Fall 2011

The Connection, Fall 2011

College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences

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The Connection
Quarterly Newsletter for the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences
"Enhancing quality of life through research, outreach, and practice."
Volume 2 - Oct-Dec 2011

Mission Statement
To promote a healthy, educated, and civil society; to encourage lifelong learning; and to enhance the quality of life within the diverse, global community by preparing professionals to lead and serve by conducting research and by engaging in service and outreach activities.

From the Dean’s Desk
The Fall 2011 semester is fully underway at this time and beautiful Knoxville is quickly transitioning from a warmer than usual summer to what appears will be a cool and beautiful autumn season. As you would imagine, the leaves are falling just about as quickly as our students are rushing to get to their next class. These are both good things because they symbolize a strong and vibrant university that we’re very proud to be part of. The College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences Board of Advisors meeting was held on September 8th and 9th and by all accounts, was certainly one of most successful and productive meetings to date. I want to thank Martha Attaway, Chair of the Board of Advisors and former Chair, Gary Blauser on spending hours upon hours planning for this meeting. This planning led to two days of meeting and learning about some of the College’s new programs, some of which are discussed in greater detail in the departmental reports contained in this issue of Connections. I want to also thank all of our wonderful Board members for their time and talent and for making my job as dean significantly less complex and easier to carry out. I would especially like to welcome our newest members to the Board of Advisors; Laura Payne, Jane Henry and Bill McKee and thank them for their willingness to share in the important work in which our College is engaged. Further, I would also like to express my gratitude to all of our alumni and friends who provide the support we need to do this work. I send my best wishes to all of you and hope that the fall season in your area is as wonderful as the one which we are about to experience here in beautiful East Tennessee. Sincerely,

Bob

Vision
Our vision for the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences at the University of Tennessee is to be nationally and internationally recognized for our rich academic programs, highly qualified faculty and staff, and diverse and academically talented student population.
Nutrition By Dr. Jay Whelan

Nutrition (NTR) It is with great pleasure to introduce two new faculty members to our department, Dr. Lauren Gellar and Dr. Sarah Colby. Dr. Geller comes to us from The University of Massachusetts Medical School, Wooster, MA, where she focused her research on clinical and population health. Dr. Colby was a highly successful faculty member at East Carolina University, in Greenville, NC and is an expert in human behavior on health issues and nutrition education. We are delighted that she decided to relocate to Knoxville.

The Department of Nutrition continues to be a leader of biomedical research on the UT campus. Recently, with the support of Dean Rider and the hard work of Dr. Guoxun Chen, the department acquired a state-of-the-art Comprehensive Lab Animal Monitoring System (CLAMS) that can comprehensively measure all aspects of experimental animals related to the study of obesity, including activity, feeding, drinking, food access control, exercise, and sleep while collecting additional data such as body mass, urine, body core temperature and heart rate, if so desired. This system has an environmental chamber open circuit calorimeter, which allows the investigator the ability to determine if, for example, changing the components of the diet can influence whether the body preferentially burns fat. This unit has resulted in collaborations with the UT Medical Center (UTMC), the Department of Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology (BCMB), and UT’s College of Veterinary Medicine.

While our department has been a premier training ground for graduate student education in cellular and molecular, public health and clinical nutrition, a new initiative targeting undergraduate students has been established by Dr. Jason Collier, a faculty member in cellular and molecular nutrition. "Train-to-Retain" is an apprenticeship program designed to introduce and prepare undergraduate students to competitively enter the world of biomedical research. What is unique about this program is that it targets undergraduates from the general student population; their responsibilities are similar to those of graduate students and post-doctoral fellows. Their ultimate goal is to unveil the complexities of diabetes, culminating in authorship in a peer-reviewed manuscript in a high impact scientific journal. During this journey in their junior and senior years, they become mentors of the next class of undergraduates who have a desire to get hands-on experiences in research while working alongside the best faculty in the department. Train-to-Retain offers unique research experiences of undergraduates in the general student population typically reserved for only those students in the Honors program.

Retail, Hospitality, and Tourism Management By Dr. Ann Fairhurst

Retail, Hospitality, and Tourism Management (RHTM) The RHTM faculty is committed to offering our students a variety of experiential learning opportunities. In support of UT’s Ready for the World initiative, Dr. Ann Fairhurst and Dean Aaser led a group of RHTM students to Costa Rica in May. The study tour was designed as an introduction and overview of the retail, hospitality and tourism industries. The students visited American companies with a Costa Rican presence, small local based operations, Central American based chain stores and hotels who have received the highest level of certification for sustainable tourism. Costa Rica is the most developed economy in Central America and leads the world in eco-tourism and the development of sustainable tourism.

