

# STATEside News



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

Fall 2020

Jonesboro, Ark.

STATEside News

## NEW COLLEGE INITIATIVES

Two of our faculty have taken on additional responsibilities on behalf of the college in a part-time capacity.

**Dr. Scott Bruce**, AT, will lead coordinated research efforts in our college as assistant dean of research. Specifically, he will

- Establish a committee of research "point persons" in each department/program to facilitate conversation and research planning on a much larger scale in the college.
- Identify opportunities to engage in interdisciplinary/interprofessional collaboration across research projects.
- Assist faculty with their IRB applications and with their research designs to maximize the possibility of finding significant results, both statistically significant and clinically significant.
- Aid all faculty to be involved in student research leading to poster presentations at their professional organization's meetings, but to also develop that research into manuscripts for publication.
- Ensure all programs/departments are represented at Create@State day.

**Dr. Shawn Drake**, chair of PT, will lead some coordinated faculty development (revolving around teams) in our college as the assistant dean of team-based faculty development. She will:

- Establish teaching teams to work in a mentor/mentee capacity to implement best teaching/learning practices.
- Plan focus groups/book club that promotes evidence based teaching/learning models.
- Develop resource center through Organization on Basecamp to promote evidence-based teaching/learning models.
- Promote pedagogical research that integrate with classroom activities.
- Assist faculty in the development of their grant writing.
- Promote networks for grant opportunities with researchers at ABI/NYIT/et al.

We are excited about these new initiatives and thank the faculty for having interest in promoting these efforts within and outside the college.



ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

College of  
Nursing & Health Professions

## Dean's Corner

Whew! Who does not have COVID-19 and Zoom fatigue, teenage acne from prolonged mask wearing and missing ear rings from mask removal! What a journey to date! Looking back to the start of a new decade (which I for one was very excited about), I tried to remember if I had a great January and February 2020 because when we got to March, everything has blended together. As with you, all things are different and days are spent organizing around our best efforts to keep everyone safe while trying to provide quality education to future health care providers in demanding, accredited health professions programs.

Our best news is that all students in the spring and summer graduated on time which was a miracle effort performed by faculty, staff, our collaborating clinical sites as well as students. Our leadership team in the college had to work to adjust most things quickly and as efficiently and effectively as possible. With not a lot of time to prepare in the initial stages of the virus, our entire team performed remarkably well. I have included a few "testaments" in the newsletter about "lessons learned" and some cudos but it appeared everyone learned more than we ever imagined about the work we did every day.

Another shining moment this spring was the university's ability to host Create@State virtually. This is a symposium to showcase undergraduate and graduate research, scholarship and creative activity. This year, 150 students participated in this event virtually; 76 of which were from the College of Nursing and Health Professions. There were a number of awards but this year, for the first time, there was a Chancellor's Award. It might get lost in the newsletter text but one of our students, Nick Haywood, Athletic Training, was the top award winner. His faculty mentor was Dr. Scott Bruce. That was a big deal! Cudos to all of our student and faculty participants.

More good news might be that we had two accreditation site visits before March which was an absolute blessing. ACEN, our nursing accreditor, sent six site visitors who spent time from Monday to Thursday digging into everything that we do. Our Master's in Athletic Training program was also visited. We have already heard that their program has been accredited (it is a new program, so first accreditation). The first class of students graduated in August so that was good news for them. Most accreditors will require follow up

reports on items they desire more info on. We will be doing that for both the nursing and AT accrediting bodies. I am just happy we did not have to suspend or delay either visit.

Despite no physical visits on campus, you will see that we have been able to hire "lots" of new faculty and staff. I am excited about the strengths and expertise they can bring to our college. Who would have thought that we could have such a successful recruitment period with all Zoom interactions. Look for these faculty to do great things.

Work has not stopped on creating brand-new curriculums, revising existing curriculums, fine tuning student learning objectives and thinking of better ways to have students "learn" the material vs. memorization. Our work with NYIT continues to expand and as you might note on the front page of the newsletter, our two new college initiatives will roll out this fall. So we are even more to be excited about. All in all, despite COVID-19, there is a dedicated attempt to continue our progress with scholarship, faculty development, interprofessional education and marketing this year. Along with everything else that we do, these will be areas of focus for our college administrative team.

Read the pages to see what we did this spring. You will note that almost all of the spring events, like professional conferences, were canceled. The good news is many conferences are now going virtual so faculty will still have an opportunity to present their research. See the story on the first ever Virtual BSN Pinning Ceremony! We have such creative students.

Thanks for your continued support of us and FOLLOW THE RULES!

