



Mock emergency

Nursing students practice disaster situations through mass casualty exercise in sim lab

Under the guidance of Professor Lynn Wiles, with the School of Nursing, students were briefed on a mass casualty scenario and were assigned different roles in handling the disaster. Wiles and the students convened after the exercise to discuss approaches, practices, and strategies.

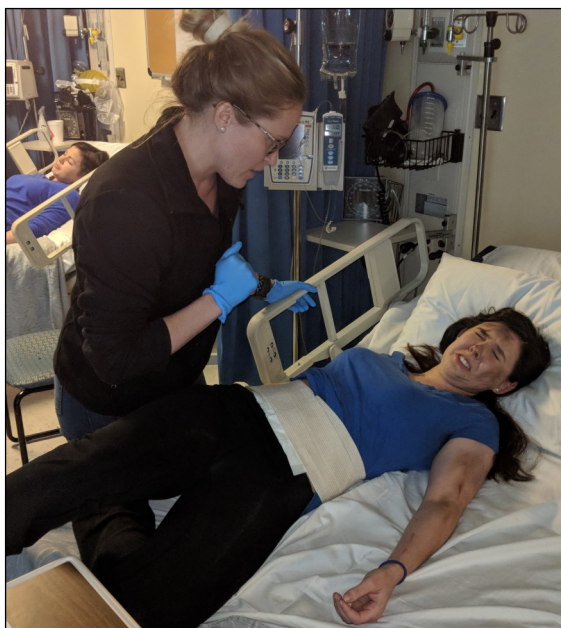


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Dean's Message: Interim Dean Richardean Benjamin

Our legacy of good work continues

As another academic year comes to a close, we have much to celebrate. The awards and recognitions were impressive as always – another indication of the good work we are doing.

Students and faculty were recognized for outstanding accomplishments. Faculty recognized for years of service included Gayle McCombs (20 years), Lynn Tolle (35 years) and C. Thomas Somma (40 years). Other award recipients included Bonnie Van Lunen, SCHEV Virginia Outstanding Faculty Award nominee; Kimberly Adams Tufts, A. Rufus Tonelson Award nominee and Entsminger Fellow; Leanne White, National Advising Administrator of the Year; and Jamela Martin, who received the Provost's Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Research Faculty Mentor. Additionally, the School of Nursing received the Pillars of Promise: Transform Award from the Southeastern Virginia Foodbank.

Our college award recipients included:

- Outstanding Staff: Kari Leporatti and Tammie Smith
- Outstanding Adjunct Teaching: Angela Wilson
- Outstanding Faculty Teaching: Tara Newcomb and Amy Lee
- Outstanding Technology Teaching: Tina Haney

This year's Alumni Award went to Carter Ficklen III, the program manager for Mission Technologies, Inc., at NASA Langley Research Center (page 6). The College acknowledged student achievements including Phi Kappa Phi inductees, military commissioning and the student with the highest academic achievement went to Adaira Howell, a dental hygiene major.

The College boasts nearly 400 spring graduates from the five schools that included about 80 doctoral degrees. As students prepare to transition to another phase of their professional journey, faculty will make transitions as well. Retiring this year are two individuals who shared considerable talents with the College; Dr. C. Thomas Somma and Professor Gayle McCombs both have provided a combined total of more than 60 years of service to the university. We thank them for their service and wish them well moving forward. I too will transition out of my role as interim dean of the college effective June 9. It has been a pleasure serving as the dean for the past 18 months. I am wishing a happy summer to everyone, and look forward to returning in the fall to start another fantastic year.



Richardean Benjamin

Best wishes,

Richardean Benjamin, MPH, Ph.D.

From the Editor: Coordinator of Strategy & Marketing Irvin B. Harrell

Staying the course pays off in 2018

It didn't really hit me until the Advanced Degree Luncheon on May 3, the day before graduation. It was there that I realized the gravity of my accomplishment. I would be getting a master's degree!

When I received my bachelors in 1989, I landed my first job two days later and swore to myself that I would go back to school at some point. Some point would be a journey. Fourteen jobs in the journalism business and life seemed to get in the way. But I wouldn't forget the promise I made to myself.

And the promise came true. My only wish was that my father could have been around to see it. I know he always believed in me and I believe he was there in spirit. I did it! First in my family not only to get a bachelor's degree, but now a master's degree.

I had a lot of people believing in me when I started down the road to pursue my master's. Many of them are my colleagues here at the College of Health Sciences. Family, friends and acquaintances. Too many to name. But thank you all for your support, and who knows, maybe one day you'll be calling me Dr. Harrell.



Seminar on Bioterrorism



Carole G. Carter, MLS(ASCP), the Sentinel Lab Liaison and Bioterrorism Training Coordinator in the Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services in Richmond, Va., conducted a bioterrorism seminar at the College of Health Sciences on April 9.

