The massive ice storm that occurred on the weekend of January 13, 2007 delayed the beginning of the semester by one week. Because many were without power, McDonald Arena served as a shelter for those in the community with special needs. Students, faculty, and staff worked with the Springfield-Greene County Health Department to assist approximately 130 individuals housed in the facility.

When classes and activities resumed on January 22nd, CHHS faculty and students from several departments finalized preparations for the Cruise into Wellness Health Fair. The January 30th health fair, coordinated by Taylor Health and Wellness Center, was the kick-off event for the University’s new wellness program.

Activities offered included: screenings for diabetes and cholesterol, hearing and voice evaluation, flexibility and other fitness assessments, advice for healthy living, weight management, as well as information about sports, recreation and leisure activities. The health fair provided an opportunity to inform the campus community of the services available while providing valuable information to faculty and staff.
This continues to be a time of transition for the College of Health and Human Services. After spending a year as an ACE Fellow, Dr. Cynthia Pemberton recently returned to campus as Acting Associate Provost for Student Success. She will focus her expertise on a new campus-wide initiative to improve student retention and graduation rates. We shall miss Dr. Pemberton’s leadership in the College but look forward to working with her in this new role.

Two programs completed accreditation reviews and received notification of their continuing accreditation status. The M.S. in Nurse Anesthesia program, offered by the Biomedical Sciences Department in cooperation with St. John’s School of Anesthesia, was awarded the maximum 10-year accreditation period for that discipline. The Physician Assistant Studies program also received good news following their review with continued accreditation for a five year period. Please join me in congratulating the faculty and staff responsible for these successes.

Faculty members have been extremely busy developing and implementing a number of initiatives this year including a comprehensive compensation plan that addresses both equity and merit. CHHS faculty collaborated with others within the College and across the University to create three successful proposals for funding by the Provost’s Research Initiative. In addition, the College benefited from funds allocated by the Provost’s Office to upgrade equipment in teaching and research labs.

We appreciate the support provided by alumni and friends during the year and anticipate another productive year as we work together to enhance the College.

- Helen

Provost’s Research Incentive Awardees

The Office of the Provost created an incentive funding opportunity for multi-disciplinary research specifically related to the University’s Futures Initiatives. Eleven research proposals were selected. Funding ranged from approximately $10,000 to $265,000. Our College was well-represented as follows: (1) The Development of a Multi-Level Computer-Based Tailored Conflict Intervention for At-Risk Adolescents—Nursing faculty, with faculty in the College of Arts and Letters; Katie Hope is the Primary Investigator ($139,597); (2) Development of the Missouri State University Dizziness and Balance Program — Susan Robinson (PT), Neil DiSarno (CSD) and Gary Ward (SMAT) ($83,850); and (3) Clinical Assessment and Treatment of Individuals with Pervasive Developmental Disabilities, Challenging Behaviors, and Sensory Impairments — team members include faculty in CSD and Psychology, led by faculty in Special Education ($74,240).

2007 CHHS Student Symposium

The College of Health and Human Services Student Research Symposium was held on April 12th, 2007. Over 100 posters and tri-folds presenting student-led research were displayed at the event, with well over 200 presenters. A diverse range of topics were presented, including: women’s health, pain and stress management, and a review of the effects of the state’s social services. Students were able to interact with faculty, as well as receive input and suggestions concerning their research. Likewise, faculty could see what students from their own departments and others were studying. Several posters at the symposium were created with the College’s new large-format HP DesignJet 5500 poster printer. CHHS would like to thank the following people for their dedication to the symposium: Dr. Richard Garrad, Dr. Colette Witkowski, Dr. Thomas Altena, Dr. Brooke Whisenhunt and Dr. Wafaa Kaf.

- Helen

- Rebecca Cliffton, a graduate student in Psychology, presented her research on Weight Watchers at Work.
School of Social Work Provides Students with Valuable International Experiences with Diverse Cultures

An important component of Missouri State’s long-range vision includes an increasing focus on teaching, scholarship and service in an international and diverse context that is of benefit to our local community. To fulfill this goal, several students in the School of Social Work have completed components of their practicum experiences through international placements.

In January, Emily Shellhorn (MSW 2007), worked at an orphanage in Haiti operated by Lutheran Family and Children’s Services. She gained valuable insight into the degree of organization that is needed to facilitate international adoptions.

As an undergraduate student, Krista Odaffer also took advantage of the opportunity to gain a perspective on Social Work in another country. In April, she traveled to Ethiopia and contributed to the work of Adoption for Families, Inc.

