

SIGNS – Significant and Important Good News

September 2016



UNIVERSITY OF
CENTRAL
ARKANSAS™

COLLEGE OF HEALTH &
BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES





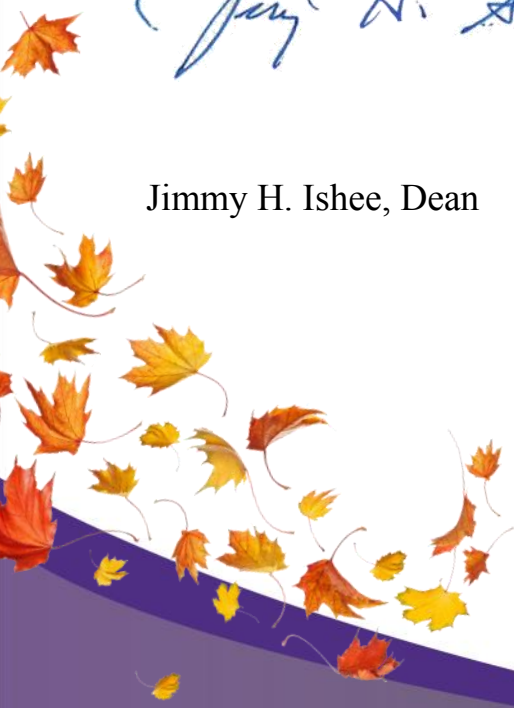
A Message from the Dean

Again it is a pleasure to share the accomplishments of our students, alumni, staff and faculty. I hope you enjoy reading about the Significant and Important Good News (SIGNs) from the College of Health and Behavioral Sciences.



Best wishes always,

Jimmy H. Ishee, Dean





Achievements

Dr. Nancy Reese, Chair of Physical Therapy, was recently elected to the newly established Education Steering Committee, a nine-member national panel that will set the priorities for DPT education in the U.S. The committee is composed of three elected members from each of its partner organizations: the American Physical Therapy Association, the American Council of Academic Physical Therapy, and the APTA Section on Education. The committee also will contain non-voting representatives from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education and the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy.

The Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program and post-master's nurse practitioner certificate programs have received accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The accreditation is for 5 years, the longest possible from CCNE for initial accreditation.

Dr. Steve Tucker, Chair of Exercise and Sport Science, was one of 20 individuals selected by the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) Research & Education Foundation to serve as a mentor for the Research/Faculty Mentor Program. The NATA Research/Faculty Mentor Program pairs junior faculty members with established faculty who will provide guidance, advice and assistance in navigating the first several years of employment within higher education. Dr. Tucker has been assigned to mentor a junior faculty member at the University of Connecticut.

Dr. Leah Lowe, Assistant Professor of Physical Therapy, passed the Board examination in Pediatric Physical Therapy and is now a Certified Pediatric Specialist. This increases the number of Certified Pediatric Specialists in

the Physical Therapy Department faculty to 4, providing excellent support for our Pediatric Residency Program.

On June 7, 2016, the American Physical Therapy Association House of Delegates approved RC 8-16. The motion identifies oncologic physical therapy as a new clinical specialty within the field. Lisa Van Hoose the past President of the Oncology Section of the APTA was instrumental in the proposal submission and passage of the motion.

Family and Consumer Sciences major Joshua Edinger-Lucero was elected to the position of Student Section Chair-Elect of the AAFCS Arkansas Affiliate at the 2016 State Leadership Conference.

Exercise and Sport Science alumnus Aaron Leach (BS '05 and MS '08), is the Fitness and Sport Director at the Little Rock Air Force Base, where he and his staff at the 19th Force Support Squadron were recently recognized as the Fitness and Sports Program of the Year for the entire United States Air Force.

Mr. Jim Thurman of Communication Sciences and Disorders completed the renewal process for Certification as a Brain Injury Specialist (CBIS). The CBIS designation comes from the Academy of Certified Brain Injury Specialists and indicates advanced training and knowledge in rehabilitation services for individuals with brain injury.

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The Arkansas Center for Nursing, Inc. was incorporated by Sue Tedford (Executive Director of the Arkansas

State Board of Nursing and President of the ACN Board of Directors) and Dr. Clinta Che' Reed (Assistant Professor of Nursing at UCA and President-elect of the ACN Board of Directors). Other UCA faculty members serving on the ACN Board of Directors include: Dr. Valerie Hart (Assistant Professor) and Erin Fifer (Clinical Instructor). Dr. Mary Garnica (Associate Professor) serves as co-chair of the Practice Program Committee. The mission of ACN is to promote a culture of health for the citizens of Arkansas by advancing nursing education, practice, leadership, and workforce development. This organization will serve as the state's nursing workforce data center and joins 37 other states as a member of the National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers.

