

NEWSLETTER

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSIOLOGY AND HEALTH SCIENCE



FROM THE DESK OF THE CHAIR *by Dr. Diana Godish*

Dear alumni and friends,

Campus has again burst into bloom and brings a glorious finale to an exciting semester. In this letter I am pleased to share with you the news of several events and an introduction to the future.

Several alumni and other health education professionals came to campus to share their insights and “tips for career success” as well as network with current students during our well-received 2008 Health Science Professional Day (pg. 1).

The annual Honors and Awards banquet saw fifteen students honored as recipients of more than \$12,000 in scholarship support. We were also pleased to honor an external organization that has provided extensive support to both the students and faculty of this department for several years and welcome our Outstanding Alumnus back to the department (pp. 2,3).

Thanks to the support of the John P. McGovern Foundation, the department was able to host three outstanding speakers on diverse public health topics (p. 2).

Since July 2004, it has been my privilege to serve as Chairperson. I am grateful for having had this opportunity and will retire from the University on June 30 with many fond memories. On July 1, the department will welcome Dr. Jeff Clark to this position. A graduate of Indiana University, Professor Clark has been a member of the Health Science faculty since 1994. Many may recall having seen his name in earlier newsletters associated with Smokefree Indiana, which he directed for 10 years (see photo, p. 2).

HEALTH SCIENCE PROFESSIONAL DAY A BIG SUCCESS



Bryce Conway ('04BS), JoAnna Dierbeck ('05BS), and Emily Walesky take part in the *Worksite Health Panel*

Health Science Professional Day, a biennial event, was attended by nearly 50 juniors and seniors of the department. Since the event was on Leap Day, the theme was, “Leap Into Your Health Education Career.” Our keynote speaker was Rick Rowray, CEO of Youth Opportunity Center, Inc. of Muncie, IN.

Students learned about available career paths during the two panel sessions and three mentoring sessions. Students were assigned to panels and mentors based on their interests expressed during registration. The topics available were: Worksite Health, Clinical Health, Community/Public Health, School Health, and Additional Opportunities in Health Education. We appreciate the willingness of the many alumni and other health science professionals who gave of their time and talent to help current students in such an important way. The day finished up with a presentation by Emily Walesky, Manager of Clarian Employee Wellness of Indianapolis. Her presentation contained a lot of valuable information on professional preparation, such as interview skills, résumé creation, and dressing professionally.

Student and panel members alike expressed their appreciation for Health Science Professional Day. Students enjoyed learning about all the numerous career options and the opportunities to have one-on-one conversations with professionals in the field. Panel members were happy to share their knowledge with our current students and many said they would like to come back for the next Health Science Professional Day.

18TH ANNUAL HONORS AND AWARDS BANQUET

Members of the department, students, guests, and emeriti faculty were on hand for the 18th annual Honors and Awards Banquet on March 30. Fifteen graduate and undergraduate students were recognized for their achievements and received nearly \$13,000 in scholarships and awards.

This year's recipient of the Outstanding External Organization/Agency Award was the Ball Memorial Hospital Family Medicine Residency Program. There has been a wonderful collaborative relationship between the residency and the department over the last twelve years. They have provided educational opportunities for undergraduate and graduate health science students and physiology graduate students, and have allowed department faculty members to work with the family physicians in training. Expertise provided by the faculty and staff of the residency has come in the form of guest lectures in our classes, membership on master's degree thesis committees, collaborators on research projects, panelists for our Health Science Professional Day, and membership on the department's External Advisory Committee. In addition, a number of physiology and health science faculty members have had their research efforts enhanced by the collaborative spirit of the residency faculty and staff.

