: Miedos, retos y vidas con VIH en los Latinos (“Living positive: fears, challenges, and living with HIV among Latinos”), highlighted social and cultural trends that are linked to the disproportional impact of HIV/AIDS among Latinos in the U.S. Although the statistics emphasized the significance of the problem, the primary focus of the presentation was to discuss the impact of HIV-related stigma among Latinos. Carrying on the theme of this year’s conference, “HIV Complacency: A Deadly Risk Factor,” Mr. Sastre’s presentation drew attention to HIV stigma as a key factor contributing to the spread of the epidemic among the Latino community.

Sastre explained that “among Latinos, processes of stigmatization are promoted and sustained by the cultural values that are specific to this community. Consequently, HIV-related stigma presents a major challenge for providing services to Latinos living with HIV and preventing new infections in the community.”

During the presentation, the attendees heard testimonies from several Latinos living with HIV/AIDS speaking about their experiences living with the condition. These testimonies form part of an HIV awareness campaign launched by Univision, the largest Spanish-language television network in the U.S. Through these personal experiences, the audience learned how people continue living regular lives with HIV as a chronic illness.

The overall objective of the presentation was to challenge common public opinion and notion regarding HIV/AIDS, including notions and fears associated with HIV testing. According to Mr. Sastre, HIV testing not only “is important to find out one’s HIV status, but it also serves as a good starting point to have an honest conversation about HIV and has the potential to de-stigmatize HIV. HIV testing is something that an individual can do regularly to change the way HIV is seen in our community and prevent the spread of the epidemic all with one simple action.”

The Latino forum concluded with a session of questions and answers. During this session, Mr. Sastre, was joined by Gina Gomez, the Executive Director of Hispanic Community Services, Inc., as well as by staff from the Craighead County Health Department in answering questions. The questions covered a wide range of HIV-related topics including some on HIV myths, facts about HIV transmission, exposure, and HIV testing. As part of the day’s event, free HIV testing was made available during the conference provided by the Arkansas Department of Health and the Craighead County Health Department. A total of 63 individuals were tested during the event, including 18 Hispanics/Latinos (29%).

GRIEF SEMINAR
Dr. Alan Wolfelt was on our campus for the third time May 18 and 19. On Tuesday night he presented to a community audience “The Wilderness of Grief: Finding Your Way.” On Wednesday, he spent a full day with clinicians, clergy and others “Exploring the Spiritual Aspects of Death, Grief and Mourning.” Programming was sponsored by Emerson Funeral Home, Thompson Funeral Home, Langford-Bookout Funeral Home, College of Nursing and Health Professions, NEA Baptist Clinic, NEA Baptist System, HopeCircle and FAMILIES, Inc. Counseling Services. Thanks to our sponsors and special thanks to Dr. Wolfelt. To learn more about him and his Center for Loss Transition, visit www.centerforloss.com.


cnhp capital campaign
2008-2010 Fundraising Period
$10 M Goal

special tribute to bill smith
By Dean Hanrahan

Our condolences to the William Smith Family. Mr. Smith passed away in late May. Bill was married to Harriet Mildred Smith—a nurse. Mildred did not graduate from ASU nor did Mr. Smith. They both just happened to live in Brookland, AR and when she passed away, he provided an endowed scholarship in her memory in our college. We have given that scholarship for quite a few years now to deserving nursing students. Some of you might remember that Mr. Smith attended a few of our Convocation of Scholars Banquets. He was a very kind and gracious man. He dropped off perennial bulbs for me to plant in my yard when he knew I liked flowers and we kept in touch through occasional letters. I knew his health was not good but did not know he was at the Hospice House where he died.

Mr. Smith was 91 years old and outlived all of his brothers, sisters, daughter and pet. Many nieces and nephews survive him. Our scholarship has now been renamed the William and Harriet Mildred Memorial Scholarship in Nursing. I will miss his handwritten letters and generous personality. Besides the funding he initially provided through his scholarship, he left us, in his estate, another $25,000 in support of the scholarship fund. We are especially grateful to him for leaving us this lasting memorial. He has and will continue to make a difference in many nursing student’s lives. What a wonderful legacy and what significant memories he has left for us. May he rest in peace.