

Reflections

Sacred Heart University College of Education and Health Professions

2010 Issue



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Message From the Dean



It was an ambitious year for the College of Education and Health Professions and time passed at a head spinning pace. The college pursued a challenging agenda of implementing new programs, hiring new faculty, and planning the renovation of new space in which to fit them all. The upcoming academic year will be just as exciting as our hard work pays off with the launching of our Doctor of Nursing Practice, our Bachelor of Science in Health Science, the second year of our Master of Science in Exercise Science and Nutrition, and pending state approval, our new Reading Consultant certificate program.

We continue to make progress toward our goal of NCATE accreditation for the teacher and leadership preparation programs in the Isabelle Farrington School of Education and we received a 10 year re-accreditation for our Nursing programs. Our award winning faculty and students continue to make significant contributions to our surrounding communities through research, service projects, and professional activities. These activities included international experiences for first professional degree nursing students and family nurse practitioner students, travel to the Mississippi gulf coast by a member of our Education faculty to help in continuing efforts to restore housing to families affected by Hurricane Katrina, and a highly successful blood drive by occupational therapy and nursing students.

All of these accomplishments speak to our commitment to excellence and our commitment to the university's mission. As we reach record breaking enrollment levels in many of our programs, we can credit the wonderful work of our faculty and staff who provide our students with quality experiences that prepare them for leadership roles in their professions and build the reputation of our programs. Notable among our faculty are Dr. Edward Malin and Dr. Edward Murray of the Isabelle Farrington School of Education who celebrated 40 and 30 years of service, respectively, at this year's Founders Day event.

Finally, I'd like to personally thank three members of our college who will be leaving at the conclusion of this academic year. Dr. Pamela Levangie and Dr. Michelle Lusardi, Professors of Physical Therapy and Professor Tim Speicher, program director for Athletic Training are moving on to new opportunities and new phases of their lives. We are grateful for their leadership and service and wish them well.

I'm proud again this year to highlight the accomplishments of our faculty, students and alumni in this edition of our magazine. If you are an alumnus of the college and you are in the area, please stop by this fall to see the new developments on main campus and the new office suite in the Cambridge building. You are a valuable member part of the Sacred Heart University family and we look forward to hearing from you. You are always welcome.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patricia W. Walker'.

Patricia W. Walker, Dean

cehpalumni@sacredheart.edu
www.sacredheart.edu

MAGAZINE STAFF

Producer: Deborah Surbey

Design: Jennifer MacLeman

Editors: Dr. Patricia Walker, Michele Peloso

Contributing Writers: Deborah Surbey, Dr. Edward Malin, Christina Gunther

Contributing Photographers: Deborah Surbey, Tracy Deer-Mirek, Chris Nicholson, Christina Gunther

Reflections is the annual report of Sacred Heart

Reflections

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Dr. Patricia Walker, Dean, Honored by Health Occupations Students of America

On March 30, 2010 the Connecticut Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) celebrated its fifth Annual State Leadership Conference at Southern Connecticut State University. This event attracted over 150 high school students, faculty and health professionals from around the state.

Dr. Patricia Walker, Dean of the College of Education and Health Professions, was one of several mentors and supporters of the Connecticut HOSA chapters who was selected to receive a Connecticut HOSA Medal of Honor award.

HOSA is a national student organization that has over 100,000 members and promotes career opportunities in the health care industry.



The College of Education and Health Professions Is Pleased to Present a New Undergraduate Major: The Bachelor of Science in Health Science

The introduction of the Health Science major is in response to the national and state-wide healthcare workforce shortage which is projected to increase as the demand for qualified health care workforce increases. The Connecticut Health Foundation and the US Department of Labor project the health-care workforce demand to increase to 34% nationally by 2014.

Surveys conducted in the state with health care organizations identify the Health Sciences major as a way to enhance the quality of their workforce and surveys among several universities in the state as well as Sacred Heart University undergraduates identify Health Sciences as a major of interest in the preparation of a graduate level degree.

The Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences will consist of two distinct tracks:

The Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences Leadership Track will serve as a career advancement step for health professionals holding an Associate's degree in a health profession to obtain a bachelor's degree and develop leadership skills specific to health care environments

The Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences Pre-Professional Track will serve to support students' continuation into graduate health science education programs.

For more information, contact Dr. Carolyn Shiffman at 203-365-4473 or shiffmanc@sacredheart.edu.

Journey for Diabetes Control Program

On September 9, 2009 a diabetes education program was held at the Urban Center on the eastside of Bridgeport. The program was sponsored by Merck Inc., who is dedicated to advancing diabetes education for at risk populations. Created by Healthy Interactions Inc., in collaboration with the American Diabetes Association (ADA), the US Diabetes Conversation Map program is designed to engage people in an experience that allows them to explore health facts through dialogue and draw their own conclusions. The program was coordinated by Dr. Susan DeNisco and Dr. Linda Strong (Nursing). Approximately 30 elderly Latino individuals who attend the weekly "Aging with Grace Program" attended the session that was mediated by a bilingual

certified diabetes nurse educator from Hartford Hospital. The Conversation Map tools that were employed provided active engagement between the participants and educators. Dr. Susan DeNisco and Dr. Linda Strong are collaborating with Merck to become certified to use the Journey for Control Care Maps.

The College of Education and Health Professions Center for Community Health & Wellness has been serving the health-care needs of the greater Bridgeport community since 2001. For more details read the brochure at www.sacredheart.edu/download/3036_comm_health_wellness_brochure.pdf.

Nursing and Occupational Therapy Students Unite with the American Red Cross to Run Successful Blood Donor Clinic on Campus



Kristin Michaud, pre-DPT student waiting to donate.

Collaborative efforts between the Nursing and Graduate Occupational Therapy Programs and the American Red Cross netted 110 units of blood during this year's blood drive.

The two day event was held in the University Commons on Tuesday and Wednesday, February 2nd and 3rd. The Student Nursing Association sponsored the drive

on Tuesday, at which 60 productive units of blood were collected. Graduate Occupational Therapy sponsored the second day on Wednesday, at which 50 productive units were collected.



Occupational Therapy (OT) student, Glenn Stiewing, assists Ivy Sailer, OT Department Assistant after her donation.

Donors were encouraged to make appointments and both days were filled with back to back appointments. Walk-ins were accepted when time between appointments permitted however, quite a few of the walk-in donors had to be turned away because the wait was too long.

Alumni Leadership & Community Partner Awards



Dean Patricia Walker presents a Community Partner Award to Mr. Ali Kas; Michele Grogan accepts a Community Partner Award from Dean Patricia Walker, Dean Patricia Walker presents Heather Studley with a Community Partner Award

In recognition of the 2006-2007 10th Anniversary year, the College of Education and Health Professions established two Awards. The Community Partner Award was created to recognize an individual or corporation that has demonstrated exceptional collaboration to further the educational goals and mission of the college. The Alumni Leadership Award was created to give recognition to alumni of a department within the college who has shown one or more of the following: service to the University, distinction within a profession, or contribution to the fulfillment of the mission of the college.

This year the Community Partner Awards were presented to:

Madad Foundation

Madad Foundation is a private, non-profit charitable organization based in New York whose goal is to promote equal access opportunity to education for boys and girls around the world, especially emphasizing the importance of providing access to elementary education in under-privileged areas.

The Madad Foundation has been a long-term supporter of the research of Dr. Cima Sedigh, Associate Professor of Education in the Isabelle Farrington School of Education. During 2008, the Madad Foundation supported the production of *The Bakhtiari Alphabet*, a research based English documentary on the Bakhtiari Tribe of Iran whose message promotes global understanding.

The Madad Foundation has also provided support for other initiatives such as the construction of an elementary school in Costa Rica promoted by Dr. Sedigh and Dr. Maria Lizano-DiMare and a cultural celebration of the works of the 13th Century poet Rumi. The celebration was open to the Sacred Heart University population and the surrounding community, it served as an introduction to, "Education for Peace," a unit being offered by Dr. Sedigh. Through these projects Madad has demonstrated exceptional collaboration to further the educational goals and mission of the college and the university. Mr. Ali Kas, Founder and President accepted the award for Madad Foundation.

