



STATEside News

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

Spring 2012

Jonesboro, Ark.

STATEside News

Dean's Corner

I love year end because it gives me time to sit back and reflect on all of the individual and collective work completed by those in this college. Often when we are in the midst of day-to-day projects, it is difficult to understand how much really gets accomplished over time, especially with everyone working productively toward a positive end. Concomitant with that, it is also a time to understand where we are and where we still need to be, so work may be focused over the next year.

I thought I would start the New Year by sharing a few reflective items from work completed in 2011, then highlight some of the things we will focus on in 2012.

So, here is what we have in which to be thankful:

- Five national program accreditations are behind us; two more scheduled in 2012;
- Proposed new programming in dietetics has made great strides toward full accreditation;
- Rittwood Farms continues to underwrite some of the start-up costs for nutrition programming;
- New programming in Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management has increased student numbers;
- New faculty has already been hired with a start date of January or August, 2012;
- We have received in-kind gifts of expensive equipment that will significantly benefit our students;
- College Centers are performing remarkably well—Beck PRIDE, ASU CARE and Disaster Preparedness;
- Specialty programs are also expanding—Hippotherapy, Healthy Ager, Child Welfare;
- The Virtual Hospital is about ready to open;
- Student semester credit hours and number of college graduates continues to increase;
- Applicant pool numbers for selective admission to our programs continue to rise;
- In Fiscal Year 2011, the college spent almost \$11 million on operations, including grant expenditures and other non-state funds;

This snapshot may make it appear we have little else to do—au contraire. In 2012, some areas of focus will include:

- Implementation of our diabetes self-management program;
- Continued lab, office and classroom upgrades in CNHP
- Implementation of the Bachelor of Science Degree in Nutritional Science, with a major in dietetics;
- Addition of clinical sites, new partners and possible program expansions;
- Strengthening assessment and admission processes in college programs;
- Filling faculty and chair vacancies with diverse and highly qualified individuals;
- Integration of state-of-the-art simulation into curriculums;
- Enhanced research/scholarship at student, faculty and departmental levels;
- Continued integration of inter-professional skills into college programming.

A task that is constantly at hand is to expand and diversify our funding in the college. It will continue to be important to develop a sound message for potential donors so gifts can provide necessary growth and a sustainable future. We have strengthened our college profile in the state and larger region, and it is our intent to continue to showcase the good work of our students, staff, faculty and alums. Do not hesitate to let us know how we are doing@

Happy 2012!
Susan Hanrahan, dean
College of Nursing &
Health Professions
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Tribute to Billy Joe Emerson

by Dean Susan Hanrahan

In the last year, we lost one of the most special people I had the privilege to know since I moved to Jonesboro—B.J. Emerson. Harold and I met him and Betty shortly after moving here while attending St. Bernards Evening of Music. They welcomed us; introduced us to everyone; and we watched them dance the night away. I realize now being placed at their table was a major gift from whomever made that decision; that night did bond us in a very special way.

Over the next 16 years, we spent time together at the Dinner Dance Club and at galas and fundraisers. I watched him in his work at Emerson Funeral Home and marveled at his strength when he lay to rest friend after friend. He always had a smile and a story; I continued to be amazed as he would resurrect himself from some illness or injury that surely should have kept him down—what a fighter! He was a man of motion, a man who cared about people, and a man who many loved and respected—including me.

Billy Joe followed the events of CNHP and was particularly interested when we organized seminar that revolved around grief. Our first seminar had more than 300 participants. He became an annual sponsor, and in the words of his family, let kindness be his legacy by leaving an endowment through the Craighead County Community Foundation. He understood the value and importance of bringing that kind of education to Jonesboro. The 2010 seminar was named in his honor; the Billy Joe Emerson Grief Seminar is something that will “live” in the college in perpetuity and we are so grateful. What a great way to continue to celebrate the work that he did and the life that he led. Thank you, Billy Joe!

College News

Dean Susan Hanrahan was presented the Darrell Mase Presidential Citation at the annual Awards Dinner for the Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions in Phoenix, Ariz., in October 2011. The award was given for years of exemplary service and leadership to the ASAHP organization, where she continues to serve as treasurer on the Board of Directors.

Dr. Rebecca Matthews, Dr. Shawn Drake, and Donna Parker will present “*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. Mike McDaniel, Dr. Richard Neeley, Julie Isaacson and Dr. G. Daniel Howard had an article titled “*Accent Assessment: A Preliminary Study of Scaling Validity*” accepted for publication in the *Journal of International Studies*, spring 2012.

Beverly Parker and Dr. Angela Schmidt, in a collaborative effort with the Center on Aging Northeast and Arkansas Department of Health, presented the Stanford University workshop “*Chronic Disease Self-Management*” to faculty, graduate students and community members.

Accreditation

ASU is preparing for a re-accreditation visit in spring 2013 with the Higher Learning Commission. This process includes an institutional self-study and peer evaluation. The institutional self-study is a campus-wide endeavor. **Julie Isaacson**, Nursing, is serving as the university co-chair and 15 faculties in the CNHP serve on the five criterion sub-committees that are being addressed in the self-study.

