

# STATEside News



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

Fall 2016

Jonesboro, AR

STATEside News



Arkansas consistently ranks as one of the most unhealthy states in the nation. Here in Jonesboro, we have the sixth highest obesity rate (37.2 percent) in the U.S. Increasing physical activity is one solution to this problem. Regular physical activity reduces the risk of certain types of cancer, cardiovascular disease and leads to higher academic performance in children and adults. As an academic institution, we strive for high academic achievements, which is why all faculty, staff, students and alumni need to be involved in the Exercise is Medicine (EIM) group.

Shawn Drake, PT, PhD, is spearheading an EIM group on the A-State campus this fall. The goal is to increase physical activity in faculty, staff, students and alumni. All students using the A-State Student Health Center will be assessed for physical activity as a vital sign—just like blood pressure and heart rate. Students that do not meet the minimum physical activity guidelines can receive a referral to an exercise professional through the Red Wolf Center. Students referred to the EIM program will receive an exercise prescription and the ability to track their progress through the EIM program. Faculty and staff have opportunities on campus to begin an exercise program through the A-State Faculty and Staff Wellness Programs. Faculty and staff that are unsure of how to start an exercise program can contact Dr. Drake at [sdrake@astate.edu](mailto:sdrake@astate.edu) to schedule a consultation and receive an exercise prescription specifically tailored to the individual's needs.

Dr. Drake started a FitBit Community called Northeast Arkansas EIM. If you are a FitBit user or plan to be a FitBit user, we want you to join our community. Any faculty, staff, student or alum

*cont. on p. 7*



ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

College of  
Nursing & Health Professions

## Dean's Corner

So many significant things have transpired this summer and I am pleased to share those with you. Two projects involve our Disaster Preparedness Emergency Management Program. The faculty has developed two new programs in Emergency Medical Technician and Paramedic that have been approved by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Council. The second involves the opportunity to build a training center for disasters. In this newsletter edition, you will find articles that discuss both of these initiatives in much more detail.

Suffice it to say however, the opportunities for education and training in emergency medicine continue to advance in our region. Our DPEM faculty have been very visionary and aggressive in their focus. This is becoming a fabulous continuum of education for those in and related to the field.

We have added many new faculty and staff to our college this fall. You will see quite a few new names and others who have left secondary to retirement or new career opportunities. In addition, I want to note and thank Dr. Rick Neeley who has stepped down as chair of Communication Disorders and resumed a full time faculty role. Dr. Amy Shollenbarger has stepped in as interim chair. We certainly want to thank both of them for their willingness to lead and serve our college. With the retirements of Dr. Angie Schmidt and Annette Stacy, Dr. Jill Oswaks will serve as chair of Graduate Programs and School of Nursing administrator and Renee Miller will assume the role of chair, Undergraduate Programs in Nursing.

These are expanded roles for both of these ladies. We look forward to their established leadership.

The college continues to focus on and thread interprofessional education, multicultural, health literacy, population health, soft skills, business principles and rural health throughout its professional curriculums. The executive team paid special attention to the "culture of health" this summer, discussing potential college initiatives related to "exercise is medicine" and Healthy Active Arkansas. We also spent time on the Social Determinants of Health reviewing frameworks, epianalyses and metrics that would be of value in our teaching, scholarship and service delivery. Three faculty, Dr. Shawn Drake, Dr. Debbie Shelton and Dr. Tracy Morrison have submitted grants around these subject areas.

We have some new curricula we will be moving forward this fall—Doctorate of Nursing Practice, Nurse Anesthesia and an entry-level Masters in Athletic Training.

I am looking forward to another active and productive year. "Active" will be the operational word in keeping with the spirit of Healthy Active Arkansas. "Exercise is Medicine."

Susan Hanrahan, Dean

College of Nursing  
& Health Professions  
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## COLLEGE NEWS

**DR. DEBORAH PERSELL & DR. ANGELA SCHMIDT**, coauthored a paper titled, "*Interprofessional Education in Disaster Preparedness*." Dr. Persell presented the paper at the Fourth International Conference on Healthcare System Preparedness and Response to Emergencies and Disasters, on Jan. 10-13, in Tel Aviv, Israel.

**DEANNA HARRIS** was nominated for the STAR Distinguished Performance Award-2016.

**DR. STACY WALZ**, CLS, will serve in a part-time role as assistant dean for special projects in CNHP. She has also been appointed chair of

## COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

**DR. CHRISTINA AKBARI** gave a poster presentation with publication in the conference proceedings titled, "*Prosodic Characteristics of American English in School-Age Children*" at Speech Prosidy 2016, in Boston, MA, on May 31-Jun. 3.

The CD Department and the NSSLHA held the 10th Annual Jane H. LeBlanc Conference in Communication Disorders on Jun. 2-3, 2016. The conference provided 10 hours of contin-

uing education, focused on "Feeding and Swallowing Issues Across the Lifespan."

