WellStar College of Health & Human Services
Kennesaw State University
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Continuing Education Courses for Professional Development
Kennesaw State University is committed to facilitating continuing education for life-long learners. Courses are available in leadership, service, and professional development for the health care 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 health care systems.

- Nurse Refresher Course: Online, March and September
- Critical Care Nursing: October and February
- Getting into Diabetes: September
- Nursing in Faith Communities: January

For additional details, please go to http://www.kennesaw.edu/chee/schoolofnursing/coned/index.htm

If you have suggestions or comments about the newsletter, please send them to Dr. Vanice Roberts at vroberts@kennesaw.edu

The Dean Speaks
Dr. Richard L. Sowell, PhD, RN, FAAN

It is a pleasure to be able to continue to serve as the Dean of the WellStar College of Health and Human Services. This year begins my seventh year at Kennesaw State University as the Dean of the WellStar College. The WellStar College has experienced amazing growth in the scope and quality of its programs and initiatives over the past six years. I am pleased to report that this growth shows no signs of ending. Ours is a dynamic College supported by an increasingly-accomplished faculty. In this issue of Excellence, we are pleased to share with you some of the many highlights of the WellStar College and its faculty and students.

Our academic programs continue to be at the heart of the College’s accomplishments. Each of our academic programs has grown in enrollment over the past year, indicating the high demand for our quality programs. One of the most striking statistics from the ‘06/’07 academic year was that over 2,100 applicants applied for approximately 190 slots in the undergraduate nursing program. This level of demand for the nursing program is almost unbelievable. Additionally newly-released statistics from the Georgia Board of Regents Systems Office revealed that in FY 2007, the WellStar College graduated the largest number of new BSN students in the State. This figure, combined with the high retention (graduation) rate for the nursing program and consistently high pass rates on the NCLEX-X licensure examination, speaks for the quality of our undergraduate program and the expertise of our faculty. However, the nursing faculty has not been content to rest on their current achievements. As part of a state-wide effort to increase the number of new nursing graduates in Georgia, we have successfully competed for special initiative funds from the Board of Regents to implement a new satellite nursing program. The KSU Nursing School received a grant of over $189,000 to take our successful accelerated nursing program to Jasper, Georgia. This program represents a partnership with Appalachian Technical School and will allow 30 additional second degree students to enter the nursing program with a focus on students living in the I-75 corridor.

The nursing school is not the only department in the WellStar College to expand its programs. The newly-implemented master’s degree in Social Work has just admitted its second class. The MSW program proudly boost enrollment of approximately 75 full-time graduate students pursuing degrees with an emphasis in either child welfare or substance abuse prevention. The demand for this unique program has far outpaced expectations. The faculty of the Human Services Department have been busy not only offering the MSW program, but also have been preparing self-study documents needed to achieve national accreditation. The accreditation process is strongly on track with a final site visit to the program by the Social Work Accreditation Body scheduled for November, 2007. Also, the faculty members of the Human Services Department are exploring the potential graduate programs being explored within the HPS Department. Yet, another achievement underscoring the exciting future of the HPS Department was the awarding of a FIPSE grant that will further support the partnership between the WellStar College and the colleagues in Brazil. The Principle Investigator for the FIPSE grant is Dr. Mitchell Collins, the newly-appointed chair of the HPS Department. Dr. Collins has previously been recognized as the KSU Foundation Distinguished Professor for 2005. Clearly, the WellStar College’s academic programs are on the move.

I am pleased to report that our College is moving closer to having a new home that will provide state-of-the-art space in which to deliver programs. Over the past year, faculty members from the WellStar College under the leadership of Dr. David Bennett have been working to identify the space requirements and systems needed in the new Health Science building. This fall, planning for the new Health Science building will shift into high gear. A design firm was chosen to design the new building. We are pleased to have...
members of the WellStar College involved in making this important decision of who would design our building. We were equally pleased when Cooper Carry, our first choice, was selected to be the design firm. As the fall semester began, members of Cooper Carry and the UniversityPlanning Committee will have visited the various groups in the College to finalize space needs with the “end users.” The theme of the new building is Health, Wellness, and Diversity. Their design effort will help us achieve this vision that will provide a guide in the conceptualization of the Health Science building design. Groundbreaking for the new building is estimated to occur in May 2008. However, I hope to be able to share with you (our friends and supporters) the schematic rendering of the new building in the spring issue of Excellence. This $60 million building will be the largest building on the KSU campus and provide a home for the WellStar College. We hope to be occupying the finished building by late spring or summer of 2010.

Our building represents only one component of the planned expansion of KSU over the next several years. In addition to the Health Science building, a new central parking deck is under construction, a new dining hall is planned, and student housing will be increased. Further, a new entrance to the KSU campus of Frey Road is planned in the Health Science building being highlighted as part of the new gateway to the campus.

