

# STATEside News



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

Fall 2012

Jonesboro, AR

STATEside News

## Dean's Corner

CHANGE—don't you love it!!! Between the Supreme Court ruling on the Affordable Care Act, the ever expanding medical community in our geographic service area and the most recent administrative profile of Arkansas State University, we are bursting at the seams with opportunities. Not that we haven't been planning for some of that change. We knew primary care providers were needed even before they considered expanding Medicaid. When NEA Baptist announced they were building a new hospital and cancer treatment center, we knew more health care providers would be necessary. When Dr. Wyatt stepped down and Dr. Potts announced he was retiring as interim ASU System President, we knew many dominoes were going to fall. So, here we are starting a new academic year and the race is on.

Even if the Affordable Care Act is overturned, we need a new health delivery model. Reimbursement is usually the driving force for types of interventions and service delivery, which in turn supports the need for certain types of health care providers. We can surmise though, that most of the occupations in the College of Nursing and Health Professions will be around for a while, so the question becomes what can we change in our curriculums to affect access, cost and quality—the three

areas contained in most service delivery discussions.

A few assumptions might be:

The workplace will need to be more productive. Most are operating so "lean" at the moment that is difficult to imagine how we can do more. The strategy becomes how do you do things differently within the confines of the reimbursement environment?

Taking care of sick patients is far more expensive than keeping people healthy. Currently, insurance pays for those who are sick but not to keep us well. Health and wellness initiatives, managing chronic illness and keeping older adults in their homes and out of nursing homes are just a few strategies that will move us a long way in saving money over time. A healthier population is ill less frequently and more productive in work and everyday life.

Service delivery interventions should be based on research and best practice. One component of quality is providing the appropriate solution to the identified problem.

Health care is a business. There is competition in the industry. The financial bottom line is critical to sustain operations and growth. Recruiting and retaining patients, managing costs effectively and providing efficiencies in the system will become even more valuable as we move through the change process.

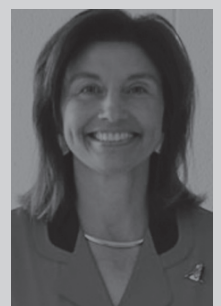
So how is the College of Nursing and Health Professions planning for change? The college continues to be proactive in supporting needs-based health professions education. In our executive team

summer planning retreat, for example, we discussed new degree options, certifications, program expansions, concepts that will be necessary for integration into curriculums like customer service and universal business principles, identifying additional interprofessional "teaming" options for our students, planning faculty, staff and practitioner professional development activities. The list goes on. The college is operating in a university system environment that is in flux, a higher education program that is undergoing additional scrutiny concurrent with a health industry that needs highly qualified and skilled health professionals. Planning involves many things, but a big advantage for us is our ability to have conversations with those in the ASU central administration and with those who employ our graduates. This allows us to better understand how degree programs can be modified and what new degrees or tracks to add. In a fiscally sensitive environment, we have to be smart and on target with the resources we have available for education. We all benefited by these discussions and this level of planning when it comes to change but the challenge is on. As usual, I think we are up to the task.



*Susan Hanrahan,  
Dean*

College of Nursing  
& Health Professions



## COLLEGE NEWS

**THE SCHOOL OF NURSING** has received continuing accreditation by NLNAC through 2020 for the AASN, BSN and MSN programs.

**THE RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM** and **THE RADIATION THERAPY PROGRAM** have received 8-year renewals for accreditation.

**THE COORDINATED PROGRAM IN DIETETICS** has been granted candidacy for accreditation.

**THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM** has received a 10-year reaccreditation from CAPTE.

**THE REGIONAL CENTER FOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS EDUCATION** was featured in Vol 13, Issue 2, Summer 2012 issue of Voices magazine.

**DR. SHAWN DRAKE**, PT, **DR. REBECCA MATTHEWS**, NRS and **BEVERLY PARKER**, NRS adjunct, presented "A Descriptive Study of Emergent Themes from Students Involved in an Older

Adult Interdisciplinary Service Learning Project" at the ASAHP Annual Conference in Scottsdale, AZ, on October 20, 2011. They also published a manuscript in the April/May 2012 issue of Nursing Education Perspectives titled "Healthy Ager: An Interprofessional, Service-Learning, Town-and-Gown Partnership". The Healthy Ager Program was featured in the May 13, 2012 issue of The Jonesboro Sun in an article titled "Positive Aging".

**DR. REBECCA MATTHEWS**, NRS, **DR. DEBBIE SHELTON**, NRS, AND **DR. GUITELLE RAHILL**, former SW, published "Type and Frequency of Substances Injected in Sample of Haitian Immigration Picturistes (Informal Injectionists) and Clients" in the May 13-23, 2012 issue of Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved.