St. Vincent's Medical Center, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Department

St. Vincent's Occupational Therapy staff consistently and actively engages with the Occupational Therapy faculty to assure the success of our students. St. Vincent's supports both level I and level II fieldwork students each semester and is willing to assume responsibility for the fieldwork education of several students at a time. St. Vincent's is remarkable in the way they engage students and faculty from Sacred Heart University, in their willingness to take on more challenging students, their proactive collaboration with faculty related to fieldwork activities and challenges, and in their support of their own Occupational Therapists.

St. Vincent's unique ability to partner with the graduate Occupational Therapy program to integrate academic and clinical fieldwork experiences truly enriches the education of our students and embodies the College of Education and Health Professions' mission. Michele Grogan, Coordinator for Clinical Education, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Department accepted the award for St. Vincent's Medical Center.

Yale-New Haven Hospital, Department of Nursing Education

Yale-New Haven Hospital has engaged in the education of our nursing students at both the graduate and undergraduate level since the inception of our nursing Department in 1980. Undergraduate students, both First Professional Degree and RN to BSN, are given experiences on medical-surgical, oncology, pulmonary, psychiatric, outpatient, and pediatric units to name a few. Graduate students work with preceptors including nurse administrators, nurse practitioners and physicians.

It is impossible to calculate the exact number of students who have done at least one clinical rotation at Yale and even more impossible to count the nurses and other health care professionals at Yale who have contributed to the education of our nursing students.

Sacred Heart University's nursing programs would not have been able to expand and thrive without our partnership with Yale New Haven Hospital. We value not only the sophisticated and state of the art experience at Yale but also the people involved who make this happen every day.

Heather Studley, Center of Professional Practice Excellence accepted the award for Yale New Haven Hospital in honor of every nurse, every member of the health care team and the patients and families who welcome, embrace and value nursing education.

The College of Education and Health Professions faculty and alumni submitted nominations for the Alumni Leadership Award. This year, the following individuals were presented with the award:

Nancy Juliano, MAT '92

A distinguished alumna of the Masters of Arts in Teaching Program at SHU, Nancy has been a teacher at Shepherd Glen School in Hamden since 1993. Since 2002, she has been the Grades K-6 Science Leader for Hamden and has contributed to the further development of science education state-wide for the past 3 years through her service as the Professional Development Facilitator and Curriculum Writer for the CT Science Center in Hartford.

Nancy has won numerous awards including Teacher of the Year in 1999, Shepherd Glen School, Hamden CT, and in 2008, she was the recipient of the Connecticut Science Teachers' Association Award for Excellence in Elementary Science Teaching.

Nancy has made numerous presentations at the National and State Science Teachers' Conferences. In 2004, Nancy joined Sacred Heart University as a member of the adjunct faculty in the Isabelle Farrington School of Education teaching Methods of Teaching Math and Science.

Jillian L. Battaglia, MSOT'06

A distinguished alumna of the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy Program at SHU, Jillian has worked with our current students as a mentor, and now serves as a member of the adjunct faculty in the Occupational Therapy Department where she facilitates Problem Based Learning tutorials. As a student, Jillian served as a representative to SHU's Council of Graduate Students and as chair of the Legislative Committee of the Connecticut Occupational Therapy Association. Since graduation, Jillian has continued her service on the Legislative Committee and has initiated changes to Connecticut's continuing education requirements for occupational therapy licensure in the state. When these changes are finally realized, Connecticut's continuing education requirements will allow Occupational Therapy programs in the state to use distance learning and other advances in educational technology to fulfill their commitments in this area and better align the state's requirement with those of the national occupational therapy certification board.

Jillian has demonstrated vision and leadership both as a student and alumni and through her professional activities as she continues to serve the occupational therapy program, the profession and the College.

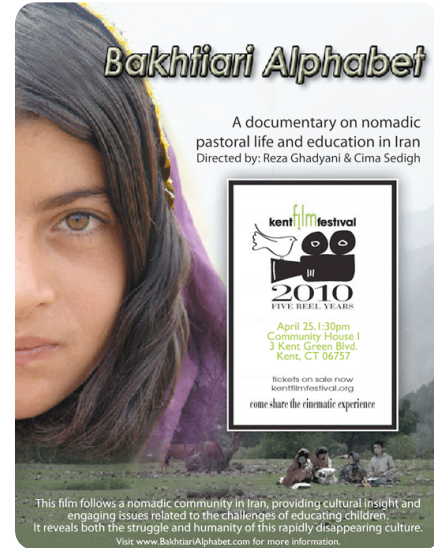


Dr. Jody Bortone, Jillian Battaglia, Nancy Juliano, Prof. Edward Hendricks and Dean Patricia Walker

Dr. Cima Sedigh's Documentary to Be Screened at Film Festivals

The Bakhtiari Alphabet, a documentary film directed by Reza Ghadyani and Sacred Heart University Assistant Professor of Education Cima Sedigh Ed.D., was screened at the Kent Film Festival (Kent, CT), where it won first prize, "Extraordinary Achievement Award," as well as at the Boston International Film Festival (Boston, MA), the DocMiami International Film Festival (Doral, FL) and the New Hope Film Festival (New Hope, PA).

Set in the breathtaking Bakhtiari Mountains of west Iran, *The Bakhtiari Alphabet* documents the seasonal migration of the proud, ancient Bakhtiari tribe as they face challenges and celebrate daily triumphs, in their struggle to maintain their richly textured culture in the face of the 21st century encroachments on its practices and traditions.



Education Professor, Mike Giarratano, Returns to Katrina Torn Mississippi to Help Rebuild

On January 9, 2010, Mike Giarratano, Assistant Professor of Education returned to Katrina-torn Mississippi for the 5th time to help in the ongoing efforts to rebuild. With a delegation of 24 others from the Sacred Heart Community, they joined the local Habitat affiliate and worked on one house the entire week, a house that one family displaced by Katrina will eventually call home.

The delegation also visited a local elementary school, a house that SHU students and faculty worked on during a previous trip which is now inhabited by a wonderful family, as well as several other homes where they heard firsthand accounts of Katrina survivors.

Camp Victor Ministries in Ocean Springs, Mississippi provided shelter and food for the group. It is one of two sites set up

through Habitat for Humanity of the Mississippi Gulf Coast and the Salvation Army specifically to house large groups of volunteers who come to the area to help with rebuilding efforts.



Left to Right: Students Brian Casey, Chris Carr and Kevin Medeiros with Professor Mike Giarratano.

DHE Grants SHU \$115,000 for Summer Teachers' Program

The Connecticut Department of Higher Education has granted Sacred Heart University \$115,000 for a summer institute entitled "Combining Inquiry and Applied Physics in Elementary Science Education." The intensive program ran for two weeks during July 2009, and drew at least 32 teachers from Bridgeport, Fairfield, Monroe, Norwalk, Trumbull, and Waterbury, in addition to teachers from area parochial schools. The teachers, many of whom participated in a similar SHU program last summer specializing in environmental science, received three graduate credits and a stipend for participating.

According to Assistant Professor of Education Paul W. Massey, of the University's Isabelle Farrington School of Education, the summer institute is designed to strengthen teaching skills in the physical sciences using "inquiry-based approaches, performance-based assessment, and technology." It is the second part of a three-year cycle that will conclude next summer with earth science.

Massey said that while the participants last year ranged in experience from one year to more than 25, most have had very little formal training in science. "A survey found that the average was close to three credits during their entire undergraduate experience even though each one teaches science regularly. This cohort will actively participate in learning and assessment,

and their assignments will include creating self-propelled carts and then measuring their velocity and the distance traveled. They will also conduct experiments using magnetism and electricity, created and then evaluated each other's portfolios, and worked on lesson plans for their own classes."

"Alumni of the program will return in the fall to address classes of future teachers at Sacred Heart and share their experiences. They will be trained to act as coaches to fellow teachers in their districts. In addition, an adjunct member of the Sacred Heart team will visit participants in their classrooms and evaluate how they are using the lessons learned. Assessments from last year's group indicated a very high level of satisfaction with the program," he concluded.

