BMS Dietetics Faculty makes some Changes!

If you happen by the BMS Department this semester looking for Dr. Reid or Dr. Brech, you will be in for a surprise. We are very pleased that Dr. Reid has been appointed acting assistant dean for the College of Health and Human Services. This appointment will last until next summer. She is still our Program Director, but she is not in her office in the BMS Department as often.

We were also sad to see Dr. Brech leave. She has taken a position with Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. We know she will be glad to hear from any students who would like to contact her. She has also assured us that she is still willing to write recommendations for those of you who need one.

Carmen Boyd, Instructor, and Andi White, graduate assistant are still here, but we have two new faces in the hall. Rachel Harrington, MHA, RD comes to us from Cox Hospital here in Springfield where she has been the outpatient dietitian. Rachel is from Louisville, Kentucky and completed her internship through the Army. We are glad to have her here this year teaching Food Science, Administrative Dietetics, Lifespan, and Principles of Nutrition.

We are also glad to have Bridget Thomason ('99) back on campus but this time as a lecturer. Bridget completed her internship at Olive View-UCLA and has returned to help us with Assessment of Nutritional Status while Carmen does more advising work and MNT 2. Bridget is also helping Andi with labs in MNT and Counseling and Education. Bridget has also recently taken a part time position with St. John's and is doing consulting at the Greene County Jail and working at the Lymphedema Clinic at Mid-America Cancer Institute. She will soon take her RD exam using the new computerized version. Good luck, Bridget!

Andi White Thomas ('95) is serving as a graduate assistant while completing her Master's in Guidance and Counseling. She completed her internship at Saint Louis University and then worked with WIC and the Department of Health before coming back to SMSU. She will finish her Master's in May, 2001.

Student helpers in the office are always a big plus and dietetics students this semester include Carrie Allen, Dana Hofland, and Becky Mullrill. Thanks for all your hard work!

Another student helper is Hillary Corbett, who is a peer leader for the freshman IDS 110 classes for Carmen Boyd. Hillary is a great help with these students and also helped with the SMSU Showcase for potential SMSU students in September. Freshman Stephanie Young is also

Special points of interest:

- Dietetics faculty makes changes
- Where are our graduates?
- Greene County Nutrition Network
- Our student Athletes
- Who we've heard from......
- Master's Program's at SMSU

WHERE HAVE OUR GRADUATES GONE?

Our Spring 2000 graduates were Sandra Wheeler, Julie Hayes, Sarah Graham, Brook Kohls, Brad St. Louis, Laura Roling, Heather Sherman, and Melanie Fuller. Several have already started their internships. Sarah is at Saint Louis University, Brook at Colorado State University, Laura at the Dept of Mental Health, and Melanie at ARAMARK in Kansas City. Julie, Sandy, and Heather are in the Springfield area and Brad is in Cincinnati. Where are our 1999 graduates? They were: Bridget Thomason, Joy Procaccio, Joanna Schulte, Laura Wingo, Lisa Wheat, Kristen Billingsley, Julie Kuester, Sherry Diehl, Vickie Pestle, Kari Edgar, Debbie Austin, Paul Becker, Katy Baker, April Popejoy, Glenn Rinks, Ginger Schilling, Tracey Luna, and Michelle Kerr. If you are a 1999 graduate or know the whereabouts of one of them, please let us know for our next issue!
**GREENE COUNTY NUTRITION NETWORK**

SMSU is the recipient of the grant for “Eat For Health” with the Greene County Nutrition Network. Dr. Helen Reid is the grant administrator. Former SMSU graduate Amy Bowman Barlow is the new nutritionist for the Greene County Nutrition Network working with the Eat For Health program as part of the grant.

Amy graduated from SMSU in the Spring of 1996. Julie Abney, also a 1996 SMSU graduate, is her administrative assistant. Representatives from agencies and institutions sharing a mutual interest in improving the nutritional health status of individuals and families formed the Greene County Nutrition Network (GCNN) March 19, 1999. Founding members of the GCNN represented Midland Dairy Council, SMSU, Springfield-Greene County Health Department, Springfield-Greene Co, WIC Program, Springfield Public Schools, and St. John's Regional Health Center. Additional representatives from the following agencies joined the coalition: American Cancer Society, Division of Family Services, OACAC Head Start, Ozark Food Harvest, Parents as Teachers, the SW Dietetic Association, and University of MO Outreach and Extension. Members also include former graduate Jana Roberts Belk, RD of St. John's Regional Health Center.

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**WHAT I DID THIS SUMMER..BY RACHEL HAYES**

Rachel is from Independence, MO and returning for a second degree. She will graduate in 2001.

Last summer, I had the opportunity to complete my dream internship. I relocated to Atlanta and worked for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (national headquarters). The experience was nothing short of amazing and solidified my interest in a public health career! I worked as an epidemiological research assistant within the Hospital Infections Program. Although my primary academic interests lie within nutrition and psychology, this position provided a wonderful glimpse into the world of national public health.

I attended weekly Grand Round research forums as well as the International Conference on Emerging Infectious Disease. I also met fascinating people daily, including the Director of Nutrition and several members of the Epidemic Intelligence Service! Check for similar summer internship opportunities on the federal employment website: www.usajobs.opm.gov.

