



From the Dean's Desk



Dear Friends,

You may remember last fall in Hoofprints I mentioned I had submitted a proposal to provide for a new Bachelor of Science in Clinical Laboratory Science (CLS) Degree. Over the last four years, I

Dean Joseph Steiner had received many requests from around the state to provide bachelor's trained clinical laboratory scientists. There are great shortages of these professionals and this can be seen in Wyoming Workforce Services data and through direct observation at our hospitals and clinics. Since CLS is not a WICHE program, Wyoming students cannot access this education through that route and there is no other

Hoofprints

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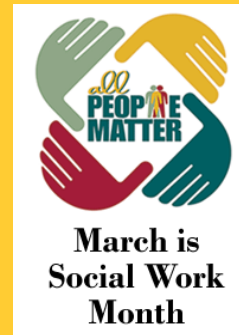
Upcoming Events

Thursday, March 20th
The first day of spring!
(We hope!)

direct access for Wyoming students. Last winter, several university administrators, myself included, discussed initiatives with Casper Area Economic Development Authority (CAEDA) to increase health professions offerings with cooperation of Casper College. I had been working on the CLS proposal and introduced it at that meeting. It is the first one to be carried forward. The proposal builds on the curriculum already offered with Casper College's Associate of Science in Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT). There will be three tracks: Associate of Science in MLT to Bachelor of Science in CLS; previous Associate of Science in MLT graduates to Bachelor of Science in CLS; and holders of Bachelor of Science in a related science area to Bachelor of Science in CLS.

Well, to make a long story short, that proposal was incorporated in the University of Wyoming budget request and was accepted by the governor and was just recently approved by the Wyoming legislature. **We will have a new CLS Program!**

Accomplishing this was very much a group effort. Dr. Audrey Hentzen was a valuable collaborator in developing the proposal. She is the Program Director of the Medical Laboratory Technician Program at Casper College and will be our partner in establishing the Bachelor of Science in CLS. Dr. Maggi Murdock also provided valuable contributions when she was the Dean for UW Outreach. The members of CAEDA provided strong support for the proposal. We also had strong support from the President of Casper College, Dr. Walt Nolte, and the Casper College Administration; UW President, Dr. Richard McGinity, and the UW Administration team. Dan Perdue from the Wyoming Hospital Association allowed me the



**The College of
Health Sciences
Spring 2014
Commencement
will be held May 10
@ 8:30 AM in the
UW Indoor Practice Field
If you go:
Flat soled shoes
are required!**

opportunity to discuss the proposal with his membership and to ask for their support. We also had great support, both morally and financially, from graduates of a former CLS program at UW. It took all of us to bring this proposal to acceptance. There were so many that supported this initiative that I am sure I forgot someone and for that I apologize and thank them.

This program offers a new opportunity to students in Wyoming. I know of many graduates with CLS degrees who have had very long and illustrious careers in that profession and others who have used that educational base as an entrance into other health professions or the business world. It provides a bachelor's degree for those who want to continue to build on their MLT associate's degree and an opportunity for a professional degree for those bachelor's students majoring in chemistry, biology, biochemistry and molecular biology, to name a few areas. The graduates of this program will find good high-paying jobs in Wyoming and help address a severe workforce shortage.

Now the fun begins, putting all the pieces in place to offer a quality education!

Go Pokes!

Joe

Alumni News

Witzeling Scholarship Endowment

will Benefit Pharmacy Students



Kenneth Witzeling

UW School of Pharmacy alumnus Kenneth Witzeling (BSP '51) and his wife, Elizabeth, from Powell, Wyoming, donated his extensive coin collection to the University of Wyoming to create the Kenneth and Elizabeth Witzeling Pharmacy Scholarship endowment. This scholarship will be awarded to year two through year four pharmacy students from Park County, Wyoming, with a GPA of 3.0 or higher and demonstrated financial need. For more information, read the UW Foundation's article titled, "[More than Money.](#)"

Faculty and Staff News

News from Family Medicine Residency Program at Cheyenne.

“ Why Do Patients Become a No-Show: Analysis of Underlying Reasons” has been accepted for Poster Presentation

at the 47th Society of Teachers of Family Medicine Annual Spring Conference, May 3-7 2014 in San Antonio, TX. Presenters: Jennifer Pimentel-Jahns, MD, third-year resident physician, and Pamela Oiler, MSW, LCSW, Assistant Lecturer.

Communication Disorders Faculty explore Telehealth Accuracy

Mark Guiberson, Assistant Professor of Communication Disorders, received a \$55,000 grant from the Clinical and Translational Research – Infrastructure Network to implement a study in Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico. His project, Telehealth Behavioral Phenotype Language Impairment Markers for Spanish-speakers, will evaluate the diagnostic accuracy of telehealth measures when used with young Spanish-speaking children.

Dr. Guiberson and colleague Dr. Barabra Rodriguez from the University of New Mexico published a Rasch analysis of the item quality of a Spanish language-screening parent survey in the journal Research in Developmental Disabilities. Doug Petersen, Assistant Professor, with Teresa Ukrainetz, Professor, and co-authors, published an experimental study report on the effects of a narrative language intervention for three children with autism in the journal Language, Speech, and Hearing Services in Schools.

