A new year brings new and exciting initiatives in the WellStar College of Health and Human Services. Our academic programs continue to expand, and the achievements of our faculty continue to be increasingly impressive. The WellStar College has as its objective the provision of high quality academic programs that respond to the educational needs of Georgia, the significant engagement of our College in the community, and the generation of knowledge that promotes the well-being of our citizens. We have achieved significantly in all of these areas over the past year and have a vision of even greater accomplishments in the new year.

The WellStar School of Nursing admitted the first class to its new masters program in Advanced Care Management and Leadership in Fall 2004. This new MSN program responds to a nationally identified need for clinical leadership in nursing. The program curriculum is designed to facilitate expertise in the clinical management of chronic illness, as well as includes courses to develop leadership competencies in the business of healthcare and conflict management. We are excited about the flexibility of this new masters degree in that we have the option to support students in developing their specific expertise through individualized clinical experiences and mentorship. Additionally, the Department of Human Services has received approval for the offering of a new masters degree in social work (MSW). The Human Services Department is busy developing the plan for implementation of this new degree. Additionally, the faculty is already working to achieve accreditation once the new program is implemented. The first students will be admitted to the MSW program in Fall 2006. We, the faculty and staff of the WellStar College, take great pride in these significant additions to our graduate programs.

Equally as impressive is the WellStar School of Nursing’s proposed response to the nursing shortage. The School of Nursing is moving, beginning with Summer 2005, to a 12-month nursing program. Specifically, we will be adding a third class to our generic baccalaureate nursing program, admitting three student cohorts each year. This is a significant commitment to the healthcare of Georgia by both the College and the University. We will move our student numbers in the baccalaureate program annually from approximately 160 students to 200 students. This is a 25% increase in our student admissions. Further, by having a 12-month program, we will be expediting students to graduation by taking full advantage of the Summer Semester. Over a five year period, our increase in nursing graduates will be well in excess of 25%. This bold move is prompted by several factors. First, the School of Nursing faculty is prepared to take the steps necessary to positively influence the need for highly qualified nurses in our community. Second, we are working to maximize the use of our resources. By admitting students three times a year, we can better utilize our limited facilities such as skills laboratory space, classroom space, and clinical placement resources. Further, this new initiative helps to address the growing need for highly qualified nursing faculty to teach and mentor students. We feel our new 12-month initiative not only supports expanding the number of nursing students educated, but maximizes the use of valuable faculty resources and promotes the high quality of our students’ experiences. We continue to need and work toward a new Health Science Building at KSU. However, in the KSU tradition, we are finding ways to meet the high student demand for our program until our dream of a much needed new building is realized.

In addition to our work to expand educational opportunities for students, the WellStar College is taking leadership in international initiatives supported by the University. Of specific note, is our development of a new Office of International Sport Education in the College. Mike Spino joined the College in August 2004 to lead several significant initiatives that will move the College and University into a new era of international engagement. Programs being developed in the Office of International Sport Education are expected to significantly enhance the University’s efforts to educate students as productive global citizens. While there are a number of projects underway in the Office of International Sport Education, one of the most significant is the Univeritas initiative. This program partners KSU with the International Labor Organization (ILO) to implement programs that promote social change through sports both in the United States and globally.
The ILO is one of the oldest United Nations Specialty Organizations and has very close ties with both the U.N. and the International Olympic Committee. Spino and selected faculty will be working with other members of the Universitas initiative to facilitate programs to address the United Nation's millennium goals. With 2005 being designated by United Nations Secretary, Kofi Annan, as the International Year of Sport and Physical Education, there is great potential to use the popularity of sports throughout the world as a mechanism to address global problems such as poverty, gender equity, youth employment, and HIV/AIDS. WellStar College faculty members have already been involved in programs in Albania, El Salvador, and a planning conference in conjunction with the 2004 Para-Olympics in Athens, Greece.

This is a dynamic program that holds the promise of making significant contributions to furthering the educational opportunities for our students, as well as making a difference in our world. I personally am very excited to have the opportunity to be a part in this initiative. Our partnership with the ILO and the Universitas initiative further underscores the commitment of our College to making a difference, and it exemplifies the visionary leadership of our University.

In a related initiative, we are busy planning an International Summit on Women, Sport, Leadership, and Social Change for October 2005. Please look for further developments related to this conference. Mr. Adolf Ogi, U.N. Under-Secretary for Peace through Sport and the former President of Switzerland, is scheduled to open the conference.