This year's Teacher Quality Partnership Grants went to eight Connecticut institutions: five in the sciences, two in math, and one in the arts. The state's Commissioner of Higher Education, Michael Meotti, summed up their value this way: "Each of these institutes is designed to offer teachers powerful professional development that's based on the realities of today's classrooms. Teachers will have an opportunity to learn from faculty experts and from each other as they create and model new classroom lesson plans and strategies. These institutes provide teachers with intensive training as well as support that will help improve student learning."



Fostering Success

Dr. Patricia Walker, Dean, College of Education and Health Professionals has joined a network of Sacred Heart University administrators, faculty, and staff whose members are committed to helping foster youth by providing personal assistance with their transition from foster care to college graduation.

For more information on the program, you can access the brochure at www.sacredheart.edu/download/3032_fostering_success_brochure.pdf.

Elementary School Students D.I.S.C.O.V.E.R. the Future with Robotics



Dr. Antoinette Bruciati and Dr. Maria Lizano-DiMare set up "Robot Bowling" as part of the activities presented to the visiting students.

On Friday, February 5th and 12th, 2010, two groups each of about 90 eager and attentive Connecticut students in fourth, fifth and sixth grades from Hall School in Bridgeport, Community School in Prospect, and Laurel Ledge School in Beacon Falls were on the floor of the University Commons at Sacred Heart University focused on small electronic robots.

"Discoveries in Science Change Our Views Equality and Respectability" D.I.S.C.O.V.E.R. the Future with Robotics, a state-funded grant program that aims to foster positive meaningful relations among urban and suburban students is being conducted by Dr. Antoinette Bruciati and Dr. Maria Lizano-DiMare, Educational Technology faculty from the Isabelle Farrington School of Education in conjunction with educators from Hall School, Community School and Laurel Ledge School.

During their visit to Sacred Heart University the students participated in hands-on math and robotics activities under the supervision of Dr. Bruciati, Dr. Lizano-DiMare and Mr. Charles Framularo, Numeracy Coach from Hall School in Bridgeport.

"As responsible educators, we must prepare students for future employment in a rapidly changing world" said Dr. Bruciati. "The integration of robotics technologies into the pre-kindergarten through 12 core curriculum can help students acquire essential 21st-century skills such as the ability to use information to solve a problem, complete a collaborative task, or communicate new information clearly to others."

She added that robotics-themed lessons and activities have been shown to increase student engagement and interest in STEM - science, technology, engineering and mathematics disciplines especially for girls and at-risk or under-served populations.

Education Professor's Return to El Salvador with 2010 Delegation

Education Professors Dr. Maria Lizano-DiMare and Dr. Terry Neu joined the delegation of SHU community members who travelled to El Salvador for a cross-cultural mission experience. The trip, scheduled during SHU's spring break, March 5- 13, 2010 was Dr. Lizano-DiMare's fourth trip to the area, and Dr. Neu's 12th trip to what he calls his "home away from home."

El Salvador is the smallest and the most densely populated country in Central America. This year was the 19th year in a row that a group from SHU travelled to the area to bring hope and help to the people of Tierra Blanca, Usulután. There are many ways in which the SHU delegation helps the village of Tierra Blanca, from physical labor to other needs which require funding. Fundraising, therefore, is an important part of the delegation's work in the prior year to departing for El Salvador.



Dr. Terry Neu (back row, last on right) and Maria Lizano-DiMare (3rd from left, front row) join delegation to El Salvador.



Maria Lizano-DiMare visits an elementary school in Tierra Blanca, El Salvador

Teaching American History Grant

Sacred Heart Isabelle Farrington School of Education is a partner to a Teaching American History consortium grant entitled "Democratic Vistas". The grant was awarded by the US Department of Education to the Shelton Public Schools and serves Grades 5-12 teachers in Shelton, Trumbull and grades 8-12 in New Haven. Additional institutional partners are Yale University's American Studies Program and the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition at Yale University. The grant will provide nearly a million dollars over three years and will include an option to apply for an additional two years of support after the initial award.

For this grant Sacred Heart will offer Teaching American history courses during the academic year and a summer institute. The program will focus on American history content and related teaching skills. Teachers may earn graduate credit toward either a Master of Arts in Teaching or Sixth Year degree. Each grant year will cover a different time period. Year One: Contemporary American History (1945-Present); Year Two: Modern America and the World Wars (1914-45) and Year Three: Crisis and Union, Civil War and Reconstruction (1850-1877) and the Development of Modern America (1850-1877). Pedagogical discussions will be conducted by Sacred Heart University professors Dr. Lois Libby and Gregory Hatzis. The project began in fall 2009.

Isabelle Farrington School of Education Faculty and Staff Honored at Founders Day



(Left) Dr. Edward Malin and Dr. Patricia Walker, Dean, College of Education and Health Professions. (Right) Dr. Edward Murray

The Isabelle Farrington School of Education had a number of its faculty and staff honored at this year's Founders Day celebration which took place on March 17, 2010. The celebration began at 2:00pm with a mass in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit, presided by Father Jerry Ryle, then moved to the William Pitt Health and Recreation Center for an awards ceremony and reception.

Among the faculty and staff from the Isabelle Farrington School of Education that were honored were:

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Dr. Edward Malin, Chair and Director, who celebrated 40 years at Sacred Heart University.

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A liberal studies graduate of the University of Notre Dame, Dr. Malin earned master's and doctoral degrees in General and Experimental Psychology from Fordham University. For eight years he has headed the Department of Education, turned Isabelle Farrington School of Education, leading faculty and staff

and guiding development of this growing and very successful area. He has led the program to full approvals by the state and positioned it as a regionally respected leader and the state's largest independent educator of teachers and administrators. The one-time acting provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, Dr. Malin is a man of many talents - having acted in more than a dozen theatrical productions on the University stage.

.....

Dr. Edward Murray, who celebrated 30 years at Sacred Heart University.

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An associate professor of Education, Dr. Murray received his doctoral degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Connecticut; he heads the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) and the Certificate in Advanced Studies (CAS) programs. In Spring 2008, he shared the "Essentials of Literacy" with elementary schools and the University of Beijing during a sabbatical in China.



(Left to right) Beverly Birch, Kathleen Olsen, Dr. Sondra Melzer and Dr. Karen Christensen

Dr. Karen Christensen, Dr. Sondra Melzer, Beverly Birch and Kathleen Olsen all celebrated 15 years at Sacred Heart University.

Dr. Karen Christensen earned her Ph.D. in Environmental Science from the Union Institute. A clinical associate professor and director of the Isabelle Farrington School of Education at Griswold, she earlier led the Sacred Heart University program at Lisbon, Connecticut. Over 250 students now attend classes in Griswold, up from 125 when she first assumed the leadership role. The Griswold facility is the leading educator of teachers and administrators in eastern Connecticut.

Dr. Sondra Melzer, assistant professor began her PH.D. studies at Yale and completed them at NYU. She joined the university as an adjunct professor and is completing her 53rd year of teaching. She spent the first 39 years of her career as a public school teacher including 23 as chairman of the English Department at

Stamford High School. A published author and poet, she is a veteran instructor at the University of Connecticut and led Sacred Heart University's Education program in Stamford for six years.

Beverly Birch, executive secretary. Beverly manages records, placements and associated administrative functions of the Graduate Internship Program. She coordinates special events for the department including the cooperating teacher program, the annual job fair, and the summer student teaching workshop, and she manages all supervisor records for student teaching.

Kathleen Olsen, administrative secretary, maintains records on candidates for certification, prepares materials for student teachers, and trains work-study students, among other responsibilities. She joined the university

AOTA President Presents Workshop at SHU



Dr. Margo Gross (left) leads group discussion. Also pictured is Lee Fallett, MA, CRC, OTR/L, assistant clinical director of the Breast Cancer Survival Center.

The Connecticut Occupational Therapy Association held its Fall Special Interest Section Conference on Sept 12, 2009 at the College of Education and Health Professions; Cambridge Building. The keynote speaker, Penelope A. Moyers Cleveland, Ed.D, OTR/L, BCMH, FAOTA, current President of the American Occupational Therapy Association, and Professor and Chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, was motivating and inspiring as she discussed the future of occupational therapy and the ways in which Connecticut occupational therapists can all help move

the profession forward. Following the keynote presentation, the Special Interest Sections Chair and several section liaisons headed up roundtables dedicated to a specific topic in different areas of occupational therapy practice. Dr. Moyers Cleveland circulated the room, visiting each table, meeting the attendees and listening to and contributing to discussions ranging from cognitive assessment of the older adult, mind-body integration for mental health, wellness, technology, and pediatrics.