**DR. AMY SHOLLENBARGER** presented a session titled "Let's Eat! Feeding and Swallowing in the School-Age Population" and **SHANON BRANTLEY** presented sessions titled "Adult Dysphagia in Complex Populations" and "Fiber Optic Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing (FEES)."

**DR. AMY SHOLLENBARGER, SHANON BRANTLEY** and

an article titled "*Using Near Infrared Light to Manage Symptoms Associated with Restless Legs Syndrome*" published in *Physiotherapy Theory and Practice*, Jan. 12, 2016.

**DR. SUSAN MOTTS, DR. STEPHEN GUFFEY, BILL PAYNE, PAM TOWERY, TODD HOBSON, GRAFTON HARRELL, LOGAN MEURER and KATIE LANCASTER** coauthored an article titled, "*The Use of 405nm and 464nm Blue Light to Inhibit Listeria Monocytogenes in Ready-to-Eat Meat*" that was published in *European Journal of Academic Essays*, 2(1): 76-80. Jan. 2016.

**ARIANNE PAIT** had a paper titled "*The Importance of Social Skills in the Clinical Setting*" accepted for presentation at the 2016 Arkansas Speech-Language-Hearing Association Annual Convention, on Oct. 12-14, 2016 in Hot Springs.

**AMBER LINDLEY** and **DR. AMY SHOLLENBARGER** are presenting "*Stuttering and the Effects of Mindfulness Training*" at the ASHA convention in Philadelphia, PA, on Nov. 17-19, 2016.

## DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

**DR. DEBBIE PERSELL** was the keynote speaker for the 2016 Cities Readiness Initiative Conference speaking on "*Trending Public Health Preparedness*" on May 19, 2016, in Ferndale. On Jun. 4, 2016, **DR. PERSELL** presented, "*Utilization of*

*Emergency Management Research Literature*" at the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, MD. She also moderated a panel session titled "*Learning How to Structure and Manage Graduate Level Programs*" at the 18th

Annual Emergency Management Higher Education Symposium on Jun. 8, 2016, where she presented a session titled, "*Financial Accountability and Fiscal Responsibility in Emergency Management Higher Education*."

## RADIOLOGIC SCIENCE

**DEANNA BARYMON** was elected to the 2016 nominating committee of the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography.

**CHERYL DUBOSE** had a manuscript titled "*But I*

*don't Understand You: One Faculty's Observations of the Challenges Facing International Healthcare Students*" accepted for publication in the *Journal of International Students*.

**TRACY WHITE** was featured as one of the "15 Professors of Radiation Therapy to Know" by *MedicalTechnologySchools.com*. There are 73 accredited radiation therapy programs, so this is a kudos to her accomplishments.

## NURSING

**BRENDA ANDERSON** gave a poster presentation titled, "*LPN to BSN Transition - Enhancing Learning and Building Confidence*" at the Drexel University EDU-SIM Conference - Transforming the Educational Landscape: Simulation, Innovation and Technology, on March 13-15, 2016, in Clearwater Beach, FL.

**DR. KAREN AUL** gave a podium presentation titled, "*Who's Bullying Who? Perceptions of Incivility in Pre-Licensure Nursing Programs*" on Apr. 4, 2016 at the 25th Annual Nursing Excellence in Research and Practice conference for the Pi Theta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing in Fayetteville.

**DR. CHRISTIE BLACK** earned a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from A-State.

**DR. KAREN AUL** presented, "*Are You New Too? Effective Acculturation of Nursing Faculty*," **TERESA**

**FISHER** presented, "*A Response to AACN's Projected Wave of Faculty Retirement: Orienting the Expert Clinician Who Is Now a Novice Nurse Educator*," **MELANIE MATA** presented a poster titled, "*Using Simulation in a Rural Pediatric Setting: Is It Effective?*" and **DR. PAIGE WIMBERLEY** presented "*A Pilot Study of the Use of Interviews for Admission to a Second Degree Accelerated BSN*" at the 15th Annual Midwest Leadership Institute for Nurse Educators/Deans and Directors in Branson, MO, June 13-14.

**DR. BRINDA MCKINNEY** has been selected to present a poster titled "*Exploring the Benefits of Program Wide Discussion Board Grading Rubrics*" at the 2016 Teaching Professor Technology Conference, on Sep. 30 - Oct. 2, in Atlanta, GA.

**DR. LILBY NIX** presented, "*Integrating HESI Case Studies into Community Practicum*" at the

Ripped from the Headlines: What's New in the World of Pharmacology conference, on July 20-22, in Las Vegas, NV. She presented posters titled, "*Windshield Surveys: A New Twist on an Old Assignment Using Technology*" at the Drexel University Nurse Educator Institute, March 14-15, 2016, in Clearwater, FL and "*Community Health Goes to the Movies: Fact or Fiction*" at the Nurse Educator Institute on April 12-15, 2016 in Branson, MO. Dr. Nix was appointed to the liaison committee by the National Certification Board for Diabetes Educators, reappointed as a national auditor for the American Diabetes Association, and received continued recognition for the Diabetes Self-Management Program by the American Diabetes Association, Diabetes Self-Management Training Program for three years.

