

STATEside News



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

Fall 2015

Jonesboro, AR

STATEside News

UPDATES FROM BECK PRIDE CENTER

by Lynda Nash, Director

Community partnerships have been the focus of planning for the summer and fall of 2015. The Beck PRIDE Center hosted a community town hall meeting for Northeast Arkansas military veterans with the directors of the Memphis, TN and Little Rock, AR Veterans Administration (VA) Centers on June 26. Working relationships with the VA centers in Memphis, TN, Poplar Bluff, MO and Little Rock, AR are being expanded. A therapeutic combat support group is offered weekly at the BPC. A support group for caregivers of military veterans is being offered in the fall of 2015. Additional workshops for veterans and family members will be offered regarding education, estate planning and coping skills.

The third workshop in a community education series was offered on July 16 with 95 participants. The topic was Overmedication Issues with Veterans with PTSD and TBI. The next workshop will be on October 8 at the St. Bernards auditorium and the subject will be Substance Abuse. Participants included mental health providers and clergy in Northeast Arkansas. BPC staff work with the Northeast Arkansas Veterans Action clergy group (NEAVAC).

Presentations have been made to the local chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Rotary Club, and Exchange Club. Presentations regarding veteran's issues have been made to various classes at A-State. Lynda Nash also was a guest of the Disabled American Veteran's state service officer training in June.

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Dean's Corner

Well, I didn't get run over by the "fast" summer but it certainly did speed by. I hope you had a productive one. Wanted to first note we lost one of our cherished and faithful advisory board members over the summer, Gloria Nixon. She was a strong supporter and advocate for the college and a wonderful friend. Memorial donations have been made to the School of Nursing in her name. We will miss her smile and grace, and memorialize her as best we can. Our sympathy to her family.

Much has happened since the last newsletter. Our occupational therapy doctorate (OTD) and occupational therapy assistant (OTA) programs have each taken a class of 30 students for the fall semester. The OTA self-study for accreditation has been submitted, two additional faculty have been hired, laboratories have been built and equipped, and clinical site development continues to occur. There appears to be many opportunities for our faculty and students and we are excited to explore those options.

We are continuing to have discussions with the founding dean of the College of Medicine, NYIT at Arkansas State. Dr Barbara Ross-Lee is very interested in interprofessional and collaborative opportunities, and we are excited about these prospects.

Our Executive Council retreated this summer at the Stan Jones Mallard Lodge. Among the topics of discussion were conversations about the southern states listening groups hosted by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation around a "culture of health." It will be interesting to read their report and see what funding initiatives stem from this work. We also discussed a book that is making some headway in the

delivery of health care, "Being Mortal," written by Atul Gawande. It is recommended reading, not only to explore your own personal feelings about aging, death and dying, but also in understanding the "family" perspective when aging, death and dying arrives for a loved one. The book is very good "food for thought" (even for family conversations). These "end-of-life" topics will be more wholly integrated and threaded into our curriculums.

The last "MAJOR" news is our thanks and appreciation to Blue Cross and Blue Shield for their gift of \$250,000 for an Endowed Nursing Professorship in Rural Health. This will be an opportunity to more intimately focus on our work in rural health, which is perfect for where we live. We look forward to what this could mean for our academic curriculums, research collaboratives and service delivery initiatives. It is a privilege to be selected as one of their partners and we hope to continue to make a difference in this region and across the state.

Please continue to include us in your thoughts and conversations. We are excited about the academic year!

Susan Hanrahan, Dean

College of Nursing
& Health Professions
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COLLEGE NEWS

DR. STEPHEN GUFFEY, DR. SUSAN MOTTS, DEANNA BARYMON and AMBER WOOTEN had a paper titled, "Using Near Infrared Light to Manage Symptoms Associated with Restless Legs Syndrome" accepted for publication in *Physiotherapy Theory and Practice*, January 2016.

DR. SUSAN HANRAHAN received the Public Citizen of the Year award from the Arkansas Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers-NEA Branch.

PAM TOWERY, DR. ELIZABETH NIX and BILINDA NORMAN co-authored "Breakfast Blitz: An

Innovative Nutrition Education Program" that was published in *Dimensions Extra*, a supplement to *Dimensions of Early Childhood*, Volume 42, Number 3, 2014.

BEVERLY PARKER has been elected president of the Rotary Club of Jonesboro.

