College of Health Newsletter

January, 2013

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!

Dean’s Blog:

Click here to see updated posts from Dr. Michael Forster.

Photo: Jamie Powell places awards on the Lady War Eagles after the conclusion of a successful season. Contributed by The Wayne County News.

Southern Miss Alumnus Powell Leads Winning High School Programs

By: Traci L. Breland

School of Human Performance and Recreation alumnus Jamie Powell has achieved great success on and off the softball field since his days as an outstanding academic at Southern Miss. Powell is a Marion County native and graduated Cum Laude in 2005 with a dual degree in coaching administration and school health licensure. Powell was also awarded the Outstanding Undergraduate Dual Major Scholar Award from his department while at Southern Miss.

Powell took his first coaching appointment at Sumrall High School as head coach for the Lady Bobcats fast-pitch softball team in 2005. Several years later Powell's Lady Bobcats would play their first South State Championship in the 2011-2012 season.

During his Sumrall coaching appointment, Coach Powell continued his outstanding academic track at Southern Miss. Once again, Powell graduated Cum Laude with a master of science in interscholastic athletic administration in 2010.

After 7 successful years at Sumrall, Powell transferred to Wayne County High School, in the Fall of 2012, where he led the Lady War Eagles to the State Championship in slow-pitch. Wayne County fell short in the championship game, but Powell and his Lady War Eagles did not fall short in a much deserved-successful season.

Powell is not the only member of his family that is well-known to Southern Miss’ College of Health. Powell’s mother, Reba Bennett, currently serves as the administrative assistant to the dean of the College of Health. Ms. Bennett has served for the last nine years in the College of Health Dean’s Office.

When asked about her son’s achievements, Ms. Bennett humbly stated, “I am extremely proud of Jamie and the success he has had over the years. It takes a lot of dedication, hard work and support to have a successful program. He has received that from his coaching staffs, administrators, players, and parents. Also, I cannot leave out his wife Britney. She has been a major support to him and that makes it easier to do what he needs to do to produce a winning program.”

When asked about his successful career thus far, Powell responded, “I attribute my success from the work ethic my parents instilled in me at an early age, and my mentoring by Dr. James McGuire and Mr. Gerry Powell at USM. I have always had a desire to want to do right and be successful.”

Jaime Powell plans to continue his coaching success by using the knowledge and skills learned through his education at Southern Miss.

Mississippi’s Health, Mississippi’s Future

College of Health Forum Series 2013

The Evolution of Health Care: What does a modern health workforce look like?
Tuesday, March 5, 2013 | 5:30 p.m. | Thad Cochran Center

What is the REAL Cost of Health Care?
Tuesday, April 23, 2013 | 5:30 p.m. | Thad Cochran Center

Baby Boomers - How are we going to care for all of these people?
Tuesday, April 23, 2013 | 5:30 p.m. | Thad Cochran Center

There is no cost to attend, and refreshments will be served.
Sponsored by Hattiesburg Clinic
Children’s Center at Southern Miss Holding Special Valentine's Day Fundraiser
By Van Arnold

Thanks to the generosity of Lights Jewelers and Gemologists, The Children’s Center for Communication and Development at The University of Southern Mississippi is holding “A Sweetheart of a Raffle.” The Grand Prize is an antique-inspired, 18-karat white gold and diamond pendant, valued at $1,950.

Tickets are $10 and may be purchased online at www.usm.edu/childrenscenter or by calling The Children’s Center at 601.266.5222. Pictures of the prizes are available on The Children’s Center Facebook page, which is accessible on The Children’s Center website.

Southern Miss HEADWAE Recipients to Be Honored in Jackson

A faculty member with an exemplary record of research and service in public health and an Honors College student heading to medical school are The University of Southern Mississippi’s recipients of the annual Higher Education Appreciation Day (HEADWAE) award.

Dr. Amal Mitra, a professor of epidemiology and biostatistics at Southern Miss, and senior John Caleb Grenn of Hattiesburg are recipients of the HEADWAE Outstanding Faculty and Student Awards. They will be recognized by the Mississippi Legislature and at a luncheon Feb. 26 in Jackson.

DuBard School at Southern Miss Receives Walmart Grant for Outclient Services
By Catherine Lott

The DuBard School for Language Disorders at The University of Southern Mississippi will now be able to serve more students in its outclient therapy program thanks to a gift from the Walmart Foundation and the Mississippi Advisory Council through the State Giving Program, totaling $34,000.

In a letter received by the DuBard School, the Walmart Foundation stated that it believes the DuBard School is doing important work in the Hattiesburg area and is proud to support the efforts.

The funds received will be used to assist families in paying for outclient services, specifically for reduced costs for evaluations and to participate in the school’s Language Enhancement and Achievement Program (LEAP).

Southern Miss Wins Organ Donor Challenge
By Chuck Stinson

During fall of 2012, Southern Miss and Mississippi State University participated in the Donor Challenge to see which university could register the most organ and tissue donors either on campus or via the internet during a three month period. The Southern Miss faithful responded to the challenge by signing up over 68% of the total registrants.

The College of Health Ambassadors at Southern Miss and organizer Dianne Coleman provided invaluable support for the contest and will be recognized during the press conference.

Donate Life Mississippi will hold a press conference at 12:30 pm on Tuesday, January 29th in Room 210 of the Thad Cochran Center on the campus of the University of Southern Mississippi to honor Southern Miss fans, alumni and students for winning the inaugural Donor Challenge in 2012.

Online Sports Security Management Certificate Program to Begin Feb. 4
By Vanessa Molden

The National Center for Spectator Sports Safety and Security at The University of Southern Mississippi will offer an online Sports Security Management Professional Certificate beginning Feb. 4 through April 15.