In the areas of research and scholarship, we have made important strides this year. Four Distinguished Scholars have been appointed, and located in the newly renovated WellStar Women’s Center: The new Center is quickly becoming a hub for community outreach, collaborative programs with WellStar Health System, and knowledge generation by the WellStar Scholars. Katherine Trimble, a WellStar Health System member, has been located in the Women’s Center, underscoring the collaborative nature of this initiative, as well as furthering the possibilities for strengthening the bonds between the College and WellStar Health System. We truly believe this collaboration represents a foundation that will support many important collaborative projects that will benefit the University, WellStar Health System, and the citizens of north Georgia.

Clearly, the WellStar College of Health and Human Services continues to be on the move. We have a vision of even greater accomplishments in the coming months and years. It is a once in a lifetime experience to be part of such a dynamic College and University. We look forward to our future and readily invite you, the friends of the College, to become involved in the WellStar College of Health and Human Services future. We seek to keep you informed and invite your feedback and suggestions. I hope you take pride in what the faculty is achieving and that you will lend your support to crafting our future. For now I am happy to report to you that all is Great in the WellStar College of Health and Human Services.

Office of Research and Graduate Studies

Moving Forward

The Office of Research and Graduate Studies (ORGS) is celebrating its second year of advancing the WellStar College of Health and Human Services (WCHHS) research enterprise. From the perspective of college-wide accomplishments, this past two years have seen unprecedented productivity, and will serve as a baseline for future research and scholarship planning and outcome oriented assessment. To date, the ORGS has helped to acquire approximately $812,428 in contracts, grants, and technological resources for the College.

Through intra and extramural collaboration, the ORGS staff has also actively served the research enterprise of the college by providing technical assistance and mentorship across the College and University, community-based organizations, healthcare providers, foundations, and the local, state and federal government in the areas of proposal development and reviews, conceptualizing projects, research methodology, statistics, and resource acquisition, among other areas. In addition, the ORGS staff has continued to seek out and receive requests from faculty throughout the KSU community and other academic institutions to collaborate in KSU's growing movement in advancing health sciences research and scholarship.

For example, while many faculty members across the College have been working hard in building their research agendas since the establishment of the ORGS, some recent examples in the WellStar College of Health and Human Services include Drs. Ping Johnson and Tim Akers, who have partnered with KSU's College of Science and Mathematics and College of Humanities and Social Science in developing an interdisciplinary proposed study entitled "The social and structural impact of HIV/AIDS in a hard-to-reach Ethiopian neighborhood: A social ecological approach."

Other examples include WCHHS faculty member, Dr. Jonathan VanGeest, who is currently working with the University of Illinois and University of North Carolina Chapel Hill to develop a proposed study entitled "Health Literacy in Medical Practices" which would examine health professionals' response to patients with low health literacy. This proposal is currently under review by the National Institutes of Health. His research collaborations further extend to Emory University and Morehouse School of Medicine in designing tools and evaluation strategies for a faith-based intervention to improve cardiovascular diseases (CVD) outcomes in African-American communities. CHOICES will be launched in five areas across the United States and is a signature program of the Association of Black Cardiologists.

And, most recently, faculty members who are working closely with the ORGS, specifically Drs. Barbara Blake, Gloria Taylor, and Annette Bairan, have been instrumental in completing...
two major HIV/AIDS research reports for the Georgia Department of Human Resources: 1) Community Services Assessment, and 2) Comprehensive Plan. These two documents will be used extensively by nonprofit community-based organizations, the local, state, and federal government, foundations, healthcare providers, and academics interested in baseline HIV/AIDS prevention and care data for Georgia.

Lastly, research outcomes come in many forms. One such recognized outcome is when one’s peers publicly acknowledge high quality research. The Office of Research and Graduate Studies applauds Janice Long, Assistant Professor of Nursing, who was recently honored by receiving the prestigious 2004 Annual Georgia Diabetes Community Award from the Georgia Diabetes Coalition, for her innovative research with Latinos with diabetes across sub-ethnicity. Professor Long’s research project, entitled Project IDEAL (Initiative for Diabetes Educational Advancement for Latinos) is a two-year community participatory research project, funded by the Healthcare Georgia Foundation, to establish a culturally sensitive program of diabetes education and follow-up for Latino sub-ethnic groups. Project IDEAL is in its final phases of the intervention. The program has been effective in identifying Latinos with diabetes, recognizing and adjusting the educational process and materials based on the cultural and sub-ethnic differences among Latinos, and in overall outcomes of quality of life and clinical indicators.

Luncheon and Panel Discussion Focuses on Women in Poverty

On September 13, 2004, more than 65 KSU students and faculty attended an on-campus luncheon and panel discussion about the challenges and strengths of women and mothers in poverty. The 5-person panel was made up directors of non-profit and public agencies in Cobb County, a KSU faculty member, and KSU student.

