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CHHS May 2015 E-Newsletter,

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CHHS May E-Newsletter

DPT Program Hosts Representative Jim DeCesare

April 15, 2015, the DPT Program was honored to host Representative Jim DeCesare, Kentucky State Representative and House Minority Whip. Rep. DeCesare spoke with the DPT students and faculty about legislative processes and the importance of advocacy. Mike Muscarella, Immediate Past Kentucky Physical Therapy Association (KPTA) President, was also in attendance to give the KPTA’s perspective on legislation and advocacy in Kentucky. Robbin Taylor, VP for Public Affairs, also attended and added insight.
WKU’s Institute for Rural Health receives gift from Delta Dental of Kentucky Foundation

WKU’s Institute for Rural Health has received a $10,000 gift from the Delta Dental of Kentucky Foundation.

The gift will be used to purchase health promotion materials and dental supplies for both the preventive and adult dental care programs offered by the IRH’s Mobile Dental Unit. The preventive dental program consists of kindergarten screenings for school entry, dental sealant program for second- and seventh-grade children, and a fluoride varnish program for Head Start children within southwest central Kentucky. The adult dental care program offers limited definitive treatment (restorations and extractions) for adults at selected sites within the service area.

IRH Director Matt Hunt said the gift will be used to provide dental services for patients living in federally designated underserved and health professional shortage areas that have limited access to dental care. For the most part, the patients of the IRH’s Mobile Dental Unit lack continuity of dental care and do not have a dental home. The service area also includes a low per capita income and high rate of poverty as compared to the U.S. average. The IRH estimates it will provide more than 2,700 dental services during 2015 on its Mobile Dental Unit.

“This generous gift will allow the IRH to continue providing this valuable and much needed dental service to rural Kentuckians,” Hunt said.

Contact: Matt Hunt, (270) 745-4138
CSD Faculty and Student Receive Recognition at State Convention

Janice Smith, instructor in the Communication Sciences and Disorders Department, received the Johanna B. Hancock Award at the annual Kentucky Speech-Language-Hearing Association (KSHA) Convention in February. The award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated outstanding dedication and service to KSHA as a member of the executive council. Janice currently serves as KSHA’s treasurer and co-chair of the quarterly state publication, *The Communicator*. Janice has devoted a large amount of time to the organization while also completing her dissertation research, teaching, and serving as a faculty mentor for numerous students pursuing research endeavors.

Elizabeth Ebelhar, graduate assistant in speech-language pathology, was recognized at the KSHA Convention as the recipient of The Bev Stanley Award. The Stanley, a $2,000 scholarship awarded to students demonstrating excellence in graduate studies in communication sciences and disorders, is given to one student from the Commonwealth. Elizabeth is also employed by the Michelle P. Waiver Program and provides support for a student with a rare genetic syndrome. She has been extensively involved in WKU’s Habitat for Humanity Campus Chapter and served in several leadership roles. Upon graduation, Elizabeth plans to become a traveling speech and language therapist providing services in high-risk areas.

Janice Smith
Elizabeth Ebelhar
KRS Students Travel to Experimental Biology to Present Metabolic Research

Lauren Cox, undergraduate FUSE recipient, and BethAnne Dickens, Graduate Student Research Fellow, have both been working with Dr. Jill Maples in the School of Kinesiology, Recreation and Sport on metabolic research for the past year. Their work resulted in research abstracts being accepted for poster presentations at the 2015 Experimental Biology Conference in Boston, MA.

Experimental Biology is a unique multidisciplinary, national scientific meeting comprised of over 14,000 scientists and exhibitors representing six sponsoring societies (including the American Physiological Society, the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, the American Society for Nutrition, the American Society for Investigative Pathology, the American Association of Anatomists, and the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics) and multiple guest societies that was held in late March. Scientists representing academic institutions, government agencies, and private organizations are drawn to this meeting to broaden their understanding of cross-disciplined research.