Faculty members of Sacred Heart University's graduate program in Occupational Therapy were particularly pleased to host the event because several of them are active in the Connecticut Occupational Therapy Association. Mary-Ellen Johnson MAHSM, OTR/L, Elissa Miller, OTD, OTR/L, and Lenore Frost, PhD, OTR/L, CHT are current Executive Board members. Heather Miller Kuhaneck, MS, OTR/L has just completed her term as Vice President and has taken on the task of assisting with ConnOTA Connections, the Association newsletter. She replaces Stephanie Lofland, who, prior to her graduation from the Sacred Heart program, was co-editor. Margo Gross, Ed.D, OTR/L, MFT, LMT is the Wellness Special Interest Section liaison. She prepared and led the roundtable discussion for that group at the conference.

Kaitlin Mullins Wins ASAHP Scholarship



Dr. Jody Bortone (left) and Dr. Patricia Walker (right) present Kaitlin Mullins with the ASAHP Scholarship of Excellence

Earlier this year, Kaitlin Mullins, a second year student in the Graduate Occupational Therapy Program was nominated to compete for the Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions (ASAHP) Scholarship of Excellence Award. Kaitlin

was among eight students who were chosen to receive an award from across the US. The names of the awardees were announced at the Awards Dinner held on October 21, 2009 during the 2009 Association's Annual Conference in San Antonio, TX

The scholarship was created to recognize outstanding students in allied health programs who are achieving excellence in their academic pursuits and have significant potential to assume future leadership roles in allied health. Kaitlin was chosen by the selection committee because she epitomizes the following qualities: academic achievement, service to Sacred Heart University and the community, leadership, diversity in activities, and evidence of strong communication skills. The College of Education and Health Professions, an institutional member of ASAHP, is invited to nominate a student for the award each year.

Nursing Program Receives Ten Year Re-Accreditation

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) Board of Commissioners acted at its meeting on April 22 – 24, 2010, to grant accreditation of the baccalaureate degree program in nursing and master's degree program in Nursing at Sacred Heart University for the term of 10 years, extending to June 30, 2020.

New Doctor of Nursing Practice Program for Fall 2010

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program, infuses practice-focused doctoral education with innovation and practical clinical research and scholarship. It is designed to serve academically talented nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, midwives, nurse anesthetists, nurse executives and educators.

The curriculum offers two different career tracks:

- Doctoral Clinical Practice in Health Care Track is designed for the advanced practice nurse who wants to remain in clinical practice and have influence on health care outcomes at multiple levels
- Doctoral Leadership in Health Care Track is designed for the graduate who wants a career in executive nursing management, but who still prefers a nursing doctorate with a connection to clinical practice. Students in this track may take nursing education electives if they aspire to have a career in academia

Graduates of this program are prepared to teach, lead, and engage in practical, clinically focused scholarship and research. The Doctor of Nursing practice degree is a clinical doctorate requiring the completion of a practice dissertation



focusing on clinical nursing practice. The practice dissertation is structured to be completed in one year preparing the student to utilize research for the improvement of clinical care delivery, patient outcomes, and system management. Graduates will be expert in designing, implementing, managing, and evaluating health care delivery systems and will be prepared to lead at the highest clinical and executive ranks.

This unique hybrid/intensive program is specifically designed to maximize the number of potential career roles the doctoral nursing graduate may assume, whether they are in academia, in advanced clinical practice, or in executive healthcare leadership. Classes are taught online and students are required to attend two on-campus residencies per semester. This cohort program is 39 credits and is designed to be completed in a 3 year part-time sequence.

Nursing Students Travel to Jamaica on Medical Mission



Jennie Porter and Alanna Birner, the two student leaders appear with local school children.

On October 10, 2009 Professor Shery Watson and Dr. Julie Stewart, of the Nursing Department, went to Jamaica on a medical mission with PRN Relief International Organization. Ten senior nursing students and two graduate nurse practitioner students were part of the team which provided medical and surgical care to needy patients in the Kingston, Jamaica area for the week. Professor Watson is on the Board of Directors of PRN Relief International and has been on many missions with the organization in the past.

Student nurses triaged patients in the clinics, filled prescriptions and educated patients on medications, their side effects,

and how to use/take them under the guidance of Professor Watson or one of the other registered nurses on the mission. In the hospital, the undergraduate students were able to meet the patients, do admissions with the surgeons, scrub in the surgeries, then help patients in recovery. The graduate family nurse practitioner students had the opportunity to do history and physicals on patients with multiple chronic illnesses and learned how to make an assessment and plan of care including prescribing medication and educating patients on their illnesses under the preceptorship of physicians and Dr. Stewart, FNP.

This mission was highly successful for the community of Kingston. In five days, the team treated 845 medical adult and pediatric patients in make-shift clinics. There was one farm that was visited that had never had health services before in their local community. The surgical team performed 34 major surgeries, including removal of uterine fibroids weighing up to 32 pounds and other gynecological procedures, a thyroidectomy and hernia repairs. During this mission, the students learned how teams work, how important collaboration is, learned to appreciate true humanitarian work as well as understanding cultural differences. Professor Watson said "It was simply amazing to watch them do all of this under conditions that were substandard and foreign to them."

APRN Student Organizes Suturing Workshop



On September 28, 2009 Dr. Teresa Campo, NP and her associate Judith Gienova were at the Cambridge building to teach a hands on suturing workshop. The workshop was planned and organized by a student in Dr. Susan DeNisco's Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) class who was interested in learning suturing techniques for some of his independent study credits. He researched the possibilities of having a workshop at Cambridge in order to make it accessible to the students and was referred to Dr. Campo. After receiving a positive response from Dr. Campo and his peers he set the plan in motion.

The students were taught and practiced various suturing techniques on pigs feet. Although it seemed an impossible task at first, everyone eventually became fairly adept at handling the tools and acquiring the skills to complete the various suturing techniques.

First-Ever Boccuzzi Award Goes to SHU Senior

Marissa G. Noel, a Sacred Heart University senior in the Nursing program, is the first recipient of a newly established award honoring Carole E. Boccuzzi.

Although nursing was not her chosen profession, Mrs. Boccuzzi was dedicated to supporting nursing students and improving their education.

The Carole E. Boccuzzi Memorial Award in Nursing was created this year by the Boccuzzi family to remember the Fairfield woman who died in May 2009. The award commemorates Mrs. Boccuzzi's life and recognizes her life-long commitment to the education of nurses and her work to advance the discipline of the nursing profession.

Ms. Noel, 20, of Windham, Maine, said she is honored to be the Boccuzzi Award's first recipient. "To be recognized for this award makes me realize I can make a bigger difference than I thought previously," said Ms. Noel, who will pursue a career in pediatrics. She said she will also use her nursing degree to volunteer with international medical missions, prompted by her spring break trip this year to Guatemala with a group of Sacred Heart University students and professors to open a clinic, provide patient assessment and nursing care, and bring medical supplies to a poor village.



Marissa Noel, recipient of the first-ever Carole E. Boccuzzi Award

Eligibility for the award includes a minimum grade point average of 3.6, two letters of recommendation from SHU's Nursing faculty and submission of a personal essay on an appropriate student selected topic. The recipient must also show respect and sensitivity to the patients' needs, respect and empathy to families of patients, and demonstrate an overall persistence in advocating for patients.

Ms. Noel received her award from Edward Boccuzzi, Carole Boccuzzi's husband, at the Nursing Department's capping and pinning ceremony on May 15. There will be a perpetuating plaque placed in the Nursing Department honoring Ms. Noel and all subsequent award winners.

FNP Student Has Second Publication Printed

One of our Family Nurse Practitioner students, Bridget Mejza, has her second publication in print this year.

Bridget's article entitled "Will the WOC Nurse of the future Also be a DNP?" is in print in the *Journal of Wound Ostomy Continence Nursing*, May/June 2009.