SCHOOL OF MEDICAL DIAGNOSTIC & TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCES

Students attend clinical lab science meeting in Richmond

In mid-April, the students of the Medical Technology (soon to be Medical Laboratory Science) Program attended the annual meeting organized by the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science-Virginia. The meeting was held at Larrick Student Center at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. The meeting kicked off the National Medical Laboratory Professional Week which was celebrated April 22-28.

Every unit counts

The Annual Blood Drive sponsored by Medical Laboratory Science Student Association on March 16, drew a great turnout this year. “Whether you were deferred or successfully donated – we appreciate you supporting the cause,” said Professor Barbara Kraj with the School of Medical Diagnostic and Translational Science. Seventy-nine units of blood were collected.



SCHOOL OF DENTAL HYGIENE

The 2018 Dental Hygiene class.

Pinning ceremony honors exemplary graduates

The School of Dental Hygiene held its annual Awards and Pinning Ceremony on Saturday, April 21, at the University Webb Center. During the event, senior dental hygiene students, post-licensure students and master's degree students were presented awards for academic, clinical, service, teaching and research achievements. The 34 graduating senior dental hygiene students also received their Registered Dental Hygiene professional pin presented by Ms. Tracey Martin and Dr. Denise Claiborne of the Virginia Dental Hygienists' Association (VDHA). The following awards were presented:

- Academic Achievement: Adaira Howell
- Colgate Student Total Achievement Recognition: Amber Krause
- Hu-Friedy Golden Scaler Award: Sarah Jarchow
- Achievement in Community Dentistry and Public Health Award: Tashana Bichsel
- John Donahue Memorial Award: Lauren Robertson
- Virginia Dental Hygienists' Association: Lauren Robertson
- Excellence in Dental Hygiene for Post Licensure Program: Gulley Mendez Parades
- Gene W. Hirschfeld Excellence Award for Master's Degree Program: Jean Conover
- Outstanding Dental Hygiene Alumna Award: Dr. Christine Blue
- Community Oral Health Impact Scholarship Award: Tabettha House
- Michele Darby Global Health Scholarship Award: Maava Kahn

Sigma Phi Alpha Dental Hygiene National Honor Society Inductees: students Judy Alden, Chelsea Heimann, Adaira Howell, Amber Krause, Julie Oman, Emily Smith; faculty Sharon C. Stull; and alumna Ann Bruhn

SCHOOL OF COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Ficklen III receives Outstanding Alumni Award

Carter Ficklen III, an Old Dominion University 1996 alumnus from the Environmental Health program, was recently awarded the College of Health Sciences Outstanding Alumni Award. Carter has made outstanding contributions to the profession, the college, and our students. Carter has contributed his time and money to our college, often coming to classes to serve as a guest speaker for students, giving students internships at NASA Langley, and providing funds for scholarships or equipment for our labs. Carter also serves on the advisory board for the College of Health Sciences.

Carter was presented the award at the recent AIHA PDC held in Hampton by Associate Professor Jim Blando. “I am very honored to accept this award and it has been a pleasure to work with the outstanding students at ODU and give back to the university,” he said.

Carter is well accomplished in the profession and currently is the chief project manager for a \$48 million contract to provide services to NASA Langley. He has more than 20 years of experience in his profession, has a prestigious reputation for being a leader among his peers, and has been involved with leadership roles in the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) and the American Board of Industrial Hygiene. He also has presented and given the Environmental Health & Safety course here and overseas and was awarded the 2016 Impact award from the AIHA for his contributions to the profession. In 2009, he was awarded the AIHA’s Kuznetz Award for outstanding accomplishments among young professionals.



Carter Ficklen III, left, receives the Outstanding Alumni Award from Associate Professor Jim Blando in May.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

School awarded AACN/CDC grant for special project

The School of Nursing was one of two schools to be awarded an American Association of Colleges of Nursing/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (AACN/CDC) grant to implement a Public/Population Health Learning Hub Project. The \$10,000 grant will be used to support activities related to “Building Capacity and Bridging Education Gaps: A Social Determinants of Health and Food Insecurity Health Learning Hub.” This is an eight-month project with potential for additional funding upon completion of the initial funding period.

“Congratulations to project leader Jamela Martin and her team including Beth Tremblay, Tina Haney, and Pam Sharp,” said Karen Karlowicz, chair of the school. “They wrote a terrific proposal, and will be working feverishly to implement the project.”

INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Research team expands HIV/AIDS study to region

By Irvin B. Harrell

In fall 2016 -- with the support of the Old Dominion University Office of Research -- three undergraduates, one Ph.D. student, and six faculty members embarked on a global study examining physical fitness among people with HIV/AIDS. The Active Living Study is a multistate effort that is sponsored and coordinated by the International Nursing Network for HIV/AIDS Research.