Dr. Clinta Che' Reed (Assistant Professor of Nursing) and Robert Reed (Adjunct instructor in Geography and Environmental Scientist I at Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department) collaborated to map the employment locations of nurses in Arkansas using Geographic Information Systems (GIS). This mapping method allows immediate visualization of the distribution and concentration of the supply of nurses in the state. Maps were produced for advanced practice nurses (all specialties), registered nurses, and licensed practical nurses actively employed in nursing positions. This work was done at the request of the Hartford Center for Geriatric Nursing Excellence.

The UCA School of Nursing is proud to announce that four UCA Level 3 (Junior) Nursing Students were selected for the

Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System, Veterans Affairs Learning Opportunities Residency (VALOR) Program. The students are Alexandra Hufford, Christina Rapaal, Taylor Willis, and Chloe Wren.

Exercise and Sport Science alumnus, Ms. Lorna Strong was inducted into the Southwest Athletic Trainers' Association Hall of Fame. As a 1993 Master of Exercise Science graduate, Lorna was the first full time athletic trainer for UCA. She currently works at West Texas A&M as head of the Department of Sports and Exercise Sciences. Psychology and Counseling Alumni, Dr. Simone Collins has been appointed Director of Campus-based Services at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Counseling Center.

Physical Therapy alumnus, Park Tipton was named one of 26 nationally emerging leaders in the physical therapy profession, by the American Physical Therapy Association.

Dr. Femina Varghese of Psychology and Counseling has been appointed to Associate Editor for the journal, *Psychological Services*, a leading journal of the American Psychological Association.

UCA dietetic interns Taylor Sherrill, Anni Fuenmayor, and Helena Van collaborated with Conway Regional Health System's Nutrition & Foodservice Director, Scott Whitehurst, in building raised beds for the hospital's newly implemented garden. The vegetables and herbs grown in the garden will be used and served in the hospital's cafeteria in order to provide fresh and locally grown produce to customers.

Drs. Leah Lowe and Charlotte Yates of Physical Therapy were featured on Channel 11 news regarding the concussion study they have been conducting in Little Rock Schools.



Awards

Communication Sciences and Disorders graduate student Courtney Craft was awarded a prestigious American Speech-Language-Hearing Association SPARC Award (i.e., Students Preparing for Academic-Research Careers) of \$1000.00. She, and the other 135 CSD graduate student award recipients from across the nation, will receive special recognition at the ASHA Convention in November.

Karrie Butler, a 2016 graduate of the UCA Athletic Training program, has received three post-



baccalaureate scholarships. In addition to the *National Athletic Trainers' Association Gail Weldon Memorial Scholarship*, Karrie Received the *Southwest Athletic Trainers' Association Texas Health Ben Hogan Sports Medicine Graduate Scholarship* and the *Arkansas Athletic Trainers' Association*

Jack Van Schilden Graduate Scholarship. Karrie worked with a football team in Prague, Czechoslovakia over the summer, and is attending graduate school in Colorado this fall.

Psychology and Counseling student, Emily Hahn was awarded a Psi Chi Undergraduate Scholarship. Emily is one of four undergraduates nationwide to receive this award. The other winners are from Florida State University, New York University, and the University of Colorado.

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Occupational Therapy Student, Ms. Lindsey Roe was recently awarded a scholarship from the UCA Foundation's Robert M. McLaughlin Graduate Education Memorial Scholarship. The faculty and staff congratulate her on her achievements both academically and in extracurricular activities.

Grants

Dr. Mike Gallagher of Exercise and Sport Science is a co-investigator with personnel from UAMS on a grant that was successfully funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service - Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The grant will fund \$300,000 annually for 4 years (\$1.2 million) for the investigators to implement a telemedicine program to Arkansas school-aged children living in rural areas for psychiatric, obesity and dental care. Dr. Gallagher, Ms. Kim Eskola and personnel from the Department of Exercise and Sport Science will oversee the implementation of the obesity reduction/prevention aspect of the program.

Dr. Alicia Landry of Family and Consumer Sciences was awarded a USDA equipment grant for Arkansas Farm to School & School Garden Projects. Equipment received from USDA includes a VeggieMeter, which uses optical detection of carotenoids in living human tissue to represent fruit and vegetable intake, and an inBody 570 Body Composition Analyzer, which measures fat including visceral fat, muscle, and water levels non-invasively and in less than one minute.