Dr. Vanice W. Roberts, a nurse at heart, has maintained her clinical skills, working on weekends and during summer breaks in various intensive care units throughout the north metro Atlanta. On March 31, 2007, after 30 years of commitment and service to Kennesaw State University, Dr. Vanice W. Roberts retired from her position as the Associate Dean of the WellStar College of Health and Human Services. Dr. Roberts is a native of the Kennesaw State University’s community since 1977, when she achieved her second teaching position as an Instructor of Nursing at what was then Kennesaw Junior College. Remaining a nurse at heart, she maintained her clinical skills, working on weekends and during summer breaks in various intensive care units throughout the north metro Atlanta. Until her retirement, she continued her connections in the clinical area as a Clinical Associate for the Excellor School of Nursing in Albany, New York, through the Southern Performance Assessment Center sponsored by the Georgia Nurses Association.

During her career at KSU, she also enjoyed her connection with Sylvia Rayfield and Associates, an international nursing consulting company, as an educational consultant presenting NCLEX Review courses to future nurses. In her retirement, she expects that connection, freeing her available time for consulting and faculty development. She brings with her a wealth of knowledge, expertise and wisdom and a willingness to share her experiences with others.

As an educator, Dr. Roberts believed that classroom involvement and student interaction are important components in her role as a college professor. She taught graduate and undergraduate courses, conducted numerous research projects, and was the author of dozens of professional publications and presentations. Dr. Roberts enjoyed staying on the cutting edge of higher education as demonstrated by her commitment to the infusion of technology and web-based learning. In addition she was among the first group of faculty to become a Certified Distance Learning Acidulator for SORATES-Distance Learning Technologies Group, a pioneer in Web-based education in the School of Nursing.

Dr. Roberts secured more than half a million dollars of grant funding awarded for nursing scholarships and student scholarships. In addition, she was the recipient of a number of honors for dedicating years of service to various organizations and community groups. She is currently on the Advisory Board for Good Samaritan Health Care of Cobb, the American Cancer Society Leadership Board and has previously worked with the Northwest Chapter of the March of Dimes. She also served on the Board of Review Council of Associate Degree Programs, and as an Accreditation Visitor with National League of Nursing.

As an administrator, Dr. Roberts displayed her natural capacity and flair for leadership. During her professional journey at Kennesaw State University, she was appointed as a Director of Associate Degree Nursing Program, Department Chair of Associate Degree Nursing Assistant Dean of School of Nursing, Assistant Dean in the College of Health and Human Services and as the Associate Dean of WellStar College of Health and Human Services.

Dr. Roberts has ‘officially’ retired however, we will continue to benefit from her determined yet compassionate personality, enjoy her wit and draw from her boundless energy as she continues her involvement with the University on a part-time basis.

Dr. Vanice W. Roberts, Associate Dean of WellStar College of Health and Human Services, Retires after 30 Years of Service

On March 31, 2007, after 30 years of commitment and service to Kennesaw State University, Dr. Vanice W. Roberts retired from her position as the Associate Dean of the WellStar College of Health and Human Services. Dr. Roberts has been a part of the Kennesaw State University family since 1977, when she accepted her second teaching position as an Instructor of Nursing at what was then Kennesaw Junior College. Remaining a nurse at heart, she maintained her clinical skills, working on weekends and during summer breaks in various intensive care units throughout the north metro Atlanta. Until her retirement, she continued her connections in the KSU H&H newslttr fall07 10/05/07 9:52 AM  Page 3

College Funding

She will serve as the Director of the new Continuing Education Division of the WellStar College of Health and Human Services. The goal of the Continuing Education Division is to continue providing hospitals in the Atlanta metro area with educational programs that the hospitals do not currently offer or nurses in the community an avenue for career development and career redirection. The most notable of these programs is the Nurse Re-entry / Refresher course for nurses wishing to return from inactive practice.

Dr. Roberts’ current endeavors are continuing to transfer into solid accomplishments as students, nurses, colleagues and communities profit from her allegiance to nursing education and her commitment to others.

US Department of State Awards Grant to Global Center for Social Change

The WCHHS Global Center for Social Change was awarded $134,987 for 2007 and 2008 from the US Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, to conduct a Disability Sport Development Project in Egypt. This newly-funded project enables the Global Center to continue to build on its sport development efforts in Egypt and the continent of Africa. In partnership with BlazesSports America, Inc. and the Egyptian Paralympic Committee, the Global Center conducted an extensive academic sports program, the BlazesSports Festival for Women and Girls and a Train the Trainer sport development workshop in Cairo, Egypt, in January 2007.

The Sports Festival targeted women and girls with disabilities in Egypt and included the anticipated attendance with over 250 participants. A Train the Trainer workshop was also conducted to provide training for disability sport professionals and emerging leaders on ways to implement sport for persons with disabilities at their home locations. There were over 150 attendees that represented 22 different African countries.

In October 2007, there will be a group of male and female Egyptian youths with disabilities visiting the Metro-Atanta area to participate in two Sports Camps hosted by the Global Center for Social Change and BlazesSports America, Inc. These emerging young athletes were nominated by the Egyptian Paralympic Committee. Joining the Egyptian athletes at the Sports Camps will be various American students from Kennesaw State University. The goal is to provide new training possibilities for the international visitors along with an opportunity to interact with American students.