The **MSW program** has been granted initial accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education from the academic year 2008-09 to October 2015.

The **PTA program** site visit occurred in August by the Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE). The program is awaiting the final report regarding re-accreditation status at the end of April 2012. The PTA program’s last site visit was in 2002; the program was granted a 10-year accreditation.

The **Radiation Therapy** site visit occurred in September. All 58 objectives in the six standards were in substantial compliance. The accreditation board will meet in February to determine the accreditation award, but the program expects the maximum accreditation award of eight years.

MRI site visit took place in August. The program has been granted initial accreditation for five years.

The **Coordinated Program in Dietetics**

hosted a site -team visit from the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education (CADE) in October. The three-member team toured the ASU campus and visited potential supervised practice sites for the new dietetics program. Currently, the program is awaiting the CADE board decision in February 2012, regarding candidacy for accreditation.

Physical Therapy

Dr. Roy Aldridge will give an oral presentation titled “*Perceptions of Empowerment in Physical Therapist in the United States*” at the eleventh Annual International Conference on Health Economics, Management and Policy in Athens, Greece on June 25-28, 2012. He also had a paper titled “*The Effects of Hippotherapy on Motor Performance and Function in an Individual with Bilateral Developmental Dysplasia of the HIP (DDH)*” accepted for publication in the *Journal of Physical Therapy*, 2011; 2:54-63.

Becky Keith and Stacey Sloas presented “*Game On or More Practice*,” co-authored by **Dr. Todd Whitehead**, at the 40th annual meeting of the Mid-South Educational Research Association in Oxford, Miss., in November.

Dr. Todd Whitehead’s manuscript, “*Running Economy and Maximal Oxygen Consumption Following Four Weeks of Oral Echinacea Supplementation*” has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research*.

Nursing

Lori Clay has been appointed as a board member for Lippincott, Williams, and Wilkins for their new Electronic Health Record and is part of the alpha and beta testing class.

Renee Miller and Annette Stacy have both achieved Certified Nurse-Educator status.

Dr. Angela Stone Schmidt completed the ASAHP Leadership Development Program. The two-part program took place last March in New Orleans, La., and in October at Scottsdale, Ariz. **Dr. Schmidt** co-authored “*Clinical Practice Guidelines for Multiple Sclerosis: Clinical Manifestations*”, published by the Rehabilitation Nursing Foundation, Association of Rehabilitation Nurses (ARn), American Association of Neuroscience Nurses, and International Multiple Sclerosis Network, which is available for download at www.aan.org/pubs/content/guidelines.html.

and “*Ethical, Moral and Legal Considerations*,” published by the Rehabilitation Nursing Foundation and Association of Rehabilitation Nurses. It is available in “*The Specialty Practice of Rehabilitation Nursing: A Core Curriculum*,” sixth edition. She co-presented “*Recruitment and Retention of Allied Health Faculty*,” with co-presenters Ithaca College’s Dr. John Sugg and

University of North Carolina at Greensboro’s, Dr. Kathleen Williams, and “*Using Simulation to Enhance Knowledge and Sensivity to Alzheimer’s Disease in Inter-Professional Education*,” with **Dr. Phyllis Skorga**, at the ASAHP National Conference.

Dr. Phyllis Skorga and Dr. Charlotte Young co-authored the article, “*Stage-based Interventions for Smoking Cessation*,” and “*Motorcycle Rider Training for the Prevention of Road Traffic Crashes: A Review Synopsis*,” which was published in ‘*Public Health Nursing*,’ 28: (5), as well as “*Self-Monitoring and Self-Management for Oral Anticoagulation*,” and “*Aspirin With or Without an Anti-emetic for Migraine Headaches in Adults*,” both published in the ‘*International Journal of Evidence Based Healthcare*,’ 9: (01).

Dr. Susie Snellgrove will present a poster, “*Muddy Waters: Victims’ Perceptions of Resident-to-Resident Violence in Nursing Homes/Behavioral Health Settings*,” at the Southern Nursing Research Society meeting on February 22-25, 2012 in New Orleans, La., and “*Resident-to-Resident Violence: Opportunities for Preventive Intervention*” this April in Ferndale, Ark.. Her article, “*Victim or Initiator? Caregiver Perceptions of Resident Characteristics that Contribute to Resident-to-Resident Violence in Nursing Homes*,” was accepted for publication in ‘*Research in Gerontological Nursing*.’

Debra Walden presented “*Toward Improving Pregnancy Outcomes: What Can We Do?*” with collaborator Betty Diehl of the University of Central Arkansas at the 98th annual Arkansas Nurses Association Convention in Rogers, Ark. in October. Walden has been appointed by Dr. Chuck Welch, ASU system president, to serve as one of five faculty members on the Chancellor’s Search Advisory Committee.

Dr. Nonie Wiggins recently graduated with a Doctor of Education degree from ASU. She successfully defended her dissertation, “*Exemplary Practices of Baccalaureate Nursing Programs with High Pass Rates on the NCLEX-RN*.”

Clinical Lab Sciences

Annette Bednar will present a luncheon roundtable, “*Out of the Frying Pan and Into the Fire: First-Year Teaching Experience of a Former Lab Director*,” at the Clinical Laboratory Educator’s Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah in February.

