

## Nurse anesthesia takes center stage



Renee Olander, Associate Vice President for Regional Higher Education Centers, welcomes guests to the Virginia Beach Open House.

### VB Open House draws crowd

By Irvin B. Harrell

**E**mphasizing our academic footprint in Virginia Beach, Old Dominion University held an Open House on March 3 at its satellite campus in the heart of Princess Anne Commons.

Renee Olander, Associate Vice President for Regional Higher Education Centers, welcomed a packed audience to the largest branch campus of the region's only research-extensive, doctoral-granting university.

ODU President John Broderick, in addressing the audience, spoke of the ongoing partnerships between the university and Virginia Beach. Among the those partnerships, he highlighted the graduate program in nursing anesthesia that has been headquartered at the Virginia Beach facility since 2012 and the College of Continuing Education and



President Broderick was one of the speakers.

See **OPEN HOUSE**, Page 5

#### Also Inside

College will hold 2nd Annual  
IPE Day, **Page 3**

Dental Hygiene alumni  
reception a success, **Page 6**

Another packed Winter  
Weekend, **Page 7**

Dean's Message: Dr. Shelley C. Mishoe, Dean and Professor

# Zika virus triggered tough decisions

This month's newsletter comes to you just after ODU's Spring Break, which gave students and faculty a short rest from the busy activities of the semester. It also provided a wonderful opportunity for student engagement in service learning, at home and through study abroad. The Center for Global Health, in collaboration with several of our schools and programs, had plans for an interprofessional group of faculty and students to travel to Guatemala over the break. The course goals were to provide students and faculty with the opportunity to participate in an interprofessional health-related cultural immersion in a developing country. The students would have been introduced to global health concepts, including demographic and epidemiological transitions, as well as critical issues in the organization and delivery of health services.



Dean Shelley Mishoe

But after consultation with the College of Health Sciences and Center for Global Health, the Office of Study Abroad cancelled the trip because of the outbreak of the Zika virus. A student at the College of William & Mary and another at Lehigh University who traveled to Zika-infected countries were confirmed to have the infection. There is a growing concern over the spread of the Zika virus and its impact on global health, especially with the summer Olympics in Brazil, where the virus is widespread.

The most effective way to avoid infection or transmission of Zika is to eliminate contact with infected mosquitoes by limiting travel to areas that are affected by the virus. These areas include the Caribbean and the Americas, particularly Central and South America. Thus, to avoid any Zika virus risk to our faculty and students, the trip was cancelled. Unfortunately, additional study abroad trips to Guatemala and Brazil during summer semester also have been cancelled.

Not surprisingly, several countries are considering abstaining from the summer Olympics. In most people, the Zika virus causes mild symptoms of fever, a rash and joint pain. However, it also can cause congenital malformation of the brain, autoimmune neurological disease and even death. Dr. Muge Akpinar-Elci, director of the ODU Center for Global Health, prepared an editorial, which was recently published in *The Virginian-Pilot* and is reprinted in this newsletter on Page 4, in case you missed it. Dr. Akpinar-Elci and our faculty who planned the study abroad courses are currently looking at alternative learning experiences in global health.

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Table of Contents	
Dean's message	2
From the Editor	3
Healthcare training	3
Guest column	4
Special reception	6
Winter Weekend	7
Calendar	8

This newsletter also includes information about the annual Winter Weekend for dental hygiene with continuing education and alumni activities planned by our School of Dental Hygiene (SODH) in collaboration with the College of Continuing and Professional Education. Special appreciation to SODH faculty and Manisha Harrell for their efforts in planning such a well-attended and fun alumni event in conjunction with Winter Weekend. I enjoyed meeting so many of our distinguished alumni and looking at photo albums of the dental hygiene classes over the years!

In closing, stay tuned for further details on IPE Day on April 6, in conjunction with the annual *Culture of Safety Program* from the School of Nursing in collaboration with CHKD. If you have not done so already, please send your RSVP to [tsmith@odu.edu](mailto:tsmith@odu.edu) and read keynote speaker Brian Boyle's book "The Patient Experience."

May you enjoy the beautiful Spring season and all that it offers!

*Shelley C. Mishoe*

## FROM THE EDITOR

## IPE Day will carry powerful messages

Imagine spending two months in a coma, undergoing 14 major operations, receiving 36 blood transfusions, and getting 13 plasma treatments. Welcome to Brian Boyle's world.

One summer day in 2004 changed his life forever. On that day, he would come face to face with mortality following a car crash with a dump truck. His body shattered, he was placed in a chemically induced coma for two months, while his family was left clinging to a sometimes shred of hope that Boyle would recover. Boyle hopes others will learn from his experience, whether it be those who have loved ones receiving healthcare, those receiving healthcare themselves, or the many healthcare professionals who provide their expertise.