Lauren’s study investigated the differential response to a high fat diet, in terms of the expression of critical metabolic genes/proteins, in skeletal muscle with severe obesity compared to lean individuals, which likely mediates metabolic disease. BethAnne’s study investigated whether entire metabolic and/or inflammatory networks/pathways were dysregulated in the skeletal muscle of obese individuals (compared to lean) in response to specific dietary challenges. Their research and travel were supported by the following funding mechanisms: National Institute of General Medical Sciences, NIH Grant 2P20GM103436-14, WKU FUSE Award, WKU Graduate School GSRF Award, and WKU KRS Research Funding.
Public Health Department Head Designs Study for PTSD Service Dog Pilot Program

Dr. Gary English, Department Head for the Department of Public Health, designed and now is overseeing a study on the effects service dogs can have on veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Western Kentucky University has partnered with America’s VetDogs to conduct the survey. With the study they hope to “determine whether service dogs actually help mitigate the symptoms of PTSD and, thus, improve the quality of life.” An article written about the study was published in INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine. The article can be found on page 8 at http://www.insightintodiversity.com/images/downloads/digitalissues/aprilmay2015/index.html

![Dr. Gary English](image)

KRS Professor Selected as Sport Professional of the Year

*Original story available on WKU News. Please visit https://wkunews.wordpress.com/2015/02/25/hey-award-2015/ to be taken directly to the story.

WKU Professor William “Willie” Hey has been chosen as “Sport Professional of the Year” by Southern District SHAPE (Society of Health and Physical Educators) America.

The Sport Professional of the Year Award honors outstanding leaders in the professional domain of sport. Qualifications for the award include:

- Serves as a positive role model epitomizing the values and desired outcomes of sport
- Demonstrates enthusiasm for the sport profession
- Shows interest in, and sensitivity to the needs of students, clients, and fellow professionals
- Utilizes various methodologies and implements creative, innovative, safe, and effective sport-related courses and programs based on: the developmental, social and psychological needs of participants; and the needs, purposes, philosophies and resources of the sponsoring institution of sport.

Dr. Hey has almost 30 years of higher education experience and has taught many undergraduate and graduate courses. He received degrees from Northeast Louisiana University, Northwestern State University and Southern Illinois University.
Currently, Dr. Hey is the graduate coordinator of the Sport Media & Branding (SMB) concentration within the Master of Science in Recreation & Sport Administration graduate program in the School of Kinesiology, Recreation & Sport at WKU. He provides leadership and other vital input for curriculum development, creating course assignments, and marketing strategies for the SMB concentration. The SMB concentration is an innovative, first of its kind completely online program where the School of KRS partnered with the WKU School of Journalism & Broadcasting. He also spearheaded efforts that led the SMB concentration to partner with nationally recognized sport related organizations.

Dr. Hey has been a longtime contributor to the state, district and national affiliations and remains active in research. His most recent research efforts were mentoring 90 students in graduate research classes to create a manuscript for publication. He co-presented two sessions at last year’s Southern District convention.

Dr. Hey has also written three poetry books, one fiction novel and a sports-related book about his high school basketball team.

Contact: William Hey, (270) 745-3350

**Long Term Care students visit Barren River Adult Day Care**

*Original story available on WKU News. Please visit https://wkunews.wordpress.com/2015/04/23/ltc-daycare-visit/ to be taken directly to the story.*

Students taking Long Term Care Administration spent a rewarding and educational day at the Barren River Adult Day Care.

“I really enjoyed visiting Barren River Adult Day Care. The clients seem to really enjoy their time there and the people that work there seem to really love their jobs. This is the second time I have been there and hope to visit more,” said WKU student Alix Lung.

Every semester, students in the Long Term Care Administration Certificate Program complete several off-campus visits to tour organizations that provide long term care services. These experiences provide students with an opportunity to interact with residents and clients, meet caregivers and support staff and hear from current leaders and professionals in health care. “Each year, one of the most popular locations that students appreciate and enjoy is an opportunity to visit the adult day center,” said Instructor Melanie Eaton.

Barren River Adult Day Care is owned and operated by Commonwealth Health Corporation. Providing both medical and social support activities for its adult clients and their caregivers in the 10-county BRADD area, the facility has been recognized as one of the best in the state. Steve Creekmore, Barren River Adult Day Care Director, is always willing to provide tours to students, sharing personal and professional success stories to aspiring leaders in the Health Care Administration program at WKU.
As a WKU alumnus, he sees value in exposing students to the various opportunities and in particular, his chosen profession. “I’m always eager to meet the students each semester. We enjoy having them and see it as an opportunity to give back to a community that is so generous to both our clients and staff,” Creekmore said.

Other locations that students typically tour each semester include Hospice of Southern Kentucky, Massey Springs Senior Living Community, Home Instead Senior Care and Christian Care Communities of Bowling Green.

For information about the Long Term Care Certificate Program, visit [www.wku.edu/ltca](http://www.wku.edu/ltca) or contact Melanie Eaton at melanie.eaton@wku.edu.

For information about the Health Care Administration degree at WKU, visit [www.wku.edu/publichealth](http://www.wku.edu/publichealth).