CLINICAL LAB SCIENCE

ANNETTE BEDNAR gave a presentation titled "A Survivor Toolkit for New Faculty Members," at the *Saitama University International Symposium for Empowering Early Career Researchers*, in Japan, March 27, 2015 and "Legislative Update" at the Arkansas Chapters of Clinical Laboratory Management Association/American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science 2015 Spring Conference, on April 17, 2015, in Little Rock, AR. Ms. Bednar was also elected for a two-year term as secretary for the American Society for Clinical Science. She also attended the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS)/American Society of Clinical Pathologists (ASCP)/Clinical Laboratory Management Association (CLMA) Legislative Symposium to learn about legislative issues affecting the laboratory, and to visit the offices of Sen. John Boozman, Sen. Tom Cotton and Rep. Rick Crawford to discuss these issues, on

March 16-17, in Washington, D.C. **MS. BEDNAR** was elected to receive the 2015 American Society of Clinical Pathologists (ASCP) Regional Member Award for the South Central Region, which will be presented at an awards ceremony held in conjunction with the Barbara M. Castleberry Lecture for Laboratory Professionals at the ASCP 2015 Annual Meeting in Long Beach, CA, October 28-30, 2015. The award recognizes her commitment to the profession through professional service and leadership.

BILL PAYNE was selected as an editorial board member for *EC Microbiology Journal*.

DR. STACY WALZ had a "Capsule Commentary on Kantor et al. Pending Studies at Hospital Discharge: A Pre-Post Analysis of an Electronic Medical Record Tool to Improve Communication at Hospital Discharge" published in the *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, 2015, DOI,

10.1007/s11606-014-3110-8. She gave poster presentations titled, "Predictive Value of Reverse Triiodothyronine in Diagnosis of Subclinical Hypothyroidism" and "Implementing Patient Safety into Medical Laboratory Science Curriculum" at the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science Annual Meeting & Clinical Expo on July 26-30, 2015, in Atlanta, GA. **DR. WALZ** gave presentations titled, "A Patient Safety Focus in the Laboratory" at the Spring Conference of the Arkansas Chapters of CLMA & ASCLS on April 26-30, 2015, in Atlanta, GA, and "The Laboratory's Involvement in Patient Safety" at the ASCLS - Wisconsin Annual Meeting in Appleton, WI. She was appointed to Centers for Disease Control & Prevention Laboratory Medicine Best Practice Workgroup, "Test Results Pending at Discharge," in March 2015, and elected president of the Arkansas Chapter of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science in August 2015.

COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

DR. CHRISTINA AKBARI presented a poster titled, "Persian Speakers of English: Acoustics of Vowel Epenthesis" at the Acoustical Society of America meeting, May 21, 2015 in Pittsburgh, PA.

SHANON BRANTLEY co-presented a panel session titled "Enhancing Well Being Through Integrative Leadership: Clustered Disadvantaged in the Arkansas Delta" at the Human Development & Capability Association: Multidisciplinary and People Centered 2015 on Sept 9-13, 2015 in Washington, D.C.

DR. JOY GOOD had a manuscript titled, "The Effects of Morphological Awareness Training on Reading, Spelling, and Vocabulary Skills" published in *Communication Disorders Quarterly*, Vol. 36, No.3 May 2015. She was also elected to serve as secretary for the executive board of the Arkansas Speech-Language Hearing Association through 2016.

DR. AMY SHOLLENBARGER presented "Dialect Variation and Phonological Representation of Final Consonant Clusters: Dual Systems or Lexical Quality?" at the ASHA Schools Conference in July, 2015, in Phoenix, AZ, and "First Grader's Awareness of Final Consonant Clusters" at the International Literacy Association (ILA), on July 18-20, 2015, in St. Louis, MO. Dr. Shollenbarger's dissertation was selected as a finalist for the 2014-2015 ILA Outstanding Dissertation of the Year and she presented her research at the ILA conference.

THE HEAD AND NECK CANCER PROGRAM conducted cancer screenings at Paragould Light Water and Cable on July 17, 2015.

DR. RICK NEELEY was asked to serve on a new Arkansas Department of Education task force, formed in response to the recent state legislation requiring the provision of dyslexia

intervention for public school students with reading challenges, representing the Arkansas Department of Higher Education and Arkansas State University. The Arkansas Department of Education formed the task force to develop the Dyslexia Resource Guide to assist public schools in the screening and intervention processes for serving their students. The Dyslexia Resource Guide was completed in June, 2015, and uploaded to the Arkansas Department of Education website for public comment on July 1, 2015 prior to being officially published for use in the public schools.

The 9th annual **JANE H. LEBLANC CONFERENCE IN COMMUNICATION DISORDERS** was held June 4-5 at A-State. The Speaker, Dr. Anthony Salvatore from the University of Texas at El Paso, discussed SLP's Role in the Diagnosis, Treatment, and Prevention of Sports-Related Concussion."

NUTRITIONAL SCIENCE

PAM TOWERY participated in the Dietetics Educators Panel at the Arkansas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Annual Meeting on Friday, April 24, 2015. The title of the discussion was "Changes in Dietetic Education." She, also, attended the 2015 ITTC Summer Institute

titled "How Blackboard Makes My Life Easier" where she participated in faculty panel sessions on June 23 and July 28, 2015.