**DR. REBECCA MATTHEWS**, **DR. SHAWN DRAKE**, and **BEVERLY PARKER** presented "It Takes a Village to Keep an Older Adult Healthy" at the 2012 Aging in America Conference in Washington, D.C. on March 28-April 1, 2012.

**DR. DEBBIE PERSELL**, DPEM, and **DR. DEBBIE SHELTON**, NRS were invited participants at the Expert Working Group for a national study of disaster health competencies in Baccalaureate-level nursing.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING ON THEIR PROMOTIONS:

Roy Aldrige, Professor of PT  
Gauri Bhattacharya, SW, Tenure  
Becky Keith, PT, Tenure  
Rebecca Matthews, Assoc Prof and Tenure  
Debbie Persell, Professor of Nursing  
Susie Snellgrove, Assoc Prof and Tenure  
Debra Walden, Assoc Prof, Clinical Track

## NURSING

**LIBBY NIX** gave a poster presentation titled "Nursing Behaviors in an Acute Care Setting Related to Vancomycin and Aminoglycoside Administration" and **BRENDA ANDERSON** presented a poster titled "Physical Assessment Practices of Registered Nurses in Arkansas" at the 2012 Drexel University Nursing Education Institute March 22-25, 2012 in Savannah, GA. **DR. DARLENE BAKER** presented "Assessing Health Literacy in Graduate Nursing Students" at the same event.

**CATHY HALL** and **RENEE MILLER** presented a poster titled "Simulation (SIM) Lab as a Graded Clinical Experience with LPN to RN Students: An Evidence-Based Practice" at the Sigma Theta Tau Tri-Chapter Research Day in Conway, AR on April 3rd 2012.

**DR. REBECCA MATTHEWS** lead the CNHP trip to China May 13-23, 2012. ASU joined Henderson State to tour Beijing, Xi'an, and Shanghai. She also participated as a fellow in the ASU Research Development Institute in Spring 2012.

**DR. ANGELA SCHMIDT** presented "Communicating Health: Strategies for Progress" at the International Conference on College Teaching and Learning, April 9-13, 2012

in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL.

**DR. DEBBIE SHELTON** graduated from the DNP program at the University of Tennessee on Friday, May 25, 2012.

**DR. PHYLLIS SKORGA**, **DR. CHARLOTTE YOUNG** and Lori Reynolds had an article titled "Exploring Alzheimer's Dementia from the Perspective of Patients and Caregivers" published in the July 2011 issue of International Journal of Social Health Information Management, 4: (8), 1-10. They also presented a poster titled "Culminating Graduate Experience: Transforming Graduate Students" at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's 2012 Master's Education Conference, March 1-3, 2012 in San Antonio, TX.

**DEBRA WALDEN** was appointed to the Breast Cancer Control Advisory Board by Governor Beebe in April 2012. Her term will expire Jan 1, 2016.

**PAIGE WIMBERLEY** presented an abstract titled "Incorporating Disaster Preparedness Education into the Curriculum" at the 4th International Nurse Education Conference held June 17-20 in Baltimore, MD. She also presented *Disaster Preparedness Education Delivered Via Simulation* at Simulation in

Healthcare: Where No One Has Gone Before sponsored by Drexel University College of Nursing and Health Professions March 22-25, 2012 in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. She will also make an oral presentation titled "Beyond the Pink Ribbon" at the Qualitative Health Research Conference in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, October 22-25, 2012.

**LANCE WILCOX** conducted a three-day nursing skills lab on May 2-6, 2012 at the 20th Annual Education Conference of the Developmental Disabilities Nurses Association in Orlando, FL.

**DR. CATHY YOUNG** presented a poster titled "Unique Predisposing Factors for Male Urinary Tract Infections" at the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Conference on June 23, 2010 in Orlando, FL. On October 10-13, 2012, she will present "All the Kings Horses and All the Kings Men Couldn't Put Humpty Dumpty Back Together Again, Understanding Recantation and the Impact on Child Sexual Abuse Cases" at Forensic Nursing and Practice: Defining the Role, Creating the Future, the 20th Annual International Association of Forensic Nurses Scientific Assembly in Fajardo, Puerto Rico.

## PHYSICAL THERAPY

**DR. ROY ALDRIDGE** presented "The Effects of Hippotherapy on Motor Performance and Function in United States Military Veterans" at the International Conference and Exhibition on Neurology & Therapeutics on May 14-16, 2012 in Las Vegas, NV. On June 25-28, 2012, **DR. ALDRIDGE** presented "Perceptions of

Empowerment in Physical Therapists in the United States" at the 11th Annual International Conference on Health Economics, Management and Policy in Athens, Greece and, on August 23-25, 2012, he presented "Adult Learner Characteristics" at the American Hippotherapy Association Conference in

Tucson, AZ. On November 1, 2012, **DR. ALDRIDGE** will present "The Effects of Hippotherapy on Motor Performance in an Individual with Autism" at the 2012 Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International Conference in Seattle, WA.

