



# School of Allied Health Professions Faculty Assembly Newsletter

Volume 3 Issue 1

February 2011

## Faculty Assembly Delegates 2011-2012



*Providing a means of communication between faculty and administration,  
and a formal mechanism for faculty input into academic processes*

# A Message from our President

Rennie U. Jacobs, MHS, LOTR, CHT

Welcome to 2011, and welcome to the Spring edition of the Faculty Assembly Newsletter! While these are challenging times for all of us, I am proud to say that LSUHSC has done an excellent job in weathering the economic storm. We have seen growth, not only in our enrollment, but also in our facilities.

The 2010 fall semester brought about many innovative initiatives and work supported by the Faculty Assembly Delegates, including assisting in the development of the new SAHP Strategic Plan, addressing faculty issues at both the school level and the Senate level, and supporting the standing committees on their various endeavors. The General Faculty Meeting in December allowed the Committee Chairs to highlight their accomplishments thus far, and I want to personally thank them for all of their amazing work.

Finally, the Faculty Assembly will once again co-sponsor with the SGA the Annual Family Day in June. This annual event has grown each year, and the responses from the family members that attend has been extremely complimentary. For those of you that have not attended this event, it is a time for faculty, students and their family members to participate in activities at LSUSHC-NO in the SAHP, as well as enjoy good food, drinks, and live entertainment. I strongly encourage all of you to mark your calendars for June 11th, from 10 am to 1 pm, to attend this wonderful event!



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## Family Day

The Faculty Assembly and Student Government Association will begin to plan for the 4th Annual SAHP Family Day. The annual event has been a success and is appreciated by students and their families.

Here are some quotes which show appreciation:

"Thank-you for the invitation to the Annual Family Day at the School of Allied Health Professions."

"I will be happy to attend and am looking forward to this Saturday's activities."

"Thank you for the invitation."

"Thank you and looking forward to the event."

"The open house was really nice! The food was fabulous, enjoyed the band, got my hearing checked, etc."

"The participation stations were great. Thank you very much!"

"Thank you very much for the invitation to the jazz brunch. See you then."

"We are looking forward to attending the jazz brunch."

"Thanks so much for the invitation to Family Day at LSUHSC."



Promoting Leadership & Collaboration  
within an Interdisciplinary Network

## Faculty Assembly

Meetings are held at noon  
on the 2nd Tuesday of  
each month in the Dean's  
Conference Room.  
Meetings are open to all faculty.

## Please Join Us

Tuesday, February 8  
Tuesday, March 8  
Tuesday, April 12  
Tuesday, May 10  
Tuesday, June 14

The FA Newsletter is produced semi-annually to keep you informed of happenings and events in LSUHSC and in the SAHP. This publication is a platform to inform others within the SAHP about news and events that impact us as health educators. Please address any suggestions or comments related to the newsletter to a member of the Faculty Assembly (pg. 3) or you may email directly to [tgunal@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:tgunal@lsuhsc.edu) This is your newsletter, any and all suggestions are welcomed.

Editor/Graphics: *Tina Gunaldo and Robert Reinhard*

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## Academic Affairs Committee

Chair: John Dolan, RhD

The committee has been involved with

- reviewing and revising program policies and procedures and updating the school and department websites.
- responding to all requests needed for the continuation of SACS accreditation.
- developing recommendations for the School strategic plan
- offering the first Faculty Seminar, presented by Dr. Jerald James entitled Practical use of the MOODLE course management system



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## Electronic Survey Committee

Co-Chairs: Tina Gualdo, PT, DPT, MHS  
& Elizabeth Levitzky, MBA

The Electronic Survey committee continues to develop an efficient and effective survey process. The last change to the surveys was in Summer 2010. Survey changes included an increase in character space for open-ended questions and a decrease in email reminders to complete the surveys. The overall student response rate for Fall 2010 was 59%. The committee is working towards creating a portal to CoursEval through Moodle in order to allow for easier student access off-campus. The committee is also reviewing suggestions from students to alter survey questions.



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## Honors Committee

Chair: D. Bradley Davis, Aud, CCC-A, F-AAA

The Honors Committee's primary charge is to coordinate the pre-commencement ceremony and select the recipients of the Dean's and Chancellor's awards from nominees submitted by each department. We are also charged with facilitating student involvement in honors related activities.

As a reminder, leading up to the last pre commencement ceremony, we investigated and implemented changes to the hooding ceremony for doctoral graduates. This year's graduates were hooded in the traditional style and the doctoral oath was conducted in the established manner.

We revised the selection process for the Dean's and Chancellor's award. There are new award selection criteria, nomination forms, and a new ranking and averaging system. The system is fair and impartial given the considerable differences in curriculum and mission between each department. We also involved the SGA to raise awareness of these awards and we plan to continue to do this as we approach nomination time.

Further improvements were discussed for the pre-commencement ceremony:

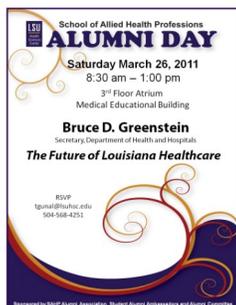
- Strongly encourage a one award per graduate and only one recipient per award
- In 2011 at the pre-commencement ceremony all nominees for the Dean's and Chancellor's award will be recognized.
- A small number of live musicians will play Elgar's "Pomp and Circumstance."