Stacy Walz co-authored “*Provider Characteristics, Clinical-Work Processes and Their Relationship to Discharge Summary Quality for Sub-Acute Care Patients*,” which was published in the 2012 *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. 27(1): 78-84.

Communication Disorders

Dr. Sherri Brooks presented posters, “*Efficacy of a Supplemental Literacy Program for Children with Language Impairment*,” and “*Efficiency of Brief, Intensive Drill Sessions in Achieving Articulation of Objectives*,” in November at the American Speech Language Hearing Association Convention in San Diego, Calif. **Merrill Catt** and **Dr. Richard Neeley** submitted “*Therapy on a DIME: Dynamic Intervention using Materials from the Environment*” to the Language, Speech and Hearing Services in the Schools Journal.

Merrill Catt presented mini seminars “*Intervention Goes GREEN: Great Resources from the Environment for Explicit Skills*,” at the 41st Annual Statewide Early Childhood Education Conference at ASU last August, and “*Therapy on a DIME: Dynamic Intervention using Materials from the Environment*,” at the Southeast University Clinical Educators Conference in Birmingham, Ala., in October.

Dr. Mike McDaniel has been appointed to serve on the NEA Baptist Hospital and Clinic’s Institutional Review Board.

Amy Shollenbarger presented “*Speech Therapy in the Schools – With the Brain in Mind*,” at the Arkansas Speech-Language and Hearing Association Convention at Little Rock in October. She also presented “*Exploring Fifth Graders’ Misspellings of Derived Words*,” at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention at San Diego in November. Also presenting at that conference were **Kathryn A. Smith** and **Dr. Sherri Brooks**, who presented, “*The Efficiency of Using Brief, Intensive Drills in Achieving Articulation Objectives*.”

Radiologic Sciences

Dr. Lester Barrett, D.D.S., donated a Panorex mandible/dental unit for the Radiologic Technology students. This will be excellent teaching instrumentation for laboratory technology.

Donna Caldwell will present “*Radiographic Imaging the Aorta: The Largest Artery in the Body*,” **Jeannean Rollins** will present “*Trauma Radiography 101*,” and **Tracy White** will present “*Understanding Personality Types: A Strategy to Increase Student Clinical Education*,” at the Association of Collegiate Educators in Radiologic Technology Annual Conference in Las Vegas, Nev., in February.

Cheryl DuBose has been invited to present an abstract, “*God in the Classroom: Private versus Public Higher Education in the United States*,” at the European Teachers Education Network conference this April in Coimbra, Portugal.

Social Work

Dr. Gauri Bhattacharya had an article, “*Spirituality and Type-Two Diabetes Self-Management Among African Americans in the Arkansas Delta*,” accepted for publication in the February 2012 issue of ‘Journal of Social Services Research,’ and an article, “*Self-Management of Type-Two Diabetes Among African Americans in the Arkansas Delta: A Strengths Perspective in Social-Cultural Contexts*,” accepted for publication in the February issue of the ‘Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved.’ Her book review of “*Aging with HIV: A Gay Man’s Guide*,” by J. Masten and J. Schmidtberger was published in ‘Aids Education and Prevention’ last June, (Vol. 23, No. 3). She presented a paper, “*Reducing health disparities: Towards advancing effective interventions for type-two diabetes among African Americans in the Arkansas Delta*,” at the Historically Black College and Universities Network at Meharry Medical College in Nashville last September.

Dr. Kat Carrick will present two workshops, “*Social Workers’ Ethical and Professional Responsibilities to the LBGT Community*,” and “*Through the Eyes of a Child: Bearing Witness to Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence*,” at the 2012 Arkansas Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers Annual Conference this April 4-5 in Hot Springs..

Dr. Young Hong’s manuscript, “*Six-Step Therapeutic Process to Facilitate Forgiveness of Self and Others*,” has been accepted for publication in Clinical Social Work Journal. He has also been invited to serve as guest editor for a special issue of the ‘Journal of Social Service Research.’

Dr. Patricia Guy Walls recently had an article, “*Socio-Cultural Challenges in Conducting Ethnographic Research Among Ethiopian Street Youth*,” published in the online bi-monthly journal ‘The Qualitative Report,’ Vol. 16, No. 3.

Nutrition

Pam Towery presented “*Sensitive to Food: Allergy or Intolerance*,” and “*Healthy Eating: Resources for Parents*” at the 41st Annual Statewide Early Childhood Education Conference in August at ASU Childhood Services. She also presented “*Making the Move: From Practitioner to Educator*,” last September at the Third Annual Online and Distance Education Regional Conference at ASU – Jonesboro.

The Regional Center for Disaster Preparedness

Brent Cox participated in an event at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center in September that was designed to educate students to help their

teachers in any type of emergency. Two students from every third-through-fifth grade class in Greene County were taught CPR and what to do/expect in the event of a disaster at their school.