Nutritional Science students and faculty volunteered at the 3rd annual Farm to Table event held at The Silos in Bono, AR, on July 23,

2015. This was a fundraising dinner and auction featuring local meats, produce and wines to benefit the ASU Regional Farmers' Market.

They also participated in Disaster Camp 2015, sponsored by DPEM, on July 20 - 24. Lessons and hands-on activities related to emergency

planning, food safety and nutrition were presented each day, along with healthy snacks for the seventh and eighth graders who attended the camp.

Nutritional Science students attended the Arkansas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Annual Meeting held at Arkansas Children's Hospital in Little Rock on Apr 23-24, 2015.

A new Nutrition Lab has been completed on the fourth floor of the E. Smith Building.

This area will serve as space for students enrolled in NS 3143 Basic Foods and NS 4443 Experimental Foods offered in the Nutritional Science program, among other classes and program usage. The room is equipped with five student kitchen units and a teacher island unit for hands on food preparation and instructional activities.



The Nutritional Science program's new lab space on the fourth floor of the E. Smith building.

NURSING

The Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing has granted continuing accreditation for the AASN, BSN and MSN programs, including the post-master's certificate, through Spring 2020.

LORI HAILEY has earned recognition as a Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator (CHSE) from the Society for Simulation in Healthcare. Hailey also made a poster presentation titled "Evolution of a Remediation Program to Facilitate Success for At-Risk Students" at Nuts and Bolts for Nurse Educators: From Critical Thinking to Clinical Reasoning on Aug 7-8, 2015 in Bloomington, MN.

JULIE ISAACSON was presented with the Chancellor's Exemplary Colleague Award at the May 2015 System Board meeting.

DR. BRINDA MCKINNEY will present an abstract titled, "Witnessing Domestic Violence Between Parents and the Teens Dating Relationships" at the 2015 Annual Meeting: Beyond Boundaries: Exploring the Emerging Dimensions of Sexual Science in Research, Education and Practice, on November 12-15, 2015 in Albuquerque, NM. She presented "To Discuss or Not To Discuss - Faculty Considerations for Content Mastery" and "Station Wiifm: Are Threaded Discussion Board Activities Really Worth the Effort?" at the 2015 Nurse Educator Institute, on April 15-17, in Branson, MO. Dr. McKinney also received a PhD in Health Sciences from Walden University. Her dissertation "Witnessing Parental Domestic Violence and Young Girls' Dating Relationships" was published in ProQuest, July 2015. In addition, Dr. McKinney was elected to serve as the

executive board secretary 2015-2016 for Northeast Arkansas Federal Credit Union and board vice-president for Mission Outreach of Northeast Arkansas 2015-2016.

RENEE MILLER presented a poster session titled "A Pilot Project: Predicting Student Success in an LPN - ADN Program - Use of the HESI LPN - ADN Entrance Exam for Admission" at the Midwest Leadership Institute for Nurse Educators/Deans and Directors in Branson, MO on June 15-16, 2015.

DR. LIBBY NIX presented "Using Simulation to Engage Students into a Culture of Safety in the Home Health Setting" at the National League for Nurses conference on Sept. 30- Oct 3, in Las Vegas, NV. She made a podium presentation titled "The Lived Experiences of African Americans Living with Hemodialysis" at the American Nephrology Nurses Association meeting on Apr 18-23, in Orlando, FL. She also presented "Innovative Teaching for the Next Generation of Nurses: An Introductory to the Wonderful World of Wound Care" at the 15th Annual Nurse Educator Institute in Branson, Mo; and "Using Technology for Classroom Presentations Means Endless Possibilities" at DUNEI 2014.

BELINDA NORMAN AND DR. LIBBY NIX presented a poster titled "Nursing Student Immersion: Into the Wonderful World of Diabetes Education and Foot Care" at the 30th Annual Clinical Conference on Diabetes in Orlando, FL.

DR. DEBBIE SHELTON gave a podium presentation titled, "Using the DNP Essentials to Generate Policy and Influence Health Outcomes" at the

8th National Doctors of Nursing Practice Conference on Sept. 16, 2015 in Seattle, WA.

DR. ANGELA SCHMIDT gave a poster presentation titled "Promoting Interprofessional Education in Nursing and Measuring the Outcomes" and **ANNETTE STACY** presented a poster titled "Connecting the Dots Using the HESI Admission Assessment: Student Selection, Remediation and NCLEX - RN Success" at the Midwest Leadership Institute for Nurse Educators/Deans and Directors on June 15-16, 2015, in Branson, MO.

DR. SUSIE SNELGROVE had a manuscript titled "Putting Them First: Strategies Developed by Certified Nursing Assistants to Prevent and Manage Resident-to-Resident Violence in Nursing Homes" accepted for publishing in The Gerontologist.

DR. LINDA TATE earned a PhD in Nursing Science from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. She received a second place award for her poster titled "Older Adults who Exercise Display Lower Temporal Discounting Rates than Non-Exercisers" at the Annual Nursing Research Conference of Sigma Theta Tau International on April 24, 2015 in Little Rock, AR. She also gave a poster presentation titled, "The Effect of Temporal Discounting on Exercise Behavior in Elders" at the same event.