**Susan Hanrahan**  
Dean

College of Nursing  
& Health Professions  
hanrahan@AState.edu



## ATHLETIC TRAINING

In June, the Master of Athletic Training (MAT) program received initial program accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). The program is the first athletic training program in the state of Arkansas and one of the first in the country using the new 2020 CAATE standards. CAATE accreditation allows our students to become eligible to take the Board

of Certification (BOC) exam, permitting our students to practice as certified athletic trainers.

The first cohort of MAT students graduated in August, 2020. These graduating students plan to take the BOC exam in August. Even before they take the exam and graduate, our students have already secured jobs at high school, NAIA, and NCAA Division I schools in

the Delta and around the country.

In the coming fall semester, the program will be receiving its third cohort. Students admitted into the program come from Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Nigeria. Second year students will enter their final year of the program and gain exposure in our collegiate, high school, and medical settings.

## PHYSICAL THERAPY

**DR. SHAWN DRAKE** was appointed to the Blueprint for Excellence - Essentials for a DPT Program Task Force, by the ACAPT Board of Directors. She also was appointed to the American College of Sports Medicine International Task Force.

**DR. STEPHEN GUFFEY** wrote a publication with students titled "Association Between Personality Types and Predilection to Chronic Pain" on Research Gate.

**DR. SHAWN DRAKE** was elected as chair of Education and Pedagogy Consortia for American Council of Academic Physical Therapy. **DR. LATOYA GREEN** is secretary and was just re-elected for her second term.

## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

**DR. PAM LEWIS-KIPKULEI** and **DR. AMANDA CARPENDER** submitted their abstract titled "3.4: Occupational Therapists' Knowledge

and Behaviors Regarding the Provision of Low Vision Services: Does Rurality Matter?" to be held virtually, at the Envision

Conference in August.

## DIETETICS

**JOANNA CUPP** and **TIFFANY STERLING** attended the Nutrition and Dietetic Educators and Preceptors Meeting in Birmingham, Ala. on March 2 and 3.

**ERIC WEST**'s proposal titled "Using Job Instruction Methodologies in the Classroom to Breakdown Concepts and Theories" was accepted for presentation at NISOD's 2020 International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence in Austin, Texas, May 23-26. The meeting was canceled.

**JOANNA CUPP** is the new Northeast Arkansas representative for the Arkansas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Board of Directors.

**JOANNA CUPP** published "Teaching Tips on Addressing Stress and Burnout" in the Nutrition Educators of Health Professionals Spring 2020 Newsletter, The Educators Resource, Volume 76, Issue 3. She is also serving on two national committees, Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Council on Research Implementation Subcommittee and Academy

of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation Scholarship Review Committee.

Student Shanna Porterfield of Benton spoke at the Summer Commencement on Friday, Aug. 7. Porterfield graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in dietetics.

## NURSING

**DR. SUSI SNELGROVE** was selected to be on the Education Committee for the International Association of Forensic Nurses, which will work with committee members from around the world to bring educational offerings to nurses who deal with victims and perpetrators of crime.

**MELANIE MATA**'s presentation, "Human Trafficking: What every nurse needs to know" was accepted at the Society of Pediatric Nurses 30th Annual Conference in Anaheim, Calif., April 22-25. The meeting was canceled.

**KACIE ALTOM**'s poster "Clinical Practice What?!!: Using QR Code Badge Buddies to Improve Access to Important Nursing Information" was accepted for presentation at the 30th Annual Medical Surgical

Nursing Conference in San Francisco, April 2-3. The meeting was canceled.

**DR. LIBBY NIX** presented a poster entitled "HESI Prep Nights Translates into Successful Candidates: Seeking Unique Student Opportunities" at the 2019 Iggy's Next Generation NCLEX® (NGN) Camp New Orleans, La., on January 21-22.

**DR. LIBBY NIX, BRENDA ANDERSON, DR. BILINDA NORMAN** and **JUDY PFREIMER**'s manuscript titled "University Student Knowledge of Active Shooter Safety: Do They Know Enough to Protect Themselves?" has been accepted for publication in the Interdisciplinary Insights: The Journal of Saint Leo University's College of Education and Social Services.

**DR. SUSI SNELGROVE** was accepted for an oral presentation at the International Association of Forensic Nurses Annual Meeting in Palm Springs, Calif., September 23-26. The title of her presentation is "Hit Before You Know It: Resident-to-Caregiver Violence in Nursing Homes." The conference will be held virtually.

**DR. LIBBY NIX** was approved for a \$4,787 sponsorship from the Arkansas Minority Health Commission. The grant money will purchase hygiene products and supplies to help those who utilize HUD and Jonesboro Church Health Services. It will also support free health screenings.