**DR. SHAWN DRAKE** had an article titled

"Pre-exercise Testing Evaluation" accepted for publication in ACSM's Manual for Guidelines for Exercise Testing and Prescriptions. The projected publish date is 2013. She also presented a one-hour lecture titled "Sports Medicine Update: Swimmer's Shoulder" at the United States Swimming, Sports Medicine Network on September 17, 2011 in Jacksonville, FL.

**DR. SHAWN DRAKE** and **DR. TODD WHITEHEAD** (former PT), along with two other authors, presented an article titled "Physical Activity, Academic Performance, and Health Status in College Females" at the American

College of Sports Medicine National Meeting on June 2, 2011 in Denver, CO.

**DR. SUSAN MOTTS** co-authored the articles "Multiple Origins of Cholinergic Innervation of the Cochlear Nucleus", published in the journal Neuroscience, Vol 180, April 28, 2011 p 183-147, "Cholinergic Cells in the Tegmentum Send Branching Projections to the Inferior Colliculus and the Medial Geniculate Body", published in Vol 179, April 14, 2011 p 120-130 of Neuroscience, and "Cholinergic Cells of the Pontomesencephalic Tegmentum: Connections with Auditory Structures from Cochlear Nucleus to Cortex", published in the journal Hearing

Research Vol 279, September 2011, p 85-95.

**DR. TODD WHITEHEAD** (former PT) made a poster presentation titled "Effects of two-Weeks of Oral Echinacea Supplementation on Leukocyte Responses" at the 3rd Annual Conference of the American Council for Medicinally Active Plants held at Arkansas State University, May 22-25, 2012. He also presented "Current Health Risk Status and Physical Activity Participation of College Students" at the Arkansas Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, November 18, 2011 in Little Rock, AR.

## SOCIAL WORK

**DR. BEVERLY EDWARDS** presented "Field Experiences in Breast Cancer Research Among African American Women" at the Eighth International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry May 17-19, 2012 in Champagne, IL.

**DR. GAURI BHATTACHARYA** will present "Hope and Resiliency: Reframing Self-Management of Chronic Illness" at the 2012

National Conference on Restoring Hope: The Power of Social Work, sponsored by the National Association of Social Workers, July 22-25 in Washington, DC. She also presented "Promoting Community Resources for Type II Diabetes Self-management: Findings from an African-American Case Study in Rural

Arkansas" and "Reclaiming Healthy Traditions: Findings from an African-American Case Study on Spirituality and Type II Diabetes in Rural Arkansas" at the 139th Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association, October 29 - November 2, 2011 in Washington, DC.

## CLINICAL LAB SCIENCE

**ANNETTE BEDNAR** presented "Out of the Frying Pan and Into the Fire: The First Year Teaching Experiences of a Former Lab Director" at a luncheon roundtable at the Clinical Laboratory Educator's Conference on February 23-25, 2012 in Salt Lake City, UT.

**BILL PAYNE** co-authored a clinical microbiology textbook (First Edition) titled "Clinical

Laboratory Microbiology: A Practical Approach" that was published by Pearson Education, Inc., copyright 2011.

**STACY WALZ** attended the Quality in Spotlight Conference: Error Budget and Risk Management for Laboratory Medicine conference in Antwerp, Belgium, March 29 and 30, 2012, where she presented "Risk Management

Involving Pending Laboratory Tests at Hospital Discharge" and "Designing a Quality Control Plan Based on Risk Assessment: CLSI EP23-A". She also made a poster presentation titled "Work Processes, Provider Characteristics and Discharge Documentation Quality" at the American Geriatrics Society Annual Meeting on May 3-5, 2011 in National Harbor, MD.

## RADIOLOGIC SCIENCE

**DONNA CALDWELL** presented "Radiographic Imaging the Aorta: The Largest Artery in the Body", **JEANNEAN ROLLINS** presented "Trauma Radiography 101", and **TRACY WHITE** presented "Understanding Personality Types: A Strategy to Increase Student Clinical Education" at the national conference of

the Association of Collegiate Educators in Radiologic Technology on February 10, 2012 in Las Vegas, NV.

**CHERYL DUBOSE** presented a paper titled "God in the Classroom: Private vs. Public Higher Education in the United States" at the

European Teacher Education Network Conference 2012 held April 19-21 in Coimbra, Portugal.