## NUTRITIONAL SCIENCE

**PAM TOWERY** presented "Everyday Strategies for Formative Assessment" at the A-State Faculty Center's Teaching & Learning Talks and a two-hour breakout session titled "One Sip at a Time: Safe Foods and Liquids for Swallowing" at the 10th Annual Jane H. LeBlanc Conference in Communication Disorders, Jun. 2-3, 2016, at A-State. The Nutritional Science Program completed a

Self-Study Report in December 2015, in preparation for an accreditation site visit on March 13-15, 2016. The recommendation for seven-year, full-accreditation status will be presented to the ACEND board in January 2017.

**JOANNA CUPP, PAM TOWERY** and 18 dietetics students attended the Arkansas Academy of

Nutrition & Dietetics Annual Meeting in Little Rock on April 28-29, 2016, where they led a stretch break on the first day of the conference.

**PAM TOWERY** participated, with Vollman Faculty Award Funds, in the "Learn to Diagnose Malnutrition" and "Building Critical Skills in Clinical Nutrition" workshops held at Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio, on June 10, 2016.

## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

The first class of students graduated from the **OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM** on Aug. 5, 2016. Twenty-nine students earned the first ever A-State Associate of Applied Science in Occupational Therapy Assistant degree. We

are extremely proud of them, and look forward to hearing of their accomplishments!

**DR. M. TRACY MORRISON** discussed "Function; Cognition: Promoting OTs Distinct Role and

Value in Practice and Policy," as an invited speaker at the 2016 American Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference & Expo on Apr. 7-10, 2016, in Philadelphia, PA.

## PHYSICAL THERAPY

**DR. ROY ALDRIDGE** had a manuscript titled, "The Effects of Hippotherapy on Motor Performance in Veterans with Disabilities: A Case Report" accepted for publication in the Journal of Military and Veterans' Health.

**DR. SHAWN DRAKE** presented "Achieving American Geriatric Society Competencies in the Care of Older Adults Using an Interprofessional/

Multidisciplinary, Service-Learning Model" and **BECKY KEITH** presented, "The Impact of Reading Comprehension on Physical Therapist Assistant Education" at the 2016 Education Leadership Conference on Oct. 7-9, in Phoenix, AZ.

**STACY SLOAS** presented a poster session titled, "Healthcare Faculty and Student Perceptions of Physical Therapy," coauthored by Kristie Vinson,

at the Combined Sections Meeting of the American Physical Therapy Association, on February 17-20, 2016, in Anaheim, CA.

**DR. SHAWN DRAKE** was awarded the 2016 Phillips 66 Volunteer of the Year Award for her service as General Chair on the Board of Directors for Arkansas Swimming.

## SOCIAL WORK

**KENYA DUNCAN** presented "Improving Worker Communication Skills" on Apr. 21, 2016; **NATALIE GATLIN** presented "Preserve, Strengthen and Reunify Families" on May 19, 2016; and **TRISH HOLT** presented "Case Plan Development Utilizing CANS/FAST Information," on March 24, 2016, to DCFS workers in Jonesboro.

**KENYA DUNCAN** presented "Effects of Trauma with Adults Abused as Children," **NATALIE GATLIN** presented "How Secondary Trauma Affects Helping Professionals" and **TRISH HOLT** presented "Ethical Social Work Practice with the LGBTQ Community"

on Mar 9, 2016 at the Annual Spring Social Work Conference: Cultural Competence: Beyond Race, in Jonesboro.

**DR. JODY LONG** presented "Making Positive Behavioral Life Changes" at a health fair in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Sports Science on Apr. 6, 2016; "Clinical Diagnosis and Treatment" at the Clinical Instructors' Seminar on Apr. 8, 2016; "Making Behavioral Changes to Improve Heart Health" at the Kiwanis Club, in Jonesboro, on Apr. 27, 2016, and "Geriatrics and Making Healthy Choices" at St.

Bernards Total Life Healthcare on May 5, 2016.

**DR. EVI TAYLOR** and **DR. PATRICIA GUY-WALLS** presented "The Impact of Stereotypes on African American Males" at the National Association of Social Workers National Conference in Washington D.C. on June 24, 2016.

**DR. PATRICIA WILKERSON** presented an educational forum titled "Older Caregivers of Children with Incarcerated Parents in the Delta" at the National Association of Black Social Workers Conference, on March 22 - 26, 2016, in New Orleans, LA.

## GRANTS/CONTRACTS

**DR. CHRISTINA AKBARI** submitted a \$9,602 grant proposal titled "A Community-Based Service-Learning Project to Promote Increased Language and Literacy Development in Hispanic Children in Northeast Arkansas" to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

**DR. SHAWN DRAKE, DR. M. TRACY MORRISON** and **MICHAEL BOWMAN** submitted a \$149,025 grant proposal to The Blue & You Foundation for their

project titled, "Healthy Lifestyles in Northeast Arkansas Using Media Strategies".