## MEDICAL IMAGING AND RADIATION SCIENCES

**DEANNA BARYMON** won a \$2,500 scholarship from the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography Foundation in pursuit of her doctoral degree.

**DONNA CALDWELL** began her tenure as A-State Faculty Senate President.

**KENDALL YOUNGMAN** was selected as Executive Secretary for the Lambda Nu National

Radiology Honor Society

**JODY NUTT, RT(R)(T), JESSICA COOPER, RT(R)(VI),** and **ASHLEY WALLS, RDMS** joined the MIRS family

## DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

EMS has added a fall-start Paramedic cohort; It is now a year-long paramedic program that has two entry points—one in fall and one in spring. Contact the department for more information.

**SARA WALKER**, program director, has been heavily involved with the university's response to COVID-19 and serves on the university EOC as the health and medical director.

**AMY HYMAN** is presenting a virtual poster: "Challenges for Those with Disabilities Using Social Media to Obtain Emergency Alert Information" at the NACCHO 360 (National Association of County & City Health Officials) in Denver. She was also accepted to co-

present a poster at the Natural Hazards Center 2020 Researchers Meeting, "Residents' Perceptions of Information Sources Attributes and Their Responses to Emergencies" but was unable to present secondary to COVID-19.

**DR. JOSEPH RICHMOND** was scheduled to present a breakout session entitled Recruitment, Retention, & Leadership: Bringing Stability to Academic Programs at the 22nd annual Emergency Management Higher Education Symposium; however, that conference was moved to a virtual format due to COVID-19 and has shifted to a webinar later in the year.

He also submitted an article, "Preventing

Post-Disaster Population Losses and Disaster Recovery" to the Journal of Emergency Management and is awaiting acceptance.

### Disaster Training Center (DTC)

The DTC hosted its first course in March, Crisis Communications, with instructor Richard McKeown, in collaboration with the fire training center at BRTC. It was well attended by health care professionals from across the Northeast Region. A Search and Rescue course at the Imboden facility has been postponed due to COVID-19. This course is on track to be hosted as soon as we are able to return to somewhat normal operations.

## COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

**DR. CHRISTINE AKBARI'S** manuscript titled "Epenthetic and Phonemic Vowels: Same or Different?" was accepted for publication in the ASHA Perspectives – Speech Science Division. In addition, Dr. Akbari and one

of her graduate students, John Chunn, were accepted for a poster presentation at the national ASHA convention which was to be held in San Diego. The poster was titled "Facilitators and Barriers to the Use

of AAC by Practicing SLPs." Unfortunately, this convention has been canceled due to COVID-19. **DR. AKBARI** continues to serve on the Speech Communication committee of the Acoustical Society of America.

## CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCES

**AUDREY FOLSOM** graduated from the University of Bridgeport with a DHSc, Doctorate in Health Sciences, and had a virtual ceremony held on May 16.

**DR. STACY WALZ** and **CLAUDE RECTOR** were both inducted into the national CLS honor society, Alpha Mu Tau Fraternity, July 1.

**DR. STACY WALZ** was re-appointed as chair of the ASCLS Patient Safety Committee for 2020-2021

## SOCIAL WORK

Several abstracts were accepted for four Social Work faculty at the 29th Annual Global Awareness Society International (GASI) Conference. The conference, scheduled for May 21-23, was canceled due to COVID-19.

**DR. TAMARA PACE-GLOVER** and Monique Battles, LMSW, RIST, "Identifying Adverse Childhood Experiences and its Effect on Social and Human Well-Being".

**DR. REJOICE ADDAE** and **DR. PATRICIA GUY-WALLS** "Social Work Education's Role in Preparing Social Work Students to Impact the Challenges of Climate Change Globally".

**DR. REJOICE ADDAE** and **DR. TAMARA PACE-GLOVER** "The Social Impact of Climate Change from a Global Perspective: Implications for Social Work".

**DR. CHERYL KNIGHT** and Christopher Russell, MSW Student, "Global Resurgence of Vaccine Preventable Diseases".

**DR. CHERYL KNIGHT** was accepted into the Train the Trainer Program for the Mental Health First Aid Program. The three day program was planned for June 2020 in Wisconsin but was canceled due to COVID-19.

**DR. TAMARA PACE-GLOVER's** article, entitled "African American Single Mothers Rearing Their Children in Today's Society" was published in the Journal of the National Association of University Women.

## STUDENT NEWS

Student Nurses Association student **Anna Leigh Powell** won the *Robert V. Piemonte Financial Excellence Award*.

**Gianna Confer** of Jonesboro was selected from more than 10,000 applicants nationwide, to receive the Fulbright Grant. She is working towards a BA degree in English, with minors in Spanish and Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management.