Social Work Faculty Research on Social Networking Encourages Future Scientific Exploration



Dr. Mona Schatz (L) and Dr. Neely Mahapatra

Drs. Neely Mahapatra and Mona Schatz recently presented at Society for Social Work Research Annual Conference at San Antonio, Texas. Their study titled, “Local to Global: Social Networking among Social Work/Health Science Students” examined the relationship between use of social network sites, perceived social support, and general well-being among a population of undergraduate and graduate college students in health sciences programs in the UW College of Health Sciences. One of the study’s learning objectives was to speculate on the implications of social network sites usage for social work students and other health science students that they can connect locally to globally. Dr. Schatz noted “our study found a significant relationship among health sciences students in their use of these social network sites and their sense of positive social support and general well-being”. These findings should inform university educators of the value of social network experiences globally, possibly building on student experience. According to Dr. Mahapatra, “the presentation was well received by the scholars/teachers and students present in the room and ignited a dialogue on acknowledgement of popularity of the new trend of socialization using social network sites, especially for those in the helping profession such as social work students and practitioners.” Discussions led to future scientific exploration of ‘cohort experiences’ and online social networking among social workers and other health science professionals while in their academic experience.

Mary Onysko and Jeremy Vandiver Published in the Journal of Family Practice



Mary Onysko

Jeremy Vandiver

University of Wyoming School of Pharmacy faculty Mary Onysko, Pharm.D., BCPS, and Jeremy Vandiver, Pharm.D., BCPS, had an article published in the January issue of the Journal of Family Practice titled, "Is a novel anticoagulant right for your patient?" This review article was selected to appear on the cover page of the journal and was the result of a collaborative interprofessional effort between pharmacy faculty and family medicine physicians that was led by Vandiver.

Read the full

article: <http://www.uwyo.edu/pharmacy/news/2014/02/mary-onysko-jeremy-vandiver-published-in-jfp.html>

DARCY REGAN: 2013-2014 URLEND TRAINEE



Darcy Regan

My participation in the URLEND program started last summer when Dr. Bill MacLean, Wyoming Institute for Disabilities' (WIND) executive director, asked me to apply as a 2013-2014 trainee to the federally-sponsored training program. At first unaware of all the advantages of being a trainee, I quickly learned this training would provide me with the skills necessary to become a leader in the field of children with neurodevelopmental disabilities. [Find out more.](#)

Congratulations!



Dr. Jayne Jenkins, with the Division of Kinesiology and Health, was selected as next year's TIE Fellow! The goal of TIE is to provide leadership, incentives and support for excellence in teaching and learning through the use of innovative technologies. We believe this project to be essential to maintaining quality distance education programs in a competitive environment, and work to encourage and support faculty in technology innovation. The TIE program is a competitive grant program that provides accepted instructors support, software, hardware and a small grant to use technology to improve the teaching and learning experience in distance courses.

Division News

Social Work Launches Customized Giving Page



Designed to Showcase Specific Social Work Development Initiatives

The Division of Social Work recently launched a new customized Giving page on its website to better showcase its existing and new development initiatives. According to Division Director Donna Leigh Bliss, “with our recent launch of “The World is Their Classroom”, Social Work had six specific initiatives, but there was no way for donors to easily access information about them. Unfortunately, that meant they would find it virtually impossible to contribute to any of them. In redesigning our main Giving page, we can now highlight every specific initiative and allow for donor to click on a link to get even more information. Our hope is that this will lead to

increased funds being contributed to Social Work to help better serve our mission.”

BRAND supports *homegrown* nurses

UW Foundation recently interviewed students and alumni from the BRAND accelerated nursing program: Alex Milberger and Geraghty Berntson, 2013 graduates; and Karen Coddaira, scheduled to graduate in August 2014. These individuals are among those who have received funding through the Susan K. McMurry Strategic Partnership for the Advancement of Nursing in Wyoming. They share a commonality in that each desired to become a nurse and make a difference in Wyoming’s medical field; each found that BRAND enabled them to stay in Wyoming for studies and for employment; and each found the means to do so with the support from the McMurry grant.

Read more about the students and the McMurry funding by accessing the Foundation article through this link:

<http://www.uwyo.edu/foundation/news/2014/2014-brand-program-supports-homegrown-nurses.html>



Nursing changes Convocation venue, day, and time

Due to construction on the Fine Arts Center this year, the Fay W. Whitney School of Nursing will relocate to a different venue for nursing Convocation. The annual ceremony will instead be held in the Arts & Sciences Auditorium. The ceremony will also veer from the tradition of holding the event following the Health Sciences Commencement ceremony. This year Convocation will take place on Friday, May 9, 2014 from 12:30-2:30 p.m., the day prior to the CHS Commencement.

CHS Student News

Getting a Masters of Social Work Degree



Megan O' Brien

"I am getting my MSW to become a better advocate for people who are marginalized in our communities and within greater society. I believe the MSW can give me the credentials to begin to affect true change, as well as help me to be more aware of my own beliefs and to adjust those beliefs based on evidence and theory that I learn through class and through my field practicum.

I love that social work provides an avenue through which I can be an advocate for social justice. While I am interested in working directly with individuals, I also want to be able to look at my community, analyze and understand where big problems stem from, and address those problems through policy and community action.

Once I graduate, I hope to work at a community counseling center to build my experience even further, then eventually work internationally within a social work framework. I recognize, however, that an MSW opens many doors and my goals and needs may change with time. I am happy to be working towards a degree that allows me flexibility to work in many different roles throughout the field."



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