Kaye Anderson, Director of Cobb DFACS, discussed affordable childcare, health insurance and the lack of jobs with living wages, challenges that women on welfare encounter as they seek to leave the welfare rolls. John Helton, Director of Cobb Works, discussed programs designed to train women to enter the workforce. Catherine Lewis, KSU Associate Professor of History and Women's Studies, shared her expertise in history of women in poverty. Kathryn Preston, Director of the Cobb Coalition to End Homelessness, talked of her experiences working with homeless women and children. Jessica Mathews, KSU MPA student, spoke about women and Micro Enterprise both in the United States and Africa.

The luncheon and panel discussion were in conjunction with the successful art exhibit: Beggars and Choosers: Motherhood is not a Class Privilege in America on display at the KSU Fine Arts Gallery during August and September 2004. Beggars and Choosers was a collection of photographs that depicted the strength, dignity and determination of mothers in poverty who are often misunderstood and denigrated in our society.

The luncheon program was planned and implemented by Anne Hicks-Coolick, Director, Center for Community Partnerships; Suzanne Talbot, Curator, KSU Galleries; and Roberta Griffin, Director, KSU Galleries. Dr. Lendley Black, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Mary Lou Frank, Dean of the University College, and the American Democracy Project sponsored the luncheon.

American Humanics Management Institute

Connecting Communities: Bridging Tradition, Technology and Service

Kennesaw State University’s president, faculty and students helped make the 2005 American Humanics Management Institute
Institute a great success. The conference was co-chaired by Dr. Betty Siegel and Ann Cramer, IBM Director of Corporate Community Relations, and was focused on Connecting Communities: Bridging Tradition, Technology and Service.

The Management Institute is an intensive education symposium designed for college students seeking the American Humanics Certificate in non-profit management. More than 800 students and faculty, representing more than 75 colleges and 15 non-profit agencies and collaborating partners attended the conference held at the Atlanta Hilton on January 5-8. More than a dozen KSU American Humanics students, most close to graduation, attended the conference. Dr. Louise Bill, KSU Campus Executive Director, and the American Humanics Student Host Committee, led by Stacey Hogue, AH student and Program Assistant, coordinated 50+ workshops held on January 7.

Current students and alums ensured that things moved smoothly over the course of the day. KSU faculty Dr. Ardith Peters (HS) and Dr. LeeAnn Lands (History & Philosophy) presented workshops, along with several KSU American Humanics alums. In addition to the workshops, there were several plenary sessions featuring such luminaries as Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin, the Honorable Andrew Young, Red Cross CEO Marsha Evans, and Boys & Girls Clubs of America President Roxanne Spillett. Additionally, American Humanics and The American Assembly (established by Dwight D. Eisenhower at Columbia University) collaborated to facilitate the second in a series of collegiate dialogues related to critical issues facing communities. Participants also had the opportunity to work on a case study involving non-profit administrative issues with teams of students from around the country. KSU students acquitted themselves well, according to their own testimony and that of faculty and students from other institutions.

The conference marks a highlight in Dr. Louise Bill's development and implementation of the program at KSU in 1999. The AH program is housed in the Department of Human Services and certification is an option for students in the non-profit administration concentration, as well as students in other majors with an interest in nonprofits. Beginning January 2005, Dr. Peters assumed the role of Campus Executive Director of the program.

Making Connections: Department of Human Services

Professor Judith Slater has teamed up with Dr. Susan Andersen, Program Director for Human Services Technology at Darton College, to develop an innovative distance learning experience for KSU students. The Georgia Counselor Association (GACA) and NAADAC (the Association for Addiction Professions) approve Darton College's addictions/substance abuse curriculum for credit toward certification as a Certified Addictions Counselor (CAC) in Georgia. As our new MSW program will offer a clinical specialization, an instructional partnership was a strong addition to both programs.

The pilot course is being offered this Spring by compressed video. A Darton faculty member teaches the course from a Darton classroom. Twenty-one KSU students are joining the class. If the pilot is successful, KSU will host the next course.

This program will open doors for a new type of distance learning, by connecting human service programs across the state. This pilot project could possibly also serve as a model for use in other programs at KSU. For a number of years, teleconferencing was available at Kennesaw State University. According to Erik Turner in Online Learning Services, because GSAMS was not used enough to support the cost, it was discontinued. After discussion with KSU and Darton's technology departments, it was suggested that communication could be established by means of live streaming and conference phoning between the classrooms. This technology allows KSU students to participate in the class during real time and see the instructor and the students at Darton. This technology would allow KSU students to benefit from taking an addiction course while requiring no additional financial resources from either college.

