

# College of Health Sciences Newsletter

Volume 4, Issue 3

Dear Alumni and Friends of the College,

The numerous responses we have received inform us that our College of Health Sciences Alumni Newsletter is valuable to stay connected with you. I invite you to read about some of our alumni achievements and how your classmates have become engaged with our current students. Please continue to send us your stories. Inside this issue you will note how the Center for Global Health continues to develop and underscores research, academic and community impact. The Center encourages interdisciplinary collaboration to identify challenges and solutions from a variety of perspectives, ensuring greater benefit to the community. Our collaborations locally and globally are extremely rewarding and our opportunities are multiplying. Interprofessional Education was the focus of the annual fall retreat where the Health Sciences faculty generated new initiatives for interdisciplinarity in our teaching and civic engagement. During Dental Hygiene Month we celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of dental hygiene!



This time of year brings students recognitions and scholarship awards. Commencement is a special time on campus. For many of our graduates, their dream of becoming a health professional would not be realized without your support of student scholarships and other initiatives. There are several ways to make a gift. <http://www.odu.edu/about/support-odu/how-to-give/dominionfund/college-annual-fund>

Please support your alma mater today!

I am thankful for the accomplishments of the alumni, students, faculty and staff and truly cherish Old Dominion University and the College of Health Sciences!

Happy Holidays!

Assistant Dean

## Upcoming Event:

### Continuing Dental Hygiene Education Winter Weekend

**February 21-23, 2014**

Sheraton Oceanfront Hotel,  
Virginia Beach, VA.

[Click here for more info.](#)



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Please send your stories to [tsmith@odu.edu](mailto:tsmith@odu.edu) by December 6, 2014. December's theme is CoHS Anniversary Celebration, IPEC, Staff Member Achievements.

## Alumni News

- Dr. Holly (Beard) Holzen, a 2007 graduate of the Health Services Research Doctoral Program at ODU has been awarded a 3 year, \$460,000 MacArthur Foundation grant titled "A Multistate Study of Economic and Housing Impacts of Foreclosure Prevention Programs". This is one of six grants funded around the country as part of the Foundation's initiative to 'explore if and how having quality, stable, affordable housing promotes positive outcomes in education, employment, and physical health, among other areas'. Dr. Holzen is currently Director of Research and Strategic Planning for the Ohio Housing Finance Agency and prior to this position completed postdoctoral training at the Sealy Center for Aging at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. Her doctoral dissertation was supervised by Dr. Jim Neff, Professor of Community and Environmental Health in the College of Health Sciences.



- ODU Alumna Susan Tanner, RN, BSN, MSN, has accepted the position of Administrative Director of RHS Patient Care Operations, Riverside Health System. Susan brings tremendous knowledge and expertise to the work being done in the interest of patient care operations. Susan has her Associate in Applied Science in Nursing from TCC/Eastern Shore Community College, her **Bachelors' Degree in Nursing from Old Dominion University** and her Masters' Degree in Nursing from the University of Maryland, with a specialty in Nursing Informatics. She has experience not only as a staff nurse on medical surgical, but served as the Nurse Manager of the Med-Surg Telemetry Unit at Riverside Shore Memorial Hospital, being responsible for all patient care operations of the unit. She has maintained her clinical focus while serving as a nursing supervisor for off shifts working with staff nurses and has remained engaged with clinical practice working with nursing staff in her nursing clinical analyst position. Susan is very excited about this opportunity and looks forward to working with all disciplines in our efforts to improve care of the patient by leveraging technology with evidenced based practice.

## Alumni Speak: Principles of Public Health (CHP 200)

On October 23, 2013 the students in the **Principles of Public Health** course has two guest lecturers, Mrs. Rosalind Johnson, MPA and Ms. Michelle Burnette, MPH.

Ms. Johnson is the Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Program Supervisor with the Norfolk Department of Public Health and manages surveillance, investigation and prevention of STIs and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) infections in the Norfolk district. She also oversees the operations of the STI clinic and coordinates service delivery with district clinicians and public health nurses.

Mrs. Johnson graduated from Troy University with a Masters of Public Administration and earned two Bachelor of Science degrees (Human Services Counseling and Psychology) from Old Dominion University.