**RAY WINTERS** was appointed to the Medical Ionizing Radiation Licensure Committee by Governor Mike Beebe on June 14, 2012.

## COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

**DR. SHERRI BROOKS** (former CD) presented "Speech Language Pathologists' Application of Learning Styles During Clinical Interaction" at the Mid-South Conference on Communicative Disorders on February 25, 2011 in Memphis, TN.

**MERRILL CATT** presented "Let's Talk Trash"

via webinar for Cobb Pediatrics on January 17, 2012 and for the National Black Association for Speech Language and Hearing on April 20, 2012. She also presented "At Your Disposal: How to Repurpose and Reuse for Meaningful

Therapy" at the Clinical Instructor's Seminar on March 9, 2012. On April 14, 2012, she presented "Teaching Students Using an Ecologically Valid Language Intervention Model" at the Missouri Speech Language and Hearing Association at Osage Beach, MO.

## GRANTS/CONTRACTS

**THE BECK PRIDE CENTER FOR WOUNDED VETERANS** has been awarded a \$5,000 grant from the East Arkansas Planning & Development District.

**DR. SHAWN DRAKE** (PT) and **DR. STEPHEN GUFFEY** (PT) submitted a grant proposal

for \$18,311 to the Arkansas Community Foundation for a project titled "Overcoming Barriers Faced by Minority Students in Their Pursuits of a Career in Health Care."

**DR. SUSAN HANRAHAN** has received a \$48,500 Sub-award grant from the University of Arkansas

for Medical Sciences for the Arkansas Geriatric Education Center. She has also submitted a \$306,541 grant proposal titled "The Arkansas Green Jobs Corps" to the Wal-Mart Foundation State Giving.



**DR. MIKE McDANIEL** (CD), **JULIE ISAACSON** (NRS) AND **DR. RICHARD NEELEY** (CD), submitted a grant proposal titled "Can you Hear Me Now?" for \$14,794 to the Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions.

**DR. SUE McLARRY** (NRS) has submitted a

grant proposal for \$617,267 to the Health Resources & Services Administration titled "Advanced Nursing Education Traineeships".

**DR. ANGIE SCHMIDT** received a \$40,021 grant from the Health Resources and

Services Administration for the "ASU Nurse Anesthetist Traineeship Program."

**PAM TOWERY** has a \$5,000 grant titled "Breakfast Blitz" pending with the American Dietetic Association and PepsiCo.

## GOOD-BYE TO:

**SHERRI BROOKS**, Associate Professor of Communication Disorders

**ANITA FRENCH**, Administrative Specialist, Regional Center for Disaster Preparedness & Emergency Management.

**WILLIAM HINKLE**, Assistant Professor of Communication Disorders

**SUSAN SMITH**, Assistant Professor of Nursing and Site Coordinator for Beebe Campus

**STACY TROXEL**, Assistant Professor of Nursing

**TODD WHITEHEAD**, Assistant Professor of Physical Therapy

## WELCOME TO:

**DR. REJOICE ADDAE**, Assistant Professor of Social Work

**DR. KAREN ALLEN**, Chair, Social Work

**SHANON BRANTLEY**, Temporary Assistant Professor, Communication Disorders

**KENDRA DUNCAN**, Title IV-E Social Work

**NATALIE GATLIN**, Title IV-E, Social Work

**DR. JOY GOOD**, Assistant Professor of Speech-Language Pathology

**MELANIE MATA**, Assistant Professor of Nursing

**BRINDA MCKINNEY**, Assistant Professor of Nursing

**DR. LARRY MORTON**, Assistant Professor of Social Work

**CRISTY PHILLIPS**, Assistant Professor of Physical Therapy

**ROBIN TARPLEY**, Assistant Professor of Nursing, ASU Beebe

**KELLY TIDWELL**, Assistant Professor of Nutritional Sciences

**KRISTIE VINSON**, Temporary Assistant Professor of Physical Therapy

## IN SYMPATHY:

**BRENDA ANDERSON**, NRS, on the loss of her father-in-law.

**ANNETTE BEDNAR**, CLS, on the loss of her mother.

**BRENDA GOODWIN**, NRS, on the loss of her mother.

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF GARY McCRACKEN**, former student and adjunct faculty in the nursing department.

**MYRA MEEKINS**, PT, on the loss of her mother, Kaye Meekins.

**KELLY SMITH**, Beck PRIDE, on the loss of her sister.

## STUDENT NEWS

### R.E. Lee Wilson Award

**CANDACE MAY-BIGGERS**, Communication Disorders, was awarded the 126th R.E. Lee Wilson

award, the university's highest honor for a graduating senior. The award is presented annually to a student who, through their service to

ASU and its student body, has demonstrated outstanding qualities of leadership and citizenship. She was nominated for the award by her adviser, Dr. Rick Neeley.