US Department of Education Awards Three-Year Grant to the Global Center for Social Change

Representative Phil Gingrey’s office informed the Global Center for Social Change that it has been awarded funding of $299,500 over three years by the U.S. Department of Education - Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, under its Recreational Program. The grant, entitled Inclusive Recreation, Physical Activity and Sport Programming Targeting Youth with Physical Disability in Select Georgia Communities; A Cooperative Project to Impact Leadership Skills, Educational Opportunities and Employability, will be conducted in partnership with BlazesSports America, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Atlanta. The grant Co-Prs are Benjamin Johnson, Professor and Associate Dean in the WellStar College, and Carol Mushett Johnson, Executive Director of BlazesSports America.

WCHHS Receives Federal Grant to Study Obesity

As part of the ongoing collaboration between the Department of Health, Physical Education, and Sport Science and the Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina in Florianopolis (UFSC), Brazil, the WellStar College of Health and Human Services was awarded a four-year, $200,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE Grant) to establish a U.S.-Brazil Consortium. The purpose of the consortium is to implement a new cross-cultural, ecologically-based educational model to develop awareness and sensitivity among future health professionals concerning the rising public health concern of obesity. Matching funding was provided in Brazil through their Ministry of Education (CAPE). Specifically, this project will support the exchange of 18 U.S. and 18 Brazilian students, including the training to develop foreign language proficiency. Students will study 1-2 semesters at the host institution with an emphasis on using a cross-cultural lifestyle/environmental comparative perspective as a platform for better understanding the etiology of obesity. An emphasis will be placed on public policy formation to empower future health professionals with the knowledge and skills necessary to work with local, state, and federal agencies to promote initiatives or legislation to address the obesity dilemma.

Dr. Vanice W. Roberts, Associate Dean of WellStar College of Health and Human Services, Retires after 30 Years of Service
In addition to Kennesaw State and UFSC, the consortium also includes: California State University at Long Beach, The Universidade de Pernambuco in Recife, Brazil, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. For more information on this project, contact Dr. Bernie Goldfine, U.S. Project Director.

Department of Human Services
Had Another Outstanding Year of External Funding Results

Human Services faculty had another banner year of writing successful grants to fund valuable educational and research programs. During the summer, five proposals submitted by department faculty were awarded a one-year total of $487,800. These external funds provide graduate stipends, full-time faculty and administrative positions, and funded several community-based research projects.

Added to last year’s total ($421,000), Human Services faculty generated a total of $908,800 during the last two years. This funding has been instrumental in funding the dramatic expansion of our Social Work and Human Services programs.

The New Health Science Building
The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia has approved the construction of a 121,000-square-foot (net 196,000 sq. ft) Health Sciences Building to house the WellStar School of Nursing. KSU has approved the construction of a 121,000-square-foot (net 196,000 sq. ft) Health Sciences Building to house the WellStar School of Nursing. KSU has approved the construction of a 121,000-square-foot (net 196,000 sq. ft) Health Sciences Building to house the WellStar School of Nursing.

The building will serve as a home to the WellStar School of Nursing (WSON), the Department of Human Services, the Dean’s administrative suite and portions of the Department of Health, Physical Education and Sports Science. A total of 30,200 square feet is allocated to instructional classrooms to be used by Health, Physical Education and Sports Science faculty.

The Health Sciences Building is currently in the design phase; architects are meeting with the end-users to determine their needs and preferences for classrooms, labs, simulators and office spaces. Dr. David Bennett, Assistant Dean for Special Projects, is the chair of the campus steering committee that provides input to architects about the building. Several KSU steering committee representatives have visited several other campuses with new health sciences and nursing buildings to view the facilities and interview the deans and faculty regarding their satisfaction with their building design. There is a growing sense of excitement among the faculty and staff as the building design brings us one step closer to a home for WCHHS.

Satellite Campus at the Appalachian Technical College in Jasper, GA

The WellStar School of Nursing has submitted a proposal to the Georgia Board of Nursing for approval of a satellite campus at the Appalachian Technical College (ATC) in Jasper, Georgia. The satellite campus has already been approved by the Georgia Board of Regents and pending approval of the Board of Nursing in September. The first class of 20 students will be admitted in January, 2008. ATC is a Department of Technical and Adult Education (DTAE) institution that enrolls students in primarily technical programs but is currently in candidacy for initial accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). The institution has a modern, well-appointed campus in Jasper, Georgia, where a licensed practical nursing program is offered.

ATC initially approached KSU requesting partnerships particularly in the area of nursing education. In July, 2006, Dr. David Bennett, Assistant Dean for Special Projects, began the planning process for a satellite campus in August, 2006. A computer-based needs assessment for placement of a satellite campus for KSU’s accelerated nursing program was conducted in fall, 2006 in Murray, Pickens, Gilmer, Fannin and Cherokee counties. A significant response rate to the survey is one indication that offering a program at ATC is an attractive option to local students. Another indicator of the potential of this program is the current demand among KSU students residing in Cherokee and Pickens counties. A significant number of candidates from the ATC service counties already exist in current KSU baccalaureate nursing applicant pools.

