The Dean Speaks

Dr. Richard L. Sowell, PhD, RN, FAAN

It is a pleasure to bring to you the spring 2012 issue of EXCELLENCE and to update you on WellStar College’s continued contribution to our local and the global communities. In this issue, we share news about our programs, students and faculty. Some of the significant updates are on our continued accomplishments in the study-abroad programs and the partnerships with our global partners. As the Kennesaw State University’s global influence and initiatives continue to grow at a rapid pace, the WellStar College is proud of its contributions to the globalization of educational opportunities at KSU.

Mission

- Produce quality graduates for employment in the broad-based fields of health and human service, including exercise and health science, health and physical education (P12 Certification), nursing, social work & human services, and sport management.
- Serve as a resource center for health promotion and wellness activities for the campus community through the Wellness Center and the University Clinic.
- Promote interdisciplinary collaboration among the units of the College as related to curriculum, scholarship, and special initiatives, in keeping with the health and human services focus.

Departments & Centers

- School of Nursing
- Health, Physical Education & Sport Science
- Social Work & Human Services
- Wellness Center
- Continuing Education Division
- Academy for Inclusive Learning and Social Growth

The give Back Page provides you, the reader, with an opportunity to sustain the types of programs that have been highlighted in this edition of Excellence. It’s your choice! Your donation can be directed to a specific program, as mentioned in this publication, or you may choose to support the overall mission of the College.

Why give? Imagine a world without a nurse to greet you at a hospital, a social worker to shepherd the safety of a young child, a health educator providing diabetes literacy.

Contributions are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

Dr. Ola Mohammad Zaki El Tabani and Dr. Solaf Abou El Fateh Abd El Azeem El Hamrawey

For a number of years, the Wellstar College has had a unique relationship with Egypt. I am pleased to report that our colleagues, Dr. Ibrahim El Sawy from Alexandria University in Alexandria, Egypt, has joined the WellStar College full-time, for the next three years.

Similarly, we are hosting the first post-doctoral fellows to study in the Academy for Inclusive Learning and Social Growth, at the WellStar College; it is our pleasure to introduce to you Dr. Ola Mohammad Zaki El Tabani, Associate Professor in the Psychological Sciences Department in the Faculty of Kindergarten, and Dr. Solaf Abou El Fateh Abd El Azeem El Hamrawey, Assistant Professor in Basic Sciences Department, Kindergarten Faculty, in Alexandria University, Alexandria, Egypt. It is particularly noteworthy that, based on our previous work with the University of Alexandria, Dr. Ola and Solaf petitioned both the Egyptian Ministry of Education and United States Agency for International Development (USAID), who funded their post-doctoral work, to come to Kennesaw State when it would have been more likely for them to be sent to a larger, nationally-known university for their studies.

We are pleased that their experience at KSU has been successful and provided a new recognition to the international opportunities at KSU. We are preparing to host additional six post-doctoral fellows from Egypt in the coming academic year.

Additionally, Dr. Jimmy Calloway, Professor in the Health, Physical Education and Sport Science Department, reports on his visit to an Arab World/American Summit in Tunisia. It is significant that the WellStar College is “friend building” in this region at a time when the Arab world is re-visioning its future. As our efforts in the region are non-political and focus on educational partnerships, we have been working to assist our partners in advancing their educational offerings through consultation on educational programs, curriculum revision, as well as exploring other educational models and strategies and knowledge sharing. Over the past year, faculty members from the WellStar College have participated in conferences, consultation visits, workshops, and cultural exchanges in Egypt, Tunisia, Kuwait and Libya.

Thank you for your generous support!
**The Dean Speaks** (continued from pg. 1)

While there remains a degree of unrest in many of the countries in which we have colleagues, we are using technological advances to maintain our involvement with our partners. We have been able to use video conferencing to take part in conferences, as well as promote information exchanges between students and faculty members in selected courses. I personally look forward to the University receiving a delegation from the Libyan Para-Olympics later this year.