Ms. Michelle Burnette, MPH is a District Epidemiologist with the Norfolk Department of Public Health spoke about the responsibilities of an Epidemiologist to the Public Health Morbidity and Mortality Prevention Approach. She also discussed the three major types of Surveillance Systems to include Passive, Active and Special Event/Enhanced; Virginia Reportable Disease List and the 20th Century's Top Ten List of Public Health Improvement.

Ms. Burnette has been a District Epidemiologist for 11 years. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Environmental Health with a minor in Chemistry from Old Dominion University. In 1999, she graduated with the first cohort of students from the joint Eastern Virginia Medical School/Old Dominion University Master of Public Health program.



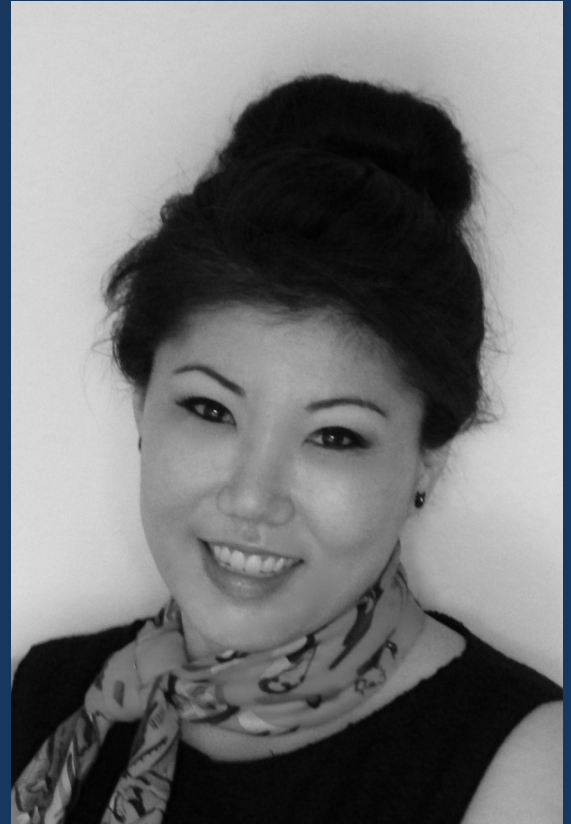
Due to the sensitive nature of her position and her safety, a photo of Mrs. Johnson is usually not available.

## Outstanding ODU School of Dental Hygiene Alumna, Dr. Juliana Kim, Honored at Annual Event

At the 2013 Alumni Honors Dinner on Thursday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, Old Dominion conferred awards on eight graduates and two honorary alumni who are "stellar examples of success achieved by way of the path less traveled," as President John R. Broderick noted in his opening remarks.

Broderick's statement referenced the great industrialist John D. Rockefeller. In introducing the program's four categories of awards, the president added: "The spirit of entrepreneurship and leadership runs deep among our honored class. Although they've each made their mark in a different field ... they share in common a commitment to help others and a passion for forging new paths."

Dr. Juliana J. Kim, alumna from ODU's Dental Hygiene program, was one of the graduates honored at the annual dinner. Dr. Kim received her B.S. and M.S. degrees in 1993 and 1995. Later, she was a visiting scholar at Boston University, and in 2008, she received an M.B.A. at INSEAD through a partnership with the University of Pennsylvania, The Wharton School. In 2009, she was the first dental hygienist to earn a Ph.D. in the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of British Columbia. In 2012, ODU named her the Outstanding Dental Hygiene Alumna.



Dr. Kim is currently working as a consultant for the pharmaceuticals and health care industries and serving on the Dean's Advisory Board at the Harvard School of Dental Medicine. Her career has focused largely in the dental industry where she held senior roles at multinational companies such as GlaxoSmithKline, Philips, Nobel Biocare AG, and Sunstar. She has global experience developing marketing and communication strategies to support scientific products and platforms.

Kim established the RDH Magazine/Philip's Mentor of the Year Award and has volunteered her own time and expertise in mentoring students and serving medical and dental missions to Haiti and the Dominican Republic. She also helped in forensic identification of the victims of the September 11, 2001 World Trade Center disaster.