Disaster and Emergency Preparedness Course

The fifth iteration of the Maymester Disaster and Emergency Preparedness course (NURS 4429) began on May 14, in the WellStar School of Nursing. The course was designed to enhance emergency and disaster preparedness for students by providing training in the knowledge for preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery. This highly-popular elective in the School of Nursing provides the students with hands-on experience with multiple simulation exercises, discussions from leading experts in state-wide and national management of man-made and natural disasters, certification by the American Medical Association as Basic Disaster Life Support (BDLS) providers, and an understanding of the nurse’s role interfacing with other emergency care providers such as the Hazardous Material (HAZMAT) team from Fire Station 8. During their annual visit to KSU campus parking area B, firefighters from Fire Station 8 demonstrated decontamination procedures with volunteer student nurses from the class. The “victims” were class members who simulated patients who were contaminated with hazardous substances. The water spray was the first step in initial decontamination procedures followed by immediate removal of outer contaminated clothing. The students simulated ambulatory as well as non-ambulatory victims and were doused with copious amounts of water, scrubbed, and rinsed as part of the exercise. Firefighters from Cobb County Station 8 were on-hand with trucks, sprays, command center, materials, trucks, and personal protective equipment (“space suits”) to assist the KSU nursing students with understanding of the process.

KSU Health Clinic

In January of 2003, the KSU Health Clinic moved from the ground floor of the School of Nursing building into House #52. Since the move, the volume of patient visits has increased over 450%. For the year that ended in June of 2007, the clinic had 18,671 patient visits.

The KSU Health Clinic offers a full range of primary-care services and a limited number of specialty services. The University physician, Kevin F. Smith, MD, is currently on active duty with the U.S. Army in Baghdad. During his absence, Dr. Colleen Murphy, DO, is seeing patients. The clinic offers full gynecologic services, including colposcopy for the evaluation of abnormal pap smears. Psychiatric services from evaluation through treatment are available from Gwen Whiting, psychiatric nurse clinical specialist, and Dr. Sandra Moss-Robinson, attending psychiatrist.

KSU Health Clinic

Full range of routine immunizations is available as well as all immunizations needed to keep travelers safe, including yellow fever vaccine. With increasing number of students and faculty traveling for educational experiences, our travel health services are becoming busier each year.

A number of social services are available from the KSU Health Clinic. The two social services used most often are Pharmaceutical Patient Assistance and Feed the Future. Social Services department works with students who are uninsured and require ongoing medication on receiving their needed medications directly from the manufacturer at no cost to the students. Currently, there are over 100 students receiving assistance from this program. Feed the Future is a program that is solely supported by the staff across the KSU campus. When a student is identified as being in need of food, the student is supplied with a bag of staple groceries and meets with social services to receive assistance that he or she qualify for from sources outside the University.

The KSU Health Clinic also functions as a clinical practicum site for students. Graduate and undergraduate nursing students as well as undergraduate human services majors spend time in the health clinic.

As the student body at KSU grows, the variety and volume of services offered by KSU Health Clinic will grow.

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International Initiatives

The event was held in the Stillwell Theater of the Wilson Building at KSU. This year’s theme was “Throw like a girl – lead like a champion!”

The award was named for Bobbie Bailey, a longtime supporter of KSU academics and athletics.

The ceremony also highlighted the successes of Kennesaw State University’s women’s athletic teams. It was sponsored by the Department of Health, Physical Education and Science; the Health, Physical Education and Science Majors Club; the KSU Athletic Department; and the Georgia Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

This year’s guest speaker was Karin Korb, regional program director for the Eastern Region of BlissSports America. Korb is ranked No. 2 in the U.S. and No. 20 in the world in wheelchair tennis. She is also a coach and mentor for young athletes with disabilities and was recently featured in Jodi Buren’s book “Superwomen: 100 Women; 100 Sports.”

Social Work/HPS Study Abroad in Germany

Drs. Alan Kirk, Anne Hicks-Coolick, and John Johnson will be taking 18 graduate and undergraduate students to the 1st International Seminar on Sport, Social Work and Disaster Intervention to be held Rheinsberg, Germany, on November 4-9, 2007. Professionals from all over the world will participate in this new program that will present up-to-date information about disaster and disaster intervention. The seminar will also link professionals who have an interest in disaster responding and provide opportunities to join international relief teams.

The seminar was designed by Dr. Kirk, Dr. Hicks-Coolick, and the International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education staff was instrumental in the organization and implementation of the seminar plan. KSU faculty will be presenting major portions of the seminar. Initial funding was provided by the German Ministry of Sport and the ICSSPE. ICSSPE, whose headquarters are located in Berlin, Germany, has more than 200-member organizations around the world.

This seminar is the first of a series of annual symposia and will also link professionals who have an interest in disaster responding and provide opportunities to join international relief teams. KSU faculty will be presenting major portions of the seminar. Initial funding was provided by the German Ministry of Sport and the ICSSPE. ICSSPE, whose headquarters are located in Berlin, Germany, has more than 200-member organizations around the world.

The Department of Human Services expands its International Focus

Social Work in Salta, Argentina

During the summer semester, the international involvement of the Department of Human Services was enhanced as Dr. Louise Bill, Professor of Social Work Administration, was awarded a faculty development grant by the Council of the Americas: Dr. Mark Patterson, Associate Professor of Geography and Anthropology at KSU and president of the Council, coordinated the faculty development program. Sixteen faculty members from Georgia colleges and universities spent 14 days in Salta, Argentina, and Salta’s surrounding area.