**Anna Leigh Powell**, a nursing major, is the 2020 Chancellor's Scholar for having the highest GPA (4.0) in the college.

**Anna Leigh Powell** also was a 4.0 recipient for the College of Nursing and Health professions, along with **Sydney Higgins**, in Communication Disorders, and **Taylor McGraw**, also in Communication Disorders. Congratulations!

## CNHP CREATE@STATE WINNERS

**Joseph Austin**, Undergraduate Oral Presentation Award, *Teachers' Preception on Screen Time in Fifth and Sixth Grade Classrooms*, Dr. Susi Snellgrove, faculty mentor.

**Randi Wright**, Graduate Oral Presentation Award, *Education's Impact on HPV Immunization Rates in Rural Arkansas*, Dr. Mark Foster, faculty mentor.

**Ashlyn Blankenship**, Undergraduate Poster Presentation Award, *Micra Transcatheter Pacing System*, Donna Caldwell, faculty mentor.

**Nick Haywood**, Graduate Poster Presentation Award and **Chancellors Award**, *Assessment of Pre-Participation Injury Risk Factors in FBS Intercollegiate Football Players*, Dr. Scott Bruce, faculty mentor.

## TEIKYO HEISEI UNIVERSITY VISIT

In order to expand students' exposure to international Occupational Therapy culture, Dr. Christine Wright, chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy, worked with A-State International Programs to develop a faculty exchange visit with members of Teikyo Heisei University from Tokyo, Japan. Four honored colleagues from Teikyo Heisei University arrived at Arkansas State University on March 10, for a two-day visit including Professor Shunya Uchida, Ph.D., MD, director, International Exchange Center; Professor Satoko Nemoto, Ph.D., OTR, chair of Department of Occupational Therapy; Professor Kikuchi Kazumi, Ph.D., OTR, Department of Occupational Therapy; and Mr. Kosaku Yoneyama, manager, International Exchange Center. Students were in attendance to hear presentations about how the A-State programs and Teikyo Heisei University could work together. A scheduled trip with OT faculty from Arkansas State to Teikyo Heisei University was planned for summer 2020 but the pandemic has put all plans on hold for the foreseeable future.



## IN SYMPATHY:

**Dr. Susi Snellgrove**, on the passing of her mother, Imogene Blackman

**Jeannean Rollins**, on the passing of her sister-in-law

The family of **Margaret Hancock**, former clinical faculty member in the School of Nursing

**Lynda Nash**, on the passing of her mom, Gaye Morris

**Pat Walls**, on the passing of her sister, Lola Bailey

The family of **Julia Burkart**, emeritus associate professor of social work and advocate for social justice.

## WELCOME TO:

**Dr. Staci Wolfe**, Social Work

**Jody Nutt**, MIRS

**Jessica Cooper**, MIRS

**Dr. Wil Remigio**, Physical Therapy

**Dr. Lindsay White**, Communication Disorders

**Dr. Sharon Jones**, Communication Disorders

**Dr. Ben Poku**, Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management

**Brendon Aitken**, Physical Therapy

**Ashley Walls**, MIRS, and Health Professions Advisor

**Nobel Patil**, Computer Support Analyst

**Joseph Southerland**, Physical Therapy

**Haley Kennedy**, Nursing

**Randi Davis**, Nursing

**April Jennings**, Nursing

**Katharine Camden**, Nursing

**Dr. Jessica Camp**, Nursing

**Dr. Lori Smith**, Nursing

**Madison Ferguson**, Nursing

**Jason Griggs**, Nursing

## GOODBYE TO:

**Debbie Phillippe**, Nursing, Mountain Home

**Savanna Hailey**, Nursing

**Lauren Hancock**, Nursing

**Angela Hamill**, Nursing, Beebe

**Cathy Rech**, Admin Specialist, Nursing

**Nathaniel Frank**, Admin Specialist, Nursing

**Shymeka Williams**, West Memphis Nursing

**Alexis Kendrick**, Physical Therapy

**Ottysha Hadley**, Nursing

**Tyler Long**, Nursing Adviser

## RETIREES:

### MIKE MCDANIEL COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

BY: DR. AMY SHOLLENBARGER



**DR. MIKE MCDANIEL** came to Arkansas State University in 1989, as a young assistant professor of audiology. Through the years, he also identified as a closet statistician, and helped many

faculty and students analyze their data. With a dry sense of humor, he advised and taught many students. He believed that good students have initiative and good problem-solving skills. He mentored junior faculty not only in the Department of Communication Disorders, but also across campus. He was active in scholarship, fostering a love of research in others. He served on numerous thesis and dissertation committees. He inspired students to conduct research and helped them get published. He served as Faculty Senate president more than once, with his last appointment in 2017-2018, and he served on many other committees across the A-State campus.