"Dean Shelley Mishoe recommended her for this distinction saying "Dr. Kim is an accomplished scientist and business leader in the oral health industry who has global impact through her work in senior level positions with notable companies. We are honored to have her as one of our alumni who has soared to such heights in her career, but never lost touch with her alma mater."

## ODU Dental Hygiene Program Is State of the Art and Service-Learning Focused

When was the last time you visited a dental hygienist?

If the answer to that question has you scratching your head, Old Dominion University has a convenient solution.

The Sofia and David Konikoff Dental Hygiene Care Facility, located in ODU's Health Sciences Building on 46th Street at the intersection of Hampton Boulevard, offers comprehensive dental hygiene services from late August to June. ODU students, faculty and staff are welcome, along with members of the local community.

And, with this year marking the 100th anniversary of the opening of the nation's first formal school for training dental hygienists, there is no better time to get acquainted with the students and faculty from the Gene W.

Hirschfeld School of Dental Hygiene who staff the clinic.

In 1913 the first formal school for "dental hygienists" opened with a strong emphasis on the concept of preventive care. Dr. Alfred Fones, the first dental hygiene educator, envisioned dental hygienists as outreach workers, treating people outside of the private dental office. In fact, in the early years, the dental hygienist was employed predominantly in public health settings and in school-based programs.

The ODU clinic logs about 6,000 patient visits each year. Students in the School of Dental Hygiene also visit schools, public health centers and senior citizen homes as part of the community engagement and service-learning portion of the degree program.

The services provided at the clinic not only help maintain good oral hygiene, but also identify potentially dangerous threats to general health.

"The mouth is the portal of entry, and site of disease, for microbial infections that affect general health," said Lynn Tolle, ODU University Professor of dental hygiene and director of clinical affairs. "Oral disease places a burden on our society in the form of lost days and years of productivity. A clean mouth is the first line of defense in a healthy body." Tolle cited increased risk of heart disease, stroke, obesity, respiratory disease and pre-term low birth weight delivery as conditions that can be linked to periodontal disease. In the century since the profession emerged, the roles of the dental hygienist have expanded to that of clinician, educator, advocate, administrator and researcher.

"Ongoing research linking oral health and general health will continue to spur the demand for preventative dental services, which are often provided by dental hygienists," the bureau's analysis states.

Currently, nearly 90 students attend undergraduate classes at the school; another 25 are in the master's program; and 40 more two-year degree holders are participating in a degree completion program.



Dental hygiene student Jackie Harrison ('14) works on a patient under the supervision of faculty lecturer Denise Claiborne (BSDH '10, MS '11) at the Sofia and David Konikoff Dental

For more information about degree programs or the clinic, visit the [School of Dental Hygiene website](#).

## Nurse Anesthesia Open House

It was with great pride that we showcased our excellent Nurse Anesthesia Program in its new location at the Virginia Beach Higher Education Center on November 18<sup>th</sup>. The open house was attended by students, faculty, alumni and friends of the School of Nursing. The Nurse Anesthesia Program admits 12-15 students each year and currently has a total of 41 students in the program. The curriculum focuses on a combination of classwork, performance in a simulated environment, and clinical experiences (apprenticeships at hospitals and clinics). Over a 28 month period, the program produces Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) who have a strong understanding of how drugs work at the cellular level and how the body organs perform while under anesthetics.



The new, high-tech, operating room/anesthetizing suite simulation lab at the Center not only enriches the hands-on educational opportunities for our students but also increases the value of their education. The simulator exposes students to high criticality/low frequency events. Prepared with information on the patient's background (allergies, previous medical history and the proposed medical procedure), students encounter SimMan, the high-fidelity human simulation mannequin. Carrying out a clinical scenario, they are able to practice the administration of simulated anesthetic drugs that the mannequin identifies and reacts to in the same way a real patient would. The students must then make sure that the patient goes to sleep safely and is awakened safely. SimMan can speak, cry, cough, sweat, bleed, convulse, breathe, simulate cardiac arrest and airway obstruction. This \$88,000 high fidelity human simulator is currently being used in conjunction with the \$40,000 Art Drager Fabius Tiro anesthesia machine. Both of these pieces of equipment allow us to ensure that our students are being trained properly and with state-of-the-art technology.

