College of Health Newsletter

College of Health Newsletter contains news and events from our schools, departments, and centers to keep you informed and engaged with the College. Health care continues to be a crucial element in the development of our nation, and Southern Miss is leading the way. Please continue to stay involved with the College of Health and your respective academic program in order to help take Southern Miss to the Top!

April, 2013

Dean's Blog:

Click [here](#) to see updated posts from Dr. Michael Forster.

Southern Miss College of Health Honors Outstanding Students

**By: Van Arnold**

Outstanding students in all of the academic areas of The University of Southern Mississippi’s College of Health were recognized at an awards event on Tuesday, April 2, in the Thad Cochran Center.

Jennifer E. Parker, president of the College of Health Ambassadors recognized Crystal C. Johnson (Edwards, MS) for her service as past president. Parker presented awards to Janet L. Davie-Cramer (Slidell, LA) and Adam C. Whipple (Tupelo, MS) for exceptional service to the Ambassador program. Other senior Ambassadors recognized were Karen T. Johnson (Magnolia, MS), P. Reghan Johnson (Mt. Olive, MS), Ta’Rena L. Jones (Forest, MS), Mercedes Le (Saltillo, MS), Edward J. Olack (Madison, MS), Jennifer E. Parker (Laurel, MS), Michelle L. Pontiff (Slidell, LA), Paige L. Powell (Hattiesburg, MS), Imogene S. Valantine (Bay Springs, MS), Adam C. Whipple (Tupelo, MS), Kristen B. Windecker (Tinley Park, IL) and Sabrina M. Young (Charleston, MS).

**Southern Miss Professor Discusses Brain Trauma During Camp Shelby Visit**

**By Ryan Kelly**

Dr. Scott Piland, associate professor in the School of Human Performance and Recreation, recently visited Camp Shelby to speak at an event held in conjunction with Traumatic Brain Injury Awareness month.

A group of more than 100 soldiers, support staff, and medical officers of the Medical Task Force Shelby (MTFS), listened to Piland speak on the topic of “Head Protection: Playing Field to Battlefield.”

Piland states, “It is always a pleasure to engage the community to let everyone know the great things that are happening at Southern Miss especially in the School of HPR. We are committed to serve as the state's premiere source for not only education about the brain injury of concussion, but also innovative and novel material technologies to reduce and prevent its occurrence in athletes and warfighters.”

Piland’s talk centered around sport-related and warfighter-related mild traumatic brain injury, otherwise known as concussion, and ways to protect individuals from injury.

**Alumni Spotlight**

**David Williams, CPA, MPH, FHFMA**

David is a partner with Home-LLP and serves as the leader of health care reimbursement and advisory services. With more than 25 years of experience, David’s practice is concentrated in the health care industry providing assurance, reimbursement and advisory services for a wide range of organizations including hospitals, outpatient centers, home health care agencies, skilled nursing facilities, assisted living centers, rural health clinics and mental rehabilitation centers. David earned a Bachelor of Business Administration and Master of Public Health Policy and Administration from The University of Southern Mississippi. He is a Fellow of Healthcare Financial Management.

**Calendar of Events:**

DuBard School - Missing Links in Academics Conference
April 11 - 12, 2013
The DuBard School for Language Disorders

Speech and Hearing Sciences White Coat Ceremony
April 13, 2013
Thad Cochran Center 216

**Baby Boomers - How are we going to take care of all of these people?**

College of Health Forum Series
Tuesday, April 23, 2013 | 5:30 p.m.
Lake Terrace Convention Center

**A Night in Italy**

Benefiting The Children’s Center for Communication and Development
Tuesday, April 23, 2013 | 4:30 p.m - 7:30 p.m.
Southern Oaks House and Gardens

**Nutrition Alumni Dinner**

Wednesday, April 24, 2013 | 6:30 p.m.
Lake Terrace Convention Center

**Hospice Foundation - Improving Lives of Veterans Conference**

Thursday, April 25, 2013 | 8:00 a.m.
Thad Cochran Center 216

**St. Jude Trike-Thon**

Hosted by The Children’s Center for Communication and Development
Thursday, April 25, 2013 | 10:30 a.m.
The Children’s Center Graduation Ceremony
Friday, May 17, 2013

**Job Opportunities:**

Diabetes Care Group - Part Time and Full Time RD / Diabetes Educator (CDE Preferred)
Location: Jackson and Tupelo

**View Full Article**
Social Work Students Conduct Case Management in Field Experience Class
By David Tisdale

University of Southern Mississippi social work students enrolled in a required field experience class gained invaluable experience following the Feb. 10 tornado that struck the Pine Belt in a disaster case management initiative facilitated by the American Red Cross.

The course is divided into two sections and taught by School of Social Work instructors Delories Williams and Nicole Werle. Students in the courses fanned out across Lamar, Forrest and Perry Counties to meet with residents impacted by the storm and assess their needs.

Jasmine Naylor, a senior social work major from Hattiesburg, was one of the students who participated in the project. In working with the Red Cross, Naylor said she met with several individuals impacted by the storm and provided them with referrals to various local resources that could make assistance available for recovery. The students also provided “comfort kits” to those who needed them, which included toothbrushes, toothpaste and other hygiene items.