Spring 2011

The College of Health & Human Services [Annual Report]

Western Kentucky University College of Health and Human Services

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The College of Health & Human Services

The College provides diverse educational opportunities leading to excellence in Health and Human Services for a global community.
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Welcome to 2011 issue of CHHS Annual Report. The Annual Report contains exciting news about expanding international offerings in health and human services to the development of the new Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) and the initiation of a new Doctor in Physical Therapy (DPT).

In this issue we celebrate the accomplishments of our students, faculty, and alumni of our college in 2010. Five faculty (Lynn Austin, Dana Bradley, Randy Deere, Susan Jones, and Mary Lloyd Moore) were recognized for their outstanding work by state, regional, or national professional organizations (see pages 8-9). Several of our students also were recognized for their exemplary achievements (page 10-11). Our alumni continue to provide leadership in their professions such as Deborah Filliman in Nutrition and Dietetics and Carrie Shuffett in Nursing. Lastly, there are two pages of publications by our faculty and students that represent over 30 publications in diverse and scholarly journals.

The enrollment in the College of Health and Human Services remains healthy and continues to grow. The college increased by 291 students from Fall 2009 to Fall 2010, representing a growth increase of 7.9%. There was a 42.4% increase in student enrollment from Fall 2006 to Fall 2010, the highest percent increase of any college at WKU. In July 2011, the Associate Degree Nursing Program and the Health Information Management programs, previously in the University College, will join CHHS. The addition of these two programs in CHHS will push our enrollment numbers to over 4300 students and hence, the distinction of being the largest college at the university.

We hope you enjoy this issue of the CHHS Annual Report and encourage you to make a gift to help the College offer special value-added experiences for our students and faculty. Gifts to the CHHS Fund for Excellence enable us to offer scholarships for international studies or to fund research projects by students and our faculty. Please consider making a full-tax-deductible contribution to the CHHS. A gift of $50 will be deeply appreciated and be used to help support projects in the College.

Please feel free to contact us if you are interested in more information about our College and programs. We look forward to hearing from you. You may send comments or ideas for future news items directly to my attention at chhs@wku.edu.

Sincerely yours,

John A. Bonaguro, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Health and Human Services
Once again students and faculty from various WKU departments traveled to Gales Point to provide medical services and clean water for its residents.

SPAIN

Students from WKU’s Communication Disorders program visit Dr. Dol- ors Girbau, Associate Professor in the Department of Experimental Psychology, at Jaume I University in the city of Castellón de la Plana, Spain. Dr. Gir- bau presented them with information regarding her research in phonological working memory in Spanish-English bilingual children with and without specific language impairment.
Dr. Susan Jones, School of Nursing, along with seven students, participated in CCSA’s London Summer Program from July 9th to August 9th, 2010. Dr. Jones described her students as “a diverse group with common interests in the health professions.”

The group was composed of one Western Kentucky University (WKU) pre-veterinarian student, three WKU nursing students, a WKU health care administration student, a University of Louisville nursing student, and a nursing student—a recent WKU graduate. Students gained insights into the British health care system as they interviewed locals at Hyde Park.

Hours of viewing clinical sites included visits to the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing and Midwifery, the Great Ormond Street Children Hospital and Bart’s and The London Hospital.

Field trips included visits to the Wellcome Collection Museum, Old Operating Theatre, Foundling Museum, Huxterian Museum at the Royal College of Surgeons, Florence Nightingale Museum, and the Science Museum where students toured the genetics and obesity exhibits. Students also took a guided walking tour of the history of public health in Southwark, an area heavily impacted by both plague and cholera epidemics.
Physical Therapy: A Clinical Doctorate Program

Becoming a Reality for WKU

The Commonwealth of Kentucky’s State Legislature passed SB 130 in their last session that allows for Kentucky universities to offer as many as three advanced practice doctorate degrees. This bill opened the door for WKU to offer the Doctorate in Physical Therapy that the College has been planning for since 2007 with the generous gifts for start-up costs in the amount of $650,000.

