

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSIOLOGY AND HEALTH SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

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BALL STATE
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FROM THE DESK OF THE CHAIR *by Diana Godish*

Dear alumni and friends,

Spring semester found students and faculty involved in several extracurricular events in the Department. Through the McGovern Lecture series, we were able to obtain updated information on progress in the Healthy People 2010 program from Ms. Leda Gurly, CDC epidemiologist, and honor Dr. Walter Willett, the 2007 McGovern Award winner. Dr. Willett shared thought-provoking and discussion-stimulating information on the impact of dietary choices on disease risk with hundreds of students, faculty, and the wider community (below).

Our annual Honors and Awards banquet celebrated the achievements of 13 of our students by awarding them nearly

\$9,000 in scholarships. We also honored recipients of the Outstanding Alumni award and Outstanding Organization or Agency Award (pg. 2).

April found 16 new initiates of Eta Sigma Gamma, Alpha Chapter, together with their families, friends, faculty, and numerous honored guests, celebrating both the initiation and the 40th anniversary of the chapter and national Eta Sigma Gamma at the Initiation Banquet (pg. 3).

I am also pleased to share news that efforts of the interdepartmental Business Fellows group sponsored by two of our faculty members, Jeff and Susan Clark, have moved Ball State closer to becoming a smokefree campus (pg. 4). Their work will be continuing into 2007-08.

Department Sponsors Two McGovern Lecturers



*Dr. Jim McKenzie (left)
& Dr. Walter Willett*

Walter C. Willett, M.D., Dr. P.H., recipient of the 2007 McGovern Award, challenged the dietary thinking of more than 200 students, faculty, and community attendees at his February lecture in the Student Center. His presentation, "The Search for Optimal Diets: A Progress Report," focused on the results of years of research involving more than 100,000 people. Dr. Willett is Professor of Epidemiology and Nutrition, Chairman of the Department of Nutrition at the Harvard School of Public Health, and Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. His major interest lies in the development of methods to study the effects of diet on the occurrence of major diseases. He has published over 1,000 articles, primarily on lifestyle risk factors for heart disease and cancer, and has written the textbook *Nutritional Epidemiology*. His book for the general public, *Eat, Drink and Be Healthy: The Harvard Medical School Guide to Healthy Eating*, has been on the bestseller list.

Dr. Willett's name will be added to the list of distinguished McGovern Award recipients which includes former Surgeon General Dr. C. Everett Koop, Dr. Henry Heimlich, Dr. J. Michael McGinnis, and Dr. Connie M. Weaver.

On April 17th, the department was pleased to sponsor several presentations by Ms. Leda Gurley as part of the McGovern Lecture Series. Ms. Gurley, an MPH Epidemiologist from the National Center for Health Statistics of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, served as team coordinator for the recently completed midcourse review of Healthy People 2010. In addition to meeting with several undergraduate and graduate health science classes, she gave a well-attended public presentation on findings of the review.

The McGovern Award and Lecture Series are made possible through the generosity of Dr. John P. McGovern, an internationally known pediatric allergist and founder of the McGovern Allergy Clinic of Houston.

17th Annual Honors and Awards Dinner

Members of the department, students, guests, and emeriti faculty were on hand for the 17th annual Honors and Awards dinner on March 25. Thirteen graduate and undergraduate students were recognized for their achievements and received nearly \$9,000 in scholarships and awards (pg. 3).

This year's recipient of the Outstanding External Organization/Agency Award was the Delaware Community School Corporation. Through the contributions of several key individuals, the Delaware Community School Corporation has played an integral part in the preparation of the next generation of teachers being groomed in the Department of Physiology & Health Science. Over the past four years, Delta Middle School has served as an off-site training ground for our school health majors. With the support of Principal Don Harman, Sue Paul has allowed these majors to "take over" her classroom for a number of days each fall to gain what is often their first experience teaching health. Ms. Paul also opens her classroom for observation to members of our introductory major's courses, speaks to our classes about the realities of being a classroom teacher, serves on our Department Advisory Committee, and is a positive role model for teaching and health behavior. Cindy Vaughn, the school nurse at Royerton Elementary, has been a presenter in many of the Elementary School Health Program classes for over five years, bringing her expertise as a school nurse to elementary education pre-service majors.

We also honored the achievements of Derron Bishop (MS95), by presenting him with the 2007 Outstanding Alumnus Award. Currently Assistant Director and Associate Professor of Medical Education at Indiana University School of Medicine-Muncie, Dr. Bishop has pioneered new ways of visualizing nerve cells and their component parts. The results of his studies, focused on changes in the nerve structure of individuals with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), or Lou Gehrig's disease, have brought him national recognition. Derron's notable skills in the classroom have enabled his students to consistently achieve top scores on the state-wide medical physiology exam.

Your contribution to the Department can make a difference.