**KAREN FULLEN**, PI and program director for the **TITLE IV-E ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIP IN PUBLIC CHILD WELFARE**, and the IV-E team received a renewed contract with the University of Arkansas and Arkansas Division of Children and Family Services in the amount of \$482,460.

**DR. TRACY MORRISON** submitted a \$148,534

grant proposal to the Blue & You Foundation for her project titled "A Preventive Health Service for Community-Dwelling Adults 65 Years and Older.

**DR. DEBBIE SHELTON** submitted a \$149,963 grant application to The Blue & You Foundation for her project titled, "Red County Health Initiative Project."

**AMBER WOOTEN** submitted a \$41,864 grant proposal titled, "Acquisition of Sonography Machine" to the Kays Foundation.

## IN SYMPATHY:

**DIANA FULLER** on loss of her father, Martin Zern

**CATHY HALL** on loss of her father, Russell H. Patton, Jr.

**DR. SUSAN HANRAHAN** on loss of her

mother-in-law, Lois Calkins.

**THE FAMILY OF CYNTHIA "CINDY" MATTHEWS**, 1993 graduate, Master of Science in Nursing.

**THE FAMILY OF DR. EMILIO PEREZ**, professor

emeritus of communication disorders.

**THE FAMILY OF ELIZABETH SHANEYFELT-AKIN**, 1973 graduate, Associate of Science in Nursing, and 1995 graduate, Master of Science in Nursing.

## GOOD-BYE TO:

**ERIC HICKS**, assistant professor of Occupational Therapy

**DR. BRAD HOLLOWAY**, Assistant Professor of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management

**JULIE ISAACSON**, associate professor of Nursing (retirement)

**DR. DENNIS KING**, assistant professor of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management

**VALERIE LONG**, Health Professions adviser

**KATHLEEN LORANCE**, admin specialist II, Clinical Laboratory Sciences and Medical Imaging and

Radiation Sciences (retirement)

**CARLA MCCAIN**, admin specialist II, Nursing

**DR. KAREN OLSON**, temporary assistant professor of Nursing

**BEVERLY PARKER**, assistant professor of Health Studies

**GAIL RASBERRY**, admin specialist II, Communication Disorders

**CONNIE RYAN**, pre-professional adviser, Social Work

**KARNILLA SCHINGOETHE-LEE**, assistant professor of Social Work

**DR. ANGIE SCHMIDT**, associate dean and professor of Nursing (retirement)

**MICHAEL SMITH**, assistant professor of Nursing, Beebe

**ANNETTE STACY**, associate professor of Nursing (retirement)

**DR. LINDA TATE**, assistant professor of Nursing

**NIKKI WINN**, admin specialist II, Social Work

**DR. TIM WREN**, assistant professor of Nursing

**DR. CHARLOTTE YOUNG**, professor of Nursing (Retirement)

## WELCOME TO:

**JOHNNA BOGGS**, instructor of Nursing

**JESSICA CAMP**, assistant professor of Nursing

**JAMEIKA HEARN**, admin specialist II, Communication Disorders

**RHONDA HOLCOMB**, assistant professor of Health Studies

**MOLLY MANNING**, assistant professor of Nursing

**ADDIE KORTAN**, instructor of Nursing

**JOCELYN MARTIN**, assistant professor of Social Work

**CAROLYN MATHIS**, assistant professor of Nursing

**AMANDA MOHLER**, assistant professor of Occupational Therapy

**RANDALL MURRAY**, pre-professional adviser, Social Work

**VIKTORIYA PLESHKAN**, assistant professor of Nursing

**KELLY SABIN**, admin specialist II, Medical Imaging and Radiologic Sciences and Clinical Laboratory Sciences

**ROBIN THOMPSON**, admin specialist II, Nursing

**ELIZABETH TODAK**, assistant professor of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management

**KAYLA TRAVIS**, instructor of Nursing

**SARA WALKER**, assistant professor of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management

## SCHMIDT RETIRES

by Dr. Susan Hanrahan, Dean



Angie first came to A-State in August of 1981 and stayed until 1999. She worked as an Instructor followed by a tenured assistant professor of Nursing. She earned her BSN from A-State in 1977, her MSN from UAMS in

1988 and her PhD in Health Studies, Nursing in 2009. When she left us she became the director of Business Development for HealthSouth in Jonesboro and then became an assistant administrator for Health South in Memphis. When she left A-State, I told her I wanted her to come back some day and she did in 2006. She has pretty much held administrative roles since that time including MSN-Adult Health coordinator, MSN program director, nurse administrator School of Nursing and associate dean College of Nursing and Health Professions.

She was hired back to A-State as an associate professor, re-tenured in 2011 and became full professor in 2015. She has been teaching in the graduate nursing program in areas like finance, leadership, policy, quality assurance, etc. She has been a college leader in Alzheimers/dementia, health literacy, interprofessional

education, chronic disease and aging. She has also done exceptional work to support curriculum development toward degree programs such as the Doctorate of Nursing Practice, Certificate in Informatics, BS in Health Studies and our most recent OTA and OTD curriculums. She is very well published, is a multiple grant recipient (\$250,000+) and does about everything else in scholarship you can do. Because of that, one of her college roles was our leader and resource person for college scholarship. Her services were sought by external groups for grants, contracts and other activities.