Dr. Kimberly Adams Tufts, who coordinated ODU's effort, used the research platform as a way to teach faculty and students "the tenets and applications of team-based, interprofessional science." Adams Tufts has been leading the group through proposal preparation, abstract submission, human subject protection procedures, data collection, and dissemination activities.

Dr. Jamela Martin, a registered nurse and faculty member for the School of Nursing, served as the student engagement coordinator for the Active Living Study team. Her objective has been to mentor the undergraduate students through the research and dissemination phases.

"Having mentored undergraduate students on various projects in the past, becoming a part of the Active Living Team meant that I could further develop and use those skills within the college," she said. "This is the largest interprofessional team project that I have been a part of to date, and the mentorship that I have received from Dr. Kimberly Adams Tufts has been outstanding."

Martin added that being on the team has given her opportunity to "engage in team writing, collaborative problem-solving, and development of relationships with faculty. Most importantly, I highly value the opportunity to engage with undergraduate students and watch them accomplish something they didn't previously believe was in their wheelhouse."

Undergraduate Amanda Pedrazoli, who was studying nursing, says the enthusiasm and warmth of the research team inspired her to join.

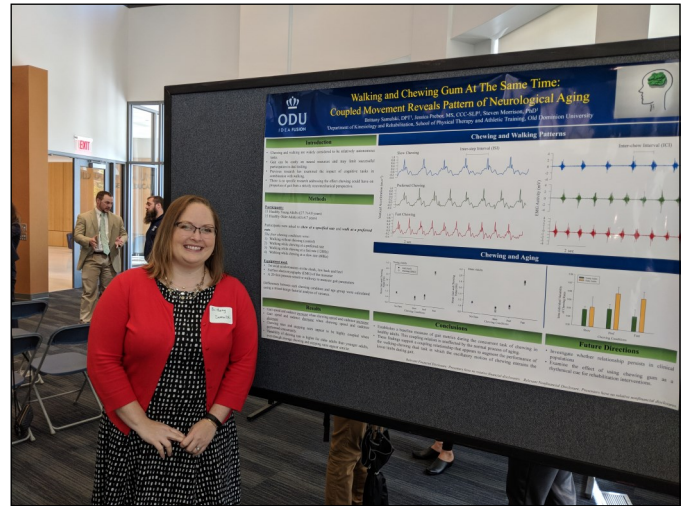
"I felt welcomed and valued from the beginning with a sense that the team is committed to empowering student researchers," she said. "In addition, I was motivated by how this research will contribute to the collective body of knowledge that will ultimately impact the lives of people living with HIV."

Interprofessional collaboration is critical to nursing, Pedrazoli said. Through the study, she says she gained an understanding of how nurses can observe needs and gaps in research that might not be understood by other team members.



Research coordinator Dr. Kimberly Adams Tufts, center, poses with graduates Amanda Pedrazoli, left, and Stephanie Jen during the Spring 2018 Commencement.

See STUDY, page 8



Grads shine on research day

Clockwise from left: Dr. Muge Akpinar-Elci poses with grad student Shobha Subedi and Professor Anna Jeng. Grad student Brittany Samulski poses with her poster. Ph.D. student My Ngoc Nguyen discusses her poster.

STUDY, from page 7

For graduate student Kenneisha Edmonds, participating in the study served two principal purposes: learning more about research and getting to work with people with HIV. It also has helped her see how different professions can come together to solve an issue, she says. Edmonds completed her Masters of Public Health and is considering going on for a Ph.D. in public health.

Jacob Wait, who graduated with a Bachelors in Biology, says he found out about the Active Living Study online and reached out to them to see if he could take part. What attracted him was the chance to learn more about the research process.

"I had very little knowledge of research, and even less knowledge of non-biology related research and so I have learned a lot throughout the entire process," he said. "I have learned everything from how the IRB (Institutional Review Board) process works, to collecting data and then analyzing that data."

Adams Tufts says the data collection is almost finished and involved about 60 interviews. The ODU contingent joined the likes of Case Western Reserve University, Rutgers University, Columbia University, and the University of California-San Francisco in participating in the research. Adams Tufts, Martin, Drs. Leigh Ann Diggs, Patrick Haggerty, Hanna Hoch, Lisa Koperna; and students Pedrazoli, Edmonds, Wait, nursing undergraduate Stephanie Jen formed the research team.

Upcoming Events

MAY

May 28 Memorial Day Holiday (University Closed)

JUNE

June 5 Withdraw deadline for Session 1 classes

June 22-23 Session 1 exams