However, our international partnerships extend well beyond the Arab World. Dr. Kirk, Professor of Social Work in the Department of Social Work and Human Services, reports on our on-going partnership with the Special Olympics of Southeast Asia. The partnership with this organization provides unique opportunities for student study-abroad initiatives. Additionally, during the spring break, Dr. Kirk, Dr. Ardith Peters, Associate Professor of Social Work, and I met in Leuvon, Belgium, with representatives of the University of Leuvon and colleagues from Germany to plan and update the curriculum for the November 2012 study-abroad program to be offered in Germany. This program focuses on the use of sport as a tool to address victims of disaster, and it continues to grow each year with attendance by international students and faculty members. It is expected that a pre-conference experience at the University of Leuvon will be a part of this year’s program.

As you read this issue, however, you will quickly realize that our work internationally is only one aspect of our College. Innovative programs and research initiatives continue to flourish in the WellStar College. Our faculty and students continue to excel, winning national recognition, producing research articles and textbooks, and taking an active role in our community. The WellStar College’s programs and its faculty represent excellence that enhances the value of our educational programs to our students.

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**It’s Instrumental** – Volume I

**Motion Capture and Force Plates**

PAPP1 (Project Accident Prototype Person 1) prepares for yet another “accident” in the Biomechanics Laboratory located in Prillaman Hall. PAPP1 has suffered numerous injuries including blunt force head trauma, full body impact with force equal to an NFL player, and a fall from a 4.3 m ladder. Why all of the abuse? PAPP1 is suffering in the name of injury science. Though the fall pictured here may seem relatively innocuous compared to a fall from a ladder, every day many people suffer broken arms and hips, as well as shoulder and neck injuries from “simple” falls.

The instrumentation pictured is a sampling of what is used to study PAPP1 during a simulated accident. The scenes are digitally captured with high-speed infrared cameras and the video is streamed into a computer. Anatomical points of interest are tracked using specialized software capable of following high-contrast pixels. The digital image are then used to create a virtual reproduction of the scene. A secondary software program can then be used to calculate parameters of scientific interest such as distance travelled, angles of motions, and velocities for any of the anatomical landmarks previously identified.

A second instrument used in this situation is a force plate. The force plate is a specialized platform capable of converting the force of impact upon it into an electrical signal that can be interpreted by a software program. Conversion of the signal allows the researchers to have information regarding the total force of impact as well as the various directions in which the impact was absorbed by PAPP1.

Utilized together, the motion capture system and the force plate help to recreate PAPP1’s accident in a virtual environment so that it can be analyzed to provide researchers with valuable information regarding falls and other accidents. This information can then be used by physicians, physical therapists, and other practitioners to help prevent and treat injuries in a more effective manner.

If you have suggestions or comments about the publication, please send them to Jana Mitchell, Editor, at jnmitchell@kennnessw.edu
Buresch’s Blurb  Active by Design
Contributed by Bob Buresch

It’s its “resolutionsary” season – that time of year when gyms are a little fuller owing to many folks having promised themselves that they are finally going to shed some weight, or get in shape, or become more active. It’s certainly a goal worth pursuing.

Times of epidemiological research point out countless benefits of being active, perhaps among the most important being protection from chronic diseases like various forms of cardiovascular disease, several types of cancer, and diabetes. Being active provides protection from disease in a good number of ways.

One important mechanism is likely related to our genome, inherited as it was from our Paleolithic ancestors, and essentially unchanged. A number of researchers, among them Frank Booth at the University of Missouri, have explained how this genome evolved in a time when the activity patterns and food availability were much different than they are now. Briefly, we are genetically “programmed” for a range of energy expenditure, and if we consistently operate below that range, some genes are mis-expressed, the result over years being the development of various forms of chronic disease. In other words, it appears that we’ve now reached a point where many are so inactive that they are operating outside of their genomic “programs.”