At the time of this writing, the class has met twice and although there have been some interesting challenges everyone feels that overall the project is going very well. Look for future articles updating the progress of this endeavor.

Don't Let the Smoke Get in Your Eyes

As someone walks around campus, the assumption might be that most students are smoking. The Center for Health Promotion and Wellness was curious to see if this was actually true. In the Fall Semester 2004, a tobacco-use and attitude
survey was distributed to several sections of the Fitness for Living course (801 students completed the survey). This class was selected because it is a requirement for graduation and the class would have students with varying majors. The answers will probably surprise you.

Students who participated in the survey believed that 56% of KSU students smoked cigarettes in the last 30 days. In reality, only 22% of KSU students smoke cigarettes. The Center wants to make students aware of the true norm on campus and this can be achieved by social norming.

Social norming is used to affect the misconceptions and norms about smoking. Most students on campus are NOT smokers, yet the perception is that the majority of students do smoke. The social norming campaign tells people what is really happening on campus so they feel empowered to become and stay part of the healthy majority of students who do not smoke. The Center is creating an advertising campaign to promote the true norm on campus by placing weekly advertisements in the school newspaper, posting flyers in strategic areas across campus, and hanging banners in the Carmichael Student Center.

The survey also revealed that of the students who smoke, 85% want to quit smoking before they graduate. To assist these students who want to quit smoking, the Center is co-sponsoring a smoking cessation program with STRIKE, a registered student organization, focusing on tobacco prevention and cessation. The 28 Day Quit and Win Challenge started on February 1. Smokers attended a session and learned “survival skills” for quitting. A support group then met the following three Tuesdays in February in order to provide encouragement and assistance for those who are in the process of quitting.

The American Cancer Society defines second-hand smoke (also known as environmental tobacco smoke or passive smoke) as a mixture of two forms of smoke from burning tobacco products: sidestream smoke and mainstream smoke. Sidestream smoke is smoke that comes from a lit cigarette, pipe, or cigar and mainstream smoke is smoke that is exhaled by a smoker. When non-smokers are exposed to secondhand smoke it is called involuntary smoking or passive smoking. Non-smokers exposed to secondhand smoke absorb nicotine and other compounds just as smokers do. The survey asked students their opinions regarding secondhand smoke and 97% agreed that secondhand smoke is dangerous to other people. When students were asked if being around others that smoked bothered them, 76% reported that it did bother them and 60% said they experienced negative reactions to cigarette smoke such as watery, itching, burning eyes, coughing, and sneezing.

Other interesting results of the survey include: 83% of students prefer to socialize in a smoke-free environment, 56% of students agree our campus should be smoke-free, 81% of students prefer to date a non-smoker, and 87% of students prefer a roommate who does not smoke.

Although it may seem you are walking in a cloud of smoke on campus, do not let the smoke get in your eyes. The majority of KSU students are making healthy choices and remaining to be smoke-free.

A Mentor/Protégé Program for Novice Nurse Educators

The teaching capacity of nursing programs, both in the undergraduate and graduate level, has received national attention as a result of the well-publicized shortage in nursing across the nation. The question being raised is: “How can we alleviate the nursing shortage if we do not have enough qualified nursing faculty to teach in our nursing education programs?” An aging faculty workforce, lack of recruitment of registered nurses into teaching in the academic arena, and inadequate educational preparation regarding their academic teaching role have been cited as the major contributing factors.

The SON at KSU is encountering this same challenge. Eighty percent of the experienced faculty are 50 years of age or older; one-third of these are eligible for retirement within the next three years. During the past three years, 17 new full-time faculty members have been hired, with 15 who can be considered novices in the teaching role. The part-time work pool in the SON consists of approximately 25 instructors per semester.

Based on this emergent need, the project to develop and establish a formal mentor-protégé program for novice faculty (full-time and part-time) in both the undergraduate and graduate programs in the SON at KSU began in June 2004. The first phase of this venture involved the planning and development of a formal mentor-protégé program after securing a $25,000 grant from Johnson and Johnson's Promise of Nursing for Georgia Nursing School Grant Program. Beginning in September 2004 and continuing through April 2005, a series of two off-campus weekend retreats and four all-day workshops are being implemented with 15 mentors and 33 protégés. Each novice faculty protégé has been assigned a formal mentor for the duration of the program. Teaching materials, such as books and journals that provide reference for faculty, have been purchased for mentors and protégés.