Dr. McDaniel loves the St. Louis Cardinals, soccer, and fly fishing. He has always enjoyed a good book and a good trip. He is married to Jollean and has one son, Adam. He was born in Jonesboro, where he lived most of his life. He will be greatly missed by faculty and students, and we are thankful for the time we had with him at A-State.

### BRENDA ANDERSON NURSING

BY: DR. SARAH DAVIDSON



**BRENDA ANDERSON** graduated with an AASN in 1992, BSN in 1998, and MSN in 2005 all from A-State. She began her teaching career at A-State in 2007. She was

promoted to associate professor and awarded tenure in 2013 and has served as the senior intensive care clinical coordinator since 2016. She has been an active member in the School of Nursing and College of Nursing and Health Professions PRT committees, the nursing education committee, and represented the College as a faculty senator. Brenda developed the original high acuity course for the RN to BSN program at its inception and was instrumental in completing the report on the evaluation and assessment standard during the recent accreditation visit. During her tenure at A-State Brenda taught a variety of courses in all three undergraduate programs (AASN, BSN, and RN to BSN). She will be sorely missed by faculty and students.

## A-STATE'S DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD WINNER

(ADOPTED FROM A-STATE PRESS RELEASE)

**Braelen Hunt** was one of six students selected for Distinguished Service Awards. Braelen is from Bergman, Ark., and graduated magna cum laude with honors in August 2019, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in A-State's coordinated dietetics program in the College of Nursing and Health Professions. She owned a 3.93 overall GPA and 4.0 in the dietetics program. Her minors were disaster preparedness and emergency management and sociology. Following graduation, she took the registered dietitian (RD) exam and passed it on her first try.

While in school, Hunt was a member of Phi Kappa Phi honor society, the nation's oldest and most selective multidisciplinary honors fraternity. She was also an A-State Honors College student. Her academic contributions include receiving a 2018 Harry S. Truman scholarship, a national graduate fellowship for students pursuing careers in public service. She also was a semifinalist for the Fulbright U.S. Student Program, received an Arkansas Promise scholarship (2015-19), and Arkansas Lottery scholarship (2015-19).

Hunt also became the first Create@State undergraduate research poster winner for the CNHP in spring 2019 by performing research on utilizing nutritional yeast as a source of cyanocobalamin (vitamin B12) in vegan adolescents to prevent megaloblastic anemia, neuropathies and homocysteinemia. During spring 2019, she received valuable experience with supervised practice at St. Bernards Dialysis Outpatient Clinic; bariatric, medical surgery and intensive care unit at Baptist Memorial Hospital; and the Oncology Outpatient Clinic at St. Bernards.

## CNHP'S DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD WINNER CONTINUED

As a resident assistant, Hunt worked tirelessly to help provide safe, on-campus living options for transgender students during the 2018-19 academic year through the Social Justice Living-Learning Community.

She was involved in numerous organizations and volunteerism, including serving as the executive coordinator of impact, a Title IX student organization, Student Nutrition and Dietetics Club, Environmental Club, and Feminist Union. She also served as a freelance photographer providing school portraits for foster children and their parents for ABC Homes Foster Shelter and photos on social media of animals available for adoption at the NEA Humane Society.

## FACULTY LESSONS LEARNED AND SHOUT-OUTS COVID-19

Getting clinical education sites is a challenging task, especially in the midst of COVID-19. But the clinical education challenge becomes less challenging when you have allies such as Advanced PT in Little Rock, Encompass in Jonesboro, Fenter PT, and Tracy Jones PT, who are willing to mentor displaced DPT students. **Dr. LaToya Green**, PT

Since the department's inception, DPEM has embraced the use of technology in both course instruction and connecting with students; however, the shift away from an on-campus presence to remote, full-online instruction has not been without challenges and lessons learned. We teach our students the importance of a holistic approach to preparedness and the need to have a myriad of plans and options for continuing operations in their professions. COVID-19 is now teaching our department that it cannot ignore preparedness and contingency planning for its continued teaching, advising, research, and operations in a "new normal." **Dr. Joseph Richmond**, DPEM

I'm proud our first and second DPT students were so adaptable to the "trial and error" nature of switching to online instruction right before Spring break. We were supportive and understanding of each other when either our "new normal" life situations; technical snafus; or knowledge gaps caused disruptions in our planned activities. **Jayne Schack**, PT

## KAYS FOUNDATION MAKES GRANT AWARDS FOR 2020-2021

The Board of Directors of the Kays Foundation awarded grants to Faculty in CNHP for their projects during the 2020-21 academic year.