This condition did not materialize overnight. Rather, it’s been an evolution. The transition from hunter-gatherer to agricultural, and the industrial revolution, and the more recent “technological revolution” have all contributed to reducing the requirement for activity. We’ve achieved so much success at removing the need for activity from our daily lives that we now have to regularly make time to expend energy for expenditure’s sake.

It begs the question – how active should we be? If our genome is truly programmed for some level of energy expenditure, how much does that program dictate? It’s an interesting question, and one that has been the focus of a good deal of research for quite some time.

The American College of Sports Medicine and the federal government have issued recommendations for activity for years, and even those recommendations have evolved. The current incarnation of those guidelines recommends approximately 1,200 – 2,000 calories of energy expenditure each week. Well, given the magnitude of protection from disease that characterizes those who are active at that level, it’s probably fair to say that it at least gets us in the ballpark.

That means, from the perspective of the average free-ranging mammal, he’d expend about 4,000 calories in activity each day, and that weekly recommended 1,200 calorie expenditure – a sizeable percentage. However, if this man exhibited the same AEE:REE of the average free-ranging mammal, he’d expend about 4,000 calories in activity each day, and that weekly recommended 1,200 calorie expenditure amounts to just 4% of his total activity energy expenditure. That means, from the perspective of the average free-ranging mammal, expending between 1,200 – 2,000 calories per day, perhaps in a climate-controlled facility while listening to some of your favorite music or watching television, expend energy not in pursuit of your next meal or to avoid being one, but merely for the sake of your health, it may be motivational to remember just how little 400 calories really is relative to what you’re likely programmed for – and furthermore, what an amazing time it is to be alive!

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Child Advocacy
Priority at the WellStar College of Health and Human Services
Contributed by Lisa B. Johnson

The Department of Social Work and Human Services is pleased to announce the offering of a Certificate in Child Advocacy Studies Training (CAST).

KSU was selected by the National Child Protection Training Center to develop and implement a curriculum modeled on the program at Winona State University in Winona, Minnesota. The goal of the CAST certificate program is to better equip individuals working in the area of child maltreatment.

Kennesaw State University is one of only 22 universities nationwide that offer this certificate.

The Child Advocacy Studies Training Certificate Program is an academic program that focuses on developing students’ understanding of the numerous factors that lead to child maltreatment and of existing responses to incidents of child maltreatment. Students learn to work more effectively within various systems and institutions that respond to these incidents. Students study the disciplinary responses to child maltreatment in order to develop a multi-disciplinary understanding of the most effective responses.

Upon completion of all four courses in the discipline, students who receive a certificate in Child Advocacy Training Studies will be better equipped to carry out the work of diverse agencies and systems (health care, criminal justice, social services) as they advocate on behalf of the needs of children as victims and survivors of child abuse.

For additional information about the certificate, please visit: http://www.kennesaw.edu/chhs/swhs/cast/index.html.

Letters to USN Sailors from Faculty and Staff

Several WellStar College’s faculty and staff members sent letters of appreciation to US sailors aboard the USS JOHN C STENNIS deployed in the Middle East. Dr. Marie Bremner, Professor of Nursing, initiated the action. The letters were very much appreciated.

To Our Friends at Kennesaw State University
Thank you very much for the kind letters you wrote wishing us to have Happy Holidays. Your words were well received. My Sailors and I (from the Personnel Office aboard the USS JOHN C STENNIS) greatly appreciate your thoughts and gestures. Please accept this photo of us as a token of our appreciation to the folks like you back home, who remember our efforts in keeping freedom and democracy alive around the world.

Your tokens enlightened us and further fueled the efforts of those of us away from family and friends this Holiday Season. Saying thank you is not enough, so we will remain enriched and ever vigilant through the sentiments you’d shared with us on paper this Christmas.