Her service includes an array of things but particularly teaching Chronic Disease Self-Management courses to the community, chairing the Graduate Council, involvement with Southern Nursing Research Society, has chaired almost every committee in the School of Nursing and served on the college Executive Council. She had involvement with the Association of Rehabilitation Nursing, National League for Nursing and Sigma Theta Tau, Eta Theta Chapter. She was the consummate mentor—for students, faculty and for individuals on our research team.

My best descriptors for Angie, beside the ones I have already mentioned, are hard working, visionary, respectful of everyone, great at troubleshooting/problem solving, an excellent confidant, tremendous at leadership and possesses the integrity, values and ethics we

all aspire to. I want to especially thank her for her support of me and her tireless work on behalf of the college. I am glad she is staying in town!!

## NEW ULTRASOUND MACHINES FOR SONOGRAPHY PROGRAM

By Ray Winters, Chair  
Medical Imaging & Radiation Sciences

Thanks to a generous grant from the Dean, the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program recently received four new, state-of-the-art General Electric Sonography machines. These new machines will not only produce better diagnostic images than our old machines, but will allow students and faculty to explore research opportunities they previously couldn't. The new machines also have the capabilities to do "elastography," which is a method of differentiating the composition of masses found during a scan.

The machines are also capable of producing both 3-D and 4-D images and are much more ergonomically designed. Faculty members Amber Wooten and Deanna Barymon are very excited about the new machines and believe this purchase places A-State at the forefront of sonographic education. "We are so excited to have these new machines. Our students and ultimately our clinical sites will be better served because of these," says Deanna Barymon, clinical coordinator of DMS.

## UPDATES FROM THE BECK PRIDE CENTER

by Lynda Nash, Director

Employment partnerships were the focus of plans for the summer and fall of 2016. The Beck PRIDE Center for America's Wounded Veterans (BPC) is working with local employers to facilitate employment for graduates. Two presentations have been made to the staff and social workers with the Memphis VA Health System regarding opportunities and services available to veterans in the Northeast Arkansas region. A therapeutic combat support group is offered weekly at the BPC. A support group for caregivers of military veterans will be offered in the fall of 2016. A financial planning workshop will be offered twice this fall for veterans and spouses.

A workshop in a community-education series was offered on Jul. 29. The topic was Improving Success in Addiction Treatment by Todd Clements, M.D. Participants included mental health providers and clergy in Northeast AR. The staff work with the Northeast Arkansas Veterans Action clergy group to coordinate services for veterans in the area between various providers.

Veterans continue to do well educationally. Beck PRIDE Center has supported educational opportunities for a master's and bachelor's level social work intern; master's counseling intern; four VA work study students; two graduate assistants, and a fall intern from the Univ. of Arkansas Rehab Counseling Program. A second Occupational Therapy student intern will be placed in October, 2016.

A proposal was accepted from the Middle Eastern Studies Grant for Lynda Nash, BPC director, Randall Murray, Master's in Social Work, and David Barrera, Master's in Counseling, to visit Israel in May. This research trip provided an opportunity to meet and interview the personnel associated with military treatment

programs. The Bob Shapell School of Social Work, Tel Aviv University, offers a one-year graduate certificate in Crisis and Trauma Counseling with an emphasis on military personnel. The Hebrew University in Jerusalem provides opportunities for group counseling of combat units. This program was developed as the result of one of their own graduate student's experiences. They also visited the Beit Halochem Center in Jerusalem, which offers individual, group and treatment programs including physical therapy, art therapy and a host of programs for veterans and family members. Since all Israeli citizens serve in the military, there was frequent contact with active military throughout the country.

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. Mentors for the program have been recruited from the Beck PRIDE Center and the first two graduates have successfully completed the program. Mentors have completed national certification training. Lynda Nash was invited to serve on the regional planning meeting for services to Armed Forces by the American Red Cross in Tulsa, OK in June.

The A-State Student Veteran Organization was awarded a \$10,000 Home Depot scholarship that will be used to update the Day Room and purchase supplies. William Crowder, BPC participant, was the grant winner of 3M Collision Repair Solutions Hire Our Heroes tool grant. He received \$1500 in tools and is eligible for another \$2,500 in tools. He completed the Collision Repair and Auto Mechanics program at Marked Tree. Daniel Smith, BPC participant, placed first for Decision Making and Financial Analysis in the National Competition for Business and first in the Phi Beta Lambda State competition for business.

A Memorial Roping for Spc. Steven Tyler Redmon was held at the A-State Equine

Center on Memorial Day. The proceeds were donated to the Beck PRIDE Center.

Veteran's Service Officers will be available for veterans to discuss disability claims and benefits on Aug. 29, 2016, from the Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs (ADVA). The service day is sponsored by ADVA and BPC.