Dr. Debbie Persell presented “*Incorporating Salivary Assays in Evaluating the Well-Being of Children Living in the Mississippi Delta of Arkansas Following Disasters*,” at the Second Israeli International Conference on Healthcare System Preparedness and Response to Emergencies and Disasters in January, at Tel Aviv, Israel. **Dr. Persell** also co-authored an article with **Doug Brown**, “*When Practice and Academia Meet*.” It is published in the December 2011 issue of the International Association of Emergency Managers’ IAEM Bulletin.

GRANTS/CONTRACTS:

Dr. Roy Aldridge, Jr. has a grant pending from the Susan G. Komen Foundation for “*Lymphedema 201*” for \$6,500.

Dr. Loretta Brewer has received a \$1,500 grant from Craighead County Community Foundation for “*Health Promotion Project – North Jonesboro*.”

Dr. Debbie Persell and **Dr. Sue McLarry** have a grant pending from the National Institutes of Health titled “*Impact of Support on Elder’s Health Outcomes Following Disaster*.”

Dr. Susan Motts has a grant pending from APTA Foundation, “*Brainstem Cholinergic Circuitry to Auditory Structures in Rats*.”

Dr. Debbie Persell has a grant pending with the Louisville Institute for “*Ministry Following the Joplin Tornado*.”

Good-bye to:

Dr. Young Hong, Social Work
Dr. George Jacinto, Social Work
Dr. Trish King, Physical Therapy
Ashley Mott, Physical Therapy
Linda Razor, Nursing

Welcome to:

Dr. Kat Carrick, Social Work
Brent Cox, Regional Center for Disaster Preparedness
Anita French, Regional Center for Disaster Preparedness
Dr. Stephen Guffey, Physical Therapy
Dr. Brad Holloway, Social Work
Carla McCain, Nursing
Lyndsey Rush, Social Work

In Sympathy

Donna Caldwell, MIRS, on the loss of her father.

Linda Tate, Nursing, on the loss of her brother.

Joyce Simmons, on the loss of her father-in-law.

Sandy Tate, Title IV-E, on the loss of her mother-in-law.

Student News

Jessica Allen, a Radiologic Sciences major, received a \$500 scholarship from the Jonesboro Business and Professional Women's Club.

Brittany Bailey (CD) was awarded a grant from the ASU Office of Research and Technology Transfer to conduct her undergraduate honors thesis. Her project is "A Preliminary Investigation of the Potential Subtle Middle Ear Differences in Children with Reading Impairments." Her thesis adviser is Dr. Mike McDaniel.

Heather Dement, Brandon Doty, Tina Hayes, Samantha Knight, Hayley McDaniel, Meredith Moore, Kristy Mooney and Sarah Thomas each received a \$2,000 scholarship from St. Bernards Regional Medical Center.

Julie Junkersfeld (CD) recently successfully submitted her thesis prospectus, "The effect of signal-to-noise ratio hearing loss on phonemic awareness in school age children," and **Crystal Toombs** (CD) recently successfully submitted her thesis prospectus, "Pragmatic skill differences in second-born children and children without siblings." Both students' theses are being directed by Dr. Mike McDaniel.

The Student Social Work Organization, along with faculty sponsor **Donna Parker**, raised more than \$7,000 to benefit Foster Kids Christmas. The event, a ranch rodeo and western activities, allowed the group to adopt more than 70 foster children.

Arkansas Nursing Students Association

The following students were elected to the Arkansas Nursing Students Association board at the Annual Fall Convention in October at Rogers, Ark.:

Brandy Doty – Vice President

Addie Kortan – Secretary

Sheryl Staton – District III Director.

Kandace Dyson and **Kathryn A. Smith**, graduate students in Communication Disorders, successfully completed their thesis defenses in November. Dyson's thesis was entitled: "Are You Textually Active?" and Smith's project was titled "The Efficiency of Using Brief, Intensive Drills in Achieving Articulation Objectives." Dr. Sherri Brooks served as thesis adviser to both students.

Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities

Congratulations to our winners!

Brittany Bailey, Communication Disorders
Candice Biggers, Communication Disorders
Kristen Dorsey, Communication Disorders
Megan Fowler, Communication Disorders
Allison Gibbs, Communication Disorders
Kyle Hardy, Radiologic Technology
Krista Rice, Nursing

Annie Robinson, Social Work

Leslie Snyder, Communication Disorders

Amanda Storm, Communication Disorders

Tiffani Weaver, Nursing

Alumni News

Beverly Parker has been named to the Alzheimer's Advisory Council of Arkansas.

Shawnda Swearengin was awarded the 2011 Secretary's Award for Nursing Excellence for the Central Arkansas VA Healthcare System.

Brian Lewis, a 2005 graduate, became the first in Arkansas to receive the Advanced Proficiency certification by the American Physical Therapy Association.

Upcoming Events

The 15th Annual Clinical Instructor's Seminar will be held on March 9, at Fowler Center. The speaker, **Priscilla Pittman**, director of Alzheimer's Arkansas, will speak on Alzheimer related topics that morning, followed by program-specific break-out sessions that afternoon. Lunch is included with registration.

The breakout speaker for the PT Department will be **Kevin Olds**, MSPT, Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist, Certified Mulligan Practitioner. He is currently a Senior Physical Therapist and Education Coordinator for Campbell Clinic in Germantown, Tenn. He is the referral physical therapist for the University of Memphis, Memphis Grizzlies and Redbirds baseball team. The topic will be physical therapy intervention for the baseball player's shoulder.

