

ASU - Jonesboro: College of Nursing and Health Professions Distinguished Alumni to be Honored at 2011 Homecoming

Seven outstanding graduates of Arkansas State University's College of Nursing and Health Professions (CNHP) will be honored as distinguished alumni during Homecoming ceremonies, Saturday, Oct. 29. A presentation to the group will be made at 2 p.m., in Room 222 of the Donald W. Reynolds Center for Health Sciences. An open house and tours of the Reynolds Center begin at 1:30 p.m. In addition to the recognition, a reunion get-together of the CNHP Class of 1991 is also scheduled.

The seven honorees are Debbie Shivers, MSN, FNP-BC, RN, APN (School of Nursing); Lance Harrell, MSN, FNP-BC, RN, APN, (School of Nursing); Marvin C. Alexander, M.S.W., L.C.S.W., (Department of Social Work); Joanne Huck Roberts, N.I.S., RRA, RT (R), RDMS, (Department of Medical Imaging and Radiation Science); Brooke Runyan Craine (Physical Therapy); Patricia A. Jones-Greer (Department of Communication Disorders); and Annette Bednar, MSE, MT (ASCP), (Clinical Laboratory Science Department).

Debbie Shivers and Lance Harrell are co-owners and nurse practitioners for a rural clinic, Coast-to-Coast Medical, in West Memphis. Shivers began her nursing career as a licensed practical nurse (LPN) and received a master of science in nursing (MSN) from ASU in 1992. Since ASU did not have a Family Nurse Practitioner program at that time, she attended another school for that Program.

She began working at Coast-to-Coast in 1999 as the clinic manager and nurse practitioner. The clinic, owned by a physician group, provided health care and Department of Transportation-related care to truck drivers.

Harrell was a registered nurse at Crittenden Regional Hospital in the emergency room before graduating from ASU with a master of science in nursing in the family nurse practitioner option in 2008. He completed part of his clinical requirements at Coast-to-Coast Medical with Shivers as his preceptor. Upon graduation, he began his practice as a nurse practitioner at the clinic. The clinic moved to a new location in 2008, and in 2009, Shivers and Harrell purchased the clinic. They continue to provide urgent health care and primary health care to the West Memphis community. The clinic is open from 8 a.m. to 8 .m. Monday-Friday and serves walk-ins with no scheduled appointments.

Marvin Alexander is a clinical social worker and transitional services coordinator at Mid-South Health Systems, Inc. He provides leadership and oversight to the transition-to-independence-process system. He also leads and oversees chapters of Youth MOVE Arkansas hosted by Mid-South.

He is a founding member and president of the Board of Directors for Youth MOVE National, Inc., a national youth and young adult-run organization devoted to improving services and systems designed to serve young people. He has received the Distinguished Service Award from ASU in 2006, <sup>3</sup>Spirit and Resiliency<sup>2</sup> recognition from the National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health in 2007, and the Young Adult Leadership award from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in 2008. In 2007, he

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was appointed to the SAMHSA National Advisory Council by U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Michael Leavitt.

Joanne Huck Roberts is a 2005 graduate of ASU with an associate degree in radiography and a 2007 magna cum laude graduate of the bachelor of sciences in radiologic sciences degree with an emphasis in diagnostic medical sonography.

Following graduation, she worked for two years, entering the master of imaging sciences program at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, where she became one of the first to graduate from the program and became the first person licensed by the Arkansas State Medical Board as a registered radiologist assistant (RRA).

She has notable research publications and was awarded the outstanding poster in the Virtual Poster Symposium category by the American Society of Radiologic Technologists in 2010.

Roberts is very active in the Jonesboro community, serving on the Board for the Jonesboro Young Professionals Network, a branch of the Jonesboro Chamber of Commerce, and the board for the Clopton Clinic Charitable Foundation. She is also active with the <sup>3</sup>Ride for the Cure<sup>2</sup> bike ride for breast cancer research, and she works with the Jingle Bell Run.

Brooke Runyan Craine graduated from ASU in 1999 with a bachelor's degree in physical therapy. Upon graduation, she worked in Fayetteville for two years before moving back to Jonesboro to specialize in pediatrics. She co-opened her business, Sensational Kids Pediatric Therapy, in 2006 and has served as a clinical instructor for 11 years.

Craine has found that sensory processing plays a large part in everyone's life, especially those with special needs. She focuses treatment on sensory regulation in conjunction with gross motor needs. She started Neat Energetic Athletes Kickball five years ago as a program for special needs children in the community to allow the children to be involved in a structured sport, to interact with peers, and to get cardiovascular exercise.

Patricia A. Jones-Greer is a 1982 ASU graduate. She earned her master's degree in speech pathology. She has served as a speech-language pathologist for developmental disabilities centers in northeast Arkansas prior to employment in the public school system.

She currently serves the speech-language needs of students at the Kindergarten Center in Jonesboro after working for nine years as a speech-language pathologist for the Cross County system. She worked for the Wynne Public Schools for seven years.

Jones-Greer has served as an adjunct clinical supervisor the ASU Department of Communication Disorders, as well as voluntarily supervising department graduate students in off-campus practicum settings. She has also completed Level 1 and 2 trainings in applied behavioral analysis at the Southwest Autism Research and Resource Center in Phoenix, Ariz.

Annette Bednar completed three degrees at ASU, including a bachelor of science in education degree in biology, a bachelor of science degree in medical technology (now called clinical laboratory science), and a master of science in education degree in biology. She was a member of the first medical technology class after ASU acquired the program.

Since graduating from ASU, Bednar has served the community in a variety of roles, beginning as a bench technologist at Doctors<sup>1</sup> Pathology Service, followed by blood bank section chief at St. Bernards Medical Center. For nearly 25 years, she served as director of

lab services for NEA Baptist Clinic, where she was responsible for oversight of 13 clinical laboratories.

In 2010, Bednar became an assistant professor of clinical laboratory science at ASU. She serves on numerous departmental and college-level committees while remaining active in professional laboratory organizations such as the Clinical Laboratory Management Association and the American Society for Clinical Pathology.

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