Nursing Department Takes Part in a Medical Mission Trip to Guatemala

Pictured: Members of the Nursing Department in Guatemala, including six graduate family nurse practitioner students led by Dr. Susan DeNisco, 14 undergraduate obstetrics nursing students led by Dr. Kathy Fries, Professor Shery Watson and Professor Eileen Yost and Christina Gunther, undergraduate nursing administrator, along with a few of the Pastores volunteers.

With increasing enrollment in the Nursing Department and decreasing clinical site availability, the Nursing Department leadership was forced to find alternative on-site learning locations for the clinical portion of nursing courses. Dr. Kathy Fries, UG Program Director, decided to embark upon a field experience mission trip to Guatemala as a pilot for clinical learning. Not only would the Nursing Department be promoting the University's goal of service learning, but they'd potentially be providing a rich experience for undergraduate obstetrics nursing students and graduate family nurse practitioner students.

Our nursing department group of 25 arrived on March 6th laden with 24 suitcases filled with donated medication, medical supplies, toothbrushes and toothpaste, and bags of Beanie Babies, the only toy many of these children would have ever received. We met with the mayor of the rural town of Pastores, Miguel Lopez, and many volunteers, including our friend, Pastor Mike to set-up our first clinic day. All groups combined, we had 60 volunteers for our five-day, seven-site clinic around Pastores and its Aldeas (Burroughs).

Our first day was disorganized and chaotic, but then we found our groove – reception first, triage, waiting area, exam room, then over to the pharmacy. We became a well-oiled machine moving people through the clinic, while providing the best care possible with very limited resources.

We quickly realized this trip would provide much more than just an OB experience. For more information and pictures please visit Christina Gunter's web blog www.shunursing.ning.com or Julie's mission blog at <http://juliesguatemalatrip.blogspot.com/>



Nursing Student Selected As the One SHU Student to Be Honored at the State Capital for the State of Connecticut College Academic Day

Nicole Russo was selected as the ONE Sacred Heart University student who was honored at the state capital for the State of Connecticut College Academic Day. She received a citation for excellence in front of both assemblies at a reception held on April 14, 2010.

The criteria for this honor are; reside in Connecticut, a senior, an excellent grade point average, must be involved in student mentoring as well as community and school service.



Sigma Theta Tau International Accepts Graduate Nursing Students Research for Presentation

Graduate Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) student, Lisa Hoffer's research was accepted for a podium presentation at the 18 Annual Sigma Theta Tau International Collaborative Research Day which took place on April 15, 2010 at the Sheraton in Meriden, Connecticut. Along with presenting a poster, Ms. Hoffer also gave a 30 minute oral presentation.

Ms. Hoffer's research was a pilot study entitled "Inadvertent Hypothermia In Adult Patients Undergoing Interventional Radiology Procedures With Moderate Sedation/Analgesianon." She credits the collaboration of a community of mentors that include members of Sacred Heart's Nursing faculty, Dr. Constance Young, Professor Emerita, Dr. Susan DeNisco, Associate Professor, Dr. Dottie Needham, Professor Emerita, as well as Dr. Susan Burger, Assistant Professor, in making her presentation a reality.

Nursing Students Awarded with Nightingale Scholarships

Two Sacred Heart University Nursing students, Kaitlin Kowalsky and Nicole Russo, were awarded Nightingale scholarships for going above and beyond in their studies and clinical practice.

The Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing is Connecticut's largest statewide nursing recognition program. This year they celebrate their 10th anniversary. The program was originally developed by the Visiting Nurse Association of South Central Connecticut to be a collaborative effort to celebrate outstanding nurses and elevate the nursing profession. The goals of the program are to encourage retention, inspire future nurses, focus public attention and recognize the breadth and scope of nursing practice at the local level. In 2003, the Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing grew to include Programs in Greater Fairfield, Greater Hartford, and Eastern Connecticut as well as the original program in New Haven. Additionally, the program provides scholarships to local nursing students in the spirit of the Nightingale Awards.

Ms. Kowalsky was awarded a Nightingale Scholarship from the Greater New Haven County program and will be presented with her award at the Awards Gala on May 5, 2010 at the Oakdale Theater in Wallingford, Ct. Ms. Russo was awarded a Nightingale Scholarship from the Greater Fairfield County program and will be presented with her award at the Awards Gala on May 11, 2010 at the Italian Center in Stamford, Connecticut.

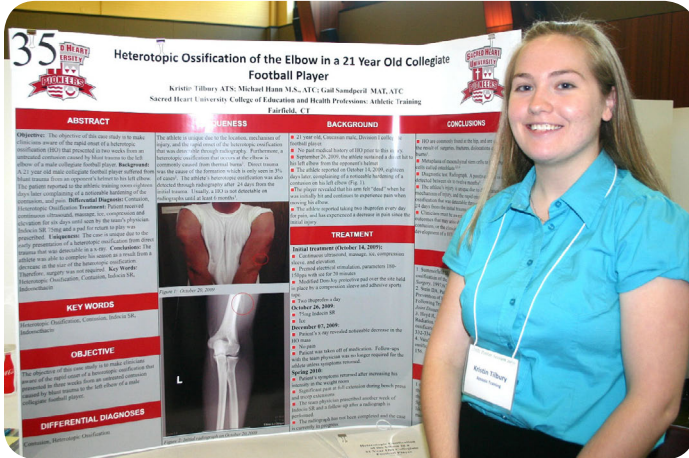


Kaitlin Kowalsky



Nicole Russo

Athletic Training Student Presents at Poster Session



Kristin Tilbury, senior Athletic Training student, presented a poster at the Sacred Heart University Research Poster Presentation which was held on Friday, April 30, 2010 in the University Commons. The title of the presentation was “Heterotopic Ossification of the Elbow in a 21 Year Old Collegiate Football Player” and is based on a case study that is aimed at making clinicians aware of the rapid onset of a heterotopic ossification that presented in two weeks from an untreated contusion caused by blunt trauma to the left elbow of a male collegiate football player.

Athletic Training Fall Field Trip

The Athletic Training program continued to work on relationship and community building this year at the annual Athletic Training Outing. A day of adventure on both low and high ropes elements at Winding trails in Manchester, CT, challenged and enriched the life experiences of the students and left a few with some memorable bumps and bruises.



Athletic Training Students Join Connecticut Athletic Trainers to Lobby for Student Athletes with Concussions



Pictured below: Junior Athletic Training Class with Tim Speicher, Athletic Training Program Director and CATA President

As part of the Junior Athletic Training Organization and Administration Class, students joined the Connecticut Athletic Trainers' Association (CATA) and its professional members and supporters at the State Capitol to lobby for the SB 456 "An Act Concerning Student Athletes and Concussions." The legislation would require coaches in public schools to be regularly trained in the recognition of signs and symptoms of concussion, to remove any athlete who exhibits signs or symptoms of concussion, and to not allow the athlete to return to play prior to the athlete being evaluated and receiving written clearance from a qualified health care professional. For more information on the bill see www.ctathletictrainers.org.

Athletic Training Students Practice Spine Boarding on Ice

Athletic Training (AT) students practiced an essential life saving skill this fall, spine boarding on ice. Performing a neurological evaluation and providing care to a spine injured athlete is difficult enough on dry land, but essential skills and techniques are needed when providing this care for ice hockey or other sports which participate on ice. Led by Head Athletic Trainer and Adjunct Faculty Member of the AT Program, Julie Alexander, students gain valuable hands-on experience every fall learning this essential AT skill.



Exercise Science Students Present Their Research

Brendan Rickert, senior Exercise Science student, presented at the New England College of Sports Medicine Annual Fall Conference which was held November 5 - 6, 2009 in Providence, RI. The presentation was titled "Newton Neutral Racers, Do They Improve Performance?"

Sara Baker, senior Exercise Science student, Kristen Brault and Lisa Decicco, both junior Exercise Science students, presented a poster at the Sacred Heart University Research Poster Presentation which was held on Friday, April 30, 2009 from in the University Commons. The title of the presentation was "The Effects of a University Course Based Fitness Program" and is based on a study to demonstrate the physiological benefits of regular exercising for college aged students by comparing variables such as resting heart rate, resting blood pressure, Body Mass index (BMI), % fat and estimated VO₂max, pre and post exercise intervention.