The Nurse Anesthesia Program is dedicated to graduating a small cadre of highly qualified CRNAs to take care of patients both in the Hampton Roads community and worldwide. In 2012, the Nurse Anesthesia Fund was created to ensure the continuing success of our nursing students by defraying the costs of out-rotations and helping students attend professional meetings. If you are interested in making a gift to support the Nurse Anesthesia program (Fund 241917), please visit [www.odu.edu/efgive](http://www.odu.edu/efgive) or contact Manisha Harrell at [m1sharma@odu.edu](mailto:m1sharma@odu.edu) or 757-683-4313.



Guests viewing live video feed of simulation demonstration. (l-r) Judy Weiss, Occupational Safety and Health Manager (City of Virginia Beach); Barbara Henley, Director of Planned Giving (ODU); Sara Moss, Nurse Anesthesia Student; Jim Spore, Virginia Beach City Manager and a prospective student.

## ODU Center for Global Health Hosts Two Events during International Education Week



(l-r) Muge Akpinar-Elci, Gail Grisetti, Mary Kwasniewski, Kimberly Adams-Tufts

The Old Dominion University Center for Global Health celebrated International Education Week, Nov. 11-19, with programs focusing on the need to address public health issues at home and abroad.

International Education Week is a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education. The purpose of International Education Week is to celebrate the benefits of international education, student exchange and global relations.

Included in a week of events, sponsored by Student Engagement and Enrollment Services' Office of Intercultural Relations, the Center for Global Health held two events. As an introduction to both programs, Rachawan Wongtrirat, assistant director of international initiatives for the Office of Intercultural Relations, gave welcoming remarks highlighting the importance of International Education Week, global learning and collaboration.

On Wednesday, Nov. 13, an expert panel examined "Global Health Education at Old Dominion University" and existing opportunities for students to become involved in civic learning experiences. Muge Akpinar-Elci, director of the Center for Global Health, provided remarks that introduced the ODU center's mission and vision.

"Global Health shows us the big picture," she said. "Mistakenly, people assume that the target of 'global health' mainly involves problems in the developing world. However, diseases and health problems do not recognize borders. All countries need to learn from the experiences of other countries."

Akpinar-Elci also noted that raising awareness and education are essential to addressing global health problems. After her talk, Kimberly Adams-Tufts, from the ODU School of Nursing, presented "Nursing Students' Involvement in Global Health" and Gail Grisetti, from the ODU School of Physical Therapy and Athletic Training, presented "Physical Therapy Students' Involvement in Global Health."

Following the presentations, a discussion panel featured ODU faculty members, including Akpinar-Elci, Adams-Tufts and Grisetti, along with Mary Kwasniewski, senior program director for the local nonprofit organization Physicians of Peace, who discussed global health and global health education's importance. Current student and faculty involvement opportunities on global health were examined on campus, regional and global levels. Students from the School of Nursing also intensively participated in the discussion.



(l-r) Muge Akpinar-Elci, Angelo Maker, Robert L. Parsons, Benjamin Keyes, Gail Grisetti

On Thursday, Nov. 14, the Center for Global Health presented a second event, titled “South Sudan,” which focused on current initiatives in South Sudan to support and offer solutions to the existing infrastructure problems in the newly formed nation. This event was the result of collaboration between the Center for Global Health and local nonprofit organization, Abukloi.

Angelo Maker, an ODU graduate and founder of Abukloi, is one of 3,000 orphans called the Lost Boys of Sudan, who were brought to this country by the U.S. government in 2001. Maker’s village was attacked during a 1983 civil war in Southern Sudan – a war that claimed more than 2 million lives. When he was 7 years old, Maker watched as his mother and two brothers were brutally murdered.

