College of Nursing and Health Professions Cites Top Graduating Students during Convocation of Scholars

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JONESBORO -- The College of Nursing and Health Professions at Arkansas State University recognized its most outstanding graduating students during its annual Convocation of Scholars honors program, according to Dr. Susan Hanrahan, dean of the college.

Kimberly Clark of Beech Grove, a communication disorders major, was recognized as recipient of the Chancellor’s Scholar award for having the highest grade point average (4.0) in the college. Hannah Hulett of Swifton, Kathryn Locke of Bartlett, Tennessee, and Haley Townsend of Conway, all communication disorders majors, received the 4.0 Award. When more than one person has a 4.0, the Chancellor’s Scholar is the student who has completed the most credit hours.

Twenty-eight students were selected by faculty in the individual degree programs to receive the awards for outstanding achievement, leadership and service to their respective departments and degree programs, both in the classroom and in the clinical experience.

School of Nursing:
Award winners in the School of Nursing were: Carie Wells of Jonesboro, MSN, adult health nursing; Tasha Sykes-Kerr of Fayetteville, MSN, family nurse practitioner; Ashley Eishen of Cordova, Tennessee, MSN, nurse anesthesia; and Johnna Heern of Jonesboro, BSN, nursing.

Others were Latarius Ross of Memphis, AAS, nursing; Porscha Anderson of North Little Rock, AAS, nursing (traditional), ASU-Beebe site; Devin Hurst of Bald Knob, AAS, nursing (LPN to RN), ASU-Beebe site; Katherine Austin of Gepp, AAS, nursing, ASU-Mountain Home site; and Thomas O’Connor of Tyrone, AAS, nursing (traditional), West Memphis site; and Sondra Norman-Moore of Red Banks, Mississippi, AAS, nursing (LPN to RN), West Memphis site.

Dept. of Clinical Laboratory Sciences:
Award winners in the Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences and their respective degree programs were: Katherine Horn of Hughes, BS, clinical laboratory science; and Damir Hudek of Paragould, AAS, clinical laboratory science.

Dept. of Communication Disorders:
In the Department of Communication Disorders, the top students and their respective degree programs were: Hannah Hulett of Swifton and Haley Townsend of Conway, BS, communication disorders; and Morgan Caples Thrasher of Jonesboro, MCD, communication disorders.

Dept. of Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences:
The students recognized in the Department of Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences were: Kelsey Lewis of Hoxie, BSRS, diagnostic medical sonography; Tony Domino of Midnight, Mississippi, BSRS, radiation therapy; Michelle Cobb of Lake City, BSRS, magnetic resonance imaging; and Lindsey Bryant of Hayti, Missouri, AAS, radiologic technology.

Dept. of Physical Therapy:
The Department of Physical Therapy recognized two outstanding graduating students in their respective degree programs: Tim Clough of Little Rock, DPT, doctor of physical therapy; and Chrissy Bloesch of Searcy, AAS, physical therapist assistant.

Dept. of Social Work:
The award winners in the Department of Social Work were Hawley Blackburn of Paragould, BSW, social work; and Kimberly Jones of Jonesboro, MSW, social work.

Dietetics Program:
Tiffany Sterling of Jonesboro was named outstanding practicum student in the Bachelor of Science in Dietetics program.

Disaster Preparedness Program:
The Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management program recognized Patricia Hanes of Covina, California, as outstanding program intern in the Master of Science, disaster preparedness and emergency management program.

Special Awards:
Sara Weick of Pocahontas received the Beverly Bartels Undergraduate Nursing Service Award, Michele Bagby of White Hall received the Grace Whitis Nursing Student Service Award, and Katherine Horn of Hughes received the Donald Vollman Jr. MD Award.