**Andrea Brown**, assistant professor of occupational therapy, wrote a proposal for a \$28,471 grant that will provide equipment and materials to develop an interprofessional pediatric rehabilitation lab. The lab will be shared by programs in occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech-language pathology. The shared space will serve several purposes, including interdisciplinary learning experiences.

A project proposed by **Dr. Susan Hanrahan**, dean, College of Nursing and Health Professions, "21st Century Health Technology – Access/Impact," was funded at \$59,924. The grant will be used to acquire telehealth equipment for educating selected health care providers in the college and region. **Dr. Mark Foster**, chair of graduate nursing programs, will administer the project.

**Dr. Alexis Kendrick**, assistant professor of physical therapy, received funding for a women's health program, "The Kays Foundation Women's Health and Physical Therapy Residency." Over a four-year period, the grant will provide the Department of Physical Therapy \$200,000 to develop a women's health physical therapy residency to assist the community with women's health issues.

## A-STATE / NYIT IPE DAY

The Northeast Arkansas Interprofessional Education Collaborative and Research Network (NEA-IPEC-RN) organized an "Introduction to IPEC" event on campus and was held at First National Bank Arena in January. Students from the following disciplines participated: osteopathic medicine, physical therapy, athletic training, social work, and communication disorders, nutritional science. The primary goal of the event was to introduce the IPEC four core competencies to health professions students: Values/Ethics, Roles/Responsibilities, Interprofessional Communication, and Teams/Teamwork. Using a real patient scenario, each team discussed the IPEC competencies. Following discussion, a panel of experts and the patient met with the students to discuss patient-centered care and interprofessional collaboration. (see photo on page 7)

## BILL PAYNE EXCELLENCE IN LAB SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIP

As a result of a generous gift from Drs. Stephen and Marsha Guffey, a scholarship has been established in the name of William Payne, who retired from the Clinical Laboratory Faculty in 2019 after 30 years of service. Bill was a beloved teacher and scholar among students and faculty. His dear friend and former colleague, Dr. J. Stephen Guffey, retired faculty in Physical Therapy, has provided this gift for a student who exemplifies the commitment to academic and clinical excellence that marked Payne's personal and professional career. This year's scholarship was in the amount of \$1,000 and was awarded to Shayla Scott, CLS student.

Special thanks to Stephen and Marsha for this opportunity. It is a scholarship well named for a student so deserving.

## POSTSCRIPT WILLIAM CARTER PAYNE (1953-2020)

It is with a very sad heart that I want to share that Bill Payne died on July 21, 2020 at the Phil and Flo Jones Hospice House at the age of 66. In our fall 2019 newsletter, you would have read a blurb about his retirement from the university and his 31 years of service to the College of Nursing and Health Professions—specifically in the Clinical Laboratory Science Department. I won't reiterate all of that retirement conversation but do want to share what his colleagues emailed when they heard the news of his passing – valued colleague, good friend, tremendous loss, great person, will miss his smile and kindness, touched the lives of many students, sweet spirit, wonderful person, eager to help everyone in need, awesome man, fine gentleman and truly remarkable person. The words I heard the most were "gentle and kind" – such perfect descriptors. Academic words that would describe Bill would be master teacher, great in collaborative research and his work in service to the university and the community. However, all of the accolades from his colleagues were not about academics, they were about Bill as a special person who came to A-State in 1988 from California looking for cleaner air. He is in rarified air now – Bill, you can breathe deeply!

Those interested in donating to Bill's memory may do so through the Bill Payne Excellence in Lab Science Scholarship at A-State (contact advancement@AState.edu or hanrahan@AState.edu for details).

### NEW LEADERSHIP ROLES IN THE COLLEGE

We are pleased that Dr. Joseph Richmond has accepted the position of chair, Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management. He has been with DPEM since 2017 as an Assistant Professor and most recently as interim chair. Dr. Cheryl Knight moved from interim chair of Social Work to chair of the Department and Director of the MSW program. Cheryl came to the college in 2015. Dr. Sarah Davidson has been appointed as associate dean, College of Nursing and Health Professions where she will have oversight on all School of Nursing degrees. She has held various roles in the college since 2008. Mollie Manning will assume Dr. Davidson's previous role as chair of BSW programs and director of the RN to BSN program. Mollie has been at A-State since 2016. Dr. Scott Bruce in Athletic Training is now assistant dean of research, as well as Dr. Shawn Drake of Physical Therapy, who is now assistant dean of team-based faculty development. These have all been great additions to our leadership team as we continue to plan and execute through the COVID-19 pandemic.

