A Message from Dean Steiner

Dear Friends,

As this is the last Hoofprints for 2011, I take this opportunity to thank you for all you have done for the University of Wyoming College of Health Sciences during the past year. Our programs continue to attract the best and the brightest students as we develop the future leaders in the health care professions for the state and nation. On Saturday, December 3rd, the college graduated 21 new alumni who will fill this role. Our faculty members are involved in amazing scholarship that brings new knowledge to the state, nation, and beyond. The faculty and students also serve clinically by providing needed
care to citizens of Wyoming and those in need in other places in the world.

I feel we are all blessed to live in such a special place, Wyoming, and to be part of such a special institution, the University of Wyoming. You are our partner in all of this success, and I thank you for all you have done to further our accomplishments.

I wish all of you a wonderful holiday season and hope that your new year is filled with peace, joy, and happiness.

All the best,

Joe

Coming Events

On the first Wednesday of every month, the Community Health Advancement Program (CHAP) will present a luncheon, film, and discussion series based on *Unnatural Causes*, a PBS documentary that examines the alarming socio-economic and racial inequities in national health care. For details, please contact CHAP Director Meghan Brown (307-766-2498). For a preview of the series, please visit [http://www.unnaturalcauses.org](http://www.unnaturalcauses.org).

Grand Rounds/Research Day will be held Thursday, April 12, 2012. The topic is Type II Diabetes. The keynote speakers will be Robert H. Eckel, Endowed Chair in Atherosclerosis and Professor of Medicine at the University of Colorado, Denver; and John L. Ivy, Teresa Lozano Long Endowed Chair and Chair of the Department of Kinesiology and Health at the University of Texas, Austin.

Research

Three faculty members of Kinesiology and Health (K&H) recently received research funding. Tucker Readdy, Assistant Professor, was granted a $7,478 summer seed grant from the college to support “Student-athletes’ Perceptions of an Intrinsic Reward Program: An exploration of self-determination theory in the context of college football,” and with Tristan Wallhead, Assistant Professor, Tucker received $7,500 from the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance to support “Anti-fat bias of pre-service physical education teachers.” Tristan also received a $7,453 summer seed grant to help fund “A Didactic Analysis of Student Development of Social Skills during Co-operative Learning.” Derek Smith, Associate Professor, received $5,000 from the Wyoming SBIR/STTR Initiative to study “Clinically-compatible Technology for Behavior Change and Chronic Disease Prevention” and $92,736 from UW INBRE to study “Adapting an E-Health Physical Activity Intervention for Translation to a Clinical Setting.”
**Student News**

K&H students Megan Patterson from Laramie and Chris Wagner from Kemmerer were honored as the Wyoming Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (WAHPERD) majors of the year during the alliance’s annual conference held in early November in Casper.

**Sheridan Grannan, a current BRAND accelerated nursing program student from Cheyenne, was awarded the Wyoming Public Health Association Memorial Student Scholarship for an Outstanding Student in Public Health.** The award, which was formerly known as the Raella Gustafson Award, was established in 2005 by the Wyoming Public Health Association to honor individuals pursuing higher education and distinguishing themselves through their leadership, commitment, and contributions to public health.

**College and University Updates**

A 12-month calendar with photos of past brigade visits to UW’s future clinic site in Agua Salada, Honduras, is currently available. The proceeds from the sale of the beautiful calendar will support current and future brigade and clinic projects. For more information, please visit [http://www.uwyo.edu/NURSING/Honduras/honduras-calendar.html](http://www.uwyo.edu/NURSING/Honduras/honduras-calendar.html). (Please see Program Updates article below.)

**Division Updates**

The Wyoming Institute for Disabilities (WIND) is proud of Beth Jones, Clerical Staff Support, and Kendall Corbett, Coordinator for Consumer Activities. During the Wyoming Governor’s Council on Developmental
Disabilities (GCDD) banquet, Beth received the GCDD Self-Advocate Making a Difference Award, and Kendall received the Association of University Centers on Disabilities Board Service Award in recognition of his contributions during his tenure on the board.

The Division of Social Work continues its eight-year reaffirmation by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). According to Division Director Vicki Murdock, the division continues to strengthen its focus on CSWE’s 10 core competencies: professionalism, ethics, critical thinking, diversity, human rights and social justice, research, human behavior, policy, context, and practice. She adds that “our team of field faculty assists students in the critical area of field education in sites across the state from Gillette to Rock Springs and Powell to Cheyenne. The division also sponsored international study and/or service to Guam, Kenya, and Honduras.”