Dr. Carol Costello has been very busy organizing the inaugural Tennessee Food and Wine Festival, Oct 21-22, 2011 from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. at the Knoxville Convention Center (www.tnfoodandwine.com). The emphasis on Tennessee products makes this a unique festival and we project having over 100 food and wine booths that will sample and sell their products. Celebrity chefs will continuously share favorite recipes and techniques on two stages. A “Fit for Royalty” Gala Dinner hosted by Chef Darren McGrady is being organized for the night of Oct 22. Chef McGrady spent many years cooking for Queen Elizabeth II and for the last four years of his royal career took control of Princess Diana’s day to day menus in addition to the royal functions at Kensington Palace. Students will help organize, manage, and staff these events which will also provide invaluable real world experiences in meeting planning and event management. All profits from these events will be used to support scholarships and out-of-classroom experiences for the Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism management students. The goal is for the Tennessee Food and Wine Festival to be the largest showing of Tennessee food and wine products in the state. If you have any questions about attending, please contact Carol Costello, Ph.D. (costello@utk.edu) at 974-6241 or visit the website www.tnfoodandwine.com.

We have a lot to celebrate in regards to faculty accomplishments. A few highlights include: 1) Dr. Rod Runyan, Dr. Jeannie Lim and Dr. Wanda Costen received tenure and were promoted to Associate Professors and 2) Dr. Nancy Rutherford retired in August after 20 years of service to UT. As part of her legacy, she has established an endowed scholarship to support students interested in product development.

Greetings from the Development Office By Randy Atkins

Please let me express my sincere appreciation that I was chosen to serve in this role and can call the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences “home”. I'm so very grateful to be working with Dean Rider, wonderful department heads, a dedicated staff, and passionate alumni and friends. In these uncertain times, we can be certain that there are a group of individuals who will always want to support the College and help it prosper. In future newsletters, I will try to highlight some of these special people and the impact they make each day. Thanks to all for your continued support and interest!


**Public Health**

**By Dr. Paul Erwin**

**Department of Public Health (DPH)** - During the academic year 2010-2011, the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree was awarded to 24 students and the dual MS-MPH (Public Health Nutrition) degrees to three students. The Department welcomed 14 new students who enrolled in the MPH degree program this summer or fall. This brings the total enrolment in the MPH program to 55. In addition, the DPH awarded its PhD degree (PhD in Education, with a concentration in Health Behavior and Health Education) to four students, and currently has six doctoral students enrolled in its PhD program.

Although the DPH is relatively new – being officially established in 2010 – its MPH program has been “around the block a few times,” with over 1000 alumni. This fall (October 20th and 21st) the DPH will host a 40th anniversary celebration of the MPH degree program, with invited keynote speakers and panelists from among the high achieving graduates of the program. Leading off on the evening of October 20th will be the immediate past-president of the American Public Health Association, Dr. Carmen Nevarez. October 21st keynote presentations will include Dr. Ed Baker, UNC/Chapel Hill (former Director of the Office of Public Health Practice at CDC); Ms. Carol Woltring of the California Public Health Institute; and, Dr. Michael Blackwell, former Dean of the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine. More information is available at [http://publichealth.utk.edu/anniversary.html](http://publichealth.utk.edu/anniversary.html)

In the process of establishing a department, graduate students in public health established the Public Health GSA (Graduate Student Association), which is now officially recognized by the University and in the DPH by-laws. The GSA developed and provided the first-ever orientation for new MPH students in the first week of the fall semester, which included basic information on public health coursework, how to navigate through the degree, and opportunities for students to gain valuable leadership experiences through involvement with the GSA. The orientation was followed by another GSA-sponsored event – a “Meet & Greet” with faculty – where both new and returning students had the opportunity to “mix and mingle” with the faculty as a way to kick off the new school year. Additional information on the Public Health GSA is provided in the most recent issue of the DPH Newsletter, “MPH memos” at [http://publichealth.utk.edu/newsletters.html](http://publichealth.utk.edu/newsletters.html)

The DPH recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Knox County Health Department (KCHD), to establish an Academic Health Department (AHD). The AHD is the public health corollary for what a teaching hospital is for medical and nursing academic programs: a practice setting where students learn to apply what they are gaining from their coursework, and which provides opportunities for collaborative research between the two organizations. Ms. Julie Hansen was hired as the AHD Coordinator in a shared position jointly funded by the DPH and the KCHD, where she will also help coordinate field placements for MPH students at locations across the country. As part of the AHD-related activities, Dr. Paul Terry of the DPH will provide the first in the Public Health Grand Rounds series, with a presentation at the KCHD on September 23rd ([http://publichealth.utk.edu/Events/GrandRounds.pdf](http://publichealth.utk.edu/Events/GrandRounds.pdf))

**Events/GrandRounds.pdf**

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**Theory and Practice in Teacher Education**

**By Dr. Sherry Bell**

**Theory and Practice in Teacher Education (TPTE)** - Several TPTE faculty received awards or were recently recognized for their accomplishments.