---

### COVID-19 IMPACT THOUGHTS FROM A STUDENT:

Since I have been in nursing school, I have covered many of the competencies, but one of the ones that has stuck out to me the most was the teamwork and collaboration competency seen in the IOM competencies. We have worked on this by working in groups on projects. We have worked together since the beginning of nursing school, but we are working together now more than ever since communication is limited. We are not able to speak in class about what is going on, so we are using our GroupMe's and other forms of communication to make it work. It has been a tough time making it, but I think this has taught us so much about being flexible and has helped us to be able to meet this competency even better when we eventually graduate and become professional nurses.

-Sophomore Nursing Student

### A-STATE SPEECH AND HEARING CENTER SHIFTS TO VIRTUAL SERVICES

The A-State Speech and Hearing Center was abruptly closed following Spring Break 2020 secondary to COVID-19. Faculty clinical supervisors, students, and patients quickly moved all live services to online sessions. Patients from ages 3-75 years of age logged on to a HIPAA secure site to continue their articulation, language, swallowing, voice, or dyslexia therapy sessions. Clinical supervisors attended each session as well as part of the multi participant video chat. Student clinicians were able to continue to accumulate required clinical hours, and it is expected that all students in the CD class of 2020 will graduate on time! Teletherapy has provided this unique opportunity for student success, patient progress, and skill development for all involved.

Arianne Pait, Director of the A-State Speech and Hearing Center plans for a live reopening of therapy services in the fall. The return of live therapy sessions will be supplemented with continued teletherapy for those patients who are at high risk for disease complications due to COVID-19. For more information about Speech and Hearing services at A-State, please contact [apait@AState.edu](mailto:apait@AState.edu)

---

### BSN VIRTUAL PINNING CEREMONY

I had the pleasure of serving as the senior representative for the A-State Student Nurses' Association this past year. A large part of my responsibility was planning, preparing for, and coordinating the pinning ceremony. Pinning is a traditional ceremony for nursing students to celebrate their achievement of graduating nursing school. Like many other things in the Spring, our pinning ceremony was canceled due to the inability to properly adhere to COVID-19 guidelines during the event. Many graduates, family, instructors, and others were devastated by this decision. Of course, as future healthcare professionals, our priority was the safety and well-being of others. We began to think outside the box though and

decided to use the technology available to our advantage. As several others have in the past months, we utilized Zoom to plan and put together a new pinning ceremony that would be conducted remotely and virtually. Within the safety of our own homes, our pinning ceremony took place at the originally planned date and time. We were able to honor our graduates despite the unfortunate circumstance. It is definitely an event we will never forget and everyone has a video recording of the event as well as a video that Hannah Hefner, a fellow student, created to commemorate our time in nursing school. These are videos that we will have access to forever and will surely cherish. Several friends, family, and faculty were able to join with us virtually and celebrate our achievement, which we were incredibly grateful for! Thank you to anyone and everyone who contributed to the creation, planning, and success of the virtual pinning. It is something that is unique to the BSN class of 2020 and something that we will remember forever!

-Nicholas Harris BSN, RN

A-State SNA Senior Representative

When I reflect on the pinning ceremony of the 2020 traditional BSN class, I am reminded that it was everything but traditional. In the uncertain times that we have faced during this pandemic, my classmates and the faculty proved to be resilient. Together, we stepped up to make a virtual pinning the biggest success. While remaining safe in the comfort of my home, I felt surrounded by support from not only my family but also from the faculty and my classmates. The distance of the virtual pinning only brought our class closer together. The pinning was memorable and perfect in every way. Thank you to the faculty, the families, and the BSN class of 2020 for ensuring we had our pinning ceremony.

-Anna Leigh Powell



### CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

There is much work going on in many of the departments in the college. Pam Towery has been contracted to work on developing the graduate degree in nutrition that is being mandated by the accrediting body. The curriculum proposal should go to the Graduate Council in January. Rhonda Holcomb has been working to build out the BS in Health Studies as an online option as well. There are many classes that still need to be developed before the program is ready to go. Dr. Joseph Richmond has worked to take his graduate online DPEM program to Academic Partners (AP), who will work to market this degree nationwide. The programming should begin in January. Dr. Christie Black is working with her accrediting body on gaining approval for the master's program that supports nurse anesthesia to an accreditation mandated DNP. We are hopeful that we will gain approval so that we may implement in 2021. Dr. Mark Foster has launched his online degrees in MSN Nurse Educator and MSN Nurse Administrator. Those will move to AP on line next fall. In addition, the university has mandated that the graduate FNP program move to AP online next fall as well. Dr. Julie King is taking the BS in Occupational and Environmental Safety and Health to the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee this fall. Lark Montgomery will launch the MSN Acute Care Nurse Practitioner degree this fall. The AASN program that we have supported at the Beebe campus will graduate its final class in December.