Hope Boyd, another undergraduate student, traveled to Nicaragua and worked for a time with Project H.O.P.E., a faith-based nonprofit organization. There she was part of a team that constructed houses for people in need. Hope learned first-hand about the vital need for a supportive infrastructure to establish and maintain any program that aims to offer help.

We are proud of the initiative shown by these students along with their desire to move out of their comfort zone and accept the challenge of learning in a different environment.

Diane Elliott, MSW, Involved with Diversity Activities

Diane Elliott, an Assistant Professor in the School of Social Work, is closely involved with activities that promote insight into diversity on and off campus. As a member of the President’s Commission for Diversity and the Provost’s Task Force on Diversity, Professor Elliott helped to facilitate community discussions at area high schools and was been a contributing speaker at events on campus. During African American Heritage Month, she served as a panelist with other scholars for a seminar on “The N-word.” An estimated 200 students, faculty, staff and community members participated in the stimulating two-hour discussion.
This past May, Dr. Klaas Bakker traveled to Katarino, Bulgaria to participate in the first-ever international conference on cluttering, a communicative disorder that is difficult for listeners to understand. The conference provided a rare opportunity for clinicians and researchers to share insights and research on this enigmatic and complex disorder. As a number of eastern European investigators had pioneered work in cluttering in the early 1900s, the conference organizers thought it was important to hold the conference in eastern Europe. Dr. Bakker worked closely with Drs. Dobrinka (Doby) Georgieva, and Katya Dionissieva, members of the CSD faculty at the Neofit Rilski South-West University in Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria. Dr. Georgieva, Department Chair and Vice Rector, was previously featured in Trends when she hosted Dr. Lyn Goldberg, a CSD faculty member, to introduce Bulgarian students to the topic of swallowing disorders.

Sixty scholars from North America, Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and Australia participated in the conference on cluttering. Participants hoped to further discover, debate, and demystify the communication problems involved in this disorder. The conference generated a great deal of positive energy toward better understanding and treatment of cluttering. This was due to the excellent quality of the presentations and discussions, as well as the stunningly beautiful snow-capped mountain scenery, the clean and quiet environment, the wonderful food shared together three times a day, and the small number of participants.

Prior to the conference, members of the conference planning team were interviewed for presentations on the national radio of Bulgaria and national TV. During the conference, Emil Rainov, Deputy Minister of Health, and Irina Papancheva, the Vice Mayor of Sofia (Bulgaria’s capital city) attended and spoke to all participants. Their participation set the tone for the conference and demonstrated an incredible level of support by Bulgarian officials. Of special interest, Ms. Papancheva is considered by many to be the President-hopeful of Bulgaria in the future despite her stuttering.

For more information on the conference, please visit the website created by Dr. Bakker at: http://associations.missouristate.edu/FICC/index.htm.
Over the past four years, Dr. Chantal Levesque-Bristol has been working on various aspects of student learning and the exploration of ways to enhance motivation and learning in higher education. This research has been conducted in collaboration with Dr. Roger Sell, Director of the Academic Development Center (ADC). Dr. Levesque-Bristol co-authored a book chapter outlining the relationships between the learning environment, basic psychological needs, motivational factors, and learning outcomes to include transfer of learning, reflection, and meta-cognition. In her research in the area of student learning, she has examined motivational and learning issues — first in the context of service-learning courses at Missouri State and most recently, working with full-time, second semester Freshmen as part of a research project entitled: Increasing Student Success: Student Voices and their Undergraduate Experience.

This research is ongoing. Below is a brief description of what has transpired from the current accumulated data.

1. As faculty members, we cannot directly affect student learning outcomes. What we can do is create a positive learning environment which will increase student motivation for learning, which will then lead to better learning outcomes.

2. Novel teaching tools and techniques are not necessarily the answer to an improved learning environment. It depends greatly on the ways the teacher approaches his or her teaching and students, and whether the learning environment can satisfy students’ basic psychological needs for autonomy, competence, and relatedness.

3. Freshmen students have multiple goals when thinking about college. These include academic goals, career goals, social goals, and personal goals.

4. Freshmen students also have high expectations of faculty. The particular characteristics of faculty that students expect vary by individual student. These characteristics include knowledge of the topic being taught, an ability to communicate clearly and effectively about that topic, and ability to relate a topic to the level of the student. Students expect teachers to be approachable, accessible, and care about them.