Dr. Jeffrey Davis, Education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing/Interpreting was promoted to Professor and Dr. Lynn Hodge of Mathematics Education was awarded tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor in June, 2011.

Dr. Anne McGill-Franzen, Reading Education, was inducted into the International Reading Association Hall of Fame in Spring, 2011.

Dr. Richard Allington’s (Reading Education) article, “What at-risk readers need”, was included in the on-line collection of The Best of Educational Leadership 2010-2011.

Dr. Pattie Davis-Wiley, Foreign Language Education, was awarded UT’s National Alumni Outstanding Teaching Award 201.

Dr. Sherry Mee Bell, Special Education, and TPTE interim department head, was recognized by UT Office of Research as the Quest Scholar of the Week in August, 2011.

**Several TPTE faculty spent time over the summer of 2011 participating in international professional meetings.**

In July, 2011, Drs. Jeffrey Davis and Kimberly Wolbers of Education of Deaf and Hard of Hearing/Educational Interpreting implemented the first ever interpreter evaluation system in Trinidad and Tobago. Twenty-two acting interpreters were evaluated and qualified by the Trinidad and Tobago Association of Interpreters for the Deaf.

Dr. Vena M. Long, Mathematics Education, co-presented a paper with Dr. Zully Alfonso of Cumana, Venezuela at the annual conference of CIEAEM in Barcelona, Spain on July 25, 2011. The conference focused on social justice and involving parents in meaningful ways in the mathematical education of their children and included participants from 21 countries.

Dr. Blanche O’Bannon, Educational Technology, and doctoral students Jeff Beard and Virginia Britt, presented at EdMedia (World Conference on Educational Multimedia, Hypermedia & Telecommunications) in Lisbon, Portugal in June, 2011. Their paper, Replacing Lecture with Podcasts: Effects on Student Achievement was published in the conference proceedings, at the EdILib (Education & Information Technology Digital Library).

Dr. Richard Allington, Reading Education, was keynote speaker for Winnipeg Public Schools, Winnipeg, Canada, May, 2011. He presented a paper entitled Struggling Readers Need What Good Readers Need, But More of It.
Upcoming Events

Department of Public Health Event
Presentation and Reception Thursday October 20, 2011, 5:00 pm- 7:30 pm
Panel Discussion and Luncheon Friday October 21, 2011, 8:00 am- 1:00 pm
Hotel packages available:
Crowne Plaza Knoxville (865) 522 2600
Hilton Knoxville (865) 523 2300
Facebook: 40th Anniversary! MPH at UTK Department of Public Health

SAVE THE DATE
College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences
2012 Dean’s Board of Advisors Spring Meeting
- Thursday, March 29th from 3:00 – 5:30pm EHH reception to follow
- Friday, March 30th from 8:30am – 4:30pm
For questions, please call 865.974.3968

In Memory

Dr. Glennon Rowell was Dean of the College of Education at the University of Tennessee and co-founder of the Educators Hall of Honor. Dr. Rowell recognized the role teachers and administrators had played in the lives of so many and envisioned a hall of honor that would be a tribute to both current and past educators, as well as, an inspiration to future generations of educators. Today the Educators Hall of Honor embodies Dr. Rowell’s vision and if you would like to donate in his memory, just contact us at 865-974-3968 or phowell3@utk.edu. Checks can be mailed to CEHHS Development Office, A-305 Bailey Education Complex, 1122 Volunteer Blvd., Knoxville, TN 37996 and made payable to UT.

We also want to remember Dr. John Michael Antun, chef and founding director of the Culinary Institute at the University of Tennessee. Dr. Antun served as associate professor in the Department of Retail, Hospitality, and Tourism Management in the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences since 2004. He passed away on July 11, 2011, but during his time here, he created the Knoxville Empowerment Zone culinary arts training program for the economically disadvantaged and the Ready for the World Café, where his students created recipes. Donations in Dr. Antun’s memory can be made to the John Antun Scholarship Fund, by contacting us at 865-974-3968 or phowell3@utk.edu. Checks can be mailed to CEHHS Development Office, A-305 Bailey Education Complex, 1122 Volunteer Blvd., Knoxville, TN 37996 and made payable to UT.

Projects and Updates
Submit to:
Penny Howell
phowell3@utk.edu
865-974-3968

Student Awards Committee
By Tiffani Moody

On Thursday, November 3rd from 4-6 pm, the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences will hold our annual Student Awards Celebration in the University Center Ballroom. The event honors students in the College who have received a scholarship or fellowship and gives those students the opportunity to meet and thank the donors who make the awards possible. While each scholarship or fellowship varies in the selection criteria, the recipients are all students of true accomplishment and promise. We would love for you to join us on this special evening.

The College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences ~ enhancing quality of life through research, outreach, and practice.