## Alumni Affairs Committee

Chair: Tina Gunaldo, PT, DPT, MHS

The Alumni Affairs committee will assist in hosting Alumni Day on Saturday, March 26th. This event will be the first gathering of alumni since 2005. The keynote speaker



is Bruce Greenstein, Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals. The Alumni Board, Alumni Committee and the Student Alumni Ambassadors will combine efforts to create a successful event. The committee continues to update alumni information within the Foundation database, create Strategies to demonstrate appreciation to our alumni, and keep alumni informed of SAHP events.



## Recruitment Committee

Chair: Jo Thompson, MA, CTRS

As defined in the School's Faculty Assembly Bylaws, the charge to the Committee is to make recommendations designed to enhance student interaction with the School, provide guidance for student affairs and facilitate student recruitment; increase participation in various career related fairs at college/universities; sponsor an Allied Health Day event for local high schools and universities/colleges. Since July 2010, the committee has

- visited approximately 15 recruitment events; targeting high schools, colleges and universities as well as participated in Sheriff's Gussman's Annual Health Fair,
- participated in the HSC Caravan sponsored through the Department of Academic and Multicultural Affairs which included presentations to: Dillard University, Southern University- Baton Rouge, Xavier University and LSU-Baton Rouge; and
- worked on updating departmental brochures

The committee will develop a tracking system to determine how prospective students hear about programs.



## Promotion & Tenure Committee

Chair: Scott S. Rubin, PhD

The P&T Committee worked diligently on streamlining the policy and Procedure manual for promotion and tenure. This revised document will be reviewed by the Dean and Executive Committee.

The Committee reviewed 2 faculty members for promotion from Instructor to Assistant Professor on the Clinical track. Recommendations were made to the Dean. Currently, the Committee is reviewing one dossier for the Formative Review process. A Workshop on the Promotion and Tenure process will be held in the Spring Semester for faculty interested in learning more about the process. We will keep everyone informed.



## Diversity Committee

Chair: Meher Banajee, PhD, CCC-SLP

The committee was charged to increase awareness of diversity within the School. A School survey is being developed to determine the culture with regard to diversity. A survey submitted in a white paper by Louisiana State University was used and modified to be congruent with the school's philosophy and departments. Similar surveys from other universities were considered. Input from other schools within the Health Sciences Center was obtained.

The committee was also charged with the task of increasing diversity among students and faculty members in the School of Allied Health Professions. Several committee members (Meher Banajee, Yudi Delgado, and Jo Thompson) along with students participated in the recruitment caravan to Dillard University, Xavier University, Southern University and Louisiana State University. The event proved to be successful in that the responses from the students were extremely positive and provided good input for future events.



## Grants & Research Committee

Chair: Andy Pellet, PhD, RDCS

The Grants and Research Committee has begun a monthly seminar series in which faculty (or students) in the School of Allied Health Professions present their research, either completed or in progress, to the Committee. This gives researchers an opportunity to present their work in a low-stress environment and to receive feedback from their colleagues. It also provides an interactive forum for faculty to learn about other research that is taking place in the School. Anyone who is not a member of the Grants and Research Committee and who wishes to be notified about upcoming seminars or would like to present their research to the Committee should contact Andy Pellett ([apelle@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:apelle@lsuhsc.edu)).



## A New Look for SAHP Web Site

## Human Development Center

Philip Wilson, PhD

The Human Development Center launched a new interdisciplinary traineeship in the fall of 2010. The program is called Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and other Disabilities (LEND). This program is operated in collaboration with the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and Southern Mississippi University. The HDC LEND program includes four components: (a) weekly Friday afternoon seminars, (b) interdisciplinary clinical experiences, (c) research project, and (d) leadership project. Over the course of a year, trainees work with the LEND program coordinator and a faculty member from their discipline to create and complete an Individualized Training Program consisting of 300 hours spread across the four components. The goal of this traineeship is to provide trainees with knowledge and experiences to enable them to become effective leaders in their own disciplines, encourage them to adopt interdisciplinary practices in the course of their careers, and prepare them to competently apply knowledge and skills to support persons with developmental and other disabilities and their families to achieve their desired outcomes. The first class of HDC LEND trainees includes: Eileen Aguliar (Communication Disorders/SLP), Erin Graugnard (Communication Disorders/Audiology), Maria Ruiz (Early Childhood Special Education/UNO), and Liz Gary (Parent and Coordinator of Partners in Policy Making). We will be taking applications for Trainees for next year's class in the late spring.

For more information, contact Dr. Lauren Giovingo at [lgiovi@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:lgiovi@lsuhsc.edu).