During the ODU program, Akpinar-Elci introduced the global health center’s mission and stressed that she was happy to collaborate with an ODU alumni-led organization. She also briefly talked about current public health issues affecting South Sudan. Program highlights included the presentation of a movie produced by Gary E. Gillam that featured Abukloi’s ongoing efforts to support the growth of South Sudan. Following the film, a panel discussion included Benjamin Keyes, of Regent University; Maker and Robert L. Parsons, of Abukloi; and Grisetti. The panel discussed the needs of South Sudan and future plans for collaboration.

“On behalf of the Abukloi board of directors and the people of South Sudan, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Center for Global Health at Old Dominion University,” Maker said. “Special appreciation goes to (College of Health Sciences) Dean Shelley Mishoe and director of the Center for Global Health Muge Akpinar-Elci for their interest. This collaboration between the Center for Global Health at Old Dominion University and Abukloi is a special milestone to bring change to the newest nation on earth.”

Maker encouraged ODU students, alumni, faculty, staff and others in the broader community to join the Center for Global Health and Abukloi to help make a difference in South Sudan. Akpinar-Elci is working diligently to establish connections that will support the goals that Maker has identified for the continued growth of South Sudan.



(l-r) Gail Grisetti, Shelley Mishoe, Muge Akpinar-Elci, Benjamin Keyes, Angelo Maker, Robert Parsons.

## Health Sciences Events



On October 18, 2013, the Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC) Task Force and the College of Health Sciences held a faculty retreat, more than 70% of the college full-time faculty were present to discuss ways to prepare health and public health students for working in today's interprofessional environments demonstrating the four core competencies. Members of the IPEC Task force are: (l-r) Joanna Bobzien, Rebecca Poston (Chair), Richardean Benjamin (Admin Support), Gianluca DeLeo, Jim Blando, Denise Claiborne, Karen Kott (not shown) and Gail Grisetti (not shown).



Medical technology student scholarship recipient Jenny Mazac with Dean Shelley Mishoe at the ODU annual student scholarship luncheon.



• Since 1975, Alpha Eta National Honor Society has been the national organization devoted to promoting scholarship and service among allied health professionals. Over 22,000 members have been initiated in over 75 chapters since the charter was established. On November 5, the Old Dominion University chapter held its annual meeting and induction ceremony. President Lynn Tolle, Secretary Karen Kott and school chairs inducted this year's honorees:

\* **Community and Environmental Health**

- ◇ Zachary Hargis
- ◇ Mike Brown, MS

\* **Cytotechnology**

- ◇ Stacey L. Eaton
- ◇ Pamela Hilke-Faculty

\* **Dental Hygiene**

- ◇ Carmelo Padrino-Barrios, MS
- ◇ Jessica R. Suedbeck
- ◇ Gail M. Stone
- ◇ Angela M. Wood
- ◇ Karen A. Rose
- ◇ Alice C. Trail

\* **Medical Technology**

- ◇ Jennifer Bitzer
- ◇ Christy Bronaugh

\* **Nuclear Medicine**

- ◇ Sara H. McLaren

\* **Physical Therapy**

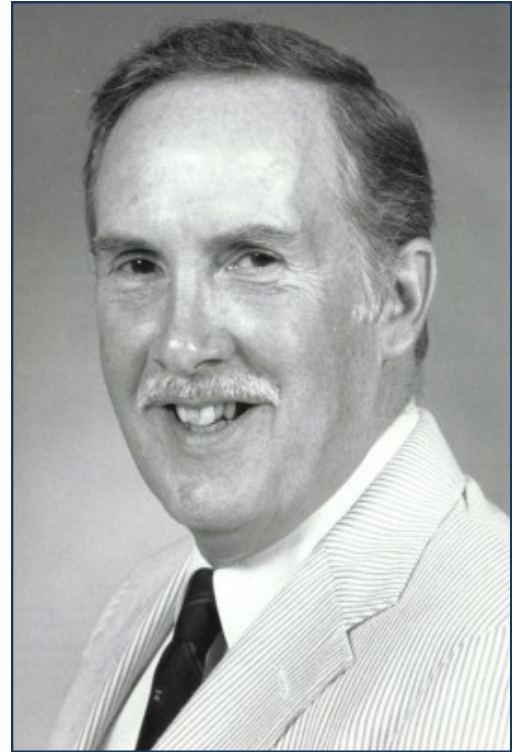
- ◇ Michelle Dorris
- ◇ Chelsea Moore
- ◇ Kateri Rupnarine
- ◇ Marin Shekitka
- ◇ Rachel West



Nursing student scholarship recipients with Chair, Karen Karlowicz and Dean, Shelley Mishoe at the ODU annual student scholarship luncheon.