In March, the Title IV-E Academic Partnership in Public Child Welfare, along with the Departments of Social Work, Teacher Education, Early Childhood Services and Sociology, Criminology and Geography, will sponsor a one-day conference, "**Childhood Trauma-Evidenced Based Practice in Rural Environments.**" We encourage all faculty, staff and students to attend this free educational opportunity to learn more about the impact of trauma on children. The keynote speaker is **Dr. Joy Osofsky**, a nationally recognized expert in childhood trauma and a member of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network. To register, please contact Sandy Tate at state@astate.edu.

Upcoming Grief Seminars

CNHP will host two of the Hospice Foundation of America's programs. On March 30 we will present "New Perspectives on Death and Dying," and on April 27 "End-of-Life Ethics." Both programs are from 1-3:30 in Reynolds Center Room 222. Both are free and open to the public.

The annual **Billy Joe Emerson Grief Seminar** will be held May 24. **Dr. Robert Niemeyer** will present, "Lessons of Life-Lessons of Loss." Registration is required. Check our website for additional information or call 972-3112.

CNHP to Sponsor Third Trip to China

by Ray Winters

In May, students and faculty from the College of Nursing and Health Professions will take a 10-day trip to China. This trip will expose current and future health care providers to Chinese methods of delivering healthcare while allowing them to learn and appreciate Chinese culture.

Lead by **Dr. Rebecca Matthews**, assistant professor, the group will leave May 12 and return May 22. Students may earn up to three hours college credit for the experience. Guiding the group will be **John Pate**, who works for ASU in China. Pate is a native Arkansan who has lived in China for seven years.

The 10-day trip will begin in Beijing. While in Beijing, the group will tour Beijing University Medical School; attend a presentation at the Chinese World Health Organization; shop at the famous "Silk Alley" market; and tour the Great Wall, Forbidden City. The group will then fly to Xi'an (pronounced "she awn"). There they will tour the ancient capital of three dynasties, including its historic, intact city wall and bell tower; attend a traditional Chinese dinner show; and see the Terra Cotta Warriors. The group will then fly to Shanghai. Shanghai is a truly cosmopolitan city, considered the jewel of Chinese cities. There they will tour the Yueyang Hospital, center of traditional Chinese medicine. Other plans for Shanghai include touring the national museum of Chinese culture; touring the Bund; and taking a night river cruise to view the lighter skyline. Woven through the itinerary are experiences at Chinese hotels and Chinese cuisine.

Plans call for this to be an annual event. The reasonable cost would be hard to beat for its value. Current students are eligible to apply for travel assistance monies through the Office of International Programs. Alumni of any CHNP programs are welcome to go, as well as their spouses, friends and family. There are only 40 slots available, reservations should be made soon. If you are interested, need more information, or want to be placed on a waiting list, contact **Ray Winters** at 870-972-3329 or at rwinters@astate.edu or **Dr. Rebecca Matthews** at 870-972-2492 or rmatthews@astate.edu. There are still slots open for 2012.

Communication Disorders Graduate Student Performance on the National Licensure Exam

by Richard Neeley, Chair, CD

In December, 24 graduate students will be receiving their master's degree in Communication Disorders. In order for those young professionals to earn state and national licensure, they must complete the Praxis II specialty area exam in speech-language pathology. The minimum score for passing this licensure exam is 600 points. Student performance on the licensure exam is tracked by the Department of Communication Disorders and reported to the public and the accreditation board each year on the department's website, which serves as an index of program quality. The department is proud to announce all 24 graduate students passed the exam on their first attempt and earned a group mean Praxis score of 670.83 points, which is the highest in the history of the master's program in Communication Disorders. This level of performance sets a new standard of excellence for students pursuing a graduate degree in Communication Disorders.

The ASU Speech and Hearing Center Assistive Listening Device Center

by Dr. Mike McDaniel

The Arkansas State University Speech and Hearing Center is proud to announce the launch of an Assistive Listening Device Trial Center. Assistive listening devices (ALDs) or assistive listening systems (ALSs) are instruments that are designed to improve a person's ability to hear in specific listening situations. ALDs differ from conventional personal hearing aids in their application. Some ALDs amplify a sound signal, but the primary purpose of an ALD is to make the targeted sound easier to hear by isolating the sound source from surrounding noise. ALDs fall into several categories—alert/warning, telephone/telecommunications, radio/television and personal communications (individual and group). Often ALDs are employed to meet certain provisions of the Americans with Disability Act.

The ALD Trial Center was made possible through support of the College of Nursing and Health Professions Office of the Dean and by support from the Telecommunication Access Program of the Arkansas Department of Career Education, Arkansas Rehabilitation Services Division. Several devices from each category are on display and are available for trial. Although the devices are not for sale from the ASU Speech and Hearing Center a member of the clinical staff can assist in the

procurement of an ALD if they are indicated. Some devices may be supplied at no cost for eligible individuals from the telecommunication access program of the Arkansas Department of Career Education, Arkansas Rehabilitation Services Division. For more information please contact Mike McDaniel at 870 972-3546.