5. Provision of feedback is one way in which expectations are communicated from faculty to students. Approximately 35% of the students in the Student Success Project said that they received frequent and useful feedback from most faculty in their classes. In comparison, about 30% reported that for the large majority of their classes, they received only test scores or grades and no substantive feedback on their learning.

6. Many students reported that their expectations of college were higher than what they actually experienced.

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Dr. Chantal Levesque-Bristol, Associate Professor of Psychology
Professor Receives Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellowship

Dr. Susan Hinck, an Associate Professor in the Department of Nursing, received a Robert Wood Johnson (RWJ) Health Policy Fellowship for a 12-month period beginning in September 2007. This prestigious award recognizes her strong leadership in working with community and health care leaders, businesses, and professional organizations to increase access to care for underserved and vulnerable populations. Dr. Hinck will be based in Washington, D.C. and participate in seminars on health economics, health research, the congressional budget process, and decision-making with regard to federal priority issues in health care.

Leadership, experience and a national perspective will provide Dr. Hinck with the ability to promote the development of health policy at the state level when she returns to campus. Continued funding from the RWJ Fellowship will provide academic release time through August 2010 for Dr. Hinck to continue her role as a leader in the development of effective health policy for the citizens of Missouri.

Professor Named Recipient of Rehabilitation Award

Dr. Rebecca Woodard, an Associate Professor in the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Department, recently received the Rich Walker Award of the Southwest Chapter of the Missouri Rehabilitation Association. “I nominated Rebecca for this award because she has been a significant support to me in my endeavors and in the changes we have tried to make on our campus,” said Katheryne Staeger-Wilson, Director of Disability Services at Missouri State. “She is a leader, advocate and mentor for people with disabilities and is so deserving of this award.” The award is the highest honor of the chapter and was created to recognize a distinguished member of the professional rehabilitation community (reprinted from http://www.news.missouristate.edu/releases/38468.htm-May 18, 2007.)
Physical Therapy Professor Serves More than the University

Jeanne Cook, Assistant Professor and Director of Clinical Education in the Physical Therapy Department at Missouri State University, is currently serving with the Navy Expeditionary Logistics Support Group in Kuwait. Jeanne is the Commanding Officer of the Navy Air Cargo Handling Battalion 1, Golf Company at the Naval Reserve Center in Springfield. She has served with the Naval Reserve for 15 years and has been a member of the Physical Therapy faculty for 8 years. Jeanne’s unit handles all off-loading of cargo coming into Kuwait to support our troops in Iraq. Jeanne’s husband, Lowell, and sons, Jacob and Steven, reside in Willard. Jeanne’s overseas address is:

NAVELSG FWD HQ
Camp Arifjan
APO AE 09366.

Dietetics Graduate Gaining Recognition as a Professional Cyclist

Since graduating from the Dietetics program at Missouri State, Brad Huff has been traveling all over the world, from Malaysia, to Europe, to South America, as well as all over North America. Brad writes that, “I constantly joked with fellow students at MSU that I was majoring in Cycling, but what I was actually doing was increasing my overall knowledge to further help my dream of becoming a Professional Cyclist. My education at MSU has been a key to helping me understand why I should eat another bowl of cereal instead of another diet soda and salad, and fueling my determination to succeed. I have won both amateur and professional championships and I am now setting my sights on making the 2008 Olympic team. Hopefully I will be able to make this happen, but having been in competitive athletics for years I know that anything can happen.” We wish Brad all the best in his endeavors. You can read about his accomplishments online at www.BradHuffCycling.com.
**Faculty News from the Psychology Department**

**Dr. Bob Jones** has been named Department Head after a national search. Bob served as Interim Department Head for the previous academic year after Dr. Fred Maxwell stepped down. Bob brings a wealth of experience to the job and has high hopes of supporting our faculty and students; mostly by obtaining the resources that the Department needs to succeed in reaching their goals.

**Ms. Candida Arvizu** has joined the faculty as Coordinator of the Psychology Advisement Center. As a former assistant in the office, she has served almost 700 majors and minors with distinction. Her role, in addition to teaching two advisement courses and coordinating recruitment, is to provide excellent advice to Psychology majors and minors about course options, career choices, and other aspects of their learning experiences in the Psychology Department. Ms. Arvizu earned her M.S. in Industrial and Organizational Psychology from Missouri State.

**Dr. Thomas Kane** has been elected as the President of the Faculty Senate for the coming academic year. His considerable expertise in organizational and human development, as well as his work on organizational assessment should bring substantial advances to faculty-administrative initiatives. Congratulations to Dr. Kane for this honor!