## ODU Physical Therapy Program Founder John Echternach Remembered

John "Jack" Echternach, founder of the Old Dominion University physical therapy program, died Thursday, July 11, at his mountain home near Roanoke, Va. Echternach is survived by his wife of 56 years, Jeanne, and several other family members including his daughter Catherine Lyn. A memorial service was held Sunday, July 14, at Boones Mill Christian Church, followed by inurnment in the church's columbarium. Echternach, 81, was a professor and Eminent Scholar Emeritus at ODU, where he served on the faculty from 1978 to 2005. During his time at the university, he was chair of the School of Community Health and Physical Therapy. In 1991, he was awarded the Eminent Scholar designation in recognition of his distinction as a teacher-scholar and his many contributions to the university. Even after his retirement in 2005, Echternach remained significantly involved with the College of Health Sciences. Shelley Mishoe, dean of the College of Health Sciences, said Echternach was a leader in physical therapy and allied health education. "We share in the school and profession's sadness on his death," she said. A memorial service will be held during the School of Physical Therapy's annual alumni weekend, Sept. 21-22. George Maihafer, associate professor and graduate program director of the School of Physical Therapy, said Echternach admitted ODU's first class of 24 students, and during his time on the faculty, physical therapy grew from a bachelor's degree to a master's program, eventually transitioning to the current doctoral program that accepts 45 students annually. "Not only was Jack respected by over 400 physical therapists who graduated from this program (since its inception), he was chairman of the School of Community Health and Physical Therapy in the College of Health Sciences and, as an active faculty member in the Ph.D. in health services research degree, was responsible for many doctoral candidates' research," Maihafer said. "Jack will be dearly missed by the Old Dominion University physical therapy community with many of us owing our careers to his guidance and dedication to excellence." Nationally, Echternach received numerous awards and recognitions from the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), including the Lucy Blair Service Award, the Golden Pen Research award and induction as a Catherine Worthington Fellow of the APTA. Earlier this year, Echternach received the first Lifetime Achievement award from the Virginia Physical Therapy Association. In addition to his work at ODU, Echternach was an adjunct professor in the Nova Southeastern University physical therapy Ph.D. program. Prior to joining the ODU faculty, Echternach retired, with the rank of captain, from the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS). During a 24-year career with that agency, he served as a staff therapist, chief of a hospital department and officer in charge of Physical and Occupational Therapy Activities in the Division of Hospitals and Clinics of the USPHS. Echternach held a bachelor's degree in health and physical education from West Chester University, a Certificate of Physical Therapy from the University of Pennsylvania, a master's in anatomy from the University of Maryland and a Doctor of Education in higher education/administration degree from the College of William & Mary.



If you are interested in making a gift to support the Echternach Scholarship (Fund 281916), please visit [www.odu.edu/efgive](http://www.odu.edu/efgive) or contact Manisha Harrell at [mlsharma@odu.edu](mailto:mlsharma@odu.edu) or (757) 683-4313.

## Upcoming Event's

### November

- 27 University Closes at Noon
- 28-29 Thanksgiving Holiday-University Closed

### December

- 5 COHS Holiday Luncheon Celebration, 11:30 am-1:00 pm  
Location: Ted Convocation Center, Big Blue Room
- 6 Classes End
- 7-13 Final Exams
- 14 Fall Commencement  
Location: Ted Convocation Center
- 18 University Holiday Party, 3:30 pm  
Location: Webb Center
- 24-Jan 1 University Closed



Dr. Scott Sechrist, Program  
Director, Nuclear Medicine  
Technology.



Jane Plummer-Washington,  
Administrative Assistant,  
School of Dental Hygiene



(l-r) Assistant Dean Debbie Bauman,  
Tammie Smith, Web Designer and  
Dean Shelley Mishoe