Holcomb Named Director of Athletic Training Education Program
By Ryan Kelly

Dr. Bill Holcomb will serve as the new director of Athletic Training Education Program in the School of Human Performance and Recreation in the College of Health at The University of Southern Mississippi.

Holcomb brings a wealth of experience, having previously served as a faculty member for San Jose State, the University of Nevada Las Vegas and the University of North Florida. Although he has only been a faculty member at Southern Miss for a short while, Holcomb is already strategically planning a curriculum that will include evidence-based research in addition to competencies in real life situations for students to learn.

Nutrition and Food Systems Participate in State’s First Farm to School Week
By Traci L. Breland

The University of Southern Mississippi’s Department of Food and Nutrition Systems participated in the first Mississippi Farm to School Week in collaboration with Stone County’s Child Nutrition Director Myra Rayburn.

Rayburn, along with Southern Miss assistant professor Dr. Alicia Landry and graduate student Kelsey Lingsch, designed a menu for the students of Stone County School District. The locally grown menu included products from Indian Springs Farmers’ Cooperative of Petal, Miss., Blue Tara Organic Blueberry Farm in Poplarville, Miss., and Eubanks Produce Farms in Lucedale, Miss.

“As a department, our mission is to prepare students for careers as dietetic professionals who will enhance the quality of life for individuals, groups, families, organizations, and communities in the state, region, and nation,” said Landry.

College of Health Alumni Spotlight
Mr. Chris Oubre, MPH, ’12

Chris Oubre graduated in May 2012 from the Southern Miss Executive Master of Public Health program in the Department of Community Health Sciences. Chris is originally from Southeast Texas, where he received a B.S. in Computer Science from Lamar University, Beaumont. Chris has been working in health care Information Systems industry for more than twenty years. In November, he accepted the Executive Director of Information Services position at Delta Regional Medical Center in Greenville, MS.
Southern Miss School of Social Work Prepares for Fall Colloquium

By Van Arnold

The University of Southern Mississippi School of Social Work will sponsor its Fall Colloquium -- “New Directions in Trauma Treatment: Implications for Social Work Policy and Practice” on Friday, Nov. 16 at the Thad Cochran Center on the Hattiesburg campus. The colloquium is set to run from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and has been approved for 4.5 continuing education hours. Registration is $35, which includes lunch and the CE hours. The cost is $10 (and includes lunch) for Southern Miss Social Work students.

Daughter of Southern Miss Professor Wins Miss Mississippi USA Title

Paromita Mitra was crowned Miss Mississippi USA 2013 during the annual pageant held Nov. 3rd in Tunica, Miss. Paromita is the daughter of Community Health Sciences Professor, Amal Mitra.

Southern Miss Professor Receives Distinguished Research Award

By Traci L. Breland

Dr. Mary Frances Nettles, director of the National Food Service Management Institute at The University of Southern Mississippi, has been awarded Kansas State University’s 2012 College of Human Ecology Distinguished Research Award.

The award annually recognizes a Kansas State University graduate of Human Ecology who has achieved significant success in research while contributing to the well-being of individuals, families, and communities.

“This award is well-deserved recognition for the timely, important and continuing contributions Dr. Nettles makes to child nutrition related research,” said Dr. Michael Forster, dean of the College of Health at Southern Miss.

MPH Graduate Radican-Wald Earns National Position, Receives Award

By: Ryan Kelly

Amy Radican-Wald, a 2002 graduate of The University of Southern Mississippi Master of Public Health program in the Department of Community Health Sciences, was elected as the Mississippi delegate to the American Public Health Association’s (APHA) Governing Council by the Mississippi Public Health Association (MPHA) during the association’s annual conference in Philadelphia, Miss., last month.

The APHA Governing Council Representative’s term of service is four consecutive years. In this role, Radican-Wald will represent the state affiliate when casting votes on policies brought forth for consideration during the American Public Health Association’s annual conference, which is set to take place in San Francisco later this month.

Examples of this work include starting the first call for student abstracts and awards to present at the MPHA annual meeting and the development of the first paid student public health policy internship position sponsored by the MPHA.

Master of Public Health Students Earn Awards at MPHA Annual Conference

By Ryan Kelly

Adina Manning and Kristen Lockhart, both Master of Public Health students at The University of Southern Mississippi, were selected as top abstracts and awarded scholarships by the Mississippi Public Health Association (MPHA) in order to attend and present at the association’s annual conference in Philadelphia, Miss., last month.

Examples of this work include starting the first call for student abstracts and awards to present at the MPHA annual meeting and the development of the first paid student public health policy internship position sponsored by the MPHA.

Mitra to Represent Southern Miss at HEADWAE Appreciation Day

Dr. Amal Mitra, Community Health Sciences Professor, was selected by the University HEADWAE review committee to represent Southern Miss at the HEADWAE student and faculty Appreciation Day in Jackson, MS. The event is scheduled for February 2013.