Sara Baker, Kristen Brault and Lisa Decicco

Senior Earns Second Annual McCaughey Award

Victoria Gagliardi, a senior in the Athletic Training program, is the recipient of the second annual Patrick McCaughey Award. The award is named for a program graduate and will provide funding for Gagliardi's attendance at the National Athletic Trainers' Association's annual meeting and national symposium in Philadelphia this June.

The award is open to students in Human Movement Sports Science program who plan to pursue a career as a certified athletic trainer. The annual grant is funded in memory of Patrick McCaughey, a member of the Class of 1997, who developed a specific career direction and real love for the athletic training profession in his senior year. McCaughey's life enjoyed a dramatic turn around, both academically and personally, that year, as did Gagliardi's.

"I've always been involved in athletics. I played softball and baseball from the time I could throw at about six years old, but I came to school not knowing what I wanted to do. Over the past year I decided I really want to make athletic training a part of my future," Gagliardi said. McCaughey became a



From left are Sharon McCaughey (Patrick's mother), recipient Victoria Gagliardi and Timothy Speicher MS,ATC,CSCS, Human Movement and Sports Science program director and clinical associate professor.

highly successful clinician. He later earned his master's at the University of New Haven and became an athletic trainer at a high school in Milford. He was 31 at the time of his death, and the McCaughey Scholarship was established to celebrate his memory and to encourage other students to excel.

Alumna Douglas Makes Lymphedema Certification Program Possible



Alumna Karin Douglas '84 (left), talked with Physical Therapy Department Chairman, Dr. Michael Emery, in one of the physical therapy clinical labs at the College of Education and Health Professions' Cambridge site.

In its ongoing efforts to provide continuing education for professionals in the health care field, the College of Education and Health Professions' Physical Therapy Program has presented a special program for those treating secondary lymphedema. The condition afflicts many patients following cancer treatments that involve dissecting the lymph nodes. The 135-hour certification course, which was offered in June and July, provided participants with theoretical background and practical skills. Sacred Heart is the only university in the country offering this curriculum; normally, it is available through private enterprises.

A grant from the Breast Cancer Alliance (BCA) of Connecticut and the University's Dr. Margaret Palliser Fund meant that 20 physical therapists could attend the program at a greatly discounted rate. The \$2,600 cost for each student was reduced by \$1,800 thanks to this funding, and PT practitioners from the region were spared the time and expense ordinarily incurred by attending such a program far from home. SHU alumna Karin Douglas worked to secure the BCA grant, and she established the Palliser Fund in 2001 to assist physical therapy students and encourage continuing education in the field.

Dr. Michael Emery, chairman of the University's Physical Therapy and Human Movement Science Department and Associate Dean for the College, noted that the combined sponsorship allowed the College to "present this extraordinary

post-professional educational program to physical therapists in our area to benefit the patients they serve. We were able to accommodate 20 participants this summer, but there was a waiting list of at least 40, and we look forward to future opportunities to serve health care professionals in our area."

Students began their program with a nine-hour home study agenda. This was followed by intensive instruction in such specialized areas as lymphatic drainage for swollen extremities, compression bandaging, infection management, and specialized exercise programs. Participants developed strategies for individualized treatment programs with an emphasis on patient education and self-care.

Sacred Heart's Physical Therapy program has been judged the best in Connecticut and among the top 25 in the United States. Its Margaret Palliser Fund was created by Karin Douglas, a member of the Class of 1984, to support University students interested in women's health and to provide continuing education opportunities for area professionals. She was also instrumental in securing the \$25,000 grant from the Breast Cancer Alliance that made the lymphedema certification program possible.

A long-time Stratford resident, Mrs. Douglas earned her associate's degree, in Paralegal Studies, 25 years ago at Sacred Heart. She was so impressed with the quality of her educational experience that she created an endowed fund to assist scholars in paralegal – now pre-law – studies. This, she named for her friend and neighbor, Atty. Evelyn Conley, the wife of Sacred Heart's first president, Dr. William H. Conley, who had encouraged her to attend the University.

In later years, following treatment for breast cancer, Mrs. Douglas developed lymphedema, a condition then little understood. She quickly educated herself on this issue and became very active in the field on a national level. To encourage advanced education in health care, she established a second endowment, which honors Sister Margaret Palliser, a long-time administrator at Sacred Heart. The Palliser Fund provides financial assistance to students, and it also facilitates continuing education for physical therapists in treating lymphedema.

Physical Therapy Program Honored at APTA Conference

The American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) recently recognized students and professors in Sacred Heart University's PT program for their national leadership in the field. Some 2,400 practitioners and doctoral students from across the country gathered in Baltimore for the APTA Honors & Awards program including nearly 20 students and professors from SHU.

Now in its 21st year, the APTA's Marquette Challenge, co-sponsored for 2009 by Georgia State University, gathers funds for research and service. In its first year of participation, Sacred Heart University raised over \$10,000 for the Challenge and was recognized with both an Honorable Mention Award and as the Most Successful Newcomer. Among the schools participating were prestigious independent institutions such as Boston University and the University of Pittsburgh and large public schools such as Indiana University and the University of Southern California.

Dr. Michael Emery, a professor of Physical Therapy and chairman of the Physical Therapy and Human Movement Science Department at SHU, also co-presented a three-hour educational session on "Societal Expectations of Doctoral Education." The University's own doctoral program in physical therapy was named the best in Connecticut and among the top 25 percent in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report* in 2009. Launched in 2004, the DPT curriculum was the first doctoral program for the University and a first for the state of Connecticut as well.

A further indication of Sacred Heart's growing prominence in physical therapy was the inauguration of Dr. Pamela K. Levangie as a Catherine Worthingham Fellow, the APTA's highest recognition. A physical therapy educator for more than 35 years, Professor Levangie joins Dr. Emery among the Worthingham Fellows: a distinction enjoyed by very few schools. Her widely used educational resource, *Joint Structure and Function*, will go into its fifth edition next year.



At this year's APTA Marquette Challenge, from left, William Boissonault, PT, DHSc, FAAOMPT, chairman of the Foundation for Physical Therapy at the American Physical Therapy Association, posed for a photo with Cathy Schnell, DPT III student and president of the SHU Physical Therapy Student Association, and Yanira Figueroa '09, PT graduate and Immediate Past President of the SHU Physical Therapy Student Association. Photo courtesy of David Braun Photography

The University's leadership contribution to the Georgia State-Marquette Challenge resulted from the hosting last fall of a special educational seminar on campus. It featured a nationally known therapist and educator, Dr. Josh Clellan, and drew participants from throughout the Northeast. Among the organizers of that forum were Sacred Heart doctoral candidates Yanira Figueroa, who was also named the Minority Scholar of the Year by the APTA; Ruth Crossley, and Jennifer Colonna.

Thirty-six students graduated from the DPT Program at Sacred Heart in 2009, and the program continues to grow in academic quality and reputation, according to Dr. Emery, with an entering class in fall 2009 that exceeded 60.

DPT Student Elected Vice President of APTA Student Assembly Board of Directors



Mark Shepherd, 3rd year Doctorate of Physical Therapy (DPT) student, was elected Vice President of the Student Assembly Board of Directors at the National Student Conclave of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) which was held on October 30 to November 1, 2009 in Miami, FL.

As Vice President, Mark will assume the responsibility of the President at the request, absence, or incapacitation of the President. He has been able to work with many students from around the nation and has already traveled to Washington, DC and San Diego in order to advocate and work for student physical therapists and physical therapy assistants. He will be heading to Boston in June to work with APTA's House of Delegates and attend APTA's Annual Conference. He is working on several projects with APTA in order to increase student membership and enhance communication within the student assembly.

In Mark's own words "I have been privileged to work for the nation's PT and PTA students. I could have never been in this position if it weren't for the professors in Sacred Heart's Physical Therapy program as they demonstrated what a real leader should be. I believe that leaders need to be passionate about what they stand for and that they should lead by example; this is exactly how SHU's PT department works. I hope that I can one day lead as my professors have and truly make a difference in the physical therapy profession."