**Dr. Jeff Maloney** has retired from full-time service as a faculty member in the Psychology Department, but continues to teach Adolescent Psychology (PSY 441)—a course that the department majors always enjoy and benefit from. In addition to his years as a full time faculty member, Dr. Maloney also coordinated the Clinical Psychology graduate track for a number of years. During this time, the department experienced some very positive events.

**Dr. Fred Maxwell** has returned to a faculty role after 21 years of outstanding service as Department Head of Psychology. Dr. Maxwell will continue to teach his specialty area—Physiological Psychology (PSY 521)—as well as provide upper level majors with hands on research experience through the second research methods course (PSY 410). Although all will miss Dr. Maxwell’s leadership, we are certainly glad that he is back working full-time with our majors in the classroom.

**Dr. David Mrad** is a St. Louis native who recently retired from the Federal Medical Center for Prisoners after 23 years as a forensic clinical psychologist and joined our faculty as an Instructor. His distinguished career doing assessments for pre-trial competency and sanity, predictions of future violence, and civil commitment has led to a national award named after him and Diplomat status with the American Board of Professional Psychologists. He has supervised a large number of successful forensic psychology PhDs during their clinical internships at the Medical Center. Dave received his PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of Missouri, St. Louis and is now teaching his favorite topic—statistics. Of note, Dave’s wife Nova is a well-regarded science teacher at Central High School. Together they enjoy time with their two grandsons whenever they can.

**Dr. Jeanne Phelps** has returned to our faculty after nine years working as Assistant Provost. She is bringing back years of direct experience as a Personnel Specialist and will be teaching the course she originally developed—Personnel Selection (PSY 676)—to our graduate students. She will also be teaching Introductory Psychology to undergraduates from all sorts of majors. We are delighted to have “Skip” back among us.
Students Participate at MSHA

Maureen Darby, a graduate student in speech-language pathology, was awarded a scholarship by the Missouri Speech-Language-Hearing Association (MSHA) to participate in this year’s convention. Maureen is pictured with Melodie Harrington, the student member of the MSHA Executive Board and a student in Missouri State’s AuD program. Two years ago, the Executive Board of MSHA voted to establish the student position on the Board. We are proud that the two students who have served in this position to date have both been from Missouri State. Melody Kessinger served the first one-year term. Melodie Harrington will complete her one-year term in July.

Faculty and Students Bring the Special Olympics Healthy Hearing Program to the State of Missouri

Faculty and student volunteers from the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) demonstrated that “Bears Care” by initiating Missouri’s first Healthy Hearing screening program at the Missouri Special Olympics. The Healthy Hearing program joined the existing Happy Smiles (dentistry), Opening Eyes (optometry) and Fun Fitness (physical therapy) programs and provided hearing screenings to 200 athletes participating in the Missouri Special Olympics summer games on June 5th at the campus of University of Missouri in Columbia. The Missouri Healthy Hearing program was directed by Dr. James Dean, Dr. Jason Box, and Mrs. Jill Oswalt, clinical faculty members in CSD. CSD graduate student volunteers in audiology, speech-language pathology, and education of the deaf and hard of hearing performed hearing screenings for the athletes. Both the athletes and the volunteers benefited from this educational and rewarding experience. Plans are underway for the 2008 games.

Thank You to CHHS Alumni for Answering the Call!

Ashley Breedon was the top caller for CHHS during the Missouri State Phone Campaign that began in September 2006. Ashley is a Junior at Missouri State and is interested in a career in Public Relations. She raised $4,785 through 24 pledges, averaging approximately $200 per pledge. Phone pledges from CHHS alumni totaled $32,815 during this campaign. This was $5,000 above the record achieved during the previous fiscal year! When a student contacts you in the next phone campaign, please consider making another gift, increasing your gift, or making a gift for the first time. Your gifts to the CHHS help current and future students, faculty, and the overall success of the University.
What’s New?

We would like to know what’s new in your life. Please submit information about retirements, marriages, new address, or job changes by completing this form and returning it by mail or email to HelenReid@missouristate.edu. The information will be used for purposes of maintaining your permanent alumni record. Information will be printed based on availability of space within the newsletter.

Last, First, MI Maiden

Address

City State Zip Class Year

Home Phone

Spouse’s Full Name Class Year (MSU)

Additional Information: Major/Minor:

Include in Trends? Yes No