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**ON A MISSION.......BY RACHEL ZAMOUSKI**

Rachel is a Senior Dietetics Major from Joplin

I am fortunate to have had many opportunities to travel overseas. For the past three summers I have taken 10 day trips to Grand Grave, Haiti with Christian Campus House at SMSU. Each time I have visited I have been overwhelmed with their poverty and hunger, and at the same time their warmth and thankfulness. Haiti’s literacy rate is estimated below 20%, with annual incomes less than $300.00. This mission is working 1 person at a time to change these unbelievable statistics. Lifeline Christian Mission feeds over 4200 children and adults, over 5500 students are enrolled in their schools and their growing infant nutrition program is reaching out to over 100 families. During our 10 day visit I was able to work in their clinic along with a variety of health care workers. My mom (a Registered Nurse) and I saw most of the pediatric patients—scabies, worms, malaria. A Nurse Practitioner and another Registered Nurse saw many diabetics, patients with high blood pressure, and GI problems. We were all involved in the infant nutrition program—teaching classes on the importance of basic hygiene, breastfeeding, and nutrition during pregnancy. The highlight of the trip was our visit to a leprosy clinic. This clinic provided care to ~30 patients (15 males, 15 females). A nurse led our tour of the facility, providing us with information regarding the disease and its implications. I now have an increased awareness of how the majority of the world lives—and how I can not only change the lives of those less fortunate, but have my own life changed.
WE WERE SO GLAD TO SEE OR HEAR FROM YOU!

We were so glad to have Natalie Guidry ('98) stop by and see us this fall. Natalie is in Metairie, Louisiana and is finishing her Master's in Business Administration this December from the University of New Orleans. Congratulations, Natalie! We were also glad Sean Morris ('96) dropped by to visit us last spring. Sean is an Interventional Sales Specialist for AngioDynamics, Incorporated and sells cardiac equipment. We also have several students back in the area after completing their internships. We want to welcome Connie Cortez back to the Springfield area. Connie ('97) is working as a Clinical Dietitian at Cox Hospital as is former SMSU graduate Kathryn Denure-Fleming. Bobby Weno Wright is a Clinical Dietitian at St. John's in Joplin after completing her internship at Iowa State University. We want to congratulate her on her recent marriage on September 30! Donna Bollinger is working at St. John's Regional Health Center as a Clinical Dietitian as are former SMSU graduates Joan (Neer) Hewart, Deborah Henson and Jana Roberts Belk. Roxanne Monnig Mason, Daphne Smith and Laura Smith Crawford are at Hammons Heart Institute. Carmen Boyd teaches nutrition at St. John's Marian Center's Chemical Dependency Unit. Until recently, Trish Smith was also at Hammons Heart, but has left due to illness. We're thinking about you, Trish! Congratulations to Mary Snyder Duff and her husband Dr. Scott Duff and their daughter Hannah on the birth of William Scott (Will) in July. Mary and her family live in Springfield and Mary works with Dr. Reid on various program issues. Sherry Dunn Drain ('96) received her ACSM certification this past summer and is working at St. John's Fitness Center as an instructor.

NEW MASTER'S PROGRAMS AT SMSU

The Master of Public Health is offered through the Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Department. This is great news for those students wishing to pursue their education in Public Health! We hope to soon develop a nutrition concentration for this program. Currently, three other Master's programs have appealed to our dietetics students—Social Work, Health Promotion and Wellness Management, and Guidance and Counseling. Guidance and Counseling now has a Community Agency Option for those not involved with the schools. The Physician Assistant Studies program at SMSU is also up and running and may be of interest to our clinically oriented students or dietitians. The Physical Therapy Master's Program accepted their first class this fall. We're also exploring the feasibility of developing a Master's in Nutrition and Applied Physiology. We look forward to bringing you information as it develops.

TWO STUDENT ATHLETES IN THE NEWS:
BRAD ST. LOUIS AND BRIAN MANN

Two of our student athletes have made national news this year. Brad St. Louis, who graduated in May, 2000, was a 7th round draft pick in the NFL and has joined the Cincinnati Bengals as a tight end. Brian Mann, a junior Dietetics major is one of Natural Athletes Strength Association's superstars and a major part of the behind the scenes activities of NASA. He is also a loader/spotter for NASA, one of the hardest and most demanding jobs to have. He has written an article for the spotter loader section talking about the demands of the job. Brian has held 4 National and 2 World powerlifting titles but will be limited a bit now due to an injury. Other Dietetics athletes are Jennifer Eickmeier, SMSU Soccer, Dana Holland, SMSU Cross Country and Track, and Micah Wilson, SMSU Rodeo. Good luck!
Please let us hear from you!

We really enjoy hearing from our graduates and what they are doing! You know what else? Our current students like to know what you are doing! They want to see what people are doing in this field! This newsletter has been started in an attempt to keep everyone updated on where our students are going and what they are doing, and also maybe to keep some of you in touch with old college friends.

We usually hear from you after your internship, and of course, we always want to know what we are doing well and what we need to improve, but we want to hear from you again! Please, take time to let us know where you are and what you are doing. A snail mail address and an email address, a picture or story, as well as briefly what you are doing would be great! Also, if you have friends that graduated, please send them this information, too, and ask them to send us their information. We are in the process of trying to locate everyone and we need your help! We have students in several different countries of the world as well as in many, many of the states. We also have students with unique jobs in dietetics and we want to hear from you all! We are going to try to highlight a different year each newsletter. How often will we send this newsletter out? Well......that's a good question right now, but it will kind of be determined by how many of you we hear from! We'd love to put it out monthly, but probably quarterly is more reasonable. Anyway, we're anxious to hear from you. How can you reach us? Well, the easiest way is probably just to email us. You can drop us email at dietetics@smsu.edu. You also can register your email address on the alumni directory at www.smsu.edu! We want to hear from you!