## SOCIAL WORK HOLDS LICENSURE EXAM PREPARATION SEMINAR

By Patricia Wilkerson

To provide students with more opportunity to prepare for the license exam, the Social Work Department held their first licensure exam preparation training on July 15-16, 2016, with 15 attendees. During the seminar, Drs. Patricia Wilkerson and Patricia Walls were also taught how to conduct licensure trainings for future seminars that will be held by the department. The seminar was conducted by Dr. Sophia Dziegielewski (affectionately referred to as Dr. D), professor and associate director for Research in the School of Social Work at the University of Central Florida. She has authored numerous books and created the text and materials to help students better prepare for the exam. Dr. D is nationally known and has a remarkable record of license exam pass rates for those who attend her seminars. She is a renowned social worker and, to date, has helped more than 18,000 social workers pass the licensure exam.

## 2017 GRIEF SEMINAR

The 2017 Billy Joe and Betty Ann Emerson Grief Seminar will be on Tuesday, May 23, 2017, at the A-State Fowler Center. The speaker, Kenneth J. Doka, Ph.D., will discuss "Disenfranchised Grief in the 21st Century: New Problems, New Strategies."

Information will be posted on our web-site at [www.astate.edu/college/conhp](http://www.astate.edu/college/conhp) and emailed to past attendees when it becomes available.



The ambulance simulator, an exact replica of an ambulance, has the ability to move, enhancing training of the EMT and paramedics students in the program.



Deanna Barymon scans a liver with one of the four new sonography machines purchased for the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program.

## STUDENT NEWS

### Social Work Students Intern

Four BSW students received \$5000 stipends to complete nine-month internships in DCFS county offices, during the 2015-2016 academic year. There were four BSW seniors (non-stipend) and one MSW student who also completed nine-month internships in DCFS county offices.

### CD Grad Students Present at ASHA State Convention

Five Communication Disorders grad students' thesis research was accepted for poster sessions at the Arkansas Speech-Language-Hearing Association convention on Oct. 12-14, 2016 in Hot Springs.

**APRIL MORGAN** - "Arkansas State University/ Brookland Public Schools' Barton Reading and Spelling System

### Efficacy Study"

**SARAH GEARHEART** - "Reading Comprehension Through Incidental Learning: Impact of the Barton Reading & Spelling System"

**ELIZABETH DRYER** - "Effectiveness of Video Modeling as an Intervention Technique for Broca's Aphasia"

**RAGEN BRAY** - "Graduate SLPs' Perceptions on Cultural Competency Experiences"

**AMBER LINDLEY** - "Stuttering and the Effects of Mindfulness Training"

### PTA Students Volunteer

PTA students volunteered as 'buddies' for the Miracle League games in Fall 2015. They also participated in the United Way of Caring for the 11th straight year.

### Phi Kappa Phi Initiates

The following students were inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

AASN **ERIN A. LANGLEY**

BSCD **J. AVERY QUALLS**

BSN **SHELBY GARTRELL**

**TIA MITCHELL**

**CANDACE SEARS**

**MIN XU**

MSDP **KAREN KAY KONARSKI-HART**

MSN **KELSEY A. CARRELL**

**TAYLOR MICHELE HENSLEE**

**ELLIOTT J. MORRIS**

**LEROSS SADER**

**AMY E. WALSH**

MSW **WESLEY GAUTREAUX**

DNP **H. DAWN MCPIKE**

## HAPPY RETIREMENT, KATHLEEN

By Ray Winters



In August, we said goodbye to Kathleen Lorance, administrative assistant for both Medical Imaging & Radiation Sciences and Clinical Lab Sciences. She served A-State for 14 years and now plans to enjoy having time off to relax and travel.

Kathleen joined the two departments in August 2004. For 12 years, she was an integral part of all programs she served. She made significant contributions to the departments and the college during her tenure. In 2008, she represented the college on the University Web Design Committee, and in 2009, was the CNHP representative to the Internet Creation Committee. In December of 2008, she was recognized by Dean Hanrahan for her "You Are Making a Difference" for the month of December for her work on behalf of the college. In 2015 and 2016, she was nominated for the Distinguished Staff Award - The Next 100 Years and in 2015 for the Distinguished Staff Performance award. Always a student advocate, she has gone above and beyond for students when problems or issues arise. She is EXTREMELY student-friendly. Kathleen has been a "go-to person" for other administrative assistants, particularly when it comes to computer programs and website design. Ray Winters, MIRS department chair, said "She not only does an outstanding job, but has kept us all organized and has been a right arm to me personally." Stacy Walz, chair of Clinical Lab Sciences, said "Kathleen was willing to take on

any task or challenge I set before her. She knows the A-State system so well; she was often able to predict potential problems we might have with a decision we were about to make. She knew what I needed or wanted before I knew I needed or wanted it! Her successor has big shoes to fill. I will personally miss Kathleen very much, both professionally and personally."

To say she will be missed is an understatement. We are grateful for all her contributions and hard work and wish her the best in her retirement!