The primary goal of the Mentor-Protégé Project is to establish and maintain a program for novice faculty (full-time and part-time) in both the undergraduate and graduate programs in the WellStar School of Nursing. The premise of this project is that novice nurse educators who are ushered into the academic setting by more experienced faculty mentors are more effectively acclimated and are more likely to be successful in their role as nurse educators. Student academic success, retention, and graduation follow from the consistent and effective manner of curriculum delivery by all faculty.
In August, 2004, the Georgia Board of Regents approved KSU's proposal for an MSW program. The MSW will be accredited by the Council On Social Work Education (CSWE). It will become one of six accredited MSW programs in Georgia.

The MSW program will begin in August, 2007 with our first student cohort of 25 students. Beginning in June, 2006, the size of the cohort will increase to 35 with the addition of 10 advanced-standing students. Applications will be accepted starting this November. The deadline for applying to one of the two programs is March 1, 2006. (The year delay in opening is due to the time required to be approved for CSWE candidacy.)

The Curriculum: The curriculum will provide both foundational and advanced clinical training. Foundation level courses will include human behavior, interviewing and assessment, group dynamics, practice-focused research and social welfare policy. The advanced clinical curriculum will include psychopathology, Intervention models, treatment monitoring, and professional ethics.

The MSW program is designed to offer intensive clinical training. Students will be allowed to elect advanced training in one of two areas of specialization: Child Welfare and Advocacy, or Addictions. Each specialization will include advanced coursework and placement in an internship that provides clinical training in the specialty. Students may elect to pursue a generalist course of studies. This track will allow students to select coursework that more closely matches their professional goals.

We anticipate opening an MSW administrative office during the latter part of this Spring Semester. For additional information, contact Dr. Alan Kirk by telephone (770) 499-3634 or by e-mail akirk@kennesaw.edu.

New book tackles health literacy

An estimated 90 million adults struggle with understanding health and medical terms and directions every day. For them, problems with something as seemingly simple as reading the directions for taking a prescription medication can lead to greater sickness, or even death.

That's why AMA Press has released the new book "Understanding Health Literacy: Implications for Medicine and Public Health." A summary of research into health literacy and its impact on health outcomes, this resource aims to help physicians and other healthcare practitioners improve the quality of care for patients who are now at a disadvantage in communications regarding medications, tests, procedures and informed consent. The editors hope that this volume will stimulate research aimed at reducing or eliminating literacy-based barriers to effective medical diagnosis and treatment.

Organized into four distinct sections, "Understanding Health Literacy" provides an overview of literacy in healthcare. The book discusses patient-physician communications and issues involving healthcare delivery. It also examines major surveys of literacy, various health literacy tests, and patients' use of the Internet to find health information. The volume provides examples of communication problems and offers samples of clear and simplified communication with patients.

The book was edited by Joanne G. Schwartzberg, MD, the AMA's director of aging and community health; Jonathan B. VanGeest, PhD, associate professor at the WellStar College of Health and Human Services at Kennesaw State University; and Claire C. Wang, MD, a former AMA scientist in the section of medicine and public health. It is an ideal tool for students of public health, sociology and medical sociology, physicians, nurses, pharmacists and others.

Additional information on the text is available from the AMA Press web site: www.amapress.com or by calling Dr. VanGeest at 678-797-2035.

Nursing Students and Cultural Competence

Establishing a Health Promotion Center for an Apartment Complex in Cobb County

In August of 2004, the Latin American Association approached WellStar School of Nursing to partner with them in the establishment of services in an apartment complex in Smyrna. The population of the apartment complex was thought to be predominantly Latino and with a large number of health needs. Attending the meeting were Dr. David Bennett, Department Chair; Dr. Genie Dorman, Nursing Graduate Programs Coordinator; and Janice Long, MS, RN, faculty member.

Janice Long, Assistant Professor of Nursing, who teaches in the Community Health Course for the School of Nursing, led the project after being asked to spearhead the implementation of the program. She selected students from the Community Health Course to work with her so that three were native Spanish speakers and two others were bilingual, with still others who had participated in the Oaxaca practicum in May 2004. Under the guidance of Long, 10 students undertook the project beginning September 1, 2004.

Student nurses began with a survey of the residents to determine the demographic make up of the population. A sample of 22% of residents were surveyed. Most were Spanish-speaking. From the findings of the survey, the top health con-
Cerns were determined and classes prepared for participants. A health fair was then planned for September 25, and students and faculty held the fair on a Saturday so the participants from the apartment complex would be greatest. Residents were screened for blood pressure, diabetes, and height and weight. Files were established for each so that follow-up would be possible. Class schedules from the needs-assessment were posted and one student signed up individuals to participate in the various classes. Food, donated to the project by the local ElValu grocery store, was served to individuals attending the health fair.