DR. CHARLOTTE YOUNG has been selected to serve as an Honorary Editorial Board member of the Journal Nursing: Research and Reviews. She also presented, "Use of Technology and Complementary Therapy in Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder" for the Sigma Theta Tau Research Day.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

BRENT COX was appointed Chair of the Arkansas Community Preparedness Committee and co-chair for the same committee in FEMA Region VI covering Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, and New Mexico.

KEVIN McMASTERS was inducted into the Arkansas Firefighters Hall of Fame on June 28, 2015 in Hot Springs, AR.

FARMEDIC CLASSES for Migrant workers are being held throughout the state. Content related to farmers will be provided in both English and Spanish. Anyone interested in hosting these classes should contact Brent Cox at 680-8265 or brentcox@astate.edu.

DPEM has agreed to be a partner with **FEMA** over the next couple years to strengthen

communication and outreach regarding community resilience.

DISASTER LIFE SUPPORT classes are ongoing and registration is open to the public. For more information contact the DPEM office at 870-680-8286 or dpem@astate.edu.

RADIOLOGIC SCIENCE

KATHLEEN LORANCE was nominated for the STAR Distinguished Performance Award, and received recognition for 10 years of service to A-State.

DEANNA BARYMON has been selected to present a poster titled, *"Low Level Light Therapy vs. Traditional Exercises: Sonographic Assessment of the Median Nerve in Capal Tunnel Syndrome"* at the 2015 Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers Conference in Dallas, TX, on Oct 1-4.

DR. CHERYL DUBOSE and **AMBER WOOTEN** attended the American Society of Radiologic Technologists Leadership Academy for Educators on July 22 – 25, 2015, in Albuquerque, NM. The academy offers a unique opportunity to build a foundation of shared values and resources to ensure the continued success of the radiologic technology profession. Amber Wooten, assistant professor and program

director for Diagnostic Medical Sonography was one of only 20 educators nationwide selected to attend the academy. Cheryl DuBose, assistant professor and program director of the CT/MRI programs, attended the academy as a faculty mentor and president of the National Association of Collegiate Educators in Radiologic Technology.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

ERIC HICKS led a session titled *"Connecting OT and OTA Curriculum Through Community-Based Experiences"* at the 2015 AOTA Annual Conference and Expo on April 16-19, 2015, in Nashville, TN.

DR. TRACY MORRISON co-authored an article titled, *"The Issue Is – Performance-Based Testing in Mild Stroke: Identification of Unmet Opportunity for Occupational Therapy"* published in the American Journal of Occupational Therapy, Dec. 2014,

"Functional Sensibility Across the Lifespan: Measuring Change in Body Sensations" that was published in the American Journal of Occupational Therapy, April 2015, and *"Neurocognitive Disorders (NCDs): Interventions to Support Occupational Performance"* that was published in Neurorehabilitation in Occupational Therapy Series, Vol 4., AOTA Press. She also had an article titled *"Occupational Therapy, Enhanced Environments and the*

Aging Brain" published in the Arkansas Geriatrics Education Center Newsletter on August 4, 2015.

DR. MORRISON was an invited member of the American Occupational Therapy Association Functional Cognition Leadership Team and Impact Act Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services work group, August 26-29, in Washington, DC.

PHYSICAL THERAPY

DR. SHAWN DRAKE co-authored an article titled *"A Pilot Study on Development and Validation of a Swimmer's Functional Pain Scale"* that was published in the Journal of Swimming and Research, May 2015. Dr. Drake also served as a reviewer for an article submitted to the Journal of Strength and Conditioning.

DR. STEPHEN GUFFEY co-authored a paper titled *"Susceptibility of Trichopyton Mentagrophytes to Visible Light Wavelengths"* that is under review by Advances in Skin and Wound Care.

DR. SUSAN MOTTS gave a poster presentation titled *"Preferred Sense for Static Balance in People with Diabetes and Sensation Loss"* at

Neuroscience 2015 on October 20, 2015 in Chicago IL.

DR. CHRISTY PHILLIPS had an article titled *"The Link Between Physical Activity and Cognitive Dysfunction in Alzheimer Disease"* published in the journal Physical Therapy online, January 8, 2015.

SOCIAL WORK

KENYA DUNCAN presented the following to the DCFS workforce in Northeast Arkansas: *Preserving, Strengthening and Reunifying Families*, on May 19, and Jul 21, 2015; *"Maximizing Parent and Child Interaction During Supervised Visitation"*, on Jul 6, 2015; and *"SEA of Supervision in Child Welfare"* on May 21, 2014 at the Regional Title IV-E Conference in Galveston, TX.