Regional Training Center for Disaster Preparedness Education

by Debbie Persell, Coordinator

In October, the Arkansas Department of Higher Education approved the Associate of Applied Science (AAS) and Master of Science (MS) in Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (DPEM), as well as the Graduate Certificate in Disaster Health. A Bachelor of Professional Studies is under development; there should soon be a full complement of degrees in this field.

The program office is now open Monday-Friday from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. **Anita French** is the new DPEM program administrative assistant. If you need assistance or questions answered, you may call the program office at 870-680-8286 or email her at afrench@astate.edu.

The web sites for the Regional Center now contain pages for each new degree, along with information on admission, financial aid (including scholarships), frequently asked

Hayden, Krystle George, Leanne Kennedy and Katie Belknap. An additional four scholarships for this same combination of courses of study will be awarded this spring. Also, four scholarships will be awarded to students enrolling full-time in the Master of Science DPEM degree program. To obtain information on the scholarship and an application please visit our web site: <http://www.astate.edu/a/conhp>.

With the advent of these new degrees, we have realized a robust enrollment. The spring semester finds us with many of the DPEM classes at capacity, leading us to add multiple sections for some courses. Students continue to take advantage of the opportunities to learn from seasoned professionals in the field by completing practicum experiences with area county emergency managers, regional chapters of the American Red Cross, hospitals, local businesses, educational institutions and the U.S. Center for Domestic Preparedness.

World's AIDS Day 2011

The ASU Department of Social Work sponsored its Fourth Annual World AIDS Day Conference to help raise awareness about the impact of HIV in Arkansas in December. More than 140 people attended the no-cost conference at the ASU Student

Arkansas Association of Nurse Anesthetists



LTC Benjamin Campbell, CRNA, USAR
Selerno, Afghanistan

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LTC Benjamin Campbell, CRNA, USAR CRNA with more than 20 years' service of multiple deployments in Iraq, Afghanistan, Bosnia and Germany provides anesthesia care.

Ben resides in Hot Spring with wife LTC Mary Jane Campbell, CRNA, who has served multiple deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan. He was a clinical coordinator at National Park Medical Center (Hot Springs) for ASU student nurse anesthetists for several years.

Prior to locating in Hot Springs, Ben and Mary Jane provided anesthesia services at St. Bernard's Medical Center and NEA Baptist in Jonesboro.

questions and program faculty. Four undergraduate students have been awarded significant scholarships that include full-tuition reimbursement for the 18 hours of the Multidisciplinary Minor in Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness and the MS in DPEM. These students are **MSgt. John**

Union. Confidential HIV testing was provided with rapid response results and prevention counseling in a sensitive, supportive and professional manner. A total of 97 individuals were tested. The statistical breakdown from the Northeast Public Health Region of Arkansas Department of

Health noted the testing included seven African-American males; 33 African-American females; 13 White males, 41 White females, 2 Hispanic females; and one Native American female. Those tested during the conference received a free t-shirt to help raise awareness in Craighead County. A living ribbon ceremony was held on the Heritage Plaza, with ASU students and community members wearing their shirts.

This year's itinerary included a panel presentation addressing HIV prevalence, prevention efforts and care resources in Arkansas by **Dr. Dirk Haselow**, medical director for Communicable Diseases and Immunizations at the Arkansas Department of Health; **Debbie Biazio**, director of the Northeast Arkansas Regional AIDS Network (NARAN); and **Dr. Carl Abraham**, IDCC Infectious Disease & Control Consultants. Small breakout sessions addressed concerns on vulnerable populations for youth and safer sex, women and elders. Conference highlights included a free public screening of the film "**A Closer Walk**" and a discussion of living life as HIV-positive by Connie "the condom lady." Concluding this year's conference was a keynote address by **Dr. Jocelyn Elders**, the 16th Surgeon General under President Bill Clinton and a passionate advocate of public health. An Arkansas native, Dr. Elders was the first African-American and the second woman to head the U.S. Public Health Service.

Committee members for this year's conference included **Dr. Patricia Guy Walls**, **Dr. Kat Carrick**, **Dr. Gauri Bhattacharya**, **Dr. Peggy Wright** and **Niya Blair**. Co-sponsors for World AIDS Day 2011 included the College of Nursing and Health Professions, the Multicultural Center, the Office of Diversity Initiatives, Minority Health Services, Delta Studies Center, BSW & MSW Social Work Student Organizations, NABSW Organization, Arkansas Department of Health, North Arkansas Regional AIDS Network, Dr. Carl Abraham, IDCC Infectious Disease & Control Consultants, and Life Strategies Counseling, Inc.

ASU Care Hosts "Healthy Kids, Safe Kids" Community Health Fair

by Brad Holloway, SW
and Loretta Brewer, interim chair, SW

ASU CARE, an outreach initiative of the ASU Department of Social Work, hosted the "Healthy Kids, Safe Kids" health fair at north Jonesboro in November. A community action team (CAT) composed of area residents assisted with planning and implementing the health fair, which was attended by more than 148 children and 48 adults. In addition, the event was supported by countless volunteers, including students from the ASU Social

Work and Nursing Departments; the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences; local Department of Human Services employees; the Jonesboro Fire Department; the Craighead County Sheriff's Department and DARE officer; as well as representatives from Head Start; the Clopton Foundation; Child Development Inc.; Families, Inc.; and the Hispanic Center.