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Dr. Julie Meaux of The School of Nursing, received a \$1000 grant from the

Arnold P. Gold Foundation to assist the UCA School of Nursing in hosting its first White Coat Ceremony. The Arnold P. Gold Foundation works with healthcare professionals in training and in practice to instill a culture of respect, dignity and compassion for patients and professionals. The White Coat Ceremony marks the students' transition from preclinical study to professional nursing education. Students admitted to the nursing major in Fall 2016 will participate in the ceremony and will receive a commemorative pin.

Publications

Day, C. R., DNP student in the School of Nursing, had an abstract accepted for a special issue of the *Journal of Health and Human Services Administration* – A Symposium on Member Health: Socio-Environmental Context of our Actions: Building a Culture of Health. The title of her abstract is: *How a rural community hospital can utilize the COH framework to conduct a community health needs assessment and engage the community in developing a long-term action plan.*

Cobb, C. (Counseling Psychology doctoral student), Xie, D. (Psychology and Counseling), Meca, A., & Schwartz, S. (In press). *Acculturation, Discrimination, and Depression among Unauthorized Latinos/as in the U.S.* *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology.*

Magimairaj, B. M. (2016). (Communication Sciences and Disorders). *Psycholinguistic mechanisms supporting school-age children's comprehension of spoken directions: A preliminary study.* *Speech, Language and Hearing.*

Landry, A. S., Thomson, J., Huye, H. F., Yadrick, K., & Connell, C. (2016). (Family and Consumer Sciences). *Mississippi Communities for Healthy Living: Results of a 6-Month Nutrition Education Comparative Effectiveness Trial.* *Health Education and Behavior.*

Mikeal, C. W., Gillaspay, J. A., Scoles, M. T., Murphy, J. J., (in press). (Psychology and Counseling). A dismantling study of the Partners for Change Outcome Management System. *Journal of Counseling Psychology.*

Presentations

Drs. Mike Gallagher and Rock Lee of Exercise and Sport Science presented their research at the American College of Sports Medicine Annual Meeting in Boston, MA, from May 31-June 4, 2016. Dr. Duston Morris of Health Sciences was a co-author.

Paramby, T., Rangarathnam, B., Pickett, H., McCullough, G. H., Davis, Z., & Baird, E. (2016). (Communication Sciences and Disorder) *Effects of airflow exercises on voice handicap & acoustic measures: preliminary findings from ongoing clinical trial.* A poster to be presented at the ASHA National Convention, Philadelphia, PA.

Counseling Psychology doctoral student, Ryan Southerland, presented a workshop titled, *Introduction to Motivational Interviewing*, at the Arkansas Juvenile Officers Association Summer Conference on July 22, 2016.



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Ms. Veronica Rowe of Occupational Therapy gave an invited presentation, *Occupational Therapy in Stroke Rehabilitation*, and demonstration to physicians and staff at Shenzhen Seventh People's Hospital, Yantian district, in Shenzhen, China along with an international neurological rehabilitation team on June 20, 2016.

Drs. Duston Morris and Denise Demers of Health Sciences recently presented a paper: *The Relationship Between Exercise and Substance Abuse Among College Students* at the American College Health Association Conference in San Francisco, California.

Dr. Heather Hudson of Health Sciences participated in a presentation entitled *Dialogue Panel: Safe Zone - Creating An Environment for Inclusion* at the 48th Annual National Conference of American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors, and Therapists in San Juan, Puerto Rico on June 11, 2016.

Kerry Jordan of the School of Nursing was accepted for a poster presentation at the National Gerontological Nurses Association (NGNA) GeroFocus 2016 conference in Indianapolis, October 23-25, 2016. The title of the poster is *Coaching methods for training staff in nursing homes: A systematic review*.

Dr. Steve Tucker, Chair of Exercise and Sport Science, and three former

graduate students Melissa Allen, Ashley Patterson and Alex Fotioo were authors on a research presentation at the National Athletic Trainers' Association Clinical Symposia & AT Expo in Baltimore, MD, June 22-25, 2016. The title of the study was *The Effects of Wearing a Portable Media Arm band on Muscle Activation of the Biceps Brachii*. Dr. Tucker was also a co-author on the two following research presentations:

Roberto JC, Nowak MJ, Hollingworth AT, Decoster LC, Tucker WS (Exercise and Sport Science), Swartz EE, Mihalik JP, Trimarco TW. *Comparing Spine Immobilization with Spinal Motion Restriction during Transport of Suspected Spine-Injured Patients*.

Nowak MJ, Roberto JC, Hollingworth AT, Decoster LC, Tucker WS (Exercise and Sport Science), Swartz EE, Mihalik JP, Trimarco TW. *Efficacy of Spinal Immobilization and Spinal Motion Restriction in Minimizing Cervical Spine Motion during Patient Transfer*.



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