Career Days for Nursing Students

The WellStar School of Nursing Admissions, Recruitment and Advisement Office organized fall seminars for engagement in nursing students here at KSU, on Monday, October 22, in the Student Services Center. Employers came together on KSU’s campus competing for the students’ attention, and hundreds of students attended anxious to learn more from possible future employers. It was a fun-filled day with many give-aways and drawings, plus a free lunch for our students! A spring Career Days event is planned for Monday, February 25, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, at the same location. For more information, call 770-499-3211.

Challenge Corner

The recent completion of the “Challenge Corner” ropes course provides the KSU Department of Health, Physical Education and Sport Science with an impressive new teaching and learning station for HPS majors and for the University. Located near the Jolley Lodge, Challenge Corner features a high ropes course, plus nine low course elements for promoting cooperation, trust, communication, and problem-solving for small group experiences.

Ropes or challenge courses are a common component of Adventure Education programs. This rapidly emerging realm of the educational process promotes the improvement of individual self-concept and the increased awareness and appreciation of others and of the natural world. Learning that occurs in an adventure setting fosters community self-confidence and the experiences enhance physical fitness.

Challenge Corner experiences will be an integral part of HPS Outdoor Education and Recreation classes, and the course will provide a site for expanding experiential learning into other academic courses. In addition to the benefits for HPS, the vision for the future of the course is that other University entities eventually benefit from having such a facility on campus. Academic units such as The Center for Student Leadership and the graduate Conflict Management degree are examples of programs which were developed for future research collaborations. As an example, students and faculty provided valuable input for an article written by Dr. Bill which will be submitted for publication in the social work journals this semester. Collaborative efforts between the two universities look promising and provide a very different opportunity for inter-disciplinary faculty to work together. During her visit, children in an after-school program were provided with baseballs, face-masks and baseball bats.
incorporate experiential learning activities, and there is the eventual possibility for outreach to campus groups and into the community.

The director of Challenge Corner is Susan Whitlock, Assistant Professor of HPS, and the associate director is John David Johnson, Assistant Professor of HPS. Challenge Corner was installed on the KSU campus by Signature Research of Douglasville, Georgia. An “open house” will be scheduled in mid to late October so that all interested KSU faculty and staff can have a look at this new HPS academic unit. The Challenge Corner website is under construction at: http://www.kennesaw.edu/challengecorner/

Catch the WAVE!

When it comes to college students and health, many times health takes a back seat to schedules and work, family/friends, housing, etc. However, it is our health that allows us to be effective in every area of our lives, especially while in college. Knowing this, the Center for Health Promotion and Wellness (also known as the Wellness Center) started a Peer Health Education Program, better known as WAVE. WAVE (Working Actively to Wellness Education) is a student-based group that focuses on improving the health and well-being of KSU students and the university community through peer education. The Peer Health Educators (PHEs) are student volunteers who are trained and certified by the Bacchus Network (a nationally-recognized organization) in developing, implementing, and evaluating health education programs. The PHEs provide a variety of fun, interactive health-related outreach programs and activities for students in classrooms settings, fraternities/sororities, on campus housing, student groups/organizations, etc. The selection of program topics includes:

- Alcohol Abuse Prevention
- Body Image/Social Norming
- Exercise
- HIV/AIDS Prevention
- Nutrition
- Sexual Assault/Intimate/Personal Violence Prevention
- STIs/STDs Prevention
- Stress Management

In addition to providing fun presentations for various student groups/organizations, the Peer Health Education Program also provides faculty with an alternative to canceling classes. Instead of canceling a class, faculty members can offer their students an opportunity to increase their knowledge in a variety of health issues by requesting a health education program. These programs are approximately an hour in length; however, the programs can be tailored to fit specific needs.

The Center for Health Promotion and Wellness hopes that the Peer Health Education program will encourage students to take the time to improve and focus on their health. If you would like more information, please visit us online at http://www.kennesaw.edu/col_hhs/wellness/peer_health.htm or contact Dana Davis, Program Coordinator, at 770-499-3296, or by e-mail at ddavis111@kennesaw.edu

Diversity Forums Attract Students

The WellStar School of Nursing Student Diversity Committee sponsored two forums in the spring semester for undergraduate and graduate nursing students to discuss any issues encountered while in the nursing program. Forty-eight students with diverse backgrounds attended the forums. There was an overwhelming appreciation expressed by the students in attendance for the opportunity to voice their thoughts of the program in a safe environment. The faculty committee members

were Ms. Lian Chen, Lecturer, Dr. Dorman, Coordinator - Nursing Graduate Programs, and Dr. Wilson, Professor of Nursing, and the two student representatives were Patrick Washington (graduate) and Anisha Patel (undergraduate).

Both the undergraduate and graduate students were pleased with their experiences in the nursing program and were impressed with the guidance they received. One student commented “I love the KSU nursing program; the staff and faculty are very helpful.” When asked whether or not the faculty were able to meet their needs as diverse students, the students responded very positively.