KAREN FULLEN presented *"Child Welfare in the Delta: Transitional Youth at Risk"* at the A-State Social Work and Multi-Cultural Center annual Health Disparities Conference on Nov 12, 2014,

"Infusion of Child Welfare Curriculum Across University Disciplines" at the Southern Sociological and Social Science Association Conference in San Antonio, TX, on Apr 18, 2014 and *"Navigating the 'SEA' of Supervision in Child Welfare"* at the Regional Title IV-E Conference in Galveston, TX, on Apr 21, 2014.

NATALIE GATLIN presented *"Improving Child Welfare Communication Skills"* on Jun 23, 2015, *"Effective Interviewing, Assessment and Engagement"* on Mar 24, 2015; and *"Preparation for and Participation in Judicial Proceedings"* to the DCFS

workforce in Northeast AR on Sept 25, 2014.

TRISH HOLT presented *"Ethical Decision Making in Child Welfare"*, on Apr 17, 2015, and *"Improving Child Welfare Worker Communication Skills"*, on Oct 30, 2014; and *"Working with Families Affected by Domestic Violence"*, on Jul 21, 2014, to the DCFS workforce in Northeast Arkansas.

HOLT, DUNCAN and **GATLIN** also facilitated the training series, *"A Comprehensive and Compassionate Approach to Trauma Assessment"* on Sep 30, Oct 15 and Oct 30, 2014, for more than 110 DCFS workers and supervisors.

IN SYMPATHY:

DR. SUSAN HANRAHAN on the loss of her father, Raymond E. Noll.

DR. STEPHEN GUFFEY in the loss of his mother, Patricia Ann Wilkins Guffey.

DR. JULIE ISAACSON on the loss of her mother-in-law, Virginia Isaacson.

CONNIE RYAN on the loss of her mother,

Madge Lavern Osment Huskey.

LISA SCHAFFR on the loss of her husband, Joe Schafer

DR. PATRICIA WALLS on the loss of her brother, Lovelle (Bubba) Dean.

DR. NONIE WIGGINS on the loss of her father-in-law, Wayne M. Wiggins, Jr.

THE FAMILY OF MARSHA BOND, a 1994 graduate of the Associate of Science in Nursing program.

THE FAMILY OF JERRY NEUMEYER, a graduate of the Master of Science in Speech and Language Pathology program and an Outstanding Alumni award recipient.

GRANTS/CONTRACTS

DR. SUSAN HANRAHAN received a grant extension for \$217,368 for *"Beck PRIDE Center: An Effective Solution for Combat Injured Student Veterans"* from the Department of Defense.

DR. CHRISTINA AKBARI received a \$2,089 Provost's Faculty Development Award for her poster project titled *"Persian Speakers of English: Acoustics of Vowel Epenthesis."* She also submitted a research grant for \$10,000 to the American Speech and Hearing Foundation for her research project titled, *"Impact of Delayed Auditory Feedback and Melodic Intonation Therapy on Palilalia."*

ANNETTE BEDNAR received an \$1,187 Provost's Faculty Development Award for a project titled *"Survivor Kit for the New MLT/MLS Faculty Member."*

BRENT COX received a \$9,960 grant from the Agricultural Safety & Health Council of America for *"Sustainable FARMEDIC Training"*

for Agricultural Workers and First Responders in Arkansas: Decreasing Agricultural Accidents through Standardized Training." He also received a \$2,000 Faculty Research Award for the same project.

DR. BRINDA MCKINNEY submitted a \$4,980 grant proposal to Academic Partnerships for her project titled "Academic Partnerships: RN-BSN Program at A-State."

DR. DEBBIE PERSELL submitted a \$29,429 grant proposal to the National Institutes of Health for a project titled, "A-State PRESTO."

DR. CRISTY PHILLIPS submitted a \$73,000 two-year grant proposal titled *"The Relationship Between Physical Activity and Cognitive Function in Persons with Intellectual Disability: An Attempt to Develop New Biomarkers"* to the Arkansas Biosciences Institute.

DR. SUSIE SNELGROVE submitted a \$299,876 grant proposal to the Office on Violence Against Women for her project titled, *"The A-State BASIC Project."*

DR. KATHY WREN submitted a \$600,000 grant proposal to the Health Resources and Services Administration for continuation of the *"Nurse Anesthetist Traineeship Program."*

DR. JUNLIN ZHANG submitted a \$100,000 two-year grant proposal titled, *"Effect of Prenatal Citalopram Exposure on Rat Peripheral Serotonin System"* to the Arkansas Biosciences Institute.

TITLE IV-E ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIP IN PUBLIC CHILD WELFARE was awarded a \$482,082 grant for the fiscal year July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016.