“Honor, Courage, and Commitment… Look Ahead…”
Very Respectfully,
PS1(SW/AW)
M.Y. Zamora
Administrative Department and Personnel Office Leading Petty Officer

Camp Dream Counts
Membership at HPE Major’s Club Increases
Contributed by Sean Stickney

Dr. Tiffany Esmat, Assistant Professor; and Dr. Sean Stickney, Assistant Professor, in the Health, Physical Education, and Sport Science Department, extend their congratulations to members of the Exercise and Health Science Major’s Club for hosting a very successful 5k run on February 18. Through this endeavor, nearly $3,000 was raised for Camp Dream, a camping and recreational program that works with other non-profits to provide life-changing programs for children and young adults with challenging illnesses and special needs.

Furthermore, members of the Club recently earned 1st place at the Southwest ACSM Quiz Bowl in Jacksonville, FL, and received an invitation to compete in the upcoming national conference Quiz Bowl in San Francisco.

Health and Physical Education Majors are encouraged to be involved in community service, professional organizations and student leadership. The HPE Major’s Club allows students to do all three while spending time with their classmates.

Dr. Sean Stickney, who is also the Director of the Academy of Mental Health Promotion and Research, comments: “I remember a couple years back when this club’s member base consisted of seven members; we are now up to 300, and we believe we have gone a long way toward helping change the undergraduate student culture here at KSU!”

For more information on the HPE Major’s Club, please check out their website at: http://www.kennesaw.edu/clubs/hpemajors/index.html.

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Memorial Service for Charlotte Sachs Held on March 25
Contributed by Jennifer Hafer

KENNESAW, GA (March 21, 2012) — The Kennesaw State University community is mourning the death of Charlotte Sachs, founding director of the university’s nursing program. Sachs, 94, died last week. The memorial service was held on Sunday, March 25, 3 p.m., at Temple Kehillah Chaim.

“Mrs. Sachs was a pioneer in developing the nursing program at KSU,” said WellStar College of Health and Human Services Dean Richard Sowell. “Her contributions to the nursing program may well have been significant in establishing a tradition of excellence that has propelled the program to its current status as the largest undergraduate B.S.N. program in Georgia.”

Today, the nursing program that Sachs founded is one of the premier academic programs at KSU. In 2010, the WellStar School of Nursing graduated approximately 200 B.S.N. candidates.

After earning a bachelor’s and a master’s degree at Emory University, Sachs founded the nursing program at what was then Kennesaw Junior College in 1968, at a time when associate degrees in nursing were just starting to emerge. The program has since grown into the WellStar School of Nursing, which offers bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degree programs.

“For the nursing students?” Sachs recalled during an interview for an oral history project. “I said, ‘Lower it!’ If anything it has to be raised. And I was very right. Out of the first class of 36 students, one quit the day after orientation leaving 35, and they all gradually quit or failed. By the time graduation came, six of them graduated out of the first class.”

The upside of such a rigorous program? Not one student in the “first few classes” failed the state licensing exam.

“That was a big thing, and it still is, I’m sure, but I was very proud of that,” Sachs told the oral history interviewer.

Sachs was born in Germany and immigrated to New York in 1936 after Hitler came to power. Her first job in the U.S. was as a maid (she had taken a housekeeping course in Germany). In 1937 she entered nursing school at Newark Beth Israel Hospital, graduating as a registered nurse after three years. She moved to Atlanta in the 1940s after her husband took a job as a chemical consultant.

Sachs then started taking nursing courses at Georgia State University and completed her bachelor’s at Emory in 1959. She worked for the DeKalb County Health Department and Emory University Hospital. In 1961, she earned a master’s in nursing from Emory. She was hired to start the nursing program in 1968 at Kennesaw Junior College, which then had barely 1,000 students and where men outnumbered women 3:1. She was director of the program until 1979 and retired from KSU in 1984.

Approximately 500 attendees representing more than 26 countries participated in various program activities during the conference. Kennesaw State University was represented by Dr. Ibrahim El Sawy, Regional Director for Arab World Projects, and Dr. Jimmy Calloway, Professor of Health, Physical Education and Sports Science. Dr. Ben Hamouda Mongi, President of UTAIM, was a most gracious host.