**KALEY HARLSON**, Harrisburg, AR was the recipient of the Dean's Academic Performance Scholarship for the 2012-2013 academic



Candace May-Biggers is presented the R. E. Lee Wilson Award by Mr. Perry Wilson, great-grandson of R. E. Lee Wilson.

year. She received an award of \$7000 for support in her freshman year. Harlson's intended major is communication disorders.

### TRI CHAPTER RESEARCH DAY FOR SIGMA THETA TAU

**SCOTT COWELL**, **PAULA GUNTER**, AND **SARAH DAVIDSON** presented a poster titled "Effect of Simulation on Nursing Student's Perceptions of Alzheimer's Dementia Symptoms" taking first place at Sigma Theta Tau's Tri Chapter Research Day in Conway, AR, on April 3, 2012. **REBECCA COWIE**, **CARMEN SMITH** AND **TRACY TUCKER** took second place with a poster presentation titled "Perception of Dementia – Personal Experience Matter?", **BRANDI SHARP** took third place with her poster presentation titled "Influence of Nursing Students' gender on Sensitivity to Alzheimer's Disease". The presentations are part of an on-going study by Dr. Charlotte Young, Dr. Angie Schmidt, and Dr. Phyllis Skorga.

### CREATE @ STATE WINNERS

**MARISSA WATSON**, Social Work, was awarded

second place for "Reality of Domestition abuse in Jonesboro" in the Nursing and Health Professions Undergraduate category. In the Nursing and Health Professions Graduate category **MANETTE KELLER**, Physical Therapy, was awarded first place for "The Impact of a Structured Exercise Program on Health and Functional Performance Parameters on a Cohort of Obese Children" and **CHRIS ENGER**, Physical Therapy, was Awarded second place for "Description of Predisposing Factors Associated with Shoulder Pathology in Age Group Swimmers".

**VIRGINIA ESPOSITO**, Social Work, has been awarded \$400 as a recipient of the ASU Undergraduate Research Travel Funds for Spring 2012. ORTT awarded \$200 with a \$200 match from the ASU Graduate School.

**ROBIN SNIDER**, CD, has been awarded a graduate scholarship from the National Association of Junior Auxiliaries. NAJA scholarships are highly competitive and are awarded to students admitted to a graduate degree program and who plan to work

directly with children and youth with special needs.

**Brittany Bailey** completed her Honors thesis on April 5, 2012, by presenting the results of her investigation, *"A Preliminary Investigation of the Potential, Subtle, Middle Ear Differences in Children with Reading Delays"*, at Create @ state, taking the award for an Best Overall Undergraduate Panel Presentation. Bailey and Dr. Mike McDaniel, who served as her thesis adviser, presented the findings to the annual convention of the Arkansas Academy of Audiology on May 4, 2012 at the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute on Pettit Jean

Mountain near Morrilton, AR. Ms. Bailey's research compared middle ear pressures in elementary school children with above average and below average reading capabilities.

**Allison Gibbs** successfully defended her undergraduate Honors thesis, *"Are Two Ears Better Than One: A Study of Language Skill Before and After Bilateral Cochlear Implants"*. Ms. Gibbs completed a case study comparing the language skills of a female toddler with one cochlear implant, to her language skills after the second cochlear implant. Arianne Pait served as Ms. Gibbs's thesis adviser with

Rick Neeley and Amy Shollenbarger serving as committee members.

### PLEASE CONGRATULATE INDUCTEES INTO PHI KAPPA PHI:

Faculty: **DEBRA WALDEN**

Graduate Students: **SARAH DAVIDSON**, Adult Health, **CORTNEY GRIFFIN**, DPT, **PAM HUMBER**, FNP, **LISA JAGGERS**, FNP, **AUDREY SKAGGS**, MSHS, **LANA WILLIAMS**, Adult Health  
Seniors: **ADELE MILLER**, CD, **KRISTA RICE**, Nrs, **TINA SAMUELS**, SW, **ROBIN SNIDER**, CD, **CHRISTIANS STARR**, Nrs, **MATTHEW TILTON**, CLS, Juniors: **JOHN BOLDING**, SW, **ANDRIA HUTCHISON**, CD, **LANDRY STRONG**, Nrs, **Krista Turner**, MIRS

## ALUMNI NEWS

### 2011 OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

Seven outstanding graduates of the College of Nursing and Health Professions were honored as distinguished alumni for 2011 during Homecoming ceremonies, Saturday, Oct. 29, 2011.