To date, students have seen between 50-60 residents in the complex and held more than 10 classes for them. Every Wednesday, a group of young mothers and their children come for a class conducted with student nurses. On Thursdays, the same mothers return for informal sessions to answer any pertinent health questions or concerns that arise. Students made lists of local community agencies to refer participants to, as well as directing them to the Latin American Association which is located in the same building and has a social worker on site.

These nursing students have gained considerable benefit from the experience through the ability to work among the residents of Hickory Lake Apartments. Most recently, the young mothers who attend classes in the complex, held their own cooking lab on how to make tamales. The cultural experience and the time to get to know these new immigrants have been invaluable to students and faculty alike.

Developing Cultural Competence: A Women's Health NP Practicum in Xalapa, Mexico

As many other areas of the United States, greater metropolitan Atlanta has experienced exponential growth in the Latino population, with a documented 300% increase in the past 10 years. Many changes to the curriculum of a primary care nurse practitioner program have evolved in response to the faculty's belief that, in order for our graduates to be effective and caring providers for this population, they must possess knowledge and sensitivity regarding Latino health beliefs and practices. Since actual experience with persons of another culture is necessary to develop cultural competence, one of the curricular changes has been the establishment of clinical practica in Mexico.

In September 2004, Dr. David Bennett, Chair of the WellStar School of Nursing, and Dr. Genie Dorman, Coordinator of Graduate Nursing Programs, and six students enrolled in the WellStar Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Program spent 12 days in Xalapa, Mexico, where the students participated in a women's health practicum that was developed in collaboration with the School for Foreign Students at the University of Veracruz in Xalapa. Xalapa is the cultural, academic, and political capital of the State of Veracruz, and it affords the nurse practitioner student a unique opportunity to explore the function and structure of women's healthcare in a cultural setting that is becoming increasingly important within the current cultural context of the United States.

The practicum placed emphasis upon precepted clinical experiences within the Xalapan public healthcare system that includes family planning and prenatal clinics and the inpatient maternal-child hospital. Culture and language immersion encouraged each student to pursue an in-depth exploration of the values, beliefs, customs, and practices that affect the health-care status of this community.

The data collected from the participants with regard to the practicum experience indicate positive outcomes for both students and the Latino clients that they serve. These outcomes include plans to actively seek positions caring for Latino clients, ongoing Spanish language study, and continued participation in Latino cultural events. In February, the students shared their experiences in a panel presentation at the Eight Annual Conference on the Americas held in Savannah, Georgia.

State of Georgia Conference on Sexual Abstinence Education Successful

The Center for Community Partnerships and The College of Health and Human Services (CHHS) successfully coordinated the 2004 State of Georgia Abstinence Education Conference for the Department of Human Resources Division of Adolescent Health and Youth Development. The conference, Georgians Promoting Abstinence: A Community Collaboration, was held at KSU Continuing Education Center October 20-21, 2004. Two hundred-forty-eight teachers, counselors, parents, youth and others from around the state participated in listening to national speakers, attending educational workshops and networking with peers. Keynote speakers included Dr. Alma Golden, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Population Affairs under the Bush admin-
administration; and Dr. Patricia Sulak, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Texas A & M University, an expert in abstinence education among others.

Several KSU staff and faculty collaborated to ensure success of the conference. Dr. Anne Hicks-Coolick, Director of the Center for Community Partnerships, coordinated the conference with assistance from Dr. Alan Kirk, Chair of the Department of Human Services. Dr. Astrid Rozo-Rivera, Nursing, held a workshop on abstinence education and Latino youth and Dr. Kirk spoke on abstinence program evaluation. Dr. Tim Akers, CHHS Assistant Dean for Research, and Kathy Rodgers, Administrative Assistant, served on the planning committee and analyzed all evaluation data for the final report. Dr. Barbara Blake, Associate Professor of Nursing, served on the planning committee and coordinated conference exhibitors. Others who were instrumental in the success of the conference included Todd Shinholtster and Karen Stark in Con Ed, along with Shannon Kinman, Shelly Dusterhoff and Sherry Oligny in Sponsored Programs.

Empty Bowl Luncheon 2005

The Third Annual Empty Bowl Luncheon was held on January 20 in observance of the birth date of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. About 75 students, faculty and staff attended the event, held in the Dining Annex. Participants were served a very simple lunch of soup and bread to bring to mind those who live in poverty. Handcrafted bowls decorated the tables to accept donations and were available to take home as an ongoing reminder of those who do not have enough.

Dr. Lynn Black, Vice President of Academic Affairs, presented reflections from his perspective as a young man in Memphis on the day of the assassination of Dr. King. Ms. Achan Kilat, Human Services major, recited Maya Angelou’s “Still I Rise.”