WELCOME TO:

DR. KAREN AUL, assistant professor of nursing

DEBRA BREWER, assistant professor of nursing

JESSIE BRICKER, assistant professor of occupational therapy

JOANNA CUPP, temporary assistant professor of nutritional science

TAMMY DAFFRON, administrative specialist II, nursing, Mountain Home

DR. MARK FOSTER, assistant professor of nursing

LATOYA GREEN, DPT, instructor in PT

MARSHA JOHNSON, OTD assistant professor of occupational therapy

LAUREN JOHNSTON, assistant professor of nursing

DR. DENNIS KING, assistant professor of disaster preparedness and emergency management

CHERYL KNIGHT, temporary assistant professor of social work

DR. JODY LONG, assistant professor of social work

DR. JILL OSWAKS, associate professor of nursing

TAMARA PACE, temporary instructor of social work

ANGELA SMITH, assistant professor of nursing

GOODBYE TO:

DR. DARLENE BAKER, associate professor of nursing

DR. LORETTA BREWER, interim chair and professor of social work

DR. RICHARD FREER, grant PI for the Title IV-E Academic Partnership in Public Child Welfare

DR. REBECCA MATTHEWS, associate professor of nursing

DAVID SMITH, assistant professor of physical therapy

DR. NONIE WIGGINS, associate professor of nursing and faculty athletics representative



Two of four new occupational therapy labs that have been completed for the new OTA and OTD degree programs. The ADL lab (left) is for practicing daily living skills. The Media lab (right) is for skills such as sewing, crafts, splinting and anything that requires machines that use electricity.

STUDENT NEWS

SARA WEICK was featured in the May 2015 edition of Nursing Notes, an electronic newsletter sponsored by Johnson & Johnson. The article is titled, "Beyond the Classroom: Inspiring the Next Generation of Nurses."

KEAT H. TEOH was awarded the 2015 Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute scholarship award for \$1100.

LOGAN MEUER, a clinical laboratory science major, was selected to receive a \$2,500 Biotechnology Research Internship from ABI. Dr. Susan Motts is his faculty mentor for the research project.

Create@State Winners

Posters - Undergraduate

KATIE BLALACK - First place, Nursing, Psychology and Other Analytic Studies for her presentation titled, "Student Perceptions of the Challenges of Blood Glucose Regulations During the Freshman Year of College."

MICHELLE BAGBY - Second place, Nursing, Psychology and Other Analytic Studies for her presentation "Reviewing the Incidence of Unintended Pregnancies in Adult Women: Long-Acting Reversible Contraception Versus patient Counseling"

Posters - Graduate

COREY FELTS - First place, Graduate Nursing and Health Professions for his presentation titled "Quantification of Frequency, Magnitude and Direction of Impact Incurred by Adolescent Football Players."

Oral - Undergraduate

JOHNNA HEERN - First place, Psychology and Health

Sciences for her presentation titled, "Perceptions of Northeast Arkansas Hospice Nurses on Their Emotional Well-Being and Coping Interventions While Working with Death and Dying."

Oral - Graduate

MORGAN CAPLES THRASHER - 1st Place, Other Analytic Studies for her presentation titled "The Use of Speech -In-Noise Testing as a Measure of Hearing Aid Benefit."

PTA Graduate Makes Perfect Score on Licensing Exam



Mitch Frey

Mitch Frey, a graduate of Arkansas State University's class of 2015, scored a perfect 800 on the national physical therapy exam (NPTE). Frey is only the second A-State student to receive a perfect score; another 800 was turned in a year ago.

"I was surprised," Frey said about his success with the test. "I knew the PTA (physical therapist assistant) program prepared us well for the exam, and I felt I had reviewed and studied well for the exam. But, I didn't walk out of the exam thinking I had achieved that high of a score. Once the surprise had worn off, I was just really happy!"

Title IV-E Stipends

Four Social Work students received Title IV-E stipends last academic year. These 2015 A-State graduates; **BRADFORD GRAY**, **SUMMER CORKER**,

the Naval Medical Research Unit 3 (NAMRU-3) and tour the research facility in Cairo, Egypt. The unit has a biosafety level three biocontainment space and field and hospital study sites. They work closely with a host of world health organizations.

Beck PRIDE Center staff are involved in a veteran's court initiative in partnership with the second Judicial District; Memphis VA system; and Midsouth Health systems. Lynda Nash, Director, attended the historic double conference, the National Association of Drug Court Professionals and Justice for Vets conference in Washington D.C. in July. There was an opportunity to meet with Sen. John Boozman, Sen. Tom Cotton and Congress-man Rick Crawford to discuss the Beck PRIDE Center and veteran's issues. Senators Boozman and Cotton toured the Beck PRIDE Center this summer.

MEGAN PALMER and **KATIE WELLS**, have all begun employment with DCFS. A-State has been awarded four stipend slots for the 2015-2016 academic year and the selection process is underway.