Numerous discussions took place, with several countries participating regarding the Memorandum of Understanding with Kuwait, Jordan, Tunisia, Libya and the United Arab Emirates.
Global Partnerships

WellStar College’s Global Partnerships Expand

Contributed by Jana Mitchell

Two faculty members at Alexandria University, located in Alexandria, Egypt, were selected to take part in a post-doctoral program at the WellStar College of Health and Human Services. The program provides a mutually-beneficial academic experience to the post-doctoral candidates, as well as to KSU students and students from local schools.

Dr. Ola Mohamed Zaki El Taibani, Associate Professor in the Psychological Sciences Department in the Faculty of Kindergarten, and Dr. Solaf Abo El Fateh Abd El Azeem El Hamrawey, Assistant Professor in Basic Sciences Department, Kindergarten Faculty, were selected for the program by the Egyptian Ministry of Higher Education and United States Agency for International Development (USAID) which sponsored the program that began on November 1, 2011 and continues through this April.

The area of study that Drs. Ola and Solaf chose focuses on inclusive education for persons with special needs – from pre-school years, through post-secondary years.

The candidates have been given office spaces at WellStar School of Nursing, and the WellStar College has planned a program of study which includes attending classes in social work, sports science, inclusive education at the Bagwell College of Education, as well as observation of the WellStar College’s Academy for Inclusive Learning and Social Growth. The candidates’ main focus is on the Academy which was pioneered by Dean Richard Sowell to provide a college experience to students with intellectual disabilities.

KSU Nursing students benefit from lectures given by both candidates on child health and healthcare in Egypt, such as lectures in the International Health Policy class at WellStar School of Nursing. Additionally, the candidates visit numerous elementary and middle schools throughout Cobb County, as well as non-governmental organizations.

Dr. Ola earned her Ph.D. degree from the Higher Institute of Childhood Studies at Ein Shams University, in Cairo, Egypt. Her dissertation was entitled “The Effectiveness of Early Intervention on Treatment of Gifted Learning Disabled Children” and was recommended to be published and to be exchanged among other Egyptian universities.

Dr. Solaf earned her Ph.D. degree in Kindergarten Education at Alexandria University in 2010. Her doctoral dissertation was entitled “Using the museum activities in gaining some scientific concepts and their effects on development of some skills of scientific thinking for the kindergarten child.”
KSU and WCHHS Welcome Post-doctoral Students from Egypt

Contributed by Jennifer Hafer

Kennesaw State University and the WellStar College of Health and Human Services hosted a welcome reception on March 13 in honor of Drs. Ola Mohamed Zaki El Taibani and Solaf Abo El Fatah Abd El Azem El Hamrawey, kindergarden faculty at Alexandria University, in Alexandria, Egypt.

Dr. Richard Sowell, Dean of the WellStar College of Health and Human Services, welcomed the Egyptian post-doctoral students: “This is a significant milestone not only for our college, but for the university. As the university’s first post-doctoral students, you’ve been pioneers and opened the doors for others to come after you, and for that; we owe you a debt of gratitude.”

After requesting to come to Kennesaw State, Dr. Ola and Dr. Solaf were selected for the program by the Egyptian Ministry of Higher Education and the United States Agency for International Development, which sponsored the program.

“They want to know everything about inclusion in early childhood,” Dr. Ola said. “We want to know about early childhood,” she said. “People here are very kind and good to us, everyone.”

“We want to know everything about inclusion in early childhood!” Dr. Ola said. “We want to know about the community to know the disabled have a right to be included in the educational system.”

As a result of the program’s success, eight or nine additional post-doctoral students will be coming to KSU to study in different areas across campus next year.