Improving the quality of life of the residents of Kentucky is of uppermost importance to the College of Health and Human Services. There has been a shortage of physical therapists in Western Kentucky for over 40 years. Data from the Kentucky Hospital Association, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and WKU’s 2009 survey of health care providers in the region showed that there is a critical shortage of physical therapists.

CHHS has started the search for a program director and is seeking initial accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE). The goal is to develop the curriculum and gain approvals through WKU and the Council on Postsecondary Education by early 2012 with expectation that the first class of DPT students will start in Fall 2012.

Doctorate of Nursing Practitioner

The DNP is a clinical practice doctorate designed for Nurse Practitioners, Clinical Nurse Specialists, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist, Nurse Midwives and Nurse Administrators with a previous MSN degree. The contact for the DNP program is Eve Main, eve.main@wku.edu.

The Doctor of Nursing Practice program has been approved by WKU Board of Regents, the Kentucky Board of Nursing and is pending approval from CPE. We plan to admit our first class in the Post-MSN to DNP program in Fall 2011.

The BSN to DNP program will begin in the Fall of 2013. We will be moving the graduate program to space in TPH to accommodate this expansion.
McChesney Field: The Gift of Land

The 140-acre farm located along Green River in the northern part of the county was donated to the University last year from the McChesney estate to be developed into a place for students in the Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport department, as well as others, to develop new programs and expand their resources. Several classes have researched, improved, and documented the homestead. Dr. Steve Spencer’s fall, 2010 Recreation Resource Management class focused on cutting trails, placing signage, and making the campus accessible and ready for future use. Already, five different Recreation Administration classes have worked on the land. Some have been involved with facility design, camp design, and this class made physical changes to the property creating a 1.8 mile loop which passes by an historic cemetery, a spring, and a ferry landing.

The class projects utilized the Earth Force Model (where students identify and work toward sustainable solutions to problems).
Dr. Cathy Abell was nominated and selected on May 6, 2010, to serve as an on-site evaluator for CCNE (Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education). CCNE is an accrediting agency for baccalaureate and graduate degree nursing programs in the United States.

Dr. Gary Villereal, Associate Professor of Social Work, recently published, *Education Unplugged: Teaching in a Positive Learning Environment*. This book is co-authored with Sharon Simmons. The book discusses how the model of a positive learning environment for the classroom engages students to take ownership for their learning and to learn in a style that is most advantageous for them rather than in a way the teacher determines. The book provides a step by step process of student learning and helps readers move toward a comprehensive environment to promote better learning.

Dr. Lynn Austin, Department Head for Allied Health, has been appointed as a Commissioner to the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) by the American Dental Hygienists’ Association President. The appointment was effective October, 2010, and she will serve for 5 years. The Commission establishes, maintains, and applies standards that ensure the quality and continuous improvement of dental and dental-related education and reflect the evolving practice of dentistry. Responsibilities of CODA Commissioners include formulating and approving accreditation standards by which programs are evaluated, establishing policies and procedures for conducting the accreditation program, determining and publicizing program accreditation status, and appointing consultants and site visitors to assist in accreditation activities.

Dr. Sharon Whitlock received the Kentucky Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (KAHPERD) Distinguished Service Award. Each year KAHPERD honors individuals for meritorious service in the field of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (HPERD).

Dr. Steve Spencer, Associate Professor of Kinesiology, Recreation and Sport, had an article placed in the online issue of the *Journal of the Wilderness Education Association*. The article titled “Development and Management of a Canoe Instructor Program as part of the Western Kentucky University Outdoor Leadership Program” gives a detailed description of the Outdoor Leadership Program (OLP). The OLP consists of 24 credit hours and various forms of the program have been in existence since 1992. Dr. Spencer discusses the importance of water-based skills, specifically, canoe skills, that are focused on in the program. The belief is that if a boater develops competent skills canoeing, those skills are more easily transferred to kayaking & rafting.