The luncheon raised in excess of $300 for the Hosea Williams Feed the Hungry and Homeless Foundation. The Foundation began with a fish sandwich in 1971. A close associate of Dr. King’s, Hosea Williams was leaving a staff meeting, when he saw a man begging. On that day, he decided to give the man something to eat. Williams went inside a nearby fish market and bought the man a sandwich. His response to that small act of love led to the establishment of the program at the Wheat Street Baptist Church.

The Foundation has expanded, providing meals, food, clothing, books and school supplies for children; barber and beauty shops with hot showers, clean clothing and toiletries; free medical checkups; free long-distance calling to family nation-wide on Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter and Martin Luther King Day, with more than 15,000 people served each holiday. The foundation also has expanded year-round programs under the leadership of Omilami Williams, the daughter of its founder.

The American Humanics Student Association (AHSA) and the Violence Intervention and Prevention (VIP) Initiative co-sponsored the event. For the second year, Joyce Redmond, Human Services alum, served as event coordinator. The AHSA and Human Services Club staffed the event. The Atlanta Bread Company provided the soup and bread and SODEXHO Food Services provided set-up and lemonade.

A contribution to the American Humanics Student Association by WalMart’s Good Works Program was announced at the luncheon and a $1000 check was later presented to Dr. Ardith Peters, AH advisor.

Center for International Sport Education Set to Host International Conference

As an integral part of KSUs international sport development involvement with the UN's ILO/Universitas program, the Wellstar College of Health and Human Services will host a two-day conference to address the role of women’s leadership in sports as a method for effecting social change throughout the world. The event commemorates 2005 as the United Nation’s International Year of Sport and Physical Education, and is being held in association with Georgia Institute of Technology and the United States Olympic Committee’s Division of Coaching and Sport Science.

The international summit: Effecting Social Change through Women’s Leadership in Sports will address such topics as promoting gender equity, empowering women, and developing global partnerships related to education and sports.
International Programs

The themes of the conference will be:

Sport as a Common Strategy for Social Change
Leadership Education: Pathways to Peak Performance
Barriers and Strategies to Facilitate Women's Opportunities in Sport
Current Issues in Research: The Potential for Using Sport as a Vehicle for Social Change

Confirmed participants include:

Mr. Adolf Ogi, Special Adviser on Sport for Development and Peace, United Nations
Ms. Erica Terpstra, President of the Netherlands Olympic Committee/Netherlands Sport Foundation
Prof. Dr. Gundrun Doll-Pepper, President of the International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education
Dr. Giovanni diCola, Director of Universitas, International Labour Organization, United Nations
Dr. Peter Davis, Managing Director of Sports Science and Coaching, United States Olympic Committee
Ms. Rose Snyder, United States Olympic Committee

For more information, contact Mike Spino, Director of International Sport Education, at 678-797-2032 or mspino@kennesaw.edu.

El Salvador Sport Leadership Conference a Lead-In to KSU International Facilitation Certification

With the purpose of accessing the needs and making specific presentations on sport leadership, KSU Directors participated in the National ILO/Universitas Youth Sport Programme (YSP) workshop in San Salvador, El Salvador, on January 13-14.

Presenting in the areas of The Athletic Coach as Community Sport Leader were Mike Spino, Director of International Sport Education and Gender Equality in Sport Achievement, and Dr. Sandra Gangstead, Department Chair of Health, Physical Education, and Sport Science. They were joined by international dignitaries Dr. Giovanni diCola (ILO/Universitas Representative for Sport and Development), Lic. Jose Roberto Espinal Escobar (Minister of Labor of the nation of El Salvador), Ing. Enrique Ramon Nuila (Executive Director of the El Salvador Olympic Committee), Cesar Daniel Funes (Secretary of the El Salvador Youth Ministry), and more than 40 high level El Salvadorian sport leaders.

The group investigated how advancing particular sport policies could improve the socio-economic conditions of various segments within the nation’s general population.

The two days of workshops and round table discussions produced a variety of agendas and projects especially focused on youth development through sport participation.

The long-term goal of the three-year project with KSU as a full-partner in the ILO/Universitas network of Universities and colleges and institutions of higher learning is two fold:

1. Create a curriculum that facilitates skill-building in community development networking to achieve social change through sport.
2. Create a teaching model to prepare students for work in the field as a course of study in the area of international sport and development

For more information on the Center for International Sport Education, contact Mike Spino at 678-797-2032 or mspino@kennesaw.edu.