Georgia Association of Nursing Students Elects KSU BSN Students

Contributed by Doreen Wagner

Four KSU BSN students were elected in October as officers to the Georgia Association of Nursing Students (GANS). The GANS embodies all Student Nurses Associations from each nursing school throughout the state of Georgia. The state board meets monthly throughout the year to plan statewide activities and their annual conference. Completely student organized and run, this annual GANS conference brings together approximately 600 nursing students to conduct a state House of Delegates, as well as a number of professionally-enriching educational offerings.

GANS Mission Statement is to “Organize, represent, and mentor students preparing for initial licensure as registered nurses, as well as those enrolled in baccalaureate completion programs; convey the standards and ethics of the nursing profession and National Student Nurses Association (NSNA); promote the development of skills that students will need as responsible and accountable members of the nursing profession; advocate for high quality healthcare; advocate for and contribute to advances in nursing education.”

“Hosting these two fine scholars is exactly what we’re about,” KSU Provost Ken Harmon said during the welcome. “We’re kind of the unknown sometimes, but you fought to come here, and we thank you for taking a chance on us.”

For her part, Dr. Solaf said studying at KSU was the experience of a lifetime. “It’s an honor to us to be here,” she said. People here are very kind and good to us, everyone.”

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Bobbie Bailey Awards

Contributed by Susan Whitlock

The 22nd annual Bobbie Bailey Awards were the highlight of the KSU celebration of National Girls and Women in Sports Day which took place at KSU on February 6, 2012. Thirty-eight local high school female athletes were honored for their sport, academic and leadership contributions to their respective schools. The Health, Physical Education and Sport Science Department, along with the HPE Majors Club, sponsored the event. Lindsey Harding, star point guard for the WNBA Atlanta Dream, spoke about her experiences as a college and professional athlete and member of the USA Basketball Women’s National Team. As a former Duke University player, Harding emphasized the importance of academics and education to go along with athletics. The Bobbie Bailey Awards honor the contributions of KSU benefactor Dr. M. Bobbie Bailey, who is a longtime fan and supporter of women’s sports.

Receiving the Bobbie Bailey Award for Athletic Excellence on February 6:

Rebecca Arndt: Lasiter High School
Makensie Block: Woodstock High School
Hannah Daebac: Harrison High School
Payton Donley: Etowah High School
Shannon Driscoll: River Ridge High School
Taylor Dupes: North Paulding High School
Bria Epps: Chapel Hill High School
Amanda Fenton: Kennesaw Mountain HS
Tori Forrest: North Cobb High School
Adrienne Green: Cartersville High School
Sydney Harris: Hiram High School
Meredith Heyer: Hillgrove High School
Stephanie Hicks: Woodland High School
Cassidy Howerton: Adairsville High School
Samantha Kibinger: Wheeler High School
Lilly Kidane: East Paulding High School
Ashley Kraemer: Paulding County High
School Dessaa Legros: Allatoona High School
Maiya Maye: Osborne High School
Christin Marc: Douglas County High School
Kelly Murphy: Walton High School
Alyssa Nichelson: Creekview High School
Uduak Obot: South Cobb High School
Kalyn Oglesby: South Paulding HS
Pachyaniya Roberts: McEachern High School
Taylor Ray: Saugatuck High School
Keyonna Russell: Pebblebrook High School
Molly Schenck: Pope High School
Alexa Scott: Quitman School
Tika Slay: Alexander High School
Silken Solomon: Cass High School
Courtney Sprague: Marietta High School
Alizza Waller: Lithia Springs High School
Brea Wells: Cherokee High School
Kendall Williams: Kell High School
Monto Willis: Campbell High School
Blair Wriston: Sprayberry High School
Christina Young: BlaisSports Georgia

WELCOME TO KSU GIRLS IN SPORT NIGHT

Tori Forrest - North Paulding High School winner
Christina Young from BlaisSports Georgia with Lindsey from Cass High School.
Dr. J.C. Bradbury, Chair of the Health, Physical Education and Sport Science Department, welcoming the audience.