The event was made possible in part by a grant from the Craighead County Community Foundation, an affiliate office of the Arkansas Community Foundation, Inc. Additional funding was provided by the Academic Partnership for Public Child Welfare (Title IV-E). Space for the event was provided by the Jonesboro Urban Renewal & Housing Authority.

Participants engaged in a number of interactive presentations addressing topics including drug awareness, oral hygiene, nutrition, physical fitness, fire safety and overall wellness. Door prizes presented included bicycles and helmets, basketballs, hats and gloves, smoke alarm, and healthy foods. Vendor booths supplied a wide variety of gifts including first-aid kits, toothbrushes, toothpaste and oral hygiene kits. Nutritious foods were prepared and served throughout the event.

ASU Title IV-E Academic Partnership in Public Child Welfare

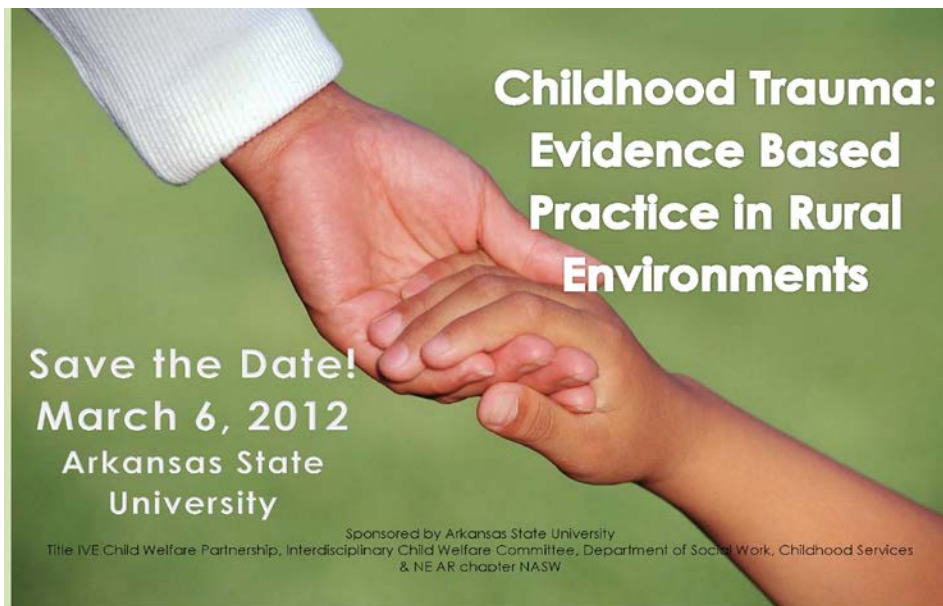
by Karen Fullen

Under the leadership of **Dr. Richard Freer**, the Title IV-E Academic Child Welfare Grant at ASU began its 17th year in July with \$461,021. The Title IV-E program in Arkansas is celebrating its 20th anniversary. Recently, IV-E staff attended the 20-year celebration on the University of Arkansas

campus along with the eight other Arkansas universities and the Arkansas Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS). The Title IV-E program has provided stipends to about 100 social work students to date. It has also provided education and training services for hundreds of ASU faculty and students from other majors, DCFS staff and community providers. The Title IV-E program is responsible for more than \$530,000 of indirect funds for ASU.

Karen Fullen is participating in a state-wide supervisor training development initiative to strengthen the effectiveness of unit and county supervisors as coaches in Child Welfare. **Mickey Wilson** and **Lynda Nash** recently volunteered to travel to Northwest Arkansas to assist with DCFS training on "Grief/Loss Issues for Children in Foster Care and Managing Difficult Encounters with Families." Mickey, Lynda and **Trish Holt** have been trained as educators and field trainers in Trauma Informed Casework.

The Field Trainers, under the leadership of Trish Holt and working in partnership with Arkansas Tech University and Philander Smith College, will provide intensive training on child trauma for DCFS staff in North Central and Northeast Arkansas during the coming calendar year. Lynda served on the steering committee of the DCFS Area Eight Foster Parent Conference in October and presented, "*Handling Difficult Encounters with Families*." Lynda and Karen collaborated with DCFS to offer the two-day supervisor leadership conference for DCFS supervisors at Mountain View in October and presented, "*Coaching in Supervision*." **Trish Holt** attended the Annual Arkansas Child Abuse and Neglect Conference in September in Hot Springs.



**Childhood Trauma:
Evidence Based
Practice in Rural
Environments**

Save the Date!
March 6, 2012
**Arkansas State
University**

Sponsored by Arkansas State University
Title IV-E Child Welfare Partnership, Interdisciplinary Child Welfare Committee, Department of Social Work, Childhood Services
& NE AR chapter NASW

Updates from Beck PRIDE Center by Sandra Worlow, Director

The Beck PRIDE Center for American's Wounded Veterans, which celebrated four years of serving veterans this past October, continues to grow. Currently, there are 118 active participants and their families receiving services. Of the 118 participants, 39 enrolled in school for the fall 2011 semester. That number should increase for the spring 2012 semester; we have been busy assisting more veterans enrolling in school who want to take advantage of their educational benefits.