He will be bringing his story and his lessons to the College of Health Sciences next month for our Interprofessional Education (IPE) Day. IPE Day will be held on Wednesday, April 6, from 1 to 4:30 p.m. at the Ted Constant Center. Boyle, author of the "The Patient Experience" and "Iron Heart," will be the keynote speaker.

What better way to bring home the importance of healthcare collaboration than a real-life story of triumph that necessitated a silo-free approach to patient care.

This year's IPE Day is a product of a collaboration between the College of Health Sciences School of Nursing and the Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters. It will focus on the IPE Competency for Roles and Responsibilities, with teams and teamwork using safety and quality as a framework for learning.

This year marks the second IPE Day for the college and like last year, it promises to be exciting and educational. I'm certainly looking forward to it and hope to see you there!



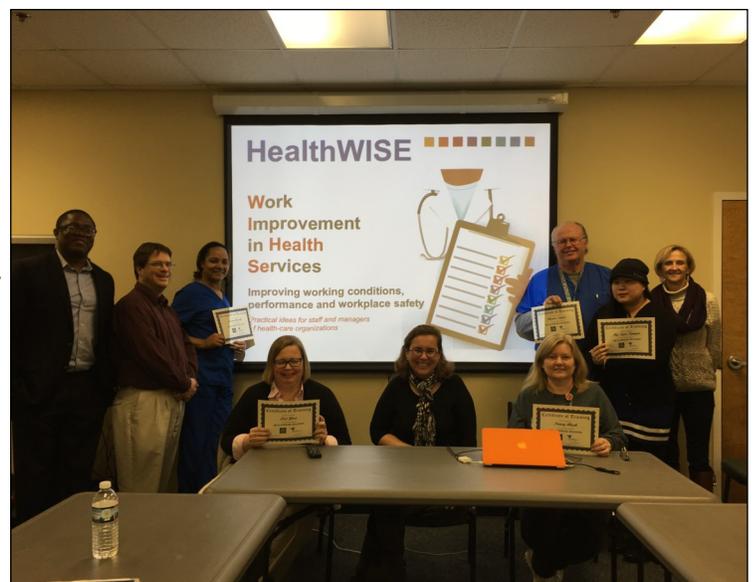
Irvin B. Harrell,  
Coordinator of Strategy  
& Marketing

## Center for Global Health collaborates on special training

The Old Dominion University Center for Global Health in partnership with Bon Secours Health System, Virginia, piloted the first HealthWISE training in the United States at Mary Immaculate Hospital in Newport News. The project was funded by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)/ World Health Organization (WHO).

Since 2008, PAHO has protected the health of nearly 550,000 healthcare workers in 17 countries. PAHO is preparing to use the HealthWISE training toolkit in Latin America and the Caribbean. In 2014, a joint team of WHO and the International Labour Organization (ILO) launched HealthWISE as a low-cost way to improve working conditions in healthcare settings.

The Center for Global Health's two-day pilot training consisted of eight modules, group discussions and group exercises. Participants included nurses and staff. Topics discussed included occupational health and safety; biological hazards and infection control; creating a green and healthy workplace; the key role of staff, working time and family-friendly workplace measures; and selecting, storing and managing equipment and supplies. Participants gave insight into the health and safety needs of their workplace as well as made recommendations to strengthen their healthcare system. They demonstrated an increased awareness of the health and safety needs within their workplace and were excited to share this newfound awareness with their peers and management.



## GUEST COLUMNIST

# Dr. Akpinar-Elci: Zika virus is not a new threat

*The column appeared in the Feb. 21, 2016, edition of The Virginian-Pilot.*

**WITH EACH DAY**, we learn more about the Zika virus, the latest epidemic to trigger international reverberations. Previously considered a mild, self-limiting illness, the current outbreak has drawn considerable attention, in part because of its link to an increase in babies born with unusually small heads and brains.

We say “current outbreak” because Zika is by no means new. It was first identified, in 1947, in a Rhesus monkey found in the Zika forest of Uganda. Serologic evidence of the virus in humans was first reported in Uganda in 1952.

Fifteen cases later, in Africa and Asia, the virus emerged again on Yap Island, where 49 people were infected in 2007. Yap Island, which sits east of the Philippines, has a population of fewer than 8,000, so it’s easy to understand why the outbreak caused few ripples.

Since cases of Zika were reported in Chile (2014) and Brazil (2015), transmission of the virus has been reported in more than 25 countries and territories in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Zika is an emerging mosquito-borne illness in the same family as viruses that cause dengue fever, yellow fever, West Nile infection and Japanese encephalitis. The most common symptoms of Zika are mild fever, rash, joint pain or conjunctivitis.

While Zika-related deaths are rare, the disease carries a unique risk of congenital malformation, as well as serious neurologic and autoimmune problems in affected subjects. For instance, preliminary epidemiologic evidence suggests pregnant women exposed to Zika in any trimester are particularly at risk of birthing babies with microcephaly.