The students made positive recommendations for improving communication, understanding the admission process and the financial aid procedures. These suggestions have been shared with the faculty for evaluation. New strategies to meet the unique needs of the diverse population are planned. An area of significant strength was the advising they received from Ms. Fran Herzog and Ms. Sandi Pitts both prior to admission and during the transition into the program.

The Student Diversity Committee would like to thank those administrators who supported these forums, Dean Sowell, Dr. Roberts, Dr. Horne and Dr. Dorman.

The Center of Excellence in Children’s Advocacy

Georgia First Lady, Mary Perdue, spoke to the attendees of the Partnering for Excellence Summit on May 2, 2007. The summit began with the official signing of a partnership between KSU’s Global Center for Social Change and the Children’s Advocacy Centers of Georgia in order to establish the first-ever Children’s Advocacy Center of Excellence. Dr. Landley Black, Provost, and Vice President for Academic Affairs, signed the agreement for KSU and was joined by the President of Children’s Advocacy Centers of Georgia, K.B. Ayer. The Center of Excellence will address the coordination of disparate and uncoordinated children’s wellness services, while creating significantly-enhanced certification opportunities for Georgia’s child welfare professionals to upgrade their skill levels.

The Center of Excellence will strive to create models of best practice, conduct research, host an annual National Summit annually, provide professional seminars, host visiting lecturers, and conduct an assortment of continuing education courses.

Asset-Training for Youth

During this past summer, Dr. Anne Hicks-Coolick, PI, Associate Professor of Social Work, along with Dr. Louise Bill, Professor of Social Work, and two adjunct instructors, Mary McIlgro and Patricia Burns-Eaton, facilitated five state-wide training seminars for the Department of Human Resources, Office of Adolescent Health and Youth Development. As part of an $80,000 grant between DHR and KSU, KSU personnel trained over 500 state youth workers, including 70 KSU Human Service students in how to focus on youth Assets when working in the health and human service areas.

Announcement

2007 Foundation Prize for Scholarship

Dr. David Mitchell, WellStar College, Distinguished Scholar in Gerontology, was awarded the 2007 Foundation Prize for Scholarship based on his 2006 Article, Non-Conscious Priming after 17 Years: Inviolable Impact, published in Psychological Science, 17, 925-929.

Faculty Learning Community

Studying the Holocaust

Mary Ann Camano, PhD, APN, BC has completed a year in the interdisciplinary Faculty Learning Community studying the Holocaust. This experience was sponsored by CETL and was completed with a Study Abroad that involved 24 students from various disciplines, including nursing students and five faculty members. The Study Abroad experience included following the footsteps of Anne Frank and the study of the holocaust from the perspective of memory, resistance and resilience. The experience included time in Frankfurt, Amsterdam, Berlin and Prague. Dr. Camano facilitated discussions on Eugenics and the implications of creating a master race, and the decisions leading up to the holocaust.
Research Highlights!

Advancing Prevention and Research for People Affected and Infected with HIV/AIDS

This past summer, faculty in the WellStar College of Health and Human Services who are actively engaged in KAREnet (Kennesaw AIDS Research and Evaluation Network) continued to build their relationship with the State of Georgia’s Division of Public Health and the Georgia Community Planning Group (GCPG). The KAREnet team completed the State’s first mini-Community Services Assessment (CSA) reports that address specific priority issue areas at the highest risk of becoming infected with HIV/AIDS. These seven mini-CSAs and Resource Inventory of HIV/AIDS service providers throughout the state are valuable resources for Georgia in identifying millions of dollars in federal funding from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for its HIV/AIDS prevention programs. The quality of work of the KAREnet team is echoed by a senior DHR official, who stated: “Our partnership with KSU is truly a blessing. I am blown away by your team’s professionalism, expertise and most of all dedication to helping people in Georgia. I will never be able to fully express my appreciation in words. However, please know that I am convinced, as long as Kennesaw is a part of our team, “true” HIV/AIDS prevention can and will happen in Georgia.”

Inventory.

heterosexuals (HRHs), blue for African American men HRHs, green for African American women HRHs, gold for African American Men who have Sex with Men (MSM). Each booklet is specifically for an HIV/AIDS priority population. Each booklet’s contents are based on the Community Services Assessment (CSA) report that addresses the priority issue areas in a specific region.

Master of Social Work Program Update

The Kennesaw State University College of Health, Physical Education and Sports Science has expanded its faculty, community groups, students, staff, and state and federal officials—all working together in the fight against HIV/AIDS in Georgia.

In addition, the Office of Research prides itself in extending a diverse tapestry of resources across the college to faculty interested in research. These resources can manifest themselves in many forms. For example, when the Office of Research obtains funding, they are directed to the college budget for the dean to distribute. Resources can also come in the form of administrative support staff, technologies, methodological assistance, proposal development, linking faculty to external collaborators, and editing of scientific articles, among others. However, apart from this assistance, the Office of Research also has a cadre of highly qualified student research assistants who have helped many faculty in their quest to advance their research enterprises.