On Veteran's Day in November, the Beck PRIDE Center assisted the Arkansas Student Veterans Organization in organizing the National Day of Remembrance honoring the 6,305 service members killed in action in Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. More than 60 veterans, students, ASU faculty and staff, and community volunteers assisted the ASVO in the reading of the names. It was a very memorable and solemn occasion and the staff of the Beck PRIDE Center was honored to be able to take part in the ceremony.

In November, **Susan and Kenneth Tonymon** were honored for their service and dedication to the Beck PRIDE Center at the ASVO Fall Banquet, which was held at the Cooper Alumni Center to raise funds for the new Susan and Kenneth Tonymon Scholarship that will be awarded to a deserving veteran in the fall and spring semesters. **Jeffrey Kiech**, an Air Force veteran, Mechanical Engineering major and current vice president of ASVO, was named the scholarship's first recipient. Monies raised that evening will be used to fund the scholarship.

In December, **Sandra Worlow** was named the director of the Beck PRIDE Center, replacing Susan Tonymon, who has served as the director since the program's inception in October 2007. Sandra has worked in the social work field for 18 years, most recently serving as a military and family life consultant in Northeast Arkansas as well as chair of the Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board. Susan will continue to work part-time at the center as she transitions to her new home in Northwest Arkansas. Kelly McCoy Smith is continuing to work at the center and is an invaluable member of the Beck PRIDE team. The multi-year research project, "*An Effective Solution for Combat Injured Veterans*," will begin in earnest this January. The project was funded through a \$1.6 million Congressional appropriation and is being overseen by the U.S. Department of Defense. The goal of the project is to address the process of how services are delivered to veterans and to measure the program design. The project will culminate in a "best-practice" manual that will be distributed to other college campuses seeking to assist their own combat-wounded veterans.

Communication Disorders Graduate Student Scholarship Recipients

by Richard Neeley

Three graduate students majoring in Communication Disorders were recently notified of their selection as recipients of scholarships specifically designated for students in the profession. The recipient of the George Herndon Graduate Scholarship in Communication Disorders is **Crystal Toombs** of Gosnell, Ark. **Rachel Goff** of Hoxie was selected to receive the Jane H. LeBlanc Graduate Clinical Scholarship in Communication Disorders. The L.H. Sternheimer Scholarship in Communication Disorders was awarded to **Ashley Gonzalez** a Brookland High School graduate.

ASU Memorial Virtual Hospital by Sue McLarry

ASU Memorial Hospital is located in the virtual world of Second Life. The hospital is the setting for inter-professional education and collaborative practice. The virtual simulation provides an alternative supplement to clinical education and facilitates interaction among health professions students. ASU Memorial Hospital was developed for CNHP under the direction of **Dr. Alyson Gill** of the ASU Center for Digital Initiatives.

CNHP faculty involved in the first phase of development include **Dr. Sue McLarry** (Nursing), **Dr. Susan Motts** (PT), **Dr. Bill Hinkle** (CD), **Annette Bednar** (CLS) and **Donna Caldwell** (MIRS). Social work and nutrition will be included in the second phase.



Mr. Hal Wolf, patient at ASU Memorial Hospital

Faculty and students from all of the health professions in CNHP will participate in the care of **Mr. Hal Wolf**, a 67-year-old African-American male with a history of hypertension and type-two diabetes who is diagnosed with CVA. The care by each health profession will be provided asynchronously, and collaborative team meetings will occur synchronously.



Virtual team meeting at ASU Memorial Hospital

Collaborative communication is the focus of this inter-professional education.

ASU Memorial Hospital and Mr. Wolf are just the beginning of learning opportunities in a virtual world.



Inside the ASU Memorial Hospital



P.O. Box 910 • State University, AR 72467-0910

COLLEGE OF NURSING
AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Spring 2012

Schedule of Events

DATE	EVENT
January 17	Classes Begin
March 9.....	Clinical Instructors Seminar, ASU Fowler Center
March 19-23.....	Spring Break
March 30.....	Beyond Kubler-Ross: New Perspectives on Death, Dying and Grief, Hospice Foundation of America Seminar
April 11-12	Convocation of Scholars
April 27.....	End-of-Life Ethics, Hospice Foundation of America Seminar
April 30.....	Last Day of Class
May 12.....	Commencement (ASU – J)
May 24.....	Billy Joe Emerson Grief Seminar

Items of interest in fiscal year 2011 for CNHP:

- Largest number of student semester credit hours generated — **44,074**
- Largest number of graduates — **585**
- Largest number of national program accreditations—**14** (2 new ones pending)
- Largest number of clinical site contracts — **487**
- Largest number of full time faculty—**82**
- Largest number of signature programs and centers—**10**
- Largest number of faculty whose salary is enhanced through differential tuition dollars— **63**
- Largest number of endowments for college (endowed and committed) —**25**