The seven honorees were **DEBBIE SHIVERS**, MSN, FNP-BC, RN, APN (School of Nursing); **LANCE HARRELL**, MSN, FNP-BC, RN, APN, (School of Nursing); **MARVIN C. ALEXANDER**, M.S.W., L.C.S.W., (Department of Social Work); **JOANNE HUCK ROBERTS**, N.I.S., RRA, RT (R), RDMS, (Department of Medical Imaging and Radiation Science); **BROOKE RUNYAN CRAINE** (Physical Therapy); **PATRICIA A. JONES-GREER** (Department of Communication Disorders); and **ANNETTE BEDNAR**, MSE, MT (ASCP), (Clinical Laboratory Science Department).

**DEBBIE SHIVERS** and **LANCE HARRELL** are co-owners and nurse practitioners for a rural clinic, Coast-to-Coast Medical, in West Memphis. Shivers began her nursing career as a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) and received a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) from ASU in 1992. Since ASU did not have a Family Nurse Practitioner program at that time, she attended another school for that program.

She began working at Coast-to-Coast in 1999 as the clinic manager and Nurse Practitioner. The clinic, owned by a physician group, provided health care and Department of transportation-related care to truck drivers. Harrell was a Registered Nurse at Crittenden Regional Hospital in the emergency room before graduating from ASU with a Master of Science in Nursing in the Family Nurse Practitioner option in 2008. He completed part of his clinical requirements at Coast-to-Coast Medical with Shivers as his preceptor.

Upon graduation, he began his practice as

a nurse practitioner at the clinic. The clinic moved to a new location in 2008, and in 2009, Shivers and Harrell purchased the clinic. They continue to provide urgent health care and primary health care to the West Memphis community. The clinic is open from 8 a.m. to 8 .m. Monday-Friday and serves walk-ins with no scheduled appointments.

**MARVIN ALEXANDER** is a Clinical Social Worker and transitional services coordinator at Mid-South Health Systems, Inc. He provides leadership and oversight to the transition-to-independence-process system. He also leads and oversees chapters of Youth MOVE Arkansas hosted by Mid-South.

He is a founding member and president of the Board of Directors for Youth MOVE National, Inc., a national youth and young adult-run organization devoted to improving services and systems designed to serve young people. He has received the Distinguished Service Award from ASU in 2006, Spirit and Resiliency recognition from the National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health in 2007, and the Young Adult Leadership award from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in 2008. In 2007, he was appointed to the SAMHSA National Advisory Council by U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Michael Leavitt.

**JOANNE HUCK ROBERTS** is a 2005 graduate of ASU with an Associate Degree in Radiography and a 2007 magna cum laude graduate of the Bachelor of Sciences in Radiologic Sciences degree with an emphasis in Diagnostic Medical Sonography.

Following graduation, she worked for two years, entering the Master of Imaging Sciences program at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, where she became one of the first to graduate from

the program and the first person licensed by the Arkansas State Medical Board as a registered Radiologist Assistant (RRA).

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

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

**BROOKE RUNYAN CRAINE** graduated from ASU in 1999 with a Bachelor's Degree in Physical Therapy. Upon graduation, she worked in Fayetteville for two years before moving back to Jonesboro to specialize in pediatrics. She co-opened her business, Sensational Kids Pediatric Therapy, in 2006 and has served as a Clinical instructor for 11 years.

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

**PATRICIA A. JONES-GREER** is a 1982 ASU graduate. She earned her Master's Degree in Speech Pathology. She has served as a speech-language pathologist for

developmental disabilities centers in northeast Arkansas prior to employment in the public school system.

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

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

**ANNETTE BEDNAR** completed three degrees at ASU, including a Bachelor of Science in Education degree in Biology, a Bachelor of Science Degree in Medical Technology (now called clinical laboratory science), and a Master of Science in Education degree in Biology. She was a member of the first medical technology class after ASU acquired the program.

Since graduating from ASU, Bednar has served the community in a variety of roles, beginning as a bench technologist at Doctors' Pathology Service, followed by blood bank section chief at St. Bernards Medical Center. For nearly 25 years, she served as director of lab services for NEA Baptist Clinic, where she was responsible for oversight of 13 clinical laboratories.

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

**STEPHANIE RISINGER**, BS, MT (ASCP), has been named Director of Laboratory Services at West Florida Hospital in Pensacola.

She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Medical Technology from Arkansas State University, and has more than 26 years of experience in the hospital laboratory setting, 23 of which have been at the management level.