Dr. Willie Hey, Department Head for Kinesiology, Recreation and Sport, was selected to receive the 2011 Southern District American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD) Scholar Award. This award is given to an outstanding professional scholar in the Southern District AAHPERD who has made significant contributions in his or her professional career.
Bill Edwards, a part of the athletic training scene at Western Kentucky University for nearly 40 years, was inducted into the Kentucky Athletic Trainers Society Hall of Fame in ceremonies at Northern Kentucky University.

Five CHHS Faculty Honored with a Reception for Achievements

The College of Health and Human Services gave a reception to recognize five outstanding faculty in the front lobby of the Suzanne Vitale Clinical Education Complex on November 29, 2010. Members of the CHHS faculty and staff, as well as members of the Bowling Green and surrounding area communities came by to congratulate the awardees.

Dr. Lynn Austin, Head of the Department of Allied Health, was named the Kentucky Outstanding Faculty Advisor by Kentucky Academic Advising Association (KACADA) in 2010.

Dr. Dana Burr Bradley, Director of the Center of Gerontology, received the Gordon Strieb Academic Gerontologist Award from the Southern Gerontological Society.

Dr. Randall Deere, Assistant Dean for Facilities and graduate advisor in the department of Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport, was named Outstanding Distance Educator by the South Region Association of Continuing Higher Education.

Dr. Susan Jones, School of Nursing, was one of 27 National League for Nursing (NLN) Fellows chosen from across the nation by the Academy of Nursing Education.

Mrs. Mary Lloyd Moore, Communication Disorders, received the 2010 National Speech-Language-Hearing Association (KSHA) Clinical Achievement Award from the American Speech and Hearing Foundation.

From left to right, Mary Lloyd Moore, Dana Burr Bradley, Lynn Austin, Susan Jones, and Randy Deere.
Spotlight on CHHS Students

Interior Design Student PAVE Finalist

Jordan Bartek, one of the senior students in the interior design concentration, has been selected as a finalist for the PAVE pet product fixture design competition. Her fixture is to be built and displayed at a Global Shop in Las Vegas in March. The winners will be selected from the 12 finalists’ designs at the Global Shop.

MPH Student is Drenckhahn Scholar

Pragati Gole, a student in the Master of Public Health program, was awarded the 2010 Drenckhahn Student Scholarship at The Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE) 61st Annual Meeting Awards Ceremony on Saturday, November 6, 2010, at the Denver Art Museum in Denver, Colorado. This award honors students who have been recognized nationally and internationally for their work in health education and health promotion. She received $1500 toward completing her health education degree.

“I was very fortunate [to] receive the opportunity to work on a research study with the WIC clinic at Barren River District Health Department through two of my courses in Public Health.” The study aims at increasing the intake of fruits and vegetables among immigrant and non-immigrant women residing in South Central Kentucky.

Amanda Even Receives Bill March Student Achievement Award

Amanda Even, a KRS student, was recently awarded the Bill March Student Achievement Award at the Association of Outdoor Recreation and Education (AORE) conference in Keystone, CO. The Bill March Student Achievement Award is presented to an individual who makes outstanding contributions to an outdoor recreation and education program while pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree.

Amanda currently serves the Department of Intramural-Recreational Sports as the graduate assistant for Outdoor Recreation Adventure Center (ORAC) at Western Kentucky University where she is pursuing her graduate degree in Recreation and Sport Administration with an emphasis in Outdoor Leadership. Amanda received her Bachelor’s degree from the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) in 2009 where she was employed by UNI Outdoors as a climbing wall supervisor, equipment room supervisor, trip coordinator, and program assistant. She also received a certificate in Outdoor Skills and Leadership from the University of Alaska Southeast in 2007. In addition, Amanda spent a summer as an intern for North Idaho College Outdoor Pursuits.

Amanda has been a member of AORE for four years and has presented at all four conferences. In addition to presenting, Amanda has served on the Presenter Relations Committee for two years and is currently serving on the Student Development Committee. She has also directed the National Outdoor Book Awards (NOBA) display and silent auction at the 2009 and 2010 conferences.
Rasmi Nair Awarded KAMFES Scholarship

Master of Public Health (Environmental Health) Graduate student, Rasmi Nair, was awarded the 2009 Judy Inman True Scholarship for $2,000 by the Kentucky Association of Milk, Food and Environmental Sanitarians (KAMFES) on February 17, 2010 in Louisville, Kentucky. Nair was also selected to receive a 2010 Scholastic Achievement For Education (SAFE) Award in the amount of $1,600. The awards ceremony will be held on May 6, 2010, at the Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky.