Faculty from the Division of Communication Disorders made a strong showing during the 2011 American Speech-Language-Hearing Convention in San Diego. Assistant Professors Melissa Allen and Doug Petersen with Trina Spencer of Northern Arizona University presented the poster “The Comparison of Two Dynamic Assessments to a Static Assessment for Identifying Reading Difficulty.” Doug and Dr. Spencer also presented “Progress Monitoring of Language: The narrative language measures (NLM)” and “Multi-tiered Narrative Intervention: Addressing the needs of all children.” With Donna Boudrea from the University of Northern Colorado and Jenny Larsen from the University of Oregon, Melissa presented the poster “Supporting Problems in Reading Comprehension: The role of the SLP.” Mark Guiberson, Assistant Professor, with his former UNC graduate student Emily Folsom presented the research poster “Spanish Nonword Repetition Performance of Language Impaired and Typical Preschoolers.” Mark also served on the program committee Issues in Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Populations. Professors David Jones and Mary Hardin-
Jones with recent graduate Catherine Brown presented “Aerodynamic Requirements for Blowing Novelty Horns,” and Teresa Ukrainetz, Division Director and Professor, and Catherine Ross, Assistant Lecturer with Juli Wolters and Jill Andrus of Utah State University presented “Writing Meaningful Goals and Monitoring Progress in Schoolage Language Intervention.” The Intermountain University Open House, organized by Catherine Ross and hosted by UW and seven other regional universities, allowed many alumni, friends, and faculty to visit and network with one another.

Program Updates

Faculty and students recently returned from the most recent brigade trip to Agua Salada, Honduras, to establish La Clinica de Agua Salada. The clinic is the result of the deep resolve of people from across the state and UW faculty and students to make a long-term difference by establishing a sustainable health care system in this very poor rural region of Honduras.

Faculty News

Padmamalini Baskaran, Assistant Professor of Pharmaceutics, presented an invited poster during the 7th International Conference on Basic and Therapeutic Aspects of Botulinum and Tetanus Toxins. The poster—“Botulinum Neurotoxin A Inhibits Acetylcholine Exocytosis Independent of SNAP-26 Cleavage”—addressed the complexity of mechanisms involved in the inhibition of acetylcholine exocytosis by botulinum A at the presynaptic nerve terminals.

Members of UW’s Cap and Gown Chapter of Mortar Board have named their “Top Profs” for the academic year. Among those selected for “going beyond normal classroom expectations to help their students succeed, both in college and later in their careers” are Gary Werhonig, Associate Lecturer of K&H and Undergraduate Internship Coordinator for Exercise Physiology; Holly Miller, Senior Lecturer of Nursing and CSC Coordinator; David Jones, Professor of Communication Disorders and Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs; Ryan Readdy, Assistant Professor of K&H; and Debora Retz, Assistant Lecturer of Nursing. According to
chapter adviser David Whitman, Professor of Engineering and Applied Science, “Being selected as ‘Top Profs’ is a great honor because they are chosen by the students.”

Mary Hardin-Jones, Professor of Communication Disorders, along with former graduate student Gwen Stout and University of Utah colleague Kathy Chapman, published “An Analysis of the Frame-content Theory in Babble of Nine-month-old Babies with Cleft Palate” in the Journal of Communication Disorders.

Elizabeth Goodwin, Assistant Lecturer of Nursing, assisted her colleague Valerie Eschiti from the University of Oklahoma College of Nursing during the invited presentation of the poster, “Tailoring Cancer Education Modules and Goals for Comanche Nation,” during the National Institute for Research’s 25th Anniversary Scientific Symposium held in Washington, D.C.

Baskaran Thyagarajan, Assistant Professor of Pharmaceutics, presented an invited talk during the 48th Interagency Botulism Research Coordinating Committee meeting held in Santa Fe. The talk, entitled “Therapeutic Effects of Capsaicin Against Botulinum Neurotoxin A Intoxication,” addressed the novel mechanism by which capsaicin accelerates clearance of the toxin from motor nerve terminals.

Congratulations are in order for Jayne Jenkins, Professor of K&H, for having been inducted into the WAHPERD Hall of Fame. Jayne also recently published “A qualitative analysis of individual interest in middle school physical education: Perspectives of early-adolescents in Physical Education and Sport Pedagogy; “Influence of sport education on group cohesion in university physical education” in Journal of Teaching in Physical Education; and “Task Progression in Early Field Teaching Experiences” with John Haefner, K&H Emeritus Faculty, in Physical Education and Sport Pedagogy. Other K&H faculty have also had publication successes. Karen Lux, Assistant Professor, published “How One Exceptional Teacher Navigated Her Working Environment as the Teacher of a Marginal Subject” in Journal of Teaching in Physical Education; Tucker Readdy, Assistant Professor, published “Muscle Dysmorphia, Gender Role Stress, and Sociocultural Influences: An exploratory study” in Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport; and D. Paul Thomas, Professor, with Jun Ren, Professor of Pharmacology, published “Inhibition of NADPH Oxidase Alleviates Experimental Diabetes-induced Myocardial Contractile Dysfunction” in Evolution and Human Behavior. “The Other Side of the Equation: Increasing physical activity does not impact sitting time” by Derek Smith, Associate
Professor, appeared in 2nd International Conference Proceedings on Ambulatory Monitoring of Physical Activity and Movement.