Contact: Melanie Eaton, (270) 745-5854

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**Dental Hygiene Faculty and GA Receive Award for Poster Presentation**

Dr. Joseph Evans and Parth Desai, GA for the Program of Dental Hygiene and Masters student with the Department of Public Health, entered their poster “The Application of the Digital Impression Technique within the Office Setting” in the Hinman Dental Meeting in Atlanta, GA, on March 27. Mr. Desai presented the poster and received the award for Outstanding Presentation.
DPT Students Participate in Career Day at Natcher Elementary

Students from the Doctor of Physical Therapy program participated in Career Day at Natcher Elementary on April 20th. They spoke to students about what a Physical Therapist does as well as did demonstrations. The DPT program accepted their Inaugural class in June 2013. For more information about the DPT program, please visit http://www.wku.edu/physicaltherapy/index.php
Social Work Students Present Research at Conference in Owensboro

Three students presented on their research at the Spring Kentucky Association of Social Work Educators conference in Owensboro in April. Elizabeth Willenbrink and Nina Wells discussed Growing Community through Gardening. The project is part of a directed independent study with Dr. Gayle Mallinger and focuses on the gardening project at the Boys and Girls Club and the Housing Authority of Bowling Green. Marion Murray presented on her work with Dr. Jay Gabbard centered around victimization of individuals who are homeless.
**RN to BSN Students Participate in Health Fair**

Sixteen students enrolled in WKU’s on-line RN to BSN program participated in a health fair organized by nursing faculty members. The health fair took place at the UPS center in Bowling Green on March 24th. Twenty-nine employees visited various health promotion displays including community acquired MRSA, high blood pressure and cardiovascular disease, healthy living, sun safety, diabetes, healthy back practices, use of antibiotics, and lung cancer. Faculty and staff (Dr. Cathy Abell, Ms. Lori Alexander, Ms. Carol Evans, Ms. Kathleen Riley, and Ms. Michelle Tedder) are pictured along with the RN to BSN students (Anja Arthur, Miranda Bonner, Ty Bowles, Tammy Burns, Cortney Harrell, Shawna Hempfling, Christian McCrady, Kristian McGee, Tonya McKinney, Alex Nagornay, Dana Nall, Michael Partin, Sara Prewitt, Tammi Satterfield, Jessica Strange, Felicia Tate)

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**WKU Named a Gold Level Campus by EIM-OC**


WKU has been named a Gold Level Campus by the American College of Sports Medicine’s Exercise is Medicine® on Campus initiative.

Gold Level is the highest recognition available, said Jason Crandall, assistant professor of Exercise Science at WKU. “This is quite an accomplishment that required the cooperation of the School of Kinesiology, Recreation & Sport, the Exercise Science Club, the WKU Health and Fitness Lab, Graves-Gilbert Clinic@WKU, community partners and others,” he said.
Exercise is Medicine® on Campus (EIM-OC) is a program calling upon universities and colleges to engage in the promotion of physical activity as a vital sign of health. EIM-OC encourages faculty, staff and students to work together toward improving the health and well-being of the campus community by making movement a part of the daily campus culture, assessing physical activity at every student health visit, providing students the tools necessary to strengthen healthy physical activity habits that can last a lifetime and connecting university health care providers with university health fitness specialists to provide a referral system for exercise prescription.

“Since forming our leadership team, we have made great progress toward the program goal of ‘creating a campus culture that embraces physical activity as a daily facet of life,’” Dr. Crandall said. Some examples include:

- Dr. Todd Misener and the WKU Health and Fitness Lab created a program to help initiate patient referrals and better communicate with Dr. Brian Macy and other physicians at WKU’s on-campus health provider, Graves-Gilbert Clinic.
- Dr. Crandall partnered with the WKU ALIVE Center for Community Partnerships to implement Bingocize®, a program that combines exercise and Bingo. More than 100 Exercise Science students and 140 older adults have participated in facilities throughout Western and Southcentral Kentucky.
- Dr. Crandall partnered with Wade Pinkard and Human Resources on a pilot study to explore the feasibility of placing treadmill desks and standing workstations across campus beginning with six workstations and one treadmill desk.
- Members of the Exercise Science Club have conducted fitness testing for a local youth organization, Light of Chance, for the past three years. They also helped implement a physical activity program called “Get Set Go!” that has involved 30 WKU students and 100 children.

WKU will be officially recognized during the American College of Sports Medicine’s annual meeting May 29 in San Diego.

Contact: Jason Crandall, (270) 745-2077