## STACY RETIRES FROM NURSING

by Dr. Susan Hanrahan, Dean



Annette was hired in January 1982—34 years ago—wow—and she still looks so youthful. She received her BSN degree from Vanderbilt and MSN from the University of Virginia as an Adult Nurse Practitioner.

She holds an advanced specialist certification in oncology and as a nurse educator, as well. She was promoted to associate professor in 2006. She came right from the University of Virginia to A-State. She has taught acute care and med/surg nursing in the BSN program and was instrumental in curriculum enhancements, expansion of class sizes and the addition of other baccalaureate nursing degree options like RN to BSN and 2nd Degree Accelerated BSN. She has directed the BSN program since 1990 and co-chaired the School of Nursing for the past year. Her scholarship has focused on advanced-practice nurses, learning, prevention and chronic disease and underserved popula-

tions. She has also done manuscript and textbook reviewer work, honors theses, grant submissions and became an Oncology Nursing Society Cancer Genetics educator while she was here. She also was a core committee member to revise and update the Standards for Oncology Nursing Education for both patient/families and advanced practice nurses.

Beside doing lots of work for the Oncology Nursing Society, she held leadership roles in Sigma Theta Tau International, Eta Theta Chapter and the Arkansas Nurses Association. At the university, she completed a host of work in the School of Nursing and for the college, including serving on the Executive Council (our administration team for the college), University PRT, Faculty Senate representative, Phi Kappa Phi president, was on a number of search committees for university leadership and when we had formal Academic Program Review Committees, she served on ones for the (and this will certainly date her) then-Department of Business Administration and Economics, Department of Computer Science, Math and Physics, and the Department of Special Education and Speech Pathology. She serves on the Arkansas Spinal Cord Commission and has been on Hometown Health Improvement committees, Hospice boards and on committees within the hospital. Annette has extraordinary organizational and coordination abilities (one class of traditional BSNs is 90 students with a three-year matriculation sequence—so 270 students for just one of the BSN programs. That number will go up to 100 per class this year and could be the basis for which she is retiring). She is a stellar team member and I will certainly miss her insight and wisdom on our administrative team and

I know the students and faculty will miss her as well—she is a kind and gentle soul. She has been outstanding—her grandchildren will adore her.

### ISAACSON RETIRES FROM NURSING

by Dr. Susan Hanrahan, Dean



Julie was hired by A-State in September of 1987—a mere 29 years of service. Her BSN was from the University of Tennessee and her MSN from Vanderbilt. She has a specialty certification in adult

critical care. Julie was promoted to associate professor in 2006. She spent time in a number of clinics and hospitals prior to coming to A-State. She worked as a clinical nurse specialist predominately in the areas of cardiovascular, transplant, CICU and ICU. She taught in the BSN program in her areas of specialization—critical care and emergency nursing. This also included funded research in those areas, a number of publications and presentations, served as a research consultant, manuscript and textbook reviewer, honors thesis adviser, etc.

If you didn't know about her success in the classroom or through her scholarship, you certainly knew about her service. The list is so long I can't capture it but let me share some of the notable pieces starting with her honors and awards—NEA Professional Business Woman honoree, Triumph of the Human Spirit Awardee, American Cancer Society Honoree, ASU Board of Trustees Faculty Award for Professional Service, Mentorship Award, Sigma Theta Tau International, Excellence in Critical Care Nursing Award, NE AR Chapter of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses, American Heart Association Honoree, Barney Smith Professor of the Year, Excellence in Nursing Education, Eta Theta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, College of Nursing and Health Professions Service Award and she was the first recipient of the Chancellor's Exemplary A-State Colleague Award. She was president of the Faculty Association and chair of the Faculty Senate for three years and also served the university in the following capacities; co-chair for HLC self study and visit, Chancellors Executive Council, University Shared Governance chair, Academic Hearing Committee chair, Comprehensive Campus Master Plan, Faculty Marshall, Cost Containment Task Force, Branding Task Force—you get the idea. She was also active in the college and in her school, serving on multiple committees.

Professional association work highlights leadership roles with Sigma Theta Tau, Eta Theta Chapter, Arkansas Nurses Association and the Northeast Arkansas Chapter of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses. In the community she was a board member for United Way, Women's Discovery Center and Wesley Foundation, provided Katrina disaster relief, did medical mission ministry work and was often a "go-to" person for individuals on this campus and off who were experiencing life-changing medical situations.

I know from the students they don't appreciate the high standards of Ms. Isaacson until after they have graduated and outperform graduates from other programs in the area of critical care. I know from our faculty she is a cherished mentor in the School of Nursing and a great resource, editor and critical thinker/problem solver in our college. I know from the community she has made a difference and positively impacted the lives of many. We can all hope that if we have to go to ICU, we wake up to the face of a Julie Isaacson nursing graduate.

### EXERCISE IS MEDICINE

*cont. from p. 1*

can join. That's it. FitBit automatically tracks your steps, miles and active minutes. This is a great motivational tool that allows you to have a "virtual buddy."

Behavior change requires an active decision by the individual. The road map is available... you just have to make a conscious decision to join EIM.