Even the smallest contribution is important for funding student scholarships and research. You may donate online, by phone, or through the mail. In all cases, please include the name and account number of the fund you wish to support. If you are interested in establishing a new fund, please contact the Office of University Development at (765) 285-8261.

Online: www.alumniconnections.com/donate/ball_state

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Physiology and Health Science Department General Fund (6901)
Physiology/Health Science Research Fund (6916)
Charles R. Carroll Health Education Scholarship (6955)
Elizabeth A. Neilson and George H. Neilson Scholarship (6953)
Health Science Faculty Scholarship For Academic Excellence (6952)
Herb Jones Health Education Scholarship (6956)
Homer D. Paschall Outstanding Anatomy and Physiology Graduate Assistant Award (6954)
Larry and Donna Ganion Scholarship (6961)
McKenzie-Walkup Scholarships (6958)
Physiology and Health Science General Scholarship (6950)
Public Health Entomology Lab (6904)
Raymond E. Henzlik Physiology and Anatomy Research (6917)
Russell E. Siverly Research Award (6951)
Sherri Hittson Memorial Scholarship (30080)
Warren E. Schaller Scholarship (6960)
Dr. Wilma Bartels Henzlik Physiology Scholarship (6957)
Zeberl Family Health Science Scholarship (6959)

Congratulations to our 2007 Honorees



Front Row (from left): Marley Griffin, Carrie Denniston, Amy Holst, Erin Edwards, Chariee Reason, and Sara Ghassemifar
Back Rows (from left): Esther Gregurek, Cathy Whaley, Tara Presley, Justin Morin, Katie Robertson, Eric Mowery, and Jennifer Meyer

Marley Griffin

**Raymond E. Henzlik Physiology
and Anatomy Research Award**

Carrie Denniston

McKenzie-Walkup Internship Scholarship

Amy Holst

Russell E. Siverly Research Award

Erin Edwards

Charles R. Carroll Health Education Scholarship

Sara Ghassemifar

**Homer D. Paschall Outstanding Anatomy
and Physiology Graduate Assistant Award**

Esther Gregurek

Robert H. and Esther L. Cooper Science Award

Cathy Whaley

**Elizabeth A. Neilson and
George H. Neilson Scholarship**

Tara Presley

**McKenzie-Walkup Book Scholarship
Sherri Hittson Memorial Scholarship**

Justin Morin

**Warren E. Schaller Scholarship
Zeberl Family Health Science Scholarship**

Kathryn Robertson

Health Science Faculty Scholarship

Eric Mowery

Herb Jones Health Education Scholarship

Jennifer Meyer

**Outstanding Graduating Senior
Zeberl Family Health Science Scholarship**

Deirdre Knobloch (not pictured)

Larry and Donna Ganion Scholarship

*Chariee Reason, Tara Presley, Justin Morin, Kathryn
Robertson, Nicole Cummins (not pictured)*

Health Science Business Fellows, SmokeFree Indiana

ESG Initiation and Celebration of 40 Years

On April 21, Eta Sigma Gamma, Alpha Chapter, initiated 14 new student and two honorary members. The keynote speaker was Dr. John Seffrin, BSU alumnus '66 and CEO of the American Cancer Society. The induction ceremony capped an evening of celebration of the chapter's and national honorary's 40th anniversary. Attendees included initiates and their families and friends; the current national president (Dr. Marianne Frauenknecht) and president-elect (Kelly Bishop Alley, '81MA83); founding members Molly Wantz '63MS66EDS71 and Dr. Wayne Payne '66MS68, and numerous Alpha Chapter alumni and university faculty and administration members. Master of Ceremonies was Dr. Bill Bock, a co-founder of Eta Sigma Gamma.

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Smokefree Indiana Business Fellows Update

by Justin Morin, Health Science major and Business Fellow



Dr. Victor DeNoble

On April 11, Dr. Victor DeNoble, tobacco company insider, kicked off Ball State's first Smokeout Day, which took place on April 12, with presentations dealing with the scientific evidence about nicotine and secondhand smoke, drawing over 500 people. In the 1980's, DeNoble was recruited to develop a safer cigarette for a leading tobacco company. Fearing that his research would support claims that nicotine was addictive, the tobacco company seized his laboratory and DeNoble was fired. Since then he has been working to tear down the wall of secrecy built by the tobacco industry and support the work of those seeking to influence public policy related to tobacco smoke.

Smokefree Indiana Business Fellows, a multidisciplinary team of students mentored by Jeff and Susan Clark, distributed free T-shirts promoting a smoke-free BSU campus and had sign-up sheets available for smoking cessation classes. They also encouraged students and staff to sign a petition to make the BSU campus smoke-free. That petition currently has over 2,600 signatures.

Alumni Registry

Curious to know what your peers are doing post-graduation? Want to let others know what you are doing?

Visit the Alumni registry at <http://bsu.edu/health/alumni/alumninow>