We continue to develop quality programming that meets the needs our larger health care region and our accrediting bodies. We appreciate the support of our community partners and our advisory boards in this regard.

### A-STATE HIPPOThERAPY PROGRAM

The A-State Hippotherapy Program held their second annual open house on January 29, at the Roy Lee Aldridge Jr. Hippotherapy Center. Hippotherapy is using the movement of the horse in a highly sophisticated treatment strategy to address the patient's needs through occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech-language pathology. Hippotherapy uses evidence-based practice and clinical reasoning in the purposeful manipulation of equine movement to engage sensory, neuromotor, and cognitive systems to achieve functional outcomes.

The Hippotherapy program is an interprofessional experience between the DPT and OTD students. These students learn how to perform treatments and work with the patient and the horse. They are then responsible for performing evaluations and working through integrated plans of care for their patient.

Our open house was an opportunity to welcome other departments in the College of Nursing and Health Professions as well as the community. There were over 80 people in attendance. The purpose was to allow other students, faculty, and community members to be educated on the treatment and observe real treatment sessions.

The Hippotherapy program at A-State is looking forward to continuing their interprofessional experience this year. For more information please contact, Farley Schweighart, PT ([fschweighart@AState.edu](mailto:fschweighart@AState.edu)).

### KAYS FOUNDATION WOMEN'S HEALTH PHYSICAL THERAPY RESIDENCY

In 2020, the Kays Foundation awarded the Department of Physical Therapy a \$200,000 grant to launch A-State's first Residency Program in Women's Health. The mission statement of the Kays Foundation Women's Health Physical Therapy Residency is to educate physical therapy professionals in Women's Health, enhance quality of life for women across the lifespan, and enrich the lives of all women in the Mississippi Delta region and beyond who encounter Arkansas State Physical Therapy faculty, students and alumni. The residency is coordinated between Arkansas State University and Advanced Physical Therapy (Little Rock) with didactic and clinical components over a 12-month period.

The residency program includes topics such as lymphedema, pelvic floor dysfunction, osteoporosis, pelvic pain, and obstetrics/gynecological conditions. The residency experience will prepare the resident for the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties (ABPTS) specialty certification examination to become a Women's Health Clinical Specialist (WCS) in order to promote women's health physical therapy in Arkansas.

Shawn Drake, PT, Ph.D., will serve as the Program Director and Nicole Coleman, PT, DPT, WCS will serve as the Program's Coordinator. Dr. Coleman earned a Doctor of Physical Therapy Degree from the University of Michigan in Flint, Mich., and earned her board certification in Men's and Women's Pelvic Health (WCS) from the ABPTS. She completed the four-course pelvic floor series through Herman and Wallace Pelvic Rehabilitation Institute. Dr. Coleman will direct the didactic portion of the curriculum and ensure that the resident meets all clinical competencies for the residency. Mitzi Gibson, MSPT, will serve as clinical faculty coordinator at Advanced Physical Therapy. Advanced Physical Therapy provides patient-centered, outcome oriented and scientifically based treatment for general orthopedic problems, prenatal postpartum conditions and pelvic floor dysfunctions for men, women, and children of all ages. Advanced Physical Therapy is a leader in pelvic floor rehabilitation in the state of Arkansas.

Applications will be accepted through the Residency and Fellowship Physical Therapy Centralized Application Service (RF-PTCAS) beginning in the next year or two (look for announcements). The resident must be a licensed physical therapist in the state of Arkansas prior to beginning the residency. In addition, the resident must complete Herman & Wallace pelvic health/floor level I continuing education coursework prior to application deadline. Additionally, pelvic floor level 2A and 2B or pelvic health physical therapy level 2 (bowel dysfunction and pelvic pain) must be completed prior to beginning the residency.

For more information, please contact Dr. Shawn Drake at [sdrake@AState.edu](mailto:sdrake@AState.edu).

### A-STATE / NYIT IPE DAY





ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

*College of*  
**Nursing & Health Professions**

PO Box 910, State University, AR 72467

# Fall 2020

## Schedule of Events

September 26	Homecoming - Tulsa
November 23	Fall Break
December 19	Commencement

**EVENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

### **UPDATE MAILING ADDRESS:**

Moved or moving, but want to stay current on our newsletters?

Please send your new address to Sharon Quillman, [saquillman@AState.edu](mailto:saquillman@AState.edu), 870-972-2740.

### **GRADUATE NURSING OPTIONS:**

For information about online MSN Nurse Educator & Nurse Administrator,  
contact Dr. Mark Foster  
([smfoster@AState.edu](mailto:smfoster@AState.edu))

For information about Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner,  
contact Lark Montgomery  
([lmontgomery@AState.edu](mailto:lmontgomery@AState.edu))