### FOURTH ANNUAL HEALTH DISPARITIES CONFERENCE

By Patricia Wilkerson

The Social Work Department, in collaboration with the College of Nursing and Health Professions, will host the Fourth Annual Health Disparities Conference on Friday, Nov 4, 2016, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., in the student union. The theme, "Bridging the Gap between Health Disparities in the Delta," is multidisciplinary and reaches out to community service providers to participate by providing medical screenings such as diabetic, blood pressure, cholesterol and HIV/AIDS tests, as well as other professionals to provide workshops/trainings on various topics during the day.

Dr. Patricia Wilkerson, associate professor and Dr. Patricia Walls, associate professor, co-chair of the Social Work Department and program director, BSW program are co-chairs of the event.

This year's keynote speaker is Dr. Charlotte L. Williams, associate professor and director of the Center on Community Philanthropy at the University Of Arkansas Clinton School Of Public Service. She earned her M.P.H. and Ph.D. in

health policy research from the College of Public Health at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, where she served as director of policy research and faculty training. Dr. Williams is currently serving as the principal investigator for a \$750,000 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and a \$150,000 grant from the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation for initiatives related to race and community philanthropy. Dr. Williams is a native of Jonesboro.

### EMT AND PARAMEDIC PROGRAMS COMING TO CNHP

by Dr. Debbie Persell, Program Director

To meet the shortage of licensed Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) and Paramedics, the Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management Program has developed a new academic area in Emergency Medical Services. After months of preparation, we are pleased to announce that on July 29th, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approved the EMT and Paramedic education programs for Arkansas State. This includes a Certificate of Proficiency in EMT Basic, a Technical Certificate in Paramedic and an AAS in Paramedic. The EMT program is 12 credit hours to be completed in one semester. The first cohort has been admitted to begin the fall of 2016. Students will spend 10 weeks in the classroom and lab and 4 weeks in clinical and field time.

The paramedic program is 12 months, 52 credit hours, and will begin Spring 2017. There is an A&P I with lab pre-requisite for the program, as well as EMT certification. Students will spend a bulk of their time in the lab and classroom, as well as clinical and ambulance field time. The A-State paramedic program holds a Letter of Review, which is NOT a CAAHEP accreditation status, but is a status granted by the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions that signifies a program seeking initial accreditation has demonstrated sufficient compliance with the accreditation standards through the Letter of Review Self Study Report and other documentation.

A fully equipped, state-of-the-art EMS Simulation Lab has been developed and is housed on the fourth floor of E. Smith. Highly specialized equipment will be utilized, including a one-of-a-kind ambulance simulator in Arkansas, the first in the world pre-hospital high fidelity mannequin and other equipment that will be incorporated into the laboratory skill stations for both EMT and paramedic students.

Sara Walker is the program director for the EMT and Paramedic programs. Students interested in the program can contact Sara at 870-680-8286 or email at sawalker@astate.edu.



ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Nursing & Health Professions

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# Fall 2016

## Schedule of Events

August 22	Classes Begin
September 5	Labor Day Holiday
October 15	Homecoming
October 25	Flu Shot Clinic, Red Wolf Center
November 4	Fourth Annual Health Disparities Conference
November 21-26	Fall Break and Thanksgiving Holiday
December 5	Last Day of Class
December 10	Commencement
December 19-31	Winter Break

### NEW DISASTER TRAINING FACILITY

by Dr. Debbie Persell, Program Director

This summer the Regional Center for Disaster Preparedness Education signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the cities of Walnut Ridge and Imboden, Walnut Ridge Airport Commission and Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce to develop a land agreement for the purposes of developing a two-campus disaster training facility. One hundred acres will be located near Walnut Ridge Regional Airport with the other 200 acres near the city limits of Imboden. The topography strengths of each site will be capitalized to develop specific disaster training zones. Anticipated training zones across the two sites, include tornadoes, earthquakes, floods, farm emergencies, hazardous materials, urban and rural tactical training, wilderness training, search and rescue and rail accidents

as well as education and research facilities. These facilities will address the need for multi-disciplinary, interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary education and training in disaster preparedness and emergency management that allow all disaster response and emergency management professionals to train with each other in real-world disaster environments. Recognizing current priorities in emergency management, training will intentionally include planning for and responding to vulnerable populations during disasters such as children, the elderly and the disabled.

Government, non-government, for-profit and not-for-profit agencies will have the opportunity to request training, education or use of the facilities. Current students at Arkansas State University and College of Nursing and Health Professions will have many opportunities to

utilize these facilities in their course work. Alumni of the university and college will be among those whose agencies or organizations benefit from or participate in the training activities.

The end of July, 2016 saw the first training, at the Walnut Ridge location, FARMEDIC. The timeline for development of the training zones is dependent on acquiring funding through grants and donors. An Advisory Board, with local, state and national experts, will provide guidance in prioritizing the zone development, education and training. To learn more about this project, contact Dr. Deborah Persell.

### DIETETICS RECEIVES ACCREDITATION

The Coordinated Program in Dietetics has received full accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics until December 31, 2023.