Given the long history of this virus, it begs the question: Why don’t we have a more specific prevention strategy other than “don’t travel here if you’re pregnant” or “avoid being bitten by mosquitoes”?

Over and over, we see the same drama played out in health care around the globe: A virus hits an undeveloped, marginalized segment of the world, and it’s of little interest. But, as the world continues to be better connected and more urbanized, the vectors carrying these viruses spread to developing countries and panic ensues.

We don’t seem to be learning enough from our history, and climate change continues to fan the flames when it comes to mosquito-borne viruses. Chikungunya, dengue, malaria and yellow fever are some of the benefactors of this global disruption.

The fact is the Zika virus isn’t new, and it certainly won’t be the last of its kind.

Overall, the public health impact of Zika on the global community, like most emerging infectious diseases, is likely to be huge.

More than \$1 billion was spent in response activities during the Ebola outbreak. Such reactive approaches are not sustainable.

Investment in public health interventions that are proactive, in addition to a well-coordinated global infectious disease surveillance system, is a much more effective strategy.



Dr. Muge Akpinar-Elci, the director of the Center for Global Health

## Open House,

from Page 1

Professional Development that has been there since 2014.

Nathaniel Apatov, director of the Graduate Program in Nurse Anesthesia, expounded on the success of his program, including the hard work by students, their commitment to helping others and the program's 100 percent job placement rates.

Virginia Beach City Manager David Hansen and James Shaeffer, ODU's Dean of the College of Continuing Education and Professional Development, also spoke at the event. Following the speakers, the event's guests were invited to take tours of the educational facility.

Cheryl Rutherford, a graduate of the nurse anesthesia program, delivered a very passionate testimonial on her education experience at the Virginia Beach campus, why she was drawn her from Oregon and why she decided to settle with her family in Virginia Beach following graduation.



Nathaniel Apatov, Director of the ODU's Graduate Program in Nurse Anesthesia, center, was one of the key speakers at the Virginia Beach Open House event.



Cheryl Rutherford, left, spoke to the crowd about her experiences in the Nurse Anesthesia Program.

## Old Dominion University College of Health Sciences is turning 30 this year!



College of  
Health Sciences

30

1986-2016

Please join us in celebrating this important milestone of 30 years of academic excellence by showing your support for the College of Health Sciences' future and making your gift today. Every gift makes a difference and helps us achieve our vision of advancing healthcare education and research through interdisciplinary and global collaborations.

To make your gift online, please visit [www.odu.edu/efgive](http://www.odu.edu/efgive)

Share your anniversary pledge on Instagram (oducohs) or Twitter! @COHS16 #COHS30

SCHOOL OF DENTAL HYGIENE



College of Health Sciences Assistant Dean Debbie Bauman, center, flips through historical scrapbooks.

# Alumni Reception

On Saturday, Feb. 20, the Gene W. Hirschfeld School of Dental Hygiene held a reception for Alumni and Friends at the Virginia Beach Sheraton Oceanfront Hotel.

In total, 58 guests came together to meet and mingle and learn more about the future of the School of Dental Hygiene from chair, Dr. Susan Daniel. The reception was sponsored by a grant from the ODU Alumni Association.



**Left:** Chair Susan Daniel addresses the crowd.

**Below:** From left, Dean Shelley Mishoe, Deanne Shuman, Jan Olsen Samarelli and Donna Beard are all smiles.



**CONTINUING DENTAL HYGIENE EDUCATION WINTER WEEKEND**

## 16 years and still going strong



It was the year 2000 when the first Continuing Dental Hygiene Education Winter Weekend got its start. And it's still going strong.

Some 250 dental hygienists packed the event again this year at the Sheraton Ocean Front Hotel in Virginia Beach on Feb. 19-21. Among this year's topics were biofilm management, caries risk assessment, oral care is critical care and troubling tobacco trends.

Speakers included, Shannon Mitchell, a clinical associate professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Victoria Patrounova, a clinical assistant professor at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston; and Elena Haveles, an adjunct associate professor of pharmacology in the schools of dental hygiene and nursing at Old Dominion University's College of Health Sciences.

# Upcoming Events

## April

- April 6 IPE Day, 1-4 p.m., Ted Constant Center
- April 11 Military Appreciation Luncheon, 12:00-1:00 p.m., Location: Room 2110  
RSVP ksalamon@odu.edu by March 31
- April 17 School of Dental Hygiene Awards and Pinning Ceremony, 2-4 p.m., Batten Arts and Letters, Room 1012
- April 25 College Awards Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Ted Constant Center
- April 28 Spring Classes End
- April 30 Exams Begin

## May

- May 7 Exams End
- May 6-7 Spring Commencement, Ted Constant Center