Prayer and Interscholastic Athletics

Most recently, for example, research assistants have entered into the SPSS database hundreds of surveys for a unique and highly-sought-after study undertaken by Drs. Jennifer Beck and Berna Goldfine. Their research project is entitled “Comprehensive Final Report: Do Outlaws Exist Outside the South? Prayer and Interscholastic Athletic Events.” The focus of Drs. Beck and Goldfine’s research has been to evaluate whether high school athletic programs outside of the South are compliant with federal law regarding prayer at interscholastic sporting events. The significance of this project is reflected in the title of their paper: “Do Outlaws Exist Outside the South?” This question refers to the conducting of illegal prayer practices at high school athletic events. The answer to this question is “yes” outlaws do exist outside of the South, but not nearly to the same extent as they do in the Southeastern United States. Apart from some of Drs. Beck and Goldfine’s preliminary results, they continue to analyze the data for other significant findings. Please join us in continuing to follow their research in searching for reasons why some regions adhere to the law and others to a lesser extent.

New MS Degree in Applied Exercise and Health Science

The Board of Regents approved a new MS degree program with a major in Applied Exercise and Health Science. The 36 semester hour graduate program is designed to prepare students to engage in a variety of leadership positions in the increasingly-challenging health and fitness fields in clinical, agency, community, or corporate settings. The program’s emphasis on practical application and enhancement of administrative and leadership skills distinguishes itself from other programs in exercise and health science. Applications are now being accepted with admission to classes beginning fall 2008. For more information contact Dr. Mitchell Collins, Department Chair, Health, Physical Education and Sports Science.

New Faculty in the School of Nursing

Charles M. Bobo, JD, MBA, MSN, CCRN, Assistant Professor of Nursing, received his JD from Georgia State University, his MBA and MHN from Florida Atlantic University, and his RN from Georgia Baptist Medical Center.

Jane Fredericks has joined Kennesaw State University as an Assistant Professor of Nursing. She received her Ph.D. from the Medical College of Georgia; her MSN in psychiatric and mental health nursing from Georgia State University. She has extensive clinical experience in hospital and community settings and has been a nurse educator at Georgia State University, Clayton State University and most recently at Mercer University.

Sarah Hall-Shalovn returns to Kennesaw State University as a Lecturer in Nursing from her position as Assistant Chief Nurse in the state Office of Nursing. Her education is in public health nursing leadership and health policy. She has clinical experience in a wide variety of areas, including critical care, home health, research, and administration. She holds a B.S. from the American Nurses Association, and the American Public Health Association.

Glenda Harrington, RN, MA, MS, Ph.D joins KSU as Lecturer of Nursing. She received her Ph.D in Family Life Education and Consultation from Kansas State University and a M.A. in Gender and Counseling from Northeast Missouri State University, and a P.S. in Community Mental Health Nursing from the University of Missouri. She has over 20 years of nursing experience in a variety of clinical, educational, and research positions. Prior to joining KSU as a part-time clinical instructor in 2004, Dr. Harrington was the faculty in the School of Nursing at Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas.

Chuntiel James RN, MSN, NP-C joins KSU as a Lecturer of Nursing. Chuntiel formerly worked in the capacity of a part-time clinical instructor for KSU. Her clinical background is in cardiac step down, home health, and wound care. Chuntiel is also a certified Family Nurse Practitioner. She obtained both her BSN and MSN from Tennessee State University.

Ann Johnson, RN, MSN, CPNP, comes to KSU as a Lecturer of Nursing from the University of Florida. She is a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner with the neuro-ontology team at the AFAIC Cancer Center at Scottsdale Rite, Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta. Previous teaching experience was at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Her graduate education was in pediatric primary care, and she has clinical experience caring for children with chronic illness as well as in primary care pediatrics.

Susan R. Layton, Ed.D, RN, comes to KSU as Assistant Professor of Nursing from Tybee Island where she worked for the University System of Georgia and a National Hospice. Her nursing education is in Adult/Critical Care and Pediatric/Neonatal Nursing. She has extensive clinical practice in these specialties, along with community nursing. Her doctorate is in Adult Education from the University of Georgia. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau and multiple educational honor societies.

Sutat Lee, MS, RN, Lecturer in the WellStar School of Nursing, has practiced nursing and taught in generic nursing school programs for 35+ years. A “generalist” by choice, she has worked primarily in medical-surgical and childbearing family nursing settings while cultivating a love for holistic/complementary alternative medicine modalities. Prior to arriving at KSU, most recent education positions included working with Native American, Indian nursing students at Salish Kootenai College in Pablo, Montana, and the University of New Mexico, Gallup Branch, Gallup, New Mexico.

Dr. Lynda Naught, joins the WellStar School of Nursing at KSU as Professor of Nursing. She received her BSN from LSU, her MSN from MCG and her Ed.D in Higher Education Administration from UGA. She comes to KSU from the Nag Hodgen Woodford School of Nursing at Emory University where she served as Specialty Coordinator for the MSN program in Nursing Leadership and Administration. Her areas of interest include leadership, management, conflict resolution and entrepreneurship. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau and the Georgia Nurses Association and is immediate Past-President of the Georgia Nurses Foundation. She has received national publicity for her on-going “Book of Books” campaign which has raised over 300 nursing textbooks for Dillard University in New Orleans.