DPT Student Wins CPTA Minority Scholarship



Patrick Buckley, 2nd year DPT student applied for and was awarded the Connecticut Physical Therapy Association's (CPTA) Education Fund 2010 Minority Scholarship.

The awarding of the CPTA Education Fund scholarship is based on scholastic achievement, professional involvement/community activities and an essay. Students must be in good standing and be a member of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA).

The scholarship was awarded at the CPTA student conclave on March 27, 2010 at the University of Hartford.

Patrick is currently the Vice President of the Student Special Interest Group (SSIG) for the CPTA and the graduate assistant for the RISE (Reaching Independence Through Supported Education) program through the Continuing Educational Services of Trumbull, Connecticut. In addition, he is also a licensed and certified Athletic Trainer who has worked for the Bridgeport Bluefish and is still actively involved in secondary school per-diem work in the surrounding Bridgeport area. During his free time, he enjoys volunteering at St. Theresa's Parish in Trumbull as one of the parishes two Youth Ministers.

Orthopaedic PT Residency Program

Sacred Heart Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation is pleased to announce its affiliation with the new Sacred Heart University (SHU) Orthopedic Physical Therapy Residency program. This program provides specialty training for newly graduated Physical Therapists in orthopedic physical therapy.

Overseen by Dr. Gary Austin PT, PhD, the residency program is a combination of guided clinical training along with formal advanced academic preparation. The residents are licensed physical therapists who are looking to fast track their education, skill levels, and knowledge base in the treatment of persons with orthopedic injury and disease. The Orthopaedic Residents will provide physical therapy services at SHU Sports Medicine & Rehabilitation Center, St. Vincent's Immediate Health Care in Bridgeport, and other clinical affiliates; serve as adjunct faculty in the SHU Doctorate of Physical Therapy Program; and complete advanced didactic and clinical education in preparation for board certification in Orthopaedic Physical Therapy.

Dr. Beverly Fein Celebrates 15 Years at SHU



Dr. Beverly Fein, associate professor and academic coordinator of Clinical Education, celebrated her 15th year at Sacred Heart University at this year's Founders Day.

Dr. Fein is an alumna of the University of Pennsylvania who later earned her master's degree from Temple University and her Ed.D. from the University of Bridgeport. Among her other duties, she is coordinator of Semester 3 in the Doctor of Physical Therapy program dealing with the medically complex patient.

Isabelle Farrington School of Education

Dr. Edward Hendricks



Dr. Hendricks, Clinical Assistant Professor, successfully defended his dissertation, and on January 31, 2010 was conferred the degree of Ph.D. in Education with a Specialization in Postsecondary and Adult Education from Capella University in Minnesota. Dr. Hendricks' dissertation was titled:

Teacher Educators' Perceptions of The Effect of Meeting Mandated NCATE Standards.

Dr. Hendricks will be presenting his findings during two presentations at the 2nd International Conference on Education, Economy and Society to be held in Paris, France in July 2010. The first presentation is "The Effect Of Mandated Standards On Teacher Education And Development" and the second is " Using Adragogy to Teach Pedagogy: Preparing Adults to Become Teachers."

Dr. Jacqueline Kelleher

Dr. Kelleher, Assistant Professor, joined the Isabelle Farrington School of Education in January 2010 bringing an extensive background in teacher training, special education, and research-based interventions for children and youth with disabilities. Nationally recognized for her expertise in assessment and evaluation, Jacqui has spoken for national and international organizations in these areas. In February 2010, Dr. Kelleher spoke at the Opening Ceremony for Connecticut's Autism Research and Training Center at Southern Connecticut State University after being named to the Advisory Board where she will consult on the Center's growth and development. She was interviewed and featured on Connecticut's Newschannel 8 about her ideas on what this Center will provide to the

families of Connecticut. Also in February, Dr. Kelleher was invited by Autism Speaks to serve on a panel moderated by US Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro where she discussed issues concerning special education and autism alongside Senator Joe Crisco, Healthcare Advocate, Kevin Lembo, and others. Portions of Dr. Kelleher's guidance provided at this session were featured on NBC30 and in the New Haven Register.

In addition to teaching courses in special education and educational psychology in the Isabelle Farrington College of Education, Dr. Kelleher continues her research and outreach with Connecticut schools and her service to state tasks forces including the Division on Autism Services Advisory Council. Speaking engagements on autism, special education, and rights afforded under IDEA 2004 were as follows:

1. March 20th State Panel on Autism with the Connecticut Autism Advocacy Coalition in Torrington.
2. March 23rd State Panel on Autism with the Connecticut Autism Advocacy Coalition in Norwich.
3. March 25th Guidelines for Educating Children and Youth with Autism at the Autism Spectrum Resource Center.
4. March 25th Autism, Advocacy and Special Education with the Hartford Special Education Parent Teacher Alliance.

Dr. Kelleher's professional journey has afforded her opportunities to work with hundreds of districts, private schools, and government agencies to improve outcomes for children across the nation. While her coursework and research has laid the foundation, Jacqui credits her real expertise in autism to raising identical twin sons on the spectrum in partnership with her husband and two teenage daughters.

Human Movement & Sports Science

Wendy Bjerke

Professor Bjerke, Clinical Assistant Professor & Director of the Wellness Program, presented two topics at the New England College of Sports Medicine Annual Fall Conference which was held November 5 - 6, 2009 in Providence, RI. The presentations were titled "Service Learning Applied to Exercise Science" and "Deep Vein Thrombosis and Pulmonary Embolism"

Beau Greer



Dr. Greer, Program Director and Assistant Professor of the Master of Science in Exercise Science and Nutrition, had two articles accepted for publication this academic year by the Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research.

The article "BCAA Supplementation Lowers Perceived Exertion But Does Not Affect Performance In Untrained Males" can be accessed on-line at: journals.lww.com/nsca-jscr/pages/results.aspx?k=Beau%20Greer&Scope=AllIssues&txtKeywords=Beau%20Greer

The second article co-authored by Brett Jones, a former student, is entitled "Acute Arginine Supplementation Fails to Improve Muscle Endurance or Affect Blood Pressure Responses to

Resistance Training" has been accepted for publication but has not yet been published, therefore it is not available on-line.

Dr. Greer became an Associate Editor of the Journal of Physical Therapy in April 2010.

Also, Dr. Greer will present at the 2010 American College of Sports Medicine Annual Conference in Baltimore, MD, this June. The study is titled, "Functional Investigation of Footwear Energy Return on Running Economy." Co-authors are Dr. Matt Moran, Assistant Professor and current student, Brendan Rickert.

Matthew Moran

Dr. Moran, Assistant Professor, will present at the 2010 American College of Sports Medicine Annual Conference in Baltimore, MD, this June. The study is titled, "Computational Prediction of Running Performance Utilizing a Modified Training Impulse."

Tim Speicher



Professor Speicher, Program Director and Clinical Associate Professor of Athletic Training, was invited this past fall by the Connecticut State Medical Society Sports Medicine Committee to write an evidenced-based medicine article on strategies for prevention of groin injury for the latest journal issue which can be accessed on-line at: www.csms.org/upload/files/sportsmed/fallspmed09.pdf.

Professor Speicher will also present a peer reviewed paper at the upcoming National Athletic Trainers' Association Conference in Philadelphia titled: Manual therapy: An outcomes-based approach. Contributing co-authors are Brian Vesci from Boston University and Eric Scibek, Athletic Training Clinical Coordinator at Sacred Heart University.

Nursing

Dr. Susan DeNisco



Dr. DeNisco received an award from the National Nursing Center Consortium for her work for the College's Center for Community Health and Wellness and the Southwest Community Health Center. The award was presented in November, 2009 at the 8th annual National Conference held in Philadelphia, PA.