Students Recognized at Honors Ceremony

The following students from the College of Nursing and Health Professions were honored on May 8, 2015 at the Cooper Alumni Center:

Graduating in University Honors

KATIE BLALACK, nursing (Magna Cum Laude)
TAYLOR CRAIG, nursing (Cum Laude)
JOHNNA HEERN, nursing (Cum Laude)

Graduating in Honors

SHAE BREWER, social work (Cum Laude)
ASHLEY DANIELS, nursing (Cum Laude)
ANGELA HAMMILL, nursing
KATHRYN KAMPHAUSEN, nursing (Magna Cum Laude)
ASHLEY ROBINSON, nursing (Magna Cum Laude)
SIERRA SCHEFFLER, medical imaging and radiation sciences (Cum Laude)
CORBIN WATSON, communication disorders (Cum Laude)
AMBER WEIGAND, nursing (Magna Cum Laude)

Earning an Honors Certificate

DEMETRI BRUNER, communication disorders
KARLEE PORTER, nursing
KRISTEN RATLIFF, nursing
LANCE WIGGINS, nursing

The Beck PRIDE Center held a back-to-school picnic for veterans and their families on Saturday, August 22, 2015, at the A-State pavilion. The A-State Student Veteran organization, with support by Kelly McCoy held elections and made plans for the upcoming year on campus.

Title IV-E Academic Partnership in Public Child Welfare

by Karen Fullen, PI and Program Director
 On July 1, the positions of PI and Program Director were merged into one position with Karen Fullen in that role. The IV-E Child Welfare contract with the Arkansas Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) was renewed on July 1. This is the 23rd year for this program, second oldest grant at A-State.

Beck PRIDE

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Beck PRIDE Center has supported educational opportunities for a master's level and bachelor's level social work intern; master's counseling intern; four VA work study students; two graduate assistants, and a summer intern from Arkansas Tech University working on her master's degree in the Department of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency and Management. A proposal was accepted from the Middle Eastern Studies Grant to support a proposal titled "Uniting Worlds: Service Learning Opportunities through International Experiences." Lynda Nash, accompanied three social work master's students with an interest in military culture and issues. The highlight of the research was an opportunity to meet and interview the military personnel of

Wiggins Retires

by Dr. Susan Hanrahan



Dr. Nonie Wiggins

Dr. Wynona "Nonie" Wiggins retired after 22 years at A-State. She came to us in 1991 in a part-time capacity, went back to clinical practice while earning her master's degree and returned in 1993, replacing the retiring Martha Caldwell.

She received her BSN from A-State, MSN from UT Memphis and in 2011 earned her EdD in Education Leadership from A-State. She earned tenure in 1998 and was promoted to Associate Professor in 2013. She is a Certified Nurse Educator. While in clinical practice at St Bernards she did a little of everything—one day surgery, labor and delivery, HR, CCU, marketing, education and cardiopulmonary.

At the university, she taught mostly BSN students including pathology based pharmacology and nursing care III, IV and VI. She published and presented nationally on a variety of topics mostly related to assessment and student learning. She was a reviewer/contributor for multiple academic texts.

Nonie accomplished many things in her service career. She was an ADLS and BDLS course instructor and provided the athletic department with innumerable services including service as the faculty athletic representative. This led her to additional work at the national level with the NCAA. She completed lots of activities for the Arkansas Nurses Association and Sigma Theta Tau. She was on innumerable search committees from volleyball to golf coaches, a chancellor, to compliance and academic coordinators. She was a member of the mascot review committee, NCAA self-study steering committee, faculty marshal and chair for the United Way Campaign for ASU among many, many other things on camps. Off campus she was very active with the "Growing Healthy Pig Heart and Lung Dissection in the Middle Schools" (a Junior Auxiliary project), on the A-State Alumni Board of Directors (chair-elect) and her work with P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization) International. She supported the Sun Belt Conference on a number of their committees. Understandably she is award winning. She was a distinguished alumna in our college (2008) and won the University award for Professional Service (2005), was a two-time award winner for service within the college (2003 and 2005) and received an award for nursing leadership from Sigma Theta Tau (2003).

Nonie hit the mark in all of the faculty role areas plus more. We were almost sorry Wayne retired followed by her becoming a grandma. She has been impactful to so many individuals and groups and those differences will remain forever. Special thanks and congratulations!

OT Update

by Dr. Tracy Morrison

Dr. Tracy Morrison is the founding chair of the A-State occupational therapy department. There are two degree program levels within the department. One provides doctoral-level education through the Doctorate in Occupational Therapy (OTD) and the other is associate-level education through the Occupational Therapy Associate Degree (OTA). Eric Hicks serves as the director of the OTA program alongside Jessie Bricker, the academic fieldwork coordinator for the OTA program. Dr. Morrison directs the OTD program alongside Marsha Johnson, OTD, the academic fieldwork coordinator for the OTD program. The OTD program recently welcomed Dr. Brandi Steele and Dr. Pamela Kipkulei in the role of adjunct instructors.