V. Doreen Wagner, RN, MSN, CNOR joins KSU as an Assistant Professor of Nursing. Doreen is currently completing her PhD in Nursing from the University of South Florida in Tampa. She has years of nursing education experience from Georgia Perimeter College and North Georgia College and
SSSA Journal with clinical experience in adult medical/surgical and perioperative care. She also has a strong record of scholarly publications and presentations. Doreen’s area of research is psychoneuroimmunology with a focus on thermoregulation of surgical patients.

NEW FACULTY IN THE HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORT SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Michael Hales, Ph.D. is a native of Atlanta. He earned a B.S. in Health and Physical Education (Exercise Science) from KSU and his M.S. in Exercise Science and Ph.D. in Sport Science (Biomechanics) from Georgia State University. His research focuses on the locomotion mechanics of disabled athletes during wheelchair and prosthetic ambulation. He has been part of multiple projects in North Africa and the Middle East, the projects being designed to provide instruction and field-based training in the fundamental aspects of disabled sport programming. Dr. Hales is married and has a daughter.

Sean Stickney, Ph.D. was born in San Diego, California. He received his Doctoral degree in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention from Purdue University in 2006. Sean also completed his Master’s degree in Exercise and Health Science from California Polytechnic State University and his B.A. in Psychology from the University of California at Santa Barbara. Sean’s research interests revolve around discovering connections between body image and negative health behaviors such as smoking, substance abuse, and physical inactivity. He is currently writing a book entitled “The Frail Body: Changing Nature of Physical Self-Perception Among Men.” Sean is an avid fitness enthusiast and loves to golf and surf.

Peter St. Pierre, Ph.D., graduated from the University of New Hampshire in 1995 with a B.S. in Kinesiology with a focus on teaching Physical Education. He continued with an M.S. at U.N.H. and graduated in 1997. His Masters thesis examined electromyographic activity of knee muscles and its changes depending on ankle position. Dr. St. Pierre then attended the University of Georgia, graduating in 2001 with a Ph.D. in Physical Education Curriculum and Instruction, with a minor concentration in Adapted PE. His dissertation examined language patterns of expert teachers, particularly their use of metaphor. Dr. Pierre’s current scholarship is focused on finalizing a Biomechanics textbook with a colleague, and also exploring adult physical education. In his free time, Dr. St. Pierre is passionate about golf and participates in a variety of sports and recreational activities.

NEW FACULTY IN THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Carol S. Collard, Ph.D. LMSW, joins our Social Work faculty this fall as an Assistant Professor of Social Work. She earned a BA in Communications from Loyola University of New Orleans, and her M.S.W. and Ph.D. from the University of Georgia, School of Social Work. Dr. Collard’s professional background includes residential services program development for special needs housing, community organizing and leadership development, child welfare, social work administration and nonprofit management. Her research interests include addiction recovery, affordable and supportive housing, chronic poverty and welfare reform. She will be directing our MSW substance abuse prevention and intervention clinical specialization program. Dr. Collard is a member of the Supporting Household Council sponsored by the Regional Commission on Homelessness, the Council of Social Work Education, and the National Association of Social Workers. Welcome Carol!

Publications


Books/Contributions to Books


Presentations


James, J. J. Evaluation of Critical Thinking Skills in on Associate Degree Nursing Program At the Sigma Theta Tau International Society of Nursing, Eulpieion P. Chaparan, Valdosta, GA.

James, J. M. Critical Thinking in Critical Practice. At the Northwest Georgia Chapter ACRN.


Wang, J. (2007) Formula for a winning team – Analysis of world cup play provides ways coaches can improve training and talent development, invited speaker presented at the 2007 Convention of the US Coaches’ Association, Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.


Grants


Hicks-Coolek, Anne, Georgia Department of Health and Rehabilitation; funds State-Wide Training for Human Services Professionals; Amount: $50,000, one year.

Hicks-Coolek, Anne, Marietta Waid and Seed Project, funds Qualitative and Quantitative Needs Assessment for Community Planning and Improvement Activities; Amount: $5,000.


Johnson, R.P., Johnson, C. M. Inclusive Recreation, Physical Activity and Sport Programming Targeting Youth with Physical Disability in Select Georgia Communities; Amount: $293,500 over 3 years; U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, under Recreational Program.

Kirk, A. Child Welfare MSW Training Grant, funds the KSU Child Welfare Scholars Program, Georgia Department of Families and Children, Amount: $355,000, one year.

Kirk, A., Johnson, Kandice, Hicks-Coolek, Anne; Cobb Commission on Children and Youth funds the Cobb County Public Schools Sex Education Outcome Study, $40,000, one year.

Kirk, Alan, Georgia Child Advocacy. Funds for Graduate Research Assistant position for the MSW Program; $4,000.


Awards/Honors


John McLester received fellow status in the American Association of Sports Medicine at the 2007 annual meeting This honor is bestowed to members who exhibit a deep and ongoing interest and dedication to the goals and long-range activities of the college through service and scholarly achievement.

Susan Whitelock was the Georgia recipient of the National Association for Girls and Women in Sport Pathfinder Award. This award provides national recognition to women who have demonstrated consistent dedication to the advocacy, recruitment, and enhancement of girls and women in sports and sport leadership.

Grants, Awards, and Honors

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