Dr. DeNisco, Associate Professor of Nursing, was awarded the Primary Care Champion Award. Dr. DeNisco has been working in the field of primary care for the past 23 years. She has been a Family Nurse Practitioner since 1986 and has worked predominantly in urban health care settings since her career began. She has worked with a wide variety of indigent populations in Appalachia, in Colorado serving Migrant Mexican Farm workers through the US Department of Public Health's Migrant Health Service, in the Bronx, New York serving Cambodian refugees and at two federally qualified health centers in the urban areas of Stamford and most recently Bridgeport, Connecticut. For a number of years Dr. DeNisco has been providing a vast array of primary care services at Southwest Community Health Center which is located in Bridgeport, Connecticut in one of the poorest neighborhoods in the Northeast.

She is tireless in her effort to ensure that each one of her patients receives quality health care. While some primary care providers limit themselves to caring for a particular age group or specialty area, she is flexible and provides homeless populations

as well as clinic patients providing pediatric, adult health care, gynecologic services and mental health care to those who need it most. She never refuses to see a patient and has developed a network of referral sources to be sure that her patients receive specialty services when needed. While Dr. DeNisco could work anywhere she chooses to provide care in this setting because she believes in the mission of providing primary care services to the most vulnerable of populations.

Dr. Kathleen Fries



Dr. Fries presented a poster entitled "The Development of an Intensive Field Experience in Guatemala as a Means to Integrate the Three Apprenticeships Critical to Professional Nursing Practice in BSN Students" at the National Nurse Educator Summit, held April 6 - 9, 2010 in Las Vegas, NV.

Dr. Julie Stewart

Dr. Stewart, Assistant Professor, had her doctoral research "Psychological empowerment and structural empowerment among nurse practitioners." published in the January 2010 Issue of the Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. Go to www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/fulltext/123232456/PDFSTART to view the publication.



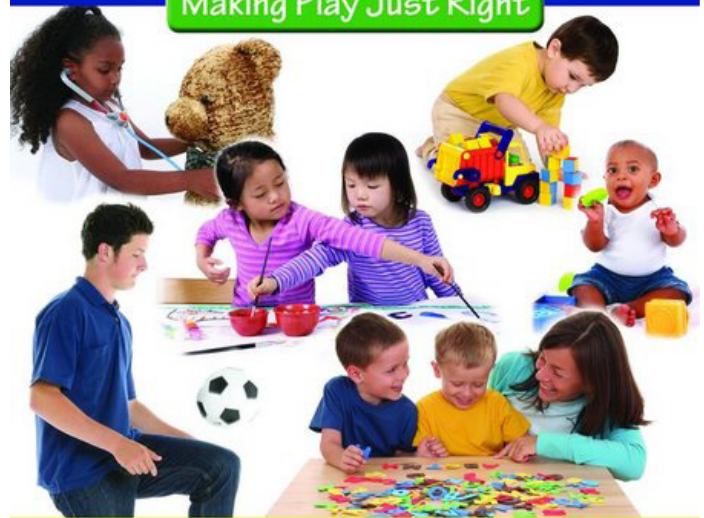
Heather Miller Kuhaneck

Professor Kuhaneck was presented with the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) Roster of Fellows award at the Annual AOTA Awards and Recognitions Ceremony in Orlando, FL on May 1, 2010. The Roster of Fellows recognizes occupational therapist members of AOTA, who with their knowledge and expertise, have made a significant contribution to the continuing education and professional development of members of the Association. In recognition of Professor Kuhaneck's contributions, the following statement appeared on her award: *Sharing evidence as author, collaborator, and educator.*

Professor Heather Miller Kuhaneck & Dr. Elissa Miller

Activity Analysis, Creativity and Playfulness in Pediatric Occupational Therapy

Making Play Just Right



Heather Miller Kuhaneck ■ Susan L. Spitzer ▲ Elissa Miller

Occupational Therapy

Dr. Lenore Frost

Dr. Frost, Academic Fieldwork Coordinator and Clinical Assistant Professor, successfully defended her dissertation, and on August 23, 2009 was conferred the degree of Ph.D. in Health Services from Walden University. Dr. Frost's dissertation was titled: "Patient Handling Methods in Occupational Therapy Curricula"

Dr. Frost was invited to speak at the 10th Annual Safe Patient Handling and Movement Conference which took place from March 30 - April 1, 2010 in Lake Buena Vista, FL.

Professor Heather Miller Kuhaneck & Dr. Elissa Miller co-authored a book with Dr. Susan Spitzer, a California private practitioner. The book is titled, *Activity Analysis, Creativity and Playfulness in Pediatric Occupational Therapy: Making*

Play Just Right. Professor Heather Miller Kuhaneck & Dr. Elissa Miller co-authored a book with Dr. Susan Spitzer, a California private practitioner. The book is titled, “Activity Analysis, Creativity and Playfulness in Pediatric Occupational Therapy: Making Play Just Right.” This text is a unique resource for pediatric activity and therapy analysis for occupational therapists and students. It provides useful information on planning creative and playful activities within therapy sessions. This resource contains case studies, activity worksheets and a DVD with over 90 minutes of video footage.

Physical Therapy

Dr. Salome Brooks

Dr. Brooks, Clinical Assistant Professor, successfully defended her dissertation, and on August 19, 2009 was conferred the Ed.D. degree from Southern Connecticut State University in Educational Leadership. Her defense topic was very germane to the work of the Physical Therapy department. “Validation of the five phases of professional development for physical therapy facilitated by the DPT credential.”

Dr. Janine Hatch

Dr. Hatch, Clinical Associate Professor, was featured as the guest speaker for the Parkinson’s support group meeting, hosted by The Watermark, a retirement community in Bridgeport, CT, on Thursday, March 11, 2010. The topic of Dr. Hatch’s lecture was “Exercise Essentials for Quality of Life with Parkinson’s Disease.”

Rev. Ramona Black, MAT '86 joined Norwalk United Methodist Church as minister of Christian education and community outreach. She will work to further develop the church's children's and youth programs as well as helping the church to reach out to the community. She is also assisting in worship planning and practice, helping visit the sick and shut-ins, as well as outreach ministries.

Rev. Black was ordained in the American Baptist Churches of Connecticut in 2007 and has worked at churches in Stamford and Bridgeport. Prior to entering the ministry, she was an educator in Stamford public schools and Trinity Catholic High School in Stamford. She also worked as a social caseworker in the New York City Department of Children's Services and the Hillcrest Center for Children.

Patrice Kopas, CAS '09 was named principal of Greenwich Catholic School in July 2009, after earning her certification in administration at SHU and spending February to July 2009 as interim principal at Saint Catherine of Siena School in Trumbull.

Nancy Malafatopoulos, Intermediate Administrator Certification '09 was first chosen as the state and then as the 2010 National family & Consumer sciences Teacher of the Year. The Fairfield Warde High School teacher was chosen in large part for the project in which her students make "Trashy Fashion," which is fashion made out of recycled newspapers, and plastic bags. The dresses are amazingly beautiful and very detailed - not at all what you would expect from recycled materials.

Ms. Malafatopoulos is the program chair for the American Association of family & Consumer Sciences and her goal as the Teacher of the Year is to get a core of family and consumer science subjects mandated by our schools.

Dean's Circle: \$1,000 and above

Mr. Edward J. Bocuzzi
Bridgeport Hospital
Cyrus W. And Amy F. Jones and
Bessie D. Phelps Foundation
Delaney Memorial Foundation
Mrs. Karin N. Douglas '84
Fairfield County Community Foundation
Mrs. Isabelle T. Farrington
Integrated Rehabilitation Services
Mr. and Mrs. James P. Lundy
Ms. Sharon A. McCaughey
Dr. Gerald E. Neipp and Dr.
Maureen B. Fitzpatrick
Phillips/Lansdale Fund
St. Vincent's Medical Center
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Stieglitz
The Hon. Aram H. Tellalian
Mr. Robert S. Tellalian
Visiting Nurse and Hospice Care
of Southwestern CT, Inc.
William H. Pitt Foundation, Inc.
Yale New Haven Hospital
Mr. Earl and Dr. Constance Young/
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund

Chair's Circle: \$500 to \$999

Fairfield County Links, Inc.
Mr. Donald B. And Dr. Kathleen S. Fries '94
Dr. Marie T. Hilliard
J. Royal Co., Inc.
Mr. Eugene E. and Dr. Bernadette
R. Madara, '91
Dr. Linda L. Strong
Mr. Neil and Dr. Dori Sullivan
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