The 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!

June, 2012

Gatwood Shows Direct Link Between Academics, Athletics at Southern Miss

By Ryan Kelly

Students throughout the University of Southern Mississippi’s College of Health are constantly seeking internship and training opportunities in their field of choice. For students in the School of Human Performance and Recreation, these opportunities often materialize close-to-home.

Zack Gatwood stepped across the stage at Spring Commencement last month having made a major impact on Southern Miss athletics, and did so while preparing for a career in sport management.

Gatwood, a Petal, Miss, native, has been interested in sport management since his high school days. He worked as an equipment manager for the Petal Panthers and came to Southern Miss with the dream of continuing that type of service as a career.

As an undergraduate student at Southern Miss, Gatwood fought hard to balance his classwork with the rigors of a demanding position as a student manager on the Golden Eagle football team. As a manager, he worked hours before and after practices and games for setup, drills, and breakdown, among other responsibilities.

Southern Miss Medical Technology Program Offers Career in High Growth Industry

The Department of Medical Technology at The University of Southern Mississippi offers a rewarding career in a field that is experiencing strong employment growth.

Medical Technologists, also referred to as Medical Laboratory Scientists, are vital health care detectives who uncover and provide laboratory information from laboratory analyses that assist physicians in patient diagnosis and treatment.

Employment of medical laboratory workers is expected to grow faster than average by 11 percent by 2020, according to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. The volume of laboratory tests continues to increase with both population growth and the development of new types of tests.

DuBard School Director Martin Authors New Textbook

By Kathryn McPhail

Dr. Maureen Martin, director of the DuBard School for Language Disorders at The University of Southern Mississippi recently released a new textbook that expands upon the multisensory teaching methods that the school has used to educate students with severe communication disorders for 50 years.

College of Health Alumni Spotlight

Ms. Mary Ann Mach, ’56, ’65, ’73

The College of Health alumni spotlight for June, 2012 is awarded to Ms. Mary Ann Mach. Ms. Mach is a speech-language-pathologist for Nativity BVM School and Our Lady of Fatima Elementary School in Biloxi, MS, and graduated from The University of Southern Mississippi with three degrees: a B.S. in 1956 and M.S. in 1965 from the Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences, and an EdS in 1973 from the Department of Curriculum and Special Instruction. Ms. Mach holds leadership roles with the Mississippi Speech-Language-Hearing Association and was awarded its 2012 Frank R. Kleffner Lifetime Clinical Career Award for advancement of knowledge in clinical practice in speech-language pathology and audiology. Ms. Mach has many years of leadership and service in the field of speech pathology.
Southern Miss Nutrition and Food Systems
Students Receive Awards
By Ryan Kelly

The University of Southern Mississippi Department of Nutrition and Food Systems recently had several undergraduate and graduate students receive awards for their academic and research accomplishments.

Rebecca Masters received two awards at the Southern Miss Undergraduate Research Conference, including Best Paper Dealing with an Issue of Race/Ethnicity and 2nd Place Paper Dealing with an Issue of Public Policy. Masters also received the Higher Education Appreciation Day Working for Academic Excellence (HEADWADE) award and was inducted into the student Hall of Fame.

Rachel Abadie received the Yarbrough Award at the Southern Miss Graduate Student Research Symposium for her paper on Glove Composition and Usage: Determining Ways to Manage Costs Without Sacrificing Food Safety.

Four nutrition graduate students had abstract papers accepted for presentation at the National Food and Nutrition Conference and Expo of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, which was held in March of 2012 in Philadelphia, PA. Those students included Lita Amos, Rachel Abadie, Eric Sedotol, and Katie Newton.

Simulation Study Helps Prepare Southern Miss Nursing Students
By Van Arnold

For University of Southern Mississippi nursing student Kara Scott, simulation exercises provide the next-best-thing to actual patient care.

“As students we don’t get to do things like call physicians or administer IV push medications,” said Scott, a junior from Slidell, La. “But with the simulation training, we get to experience those kinds of scenarios. It allows us to be involved in decision making and delegating different procedures.”

Scott and 82 other School of Nursing classmates are participating in a national study funded by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) to examine the use of simulation in nursing education. The two-year study, which includes a $300,000 grant, began with the 2011 fall semester.

Dr. Kathleen Masters, associate professor and associate director of the Southern Miss School of Nursing, serves as the project’s team leader. In that role, Masters is primarily responsible for scheduling, data collection and working with clinical faculty to match the simulation scenarios with the course curriculum.

Other team members from the School of Nursing include Dr. Cathy Hughes, Dr. Elizabeth Holman, Becky Newton and Jill Rushing. This group oversees the simulation scenarios and conducts debriefing sessions with students.

DuBard School, Children’s Center Hold Graduation Ceremonies
Photo by: Dianne Coleman

The DuBard School of Language Disorders and the Children’s Center for Communication and Development held graduation/transition ceremonies on Friday, May 18th at The University of Southern Mississippi.

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