This summer, both the OTD and OTA programs were granted candidacy by the national OT accrediting body. The OTA will receive its accreditation site visit in January, 2016. Both programs have accepted 30 students for the 2015 fall semester. Recently, a space in the Smith building was renovated with new OT labs that provide cutting-edge technology and learning environments for student learners. Additionally, the A-State OT program has a wide range of field experiences developed specifically for the dynamic integration of classroom knowledge with clinical application.

BREWER RETIRES

by Dean Hanrahan



Dr. Loretta Brewer

Dr. Loretta Brewer came to A-State in 2001 as an assistant professor of social work, was promoted to associate professor in 2006 and full professor in 2011. Her BSW and MSW are from Western Michigan and her Ph.D. is from Michigan State. She did so much in her relatively short time here, I hope I can capture the essence of it.

Her scholarship has been strong-- She won the College Scholarship Award in 2004 and had publications in international journals, as well

as presentations to national and international audiences. For sure she has gone to Japan, Italy and South Korea—I may be missing others. Her work has primarily been on aging, spirituality and a new term I have just learned—gero-transcendence. She had received a number of small research awards, was good in working on our interdisciplinary research teams and had been a manuscript reviewer for the Journal of Gerontological Social Work, Journal of Social Work Research, the Canadian Journal on Aging.

In teaching she was also strong—won the College Teaching Award in 2009. She taught both undergrad and grad students. She advised a large number of students and student organizations—National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Phi Alpha Social Work Honor Society and Missionary Baptist Student Fellowship. She was selected to participate in the CSWE Gero-Ed Curriculum Development Institute (nationwide selection) and was so instrumental in our work for the MSW curriculum.

She completed service too—notably, a faculty senator, on the university PRT committee and lots of work with the COA-NE. She holds professional memberships in the national and international association of SW. She has received a lifetime achievement award from the National Association of Social Workers, Northeast Arkansas Branch and Social Worker of the Year Award from that same group.

Dr. Brewer was an interim chair (twice), coming into very difficult situations with lots of personnel and accreditation work to do on top of team and morale building—and she did it in her usual way, quiet and confident. Much of the MSW success can be attributed to the Dick Freer/Loretta Brewer team and now the Larry Morton/Loretta Brewer team. I know she is well regarded by her faculty, this region, our executive team and in the circles where she spends time. She has incredible organizational abilities and I am glad she was not adverse to "cleaning up messes." I/we will absolutely miss her—she has been the rock—solid and stable but I think has left a very good team in her stead. Thank you, Dr. Brewer, - enjoy your time away. I know it will be filled with family. Come back and see us!

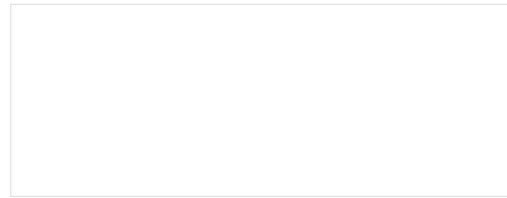
UPCOMING BILLY JOE AND BETTY ANN EMERSON GRIEF SEMINAR

The Billy Joe and Betty Ann Emerson Grief Seminar will be held on Monday, May 23, 2016, at the A-State Fowler Center. The speaker will be Darcy Harris, Ph.D., FT, associate professor/thanatology coordinator, Department of Interdisciplinary Programs, King's University College at Western University.



ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

College of
Nursing & Health Professions
PO Box 910, State University, AR 72467



Fall 2015

Schedule of Events	
August 24	Fall 2015 Classes Begin
September 7	Labor Day Holiday
October 3, 2:00	Homecoming Open House and Distinguished Alumni Ceremony
October 27	Flu Shot Clinic, Red Wolf Center - Lobby
November 11	3rd Annual Health Disparities Conference
November 23-28	Fall Break and Thanksgiving Holiday
December 7	Last Day of Class
December 12	Commencement (ASU Jonesboro)
January 19	Spring 2016 Classes Begin
May 23, 2016	Billy Joe and Betty Ann Emerson Grief Seminar, Fowler Center

SCHOOL OF NURSING RANKED 9TH

Nurse Journal has ranked the School of Nursing at Arkansas State University Ninth on America's Best Nursing Schools & Colleges 2015 in the Eastern region of the US, followed by ARTech in 12th, UALR in 27th,



UCA in 51st, UAMS in 68th, UAF in 70th, and Henderston State in 82nd. To determine their rankings, they evaluated 1,189 schools and selected 20 metrics, sorting them into five categories: quality, affordability, convenience, satisfaction and value.

FLU SHOT CLINIC

There will be a walk-in flu shot clinic on October 27, 2015, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in

the lobby of the Red Wolf Center. There is no charge. However, you need to bring your insurance card.

HOMECOMING OPEN HOUSE AND DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI CEREMONY

Join us on October 3 at 2 p.m. in the Donald W. Reynolds Center for Health Sciences for our annual Homecoming Open House and Distinguished Alumni ceremony.