Andrea Moore Selected by AAHPERD

Andrea Moore, Physical Education major, was selected to receive an award from the Southern District AAHPERD. Moore was selected to receive the 2011 Southern District AAHPERD Outstanding Future Professional Award. This award is given only to an exceptional student who shows promise to be a leader in the Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance professions. Moore also received the KAHPERD Outstanding Physical Education Student Award at the recent KAHPERD Conference.

Rachel Reetzke Makes International Connections

As a student in the Chinese Flagship program, Reetzke, a Communication Disorders major, first traveled to China for intensive language study and to conduct field research at the Chengdu Autism Training Center during the summer of 2008. She won a Critical Language Scholarship to study Chinese this past summer in Chongqing, China and is currently studying linguistics and conducting research at Cambridge University as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar. Currently in the second round of review, Rachel hopes to continue her work in Guangzhou as a Fulbright Fellow in 2011.

While working towards a major in Communication Disorders, Rachel has gained a general interest in language development with a focus on Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). She has learned a great deal about ASD through research and volunteering at the Kelly Autism Program (KAP) located on WKU’s campus. Driven by her interest in developing sensitive diagnostic measures for early intervention with primarily nonverbal children, she used both normed assessment instruments and observational techniques to gather data for her senior Honors thesis, An Exploration of the Effects of Sensory Integration on Communication in Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder under the direction of Dr. Dana Burr Bradley and Dr. Marty Bowman.
The Academic Center for Excellence (ACE), created in 2004, is an open computer lab for CHHS students. The ACE Lab provides computer programs specific to CHHS majors and also has a small resource library of materials provided by faculty. There are now three full-time advisors (ACE Coordinator, Director of SAS, and Advising Associate) who handle the advising for all Exploratory and Pre Major students. ACE coordinates many efforts for retention and recruitment. In one such effort, all CHHS students not registered for the next semester are contacted. This effort has led to a 5% increase in retention from the previous year. An annual event is planned to recognize first semester CHHS students with a GPA of 3.4 or higher. The retention of these students has been over 90% the last few years.

Morgan Cox, a Textiles and Apparels Merchandizing major, is a student worker in the Lab. She says, “I use a lot of the software: AutoCAD, which is the same version used in the classroom here, Photoshop, and InDesign. There are a lot of trade publications here too that would be too expensive for a student to subscribe to. That’s a really nice benefit for doing research and just keeping up in the field.”

Morgan helps the ACE coordinator, Lynn Hazlett-Sherry, get ready for advising season, as well as taking calls from students, poster printing, and helping with ATP (Academic Transition Program), for incoming freshman.

The Ambassador program for CHHS helps with recruiting on trips to Louisville, Owensboro, and Elizabethtown with Ms. Donna Hey, Director of CHHS Student Academic Services.

This printer is used to print posters for faculty and students in a variety of sizes and colors. Poster printing for assignments is free to CHHS students.
College of Health & Human Services students work in the ACE lab preparing for their classes. The lab offers special computer programs that relate to studies in the College.

“There are a lot of trade publications here, also, that would be too expensive for a student to subscribe to. That’s a really nice benefit for doing research and just keeping up in the field.”
Alumni News

CHHS Graduate installed as President of the AADE

Deborah Filliman, a WKU graduate, has been appointed as the President of the American Association of Diabetes Educators (AADE). Filliman earned both her Bachelor of Science in Dietetics and Master of Science in Institutional Home Environment from WKU. She is currently the Public Health Director for the Green River District Health Department in Owensboro.