### RETIREMENT OF SUSAN SMITH

by Susan Hanrahan

Susan Smith, former Assistant Professor of Nursing, holds an MSN degree and is a RNP. She is a clinical nurse specialist in adult health. One of our psych nurse experts, she was initially appointed as an ASU Jonesboro faculty member in 1994. Prior to that she directed the AASN program at Beebe from 1990-1994. The state asked ASU-Jonesboro to take over associate degree programming at Beebe, Mountain Home and Ozarka through CVN, which we did and she remained on our faculty. She was our clinical site coordinator in Beebe from 1995-2010 and served in a non-tenure track position over those 18 years of service.

Prior to doing any work for ASU campuses, she was an educator at UAMS, Harding and

Baptist Medical's School of Practical Nursing. She continued to do clinical practice in nursing while in academia. She served on many of our department committees and even some college committees despite the distance. She was also active in scholarship even though that was not an assigned faculty role and won the Outstanding Research Award from Sigma Theta Tau. She was very active with the AR Nurses Association and the AR League for Nursing serving on its board. She was very visible in the Searcy community by serving on the Central Baptist College Board of Trustees, the AMI Central AR Hospital Governing Board, Foothills Tech Institute Nursing Adviser, Alz Association, AR Alliance for the Mentally Ill, Wilber Mills Education Service Cooperative Advisory Council for Drug Free Schools and Communities, BOD for Rape Crisis Services of White County and the list goes on. She has received many Who's Who honors—America's Teachers, Women Executives, Emerging Leaders in America, American Nursing, South and Southwest.

Not just an excellent educator and colleague but also the wife of a full time Arkansas National Guard service member which is another full time job with added stressors. I think she is ready to spend full time with her grandkids. I am not sure our Beebe program will be the same without Susan (and I am losing another person named Susan from my faculty) but a well-deserved retirement.

**WILL WATSON**, a BSRS graduate, was the summer 2012 commencement speaker.

### TITLE IV-E ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIP FOR PUBLIC CHILD WELFARE

by Karen Fullen

The ASU-CNHP-Dept. of SW, Title IV-E Academic Partnership in Public Child Welfare entered its 19th collaborative year with the Arkansas Division of Children and Family Services on July 1, 2012 with a \$468,041 grant.

Changes: Lynda Nash retired from IV-E after serving the Child Welfare Partnership for 10 years. Lynda will provide adjunct instruction for the IV-E program in the Child Abuse and Neglect course as well as in Introduction to Child Welfare for the academic year 2012-2013. Mickey Wilson also left the grant. Their contributions are appreciated and will have long term impact on the program. New to the grant staff are Kenya Duncan, MSW and Natalie Gatlin, MSW. Both Kenya and Natalie received their BSW and MSW degrees from the Social Work Department at ASU and both

have experience in the child welfare field. Both were Social Work student interns at DCFS during their undergraduate program and Natalie was a BSW IV-E stipend student. We are very excited about them joining us on the IV-E team.

Highlights from spring, 2012:

\*The spring Child Welfare Interdisciplinary Team and Social Work Department Conference on Childhood Trauma in Rural Environments was offered on the ASU campus in March. The one-day conference was attended by more than 315 students, faculty, community stakeholders, DCFS workers, policy makers, managers and foster parents. The keynote speaker was Dr. Joy Osofsky, a nationally recognized expert in the field of childhood trauma. Six additional workshops on a variety of topics related to childhood

trauma were offered following the keynote address.

\*Trish Holt provided the ASU lead in the development and delivery of advanced practice education to more than 100 area DCFS staff on Trauma Informed Practice.

\*Karen Fullen attended the National Child Abuse and Neglect Conference in Washington where the National Children's Bureau and the Administration of Children and Families celebrated 100 years of Child Welfare Public Services. IV-E also sponsored attendance of two area DCFS staff members.

\*Karen Fullen and Trish Holt attended the Arkansas National Association of Social Workers Conference in Hot Springs.

\*Karen Fullen was selected to participate in a statewide pilot project with the Mountains and Plains Child Welfare



Implementation Center out of the US Children's Bureau, University of Texas at Austin, and the Child Welfare Implementation Center in Denver, CO as a "Learning Circles" coach with DCFS county staff.

\*IV-E sponsored the following faculty to state and national conferences: Donna Parker, CSWE; Dr. Kathleen Carrick, AR-NASW; Dr. Richard Freer, AR-NASW, the National Child Abuse and Neglect Conference, and CSWE.

IV-E staff include Dr. Richard Freer-Grant PI, Dr. Karen Allen - Chair, Karen Fullen-Program Director, Trish Holt-Field Trainer, Kenya Duncan-Field Trainer, Natalie Gatlin-Field Trainer, Sandy Tate-Fiscal Support Specialist.

