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!

May, 2011

Dr. Michael Forrester, Dean of the College of Health, addresses an audience of more than 100 health care professionals at the Mississippi Health Summit. Photo by Kiley Dunn.

College of Health Hosts Mississippi Health Summit

Is improved collaboration the cure for Mississippi’s health outcome woes? This is what attendees concluded at the First Mississippi Health Summit, held on Friday, April 29 at the Trust Nort National Center on the Hattiesburg campus. Hosted and co-sponsored by the Southern Miss College of Health, the Mississippi Health Summit was a gathering of more than 100 of the state’s top health care leaders in order to collaborate on opportunities to improve Mississippi’s health.

Three panels (workforce, research, and economic development) addressed possible ways to improve the state’s current health status, and all speakers concluded that working together is the best way to use our resources. Topics for the event ranged from obesity policy and smoking bans to the economic impact that health care has in the state. The event featured three breakfast sessions, where attendees worked together to find ways to improve partnerships and use resources more efficiently. Although the group gave Mississippi’s health a failing grade, they were optimistic about many currently successful programs. A high-definition video of the Summit will be made available for public view in the coming weeks.

The Summit was sponsored by The University of Mississippi Medical Center, The University of Southern Mississippi, Forrest General Hospital, the Mississippi Hospital Association, and the Mississippi Public Health Association.

Nutrition Makes an Impact

The Department of Nutrition and Food Systems in the Southern Miss College of Health may be small in size, but its impact is substantial. The department produces more than $2 million in external research on an annual basis, and performs educational and community outreach through H.U.B. City Steps as well as the Delta Obesity Prevention Research Unit.

Due to this success, several faculty members in the department have taken home recent college and university awards. Dr. Kathy Yadaick, department chair, recently received the prestigious Distinguished Professor of the Year award at the Southern Miss Foundation’s Day Celebration. Elaine McClain was elected Chair-elect of the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education for the ADA, and Mary Beall won a recent grant competition of the Committee on Services and Resources for Women. Several faculty also received college-based awards, which are listed on page 2.

College of Health Alumni Spotlight

Jackie D. Bailey, ’72

Jackie is the founder and CEO of P.B. Health Home Care Agency, Inc. in Baltimore, Maryland. A Southern Miss nursing graduate, Jackie continued education at Towson State University and Hopkins University. She has received multiple awards and recognitions, including the Greater Baltimore Committee Bading The Gap Achievement Award in ’10, and the Black Nurses Association Nursing Pathfinder Award in ’97.
Sister Carmelita Stinn Receives Alumni Award

The 2011 College of Health Distinguished Alumna of the Year is Sister Carmelita Stinn. A 1977 graduate of the Southern Miss School of Social Work, Sister Stinn makes a difference in the lives of many every day through her work with the Christian Community Order. Sister Stinn is formally of the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Spirit, and worked for Ellisville State School for 16 years. She has been involved with teaching and case management, and has served on multiple committees to assist children and those with mental health challenges. She was named the recipient of the Southern Miss Social Work Pioneer Award in 2010 and was recently presented the National Association of Social Workers Mississippi Chapter's Lifetime Achievement Award.

Southern Miss to Offer USA Weightlifting Certificate Course May 21-22

The University of Southern Mississippi School of Human Performance & Recreation, in conjunction with the Department of Athletics, will host USA Weightlifting's Level 1 sports performance coach certificate course May 21-22 on the Hattiesburg campus.

Considered the "gold standard" of Olympic weightlifting certifications, course participants will learn the two fundamental lifts — "snatch" and "clean and jerk" — as well as supplemental exercises. This makes the first time Southern Miss has offered a course of this kind.

Medical Technology Has Perfect Pass Rate

Continuing a tradition of academic excellence, the Department of Medical Technology recently announced a 100% first time student pass rate on the American Society for Clinical Pathology examination. Nineteen students took this exam in 2011.

Nursing Alumni Society Recruits New Graduates

Among the many commencement celebrations that will take place this week at the Nursing Commencement Reception and Ceremony. At this event, alumni from the School of Nursing will recruit new members for their active alumni group. If you would like to join the Nursing Alumni Society, e-mail us at health@usm.edu.

College of Health 2011 Award Recipients/Retirees

The following received awards at the 2011 College of Health's 2011 Awards of Excellence and Retirement Reception on April 14:

- Cynthia Weaver, Social Work
- Emerging Scholar Award
- Elaine Mohrman, Nutrition
- Distinguished Researcher Award
- Kathy Yadick, Nutrition
- Outstanding Faculty Service Award
- Rowena Elliot, Nursing
- Distinguished Mentor Award
- Ashley Albright, Community Health
- Outstanding Professional Staff Award
- Sabrina Bryant, Medical Technology
- Distinguished Teaching Award
- Martha Reavy, Nutrition
- Spirit Award
- Karen Adrees, Social Work
- Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award
- Karen Zynda, Nutrition
- Distinguished Office Professional Award
- Lames Dowsey, Community Health
- B.D. Kenna, Sr. Award

The Southern Miss College of Health will have several retirements in 2011. These include the following:

- Susan Hubble-Burchell
  Associate Dean / Associate Professor, Human Performance and Recreation
- Susan Graham-Krege
  Instructor, Community Health
- Jane Hudson
  Chair and Professor, Medical Technology
- Kay Lundy
  Professor, Nursing
- Mary Sourfield
  Professor, Social Work
- Henry Teller
  Professor, Speech and Hearing Sciences

These individuals were honored and received a College and University gift during reception.