Bobbie Bailey Awards – A Tradition at KSU

Contributed by Jennifer Hafer

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Project Ideal - Inclusive Learning Concepts

Novo Nordisk and Atlanta Area Organizations Partner on Diabetes Education Programs – WellStar College’s Project Ideal Receives Sponsorship

Headquartered in Denmark, Novo Nordisk is a global healthcare company with more than 88 years of innovation and leadership in diabetes care. The company also has leading positions within hemophilia care, growth hormone therapy and hormone replacement therapy.

On Sept. 15, 2011, Novo Nordisk awarded sponsorships totaling $80,000 to four metro Atlanta community organizations, to support programs that educate people living with type 2 diabetes and on how to better manage their diabetes and reduce the risk of long-term diabetes related complications.

The sponsors were a part of the Novo Nordisk Community Care program – a new initiative that aims to promote enduring, sustainable change for people living with diabetes. The Atlanta organizations that received program sponsorships included:

- The Atlanta Diabetes Self Management Education (DSME) program; and "Survival Skills Booster Sessions" for persons not enrolled in DSME classes.
- The Georgia Diabetes Coalition: to provide screenings and seminars to diagnosed, type 2 diabetes patients.
- The Center Helping Children with Diabetes: to extend their Faith in Action program which includes a series of diabetes self-management education (DSME) workshops for diagnosed type 2 diabetes patients at faith-based organizations; "Train the Trainers" program; and "Survival Skills Booster Sessions" for persons not enrolled in DSME classes.

Community Counts

A Brief Look into the Department of Social Work and Human Services Nonprofit Leadership Alliance Program

In the Department of Social Work and Human Services, Dr. Jennifer Wade-Berg is the director of the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance (NLA) program and certification process for students participating in the NLA track for human services majors.

In between her classes and conference calls, I caught up with Dr. Wade-Berg to learn more about the program and the opportunities it provides to KSU students. She shared with me the origins and the history behind the NLA program here at KSU, and how the program aligns itself with the mission and goals of the Wellstar College of Health and Human Services and the University as a whole.

The purpose of the program is to prepare practitioners and professionals who are motivated to work in their respective communities and in the nonprofit sector. The NLA supports these goals by educating students who can serve as leaders and change agents within a community based nonprofit organizational context.

Dr. Jennifer Wade-Berg stated: "Originally, the program was known as the American Humanities Program. Dr. Betty Siegel, President of KSU at that time, Dr. Ardith Peters and Dr. Louise Bill, both Professors of Social Work, were instrumental in bringing the program to KSU. The American Humanities program eventually evolved into what is now known as the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance."

Dr. David Mitchell, Distinguished Scholar in Gerontology, was awarded a Tenured Faculty Sabbatical for the spring of 2011. During the sabbatical, he was a Visiting Scientist at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Thanks to the sabbatical, he was able to submit a grant proposal to NIH, complete a book chapter, deliver an address to Georgia Tech, and present a poster at the annual convention of the Association for Psychological Science, work on two manuscripts, and collect data for a 13-year longitudinal memory project. In addition, as a result of the Georgia Tech residency, he is now collaborating on a new project with Dr. Wendy Rogers (professor) and Akanika Prakash (graduate student).
Infusion of Cultural Competency into Nursing Educational Programs
Contributed by Nicole Mareno

Dr. Patricia Hart and Dr. Nicole Mareno, Assistant Professors of Nursing, conducted a research study examining Georgia nurses’ cultural awareness, knowledge, skills, and comfort level in caring for patients and families from diverse populations. Drs. Hart and Mareno both have an interest in how professional nurses perceive cultural competency in their practice.