Community Service in the Wilderness

Community Service is a learning opportunity that incorporates leadership skills and team work into a “real time” experience. The students from the HPS 1810, Outdoor Recreation, volunteered for trail work during their course required backpacking trip. The first few weeks of the course are spent doing team building and communication activities which paid off on this trip. Two weeks prior to the trip a student injured her leg and
demanded to hike with the class. The students would not leave her out of this experience. While pulling together to overcome the hardships of a fellow classmate to make her trip as fun and easy as possible, the HPS 1810 class under the guidance of volunteer coordinators from the United State Forrest Service cleaned and repaired all of the water bars on the 4 mile Beech Bottom Trail in the Cohutta Wilderness. The total hours in February volunteered for trail work was an amazing 400+ hours including the HPS 1810 Students guided by Dr. John David Johnson and many other hard working volunteers.

Publications


Grants


Awards

Ash, C. 2005 Distinguished Administrator Award, National Association of Kinesiology and Physical Education in Higher Education (NAKPEHE).


Johnson, P. 2004 Community Based Learning Award, Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA.

Johnson, P. 2004 Kennesaw State University Foundation Prize Award (Research Publication), Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA.


Honors

Holtz, C. Community Based Learning Award. August, 2004. Presented by Dean of Undergraduate Studies for CHHS of KSU.

Holtz, C. Nomination for Outstanding Teaching Award for CHHS for KSU.

Holtz, C. Outstanding Faculty Mentor of the Honors Program, representing College of Health and Human Services, Kennesaw State University. April, 2004.

Faculty Highlights

Charles Ash, Ph.D.

Professor of Health, Physical Education and Sport Science

Dr. Charles Ash named 2005 National Association of Kinesiology and Physical Education in Higher Education (NAKPEHE) Distinguished Administrator.

Dr. Charles Ash received his Ph.D. from the University of Maryland, and M.A.T. from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and a B.A. from Shepherd College, Shepherdstown, WV. He is currently a Professor in the HPS Department at KSU. Prior to his current full-time teaching position, Dr. Ash served as Chair of the HPS Department from 1996-2002. During his term as HPS Chair, he was instrumental in forming the University Chairs’ Council. He also served as Chair of the University System of Georgia Physical Education and Recreation Advisory Council from 1997-98. In 2000-01, Dr. Ash served as the Chair of the College and University Administrators Council (CUAC) which is the higher education administration council of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (AAHPERD). Dr. Ash was recognized for his exemplary leadership of CUAC over the years as recipient of the National Distinguished Service Award in 2002. Dr. Ash recently completed a three year term as President of NAKPEHE.

Prior to his move to Georgia, Dr. Ash served as the Director of the Exercise Science in the Department of Physical Education at SUNY-Cortland (1985-94). Dr. Ash began his college teaching career in 1969 at Castleton State College in Vermont. While at Castleton, he served as Assistant Athletic Director (1972-76) and as Department Chair from 1980-1985 at which time he also served as founder and Director of the Greater Rutland Region Cardiac Rehabilitation Program. He also coordinated the CSC Human Performance Laboratory which was designated the U.S. Nordic Skiing Testing Laboratory.

While distinguishing himself as a professional leader and administrator over a 26 year period, Dr. Ash has also contributed significantly as a scholar in HPE administration and exercise physiology, as exemplified by more than 20 presentations and publications in these areas. He is well recognized for his scholarly contributions in administrative professional preparation through such recent publications as his co-authorship of Leadership Behavior and Conflict Management in J. Bryant and B. Passmore’s (eds.) sentinel HPS Administration primer, Administrative leadership in Health, Kinesiology and Leisure Studies.
Continuing Education Courses for Professional Development

Kennesaw State University is committed to facilitating continuing education for lifelong learners. Courses are available in leadership, service, and professional development for the healthcare community blending the success of academia and clinical practice. Academic support for these programs draws on the expertise of the university faculty as well as expert practitioners from the local healthcare systems. New courses are constantly emerging based on community needs. A few are listed:

- Nurse Refresher Course – Online
- Nurse Refresher Course – On-campus
- Palliative / Hospice Care
- Critical Care Nursing
- Diabetes Certification Course
- Medical Surgical Certification

For additional details, please go to:
www.kennesaw.edu/chhs/schoolofnursing/centerdevelopment.htm

Contact Us

Center Director:
Dr. Yanice Roberts
Associate Dean
WellStar College of Health and Human Services
(770) 423-6064
vroberts@kennesaw.edu

Support Staff:
Ms. Debra Reda
Administrative Specialist
WellStar College of Health and Human Services
(770) 420-4361

To register for classes
By Phone:
Call (770) 423-6765
Toll free: 1-800-869-1151