We also honored the achievements of David Chenoweth ('75MS77) by presenting him with the 2008 Outstanding Alumnus Award. Dr. Chenoweth has established an excellent national reputation in the field of worksite health promotion, with a focus on data analysis and risk factor cost analysis. He has been on the faculty at East Carolina University in Greenville, NC for nearly three decades and has authored six textbooks used by many colleges and universities, including in our own HSC 462/562 course, *Health Promotion in the Worksite*. Dr. Chenoweth is a fellow of the Association for Worksite Health Promotion and serves on the medical advisory board of the Wellness Councils of America. Through his twenty-year consulting practice, Chenoweth and Associates, Inc., he has worked closely with many public and private organizations across the country to help provide cost effective wellness programs that benefit both employers and employees alike.

This year we were also pleased to honor two very special members of our department. Fresia Steiner, Research Associate in the Public Health Entomology Laboratory, was honored with the Departmental Meritorious Service Award for Research and Teaching. Mrs. Billie Kennedy, Administrative Coordinator and 30-year member of the department, received the Departmental Award for Meritorious Service, Loyalty, and Dedication.

THREE McGOVERN LECTURES SPONSORED



Dr. William Yarber (left) receives the 2008 McGovern Award from **Dr. Jeff Clark**

On March 18, the Department of Physiology and Health Science honored Dr. William Yarber as the 2008 recipient of the John P. McGovern Award. Dr. Yarber is a Senior Research Fellow at The Kinsey Institute for Research on Sex, Gender, and Reproduction and a nationally recognized expert on AIDS education and sexuality education. He is the author of "AIDS: What Young Adults Should Know," and "STDs and HIV: A Guide for Today's Young Adults." Dr. Yarber also serves as a consultant on the topic of school AIDS/STD education for the World Health Organization and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control. Dr. Yarber's lecture, "While We Stood By: The Limiting of Sexual Health Information for Our Youth," was attended by over 150 students, faculty, and community members. His presentation about sex education in the public schools led to several fruitful classroom discussions in the days following.

Two other McGovern lectures were also sponsored this semester. Dr. Ashraf Kagee, from the Department of Psychology at Stellenbosh University in South Africa, gave a lecture entitled, "Socio-behavioral Aspects of HIV Vaccine Trial Enrollment," in early March. On March 31, this year's Outstanding Alumnus, Dr. David Chenoweth, spoke to students and guests on "Worksite Health Promotion: Past, Present, and Future."

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR STUDENT HONOREES



*Back Row (from left): Kathryn Robertson, Jason Zigler, Dierdre Knobeloch, Steven Bertrand, Mohammad Chegeni, Jeremy Brost, Caden Cline
Front Row (from left): Stacey Griffith, Melody Young, Lisa Smith, Tara Presley, Derek Cravens, Dana Wollet, Bikram Sharma*

Steven Bertrand

- Raymond E. Henzlik Physiology and Anatomy Research Award

Jeremy Brost

- Sherri Hittson Memorial Scholarship

Mohammad Chegeni

- Zeberl Family Scholarship

Caden Cline

- Outstanding Department Graduate in School Health Education

Derek Cravens

- McKenzie-Walkup Internship Scholarship
- Warren E. Schaller Scholarship

Stacey Griffith

- Elizabeth A. Neilson and George H. Neilson Scholarship

Dierdre Knobeloch

- Larry and Donna Ganion Graduate Scholarship (2007 winner)

Tara Presley

- Business Fellow – Future Choices
- Zeberl Family Scholarship

Chariee Reason (*not pictured*)

- Business Fellow – Future Choices
- Louis Stokes Scholar

Kathryn Robertson

- Business Fellow – Future Choices
- Charles R. Carroll Health Education Scholarship
- Outstanding Department Graduate in Health Science

Bikram Sharma

- Russell E. Siverly Memorial Research Award

Lisa Smith

- Zeberl Family Scholarship

Dana Wollet

- Business Fellow – Future Choices
- Robert H. and Esther L. Cooper Science Award

Melody Young

- Health Science Faculty Scholarship for Academic Excellence
- Herb Jones Health Education Scholarship
- McKenzie-Walkup Book Scholarship

Jason Zigler

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

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