## UPDATES FROM BECK PRIDE CENTER

by Sandra Worlow

The Beck PRIDE Center for American's Wounded Veterans will be celebrating its 5th Anniversary of serving veterans this upcoming October, and the Center continues to grow. Currently, there are 146 active participants and their families receiving services. Of the 146 participants, there are 48 veterans enrolled in school for the Fall 2012 semester. The numbers continue to increase each semester as more and more veterans are enrolling in school to take advantage of their educational benefits. The Center is proud to announce that 8 PRIDE participants received degrees from ASU during the 2011-2012 school year!

The multi-year research project entitled "An Effective Solution for Combat Injured Veterans" begin in earnest in January 2012. There are currently 35 participating veterans enrolled in the project. The project was funded through a \$1,600,000 Congressional appropriation and is being overseen by the Department of Defense. The goal of the project is to evaluate the "process" of how services are delivered to the veterans and to measure the program design. The project will culminate in a "best-practice" manual that could be distributed to other college campuses seeking the assist their own combat wounded veterans.

The Arkansas Student Veteran Organization (ASVO) sponsored by the PRIDE Center has

been very active with community projects and recently assisted in rebuilding a barn that was destroyed by fire at the Spirit Ridge Therapeutic Riding Center. Jeff Kiech, the newly elected President of ASVO, has stated "the community of Jonesboro has been so supportive of the military that we (ASVO) feel it is important to give something back to the community to show our appreciation."

The PRIDE Center and ASVO are planning a Support Drive for the 1039th RCC to be held on Veterans Day in November to gather items for care packages to be sent to the soldiers during their deployment. The 1039th is Bravo Company of the 875th EN BN based out of Marked Tree and Harrisburg and will be deployed in August 2012 to Afghanistan with the mission of seeking out improvised explosive devices (IED). More details regarding the Support Drive will be announced in early fall and will be posted on the ASU Daily Digest.

## BECK PRIDE CENTER 5TH ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE

Friday, October 12, 2012

2:00-4:00 pm at the Beck PRIDE Center

The Public is invited.

## HOMECOMING 2012

Saturday-Oct 13

Reynolds Center for Health Sciences  
Celebrating 30th Anniversary of College  
of Nursing and Health Professions

Join us for:

1:00-2:00 Continuing Education

Evidence Based Practice:  
Promoting a Spirit of Inquiry

Panel—David Smith, PT, Jeff  
Ramsey, PT, Debbie Persell,  
DPEM and Jessica Camp, Nursing

2:00-3:00 Meet and Greet  
Tours of College

3:00-3:30 Distinguished Alumni Awards

3:30-6:00 Tailgate in Physical Therapy  
Tent— Tailgate City  
Sponsored by College of Nursing  
and Health Professions

6:00 Gametime—ASU Vs USA

For more information, contact the Dean's  
office at 870-972-3112.

## ASU CELEBRATES 100TH BIRTHDAY OF ARKANSAS NURSES ASSOCIATION

Renee Miller, AASH director, portrayed Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross, and Paige Wimberley portrayed Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing, at a celebration of the 100th birthday of the Arkansas Nurses Association. Local districts all over Arkansas are hosting local celebrations of the 100th year of the Arkansas Nurse, culminating in a gala at the Little Rock Peabody in December. Districts 6, 8, and 13 hosted the April 28 event at ASU and invited four famous nurses to the festivities. Also attending were Mary Eliza Mahoney (Erin Stegall, a 2006 BSN graduate), the first African-American nurse, and Mary Breckinridge (Hillary Creech, a 2009 BSN graduate), founder of the Frontier Nursing Service in Kentucky.



Hillary Creech and Erin Stegall



From left: Hillary Creech, Erin Stegall,  
Renee Miller, and Paige Wimberley



College of Nursing and  
Health Professions

# Fall 2012

## Schedule of Events

August 20	Fall Semester Classes Begin
September 3	Labor Day Holiday
September 11	CNHP Open House for High School Students
September 30 - October 2	Doctorate in Physical Therapy Accreditation Site Visit
October 12 - 2:00 - 4:00 pm	Beck PRIDE Center's 5th Anniversary Open House
October 13	Homecoming and CNHP Open House
November 19-24	Fall Break and Thanksgiving Holiday
December 3	Last Day of Class
December 15	Commencement (ASU Jonesboro)
Jan 14	Spring Semester Classes Begin

## Items of interest in fiscal year 2012 for CNHP:

**44,383**

Largest number of student semester credit hours generated

**15**

(2 new ones pending)

Largest number of program accreditations

**82**

Largest number of full-time faculty

**598**

Largest number of graduates

**10**

Largest number of signature programs and centers

**66**

Largest number of faculty whose salary is enhanced through differential tuition dollars



College of Nursing and  
Health Professions

**25**

Largest number of endowments for college (endowed and committed)