Funded by a Center for Teaching and Learning research grant, their study began in August, 2011. Drs. Hart and Mareno sent surveys to 2,000 Georgia nurses throughout the state. More than 350 nurses responded to the survey. Drs. Hart and Mareno found that the participants had a moderate level of cultural awareness, but perceived themselves to have a low level of cultural knowledge, skill, and comfort in patient encounters and situations. They also found that cultural diversity training was lacking in basic nursing education and workplace continuing education programs, and that the higher levels of nursing education were predictive of greater cultural knowledge.

Since culturally-competent nursing care is now a mandate of accrediting healthcare bodies, Drs. Hart and Mareno see the importance of ensuring cultural competency training in basic nursing education, as well as in workplace continuing education. They plan to share their findings with nursing leaders and nursing educators throughout the state, to aid in development nursing educational programs.

Tennis Performance and Injury Prevention
Contributed by Mark Kovacs

Mark Kovacs, PhD, FACSM, CSCS (Health, Physical Education and Sport Science) was the conference chairman and organizer for the Tennis Performance and Injury Prevention Conference held in Tampa, Florida (December 10th-11th, 2011). This event brought together more than 120 of the leading physical therapists, athletic trainers, medical doctors, strength and conditioning professionals, and world renowned trainers and therapists who work with tennis players at all levels. The presentations included the Chief Medical Officer from the United States Tennis Association, The Director of Player Medical Services for the US Open Tennis Tournament, The Head of Physiology for the US Olympic Committee as well as presenters from the Women’s Tennis Association (WTA) the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP), The Society of Tennis Medicine and Science (STMS), the Cleveland Clinic (CCF), plus a number of world renowned trainers and therapists who work with both recreational and professional tennis players.

Keynote Presentation

Mark Kovacs, PhD, FACSM, CSCS (Health, Physical Education and Sport Science) provided the keynote presentation to more than 600 sport scientists, coaches and administrators, from more than 80 countries, at the 15th International Tennis Federation (ITF) Worldwide Coaches Conference presented by BNP Paribas in Port Ghalib, Egypt (20-24th November 2011). The theme of the conference was the “Long-Term Development of a High Performance Player.” This event is the showcase in the ITF Coach Education Program and is held every two years. This worldwide conference has been held in America, Asia, Africa, South America and Europe.

School of Nursing Announcement

Dr. Mary de Chesnay’s book, Caring for the Vulnerable, has won an American Journal of Nursing Book of the Year Award, in the Community/Public Health category. Dr. de Chesnay is a Professor of Nursing and has published her book in fall, 2011.

KSU Chapter Ties for Second Place and Receives a Monetary Award
Contributed by Lisa B. Johnson

Phi Alpha Social Work Honor Society-Omicron Zeta chapter was established at KSU in 2008. There are more than 250 chapters across the country. Qualifications include completion of 12 credit hours in the Master of Social Work program with a minimum GPA of 3.5. KSU Phi Alpha Omicron Zeta chapter submitted a research proposal of their service projects for a poster presentation contest at the Council on Social Work Education’s Annual Program Meeting.

The proposals were peer reviewed, and KSU was one of four selected chapters to present at the conference in October in Atlanta. The students were given five minutes to present their poster. A panel of judges then reviewed all panels’ information and ranked them accordingly. KSU chapter tied for second place and received a monetary award of $200. The chapter will also be highlighted on the national association’s webpage. The group is advised by Dr. Lisa Johnson, Assistant Professor of Social Work. Presenters were Jessica Alexander, Courtney Eichelberger, and Denise Thibaudeau.

KSU Community Clinic Funding Announcement
Contributed by Beverly Maddox

The Kennesaw State University Community Clinic received funds from the Kaiser Foundation ($14,915) and the Rite Aid Foundation ($9,700). The funds from these two grants will be used to provide health care to the Clinic’s medically under-served clients, particularly those who have diabetes and hypertension. The support provided by both foundations is very much appreciated.

KSU Community Clinic is a self-supporting unit of the WellStar College of Health and Human Services. If you would like to make a donation to the Clinic, please send the donation to the KSU Foundation on behalf of the KSU Community Clinic.
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