Nursing Graduate receives Nursing Excellence Award at Taylor Regional Hospital

Western Kentucky University's Nursing program ranks among the best in the country. All programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. Carrie Shuffett, a December 2007 graduate of the BSN program, expressed her gratitude for the skills and knowledge she received from the WKU Nursing Program in a letter she sent to the School of Nursing. "Recently, I have been nominated for the Nursing Excellence Award" Shuffett said, "I do not believe that the successes that I have had so far would be possible without the knowledge I received from WKU."

Shuffett is currently a registered nurse in the ICU & Telemetry units at Taylor Regional Hospital in Campbellsville, KY. She said that WKU provided the critical thinking skills that an entry level nurse would need to have.

Shuffett's letter goes on to say, "I cannot thank everyone enough for what you did. Everyone helped build my knowledge base, critical thinking skills and confidence. I cannot sing your praises enough. I am always using all of the knowledge that I received from every one of my classes there. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you."

WKU's School of Nursing was re-accredited in 2008 for 10 years, the maximum term possible, by the CCNE. "The School's standard of excellence is reflected by our large pool of excellent student applicants, an outstanding clinical agency support, and our nursing board pass rate, which is consistently higher than the national average. The 10-year reaccreditation demonstrates that our national accrediting body recognizes the continued excellence of the nursing programs at WKU School of Nursing." said Dr. Mary Bennett, director of the WKU School of Nursing.
Sgt. Major John Brownell, holding the WKU red towel, is a Kinesiology, Recreation and Sport master’s student who is in charge of 500+ soldiers deployed in Afghanistan. He poses here with a few of his soldiers. KRS has adopted his brigade of soldiers and will be collecting donations to send overseas throughout the year.

Karla S. Sneegas (1980 Consumer and Family Science graduate) is currently Executive Director of the Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Executive board. This 22-member board was appointed by Indiana’s governor and is charged with oversight of the state’s coordinated, comprehensive tobacco prevention and cessation program, which is funded through the state’s settlement with the tobacco companies in 1998. The Indiana Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Agency was officially launched in 2001 and is charged with the daily operations of the board in conjunction with legislative mandates to develop and implement a five-year state plan, develop and monitor baseline measures to track progress, allocate funds according to the CDC’s Best Practices for Tobacco Prevention and Control, and to report annually to the General Assembly on progress. Up to this point, 208,000 smokers have stopped tobacco use, Indiana high school smoking rates dropped by 42%, middle school smoking rates dropped by 58% and cigarette consumption in Indiana declined by 40%. Ms. Sneegas was interviewed for a segment of 60 Minutes, which can be viewed online at http://www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=6362540n.

Prior to assuming duties as executive director for Indiana’s board, Ms. Sneegas was a national consultant to a number of tobacco prevention and control organizations. She co-facilitated the Creativity in Leadership Course for the National Tobacco Use Prevention Institute for six years and also co-chaired the Skill Building Workshop Committee for the 11th World Tobacco Conference held in Chicago in 2000. As a Division Director of South Carolina’s Department of Health and Environmental Control, she managed the operations of the Division of Tobacco Use Prevention, including the American Stop Smoking Intervention Study (ASSIST) and the state’s tobacco prevention coalition from 1992-1995.

Remembering Our Students Who Serve

Sgt. Major John Brownell, holding the WKU red towel, is a Kinesiology, Recreation and Sport master’s student who is in charge of 500+ soldiers deployed in Afghanistan. He poses here with a few of his soldiers. KRS has adopted his brigade of soldiers and will be collecting donations to send overseas throughout the year.


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We wish to recognize and thank the individuals who have contributed a gift to the programs in the College of Health and Human Services during January through December, 2010.

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Big Red posing with some students who are attending ATP sessions to prepare for registration.

Dean John Bonaguro speaking to CHHS-UC 175 students about the opportunities offered in the College.
The College of Health and Human Services was established by our Board of Regents in August, 2002, to bring together all health and human services programs under one administrative unit. CHHS disciplines have their roots in outreach to the community and prepare students to be “stewards of place.” Students are engaged in the communities in which they reside.

Our focus is to provide the highest quality of education and field experiences to prepare students to become leaders in health and human services careers. If you would like to contribute to our mission, visit this website:

[www.wku.edu/makeagift]