### HDC LEND Program 2010 - 2011 Trainees



**Eileen  
Aguliar**



**Erin  
Graugnard**



**Maria  
Ruiz**



**Liz  
Gary**

## Alumni Day March 26, 2011

Follow link for full size version of flyer:

<http://alliedhealth.lsuhs.edu/AlumniFlyerJan2011.pdf>



## Faculty Accomplishments



John Zamjahn, PhD, RRT was elected as Treasurer for the Louisiana Society for Respiratory Care.

John joined the faculty of School of Allied Health Professions in 1993 and has served as Program Director for the Advanced Respiratory Therapy Program since 2004.



The CLS department publishes a review book for students preparing for the national certification exam. The 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the book will be published in early Spring. All faculty members are authors of chapters in the book, which is edited by Patsy Jarreau. National and international sales of the book have provided more than \$100,000 for an endowed professorship and numerous student awards and scholarships.



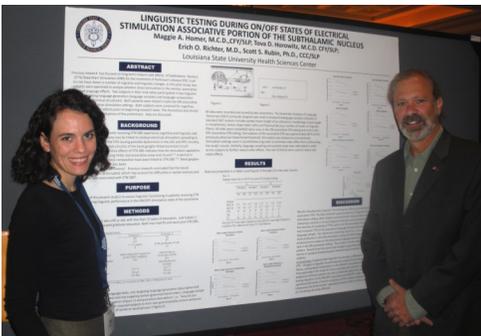
The Occupational Therapy Department was nominated for the AOTA award for Community Service.

## Presentations at National Meetings

### National Speech and Hearing Association Conference

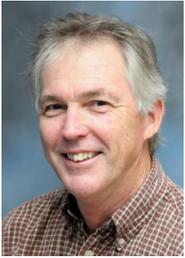
Faculty from the Department of Communication Disorders presented at the national conference Philadelphia. Meher Banajee, PhD, CCC-SLP, presented "Device Modeling as Prompting Strategy for Users of AAC Devices" with students Nino Acuna and Hannah Deshotels. Barbara Wendt-Harris, PhD, CCC-A, F-AAA, was part of a four speaker panel speaking for 2 hours on coping with disasters. "When Disaster Strikes: Business Continuity Plans and Emergency Operations." Natural disasters and acts of violence will have sudden consequences to clinical, academic, and other business functions. Do you have a business continuity plan? This panel discussed the interruptions in business, the recovery process, and planning tips from personal experience with different types of disaster.

### North American Neuromodulation Society Conference



Maggie Homer, Tova Horowitz, Dr. Erich Richter, & Dr. Scott Rubin presented a Poster at the in Las Vegas December 2-5, 2010. The poster titled "Linguistic Testing During ON/OFF States of Electrical Stimulation of the Associative Portion of the Sub Thalamic Nucleus" received the honor of Best Poster at the conference. The poster was based on a portion of Maggie's thesis.

## Welcome to New Faculty



The Human Development Center welcomes Merle Bumgarner, MEd. Merle relocated from North Carolina overseeing supported employment services for a community services agency. He will be providing trainings throughout the state on the basics of providing supported employment services.



The Physical Therapy Department welcomes Jeffrey A. Thompson, PT, DPT, OCS, Cert. MDT. He relocated from Natchez, MS where he was employed at Natchez Regional Medical Center. He has expertise in musculoskeletal physical therapy, kinesiology and administration. He teaches the musculoskeletal and administration content in the DPT curriculum.



John Ware, PT, MS, FAAOMPT joined the School of Allied Health Professions as the Physical Therapy Clinic Director in January. He has been with a private physical therapy practice in Ft. Wayne, IN for the past five years. John graduated with a Master's degree in Physical Therapy from the University of Alabama - Birmingham and completed his fellowship with the American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapist through the Gulf South Residency program. He is studying for his Doctor of Health Science with an emphasis in clinical research and education at the University of Indianapolis. John and his wife, Kristen, have two children. In his free time he coaches his children's soccer and flag football teams.



Rachael Trommelen, PT, DPT, NCS joins the Physical Therapy department from Philadelphia, PA. Most recently, she was employed as a neurological clinical specialist at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital where she treated patients primarily with neurologic and neurosurgical diagnoses but also with medicine, oncology, surgical and cardiac diagnoses. She also has special expertise in treating patients with vestibular disorders and ran the outpatient vestibular rehabilitation program. She will be teaching the neurological content in the DPT curriculum.

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# LSUHSC New Orleans School of Allied Health Professions

Audiology  
Cardiovascular Technology  
Clinical Laboratory Sciences  
Master of Health Sciences  
Occupational Therapy  
Physical Therapy  
Rehabilitation Counseling  
Respiratory Therapy  
Speech-Language Pathology

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8 Programs  
Human Development Center & Early Intervention Institute  
106 Faculty and Staff  
440 Students

## Faculty Assembly Delegates 2010-2011

Rennie U. Jacobs, MHS, LOTR, CHT – President  
Jerald F. James, AuD, CCC-AAA, F-AAA – President – Elect  
Erin M. Dugan, PhD, NCC, LPC-S – Past President  
Jo Thompson, MA, CTRS  
Jan Case, PhD, CRC  
Tina Patel Gunaldo, PT, DPT, MHS  
Theresa Nicholls, MCD, CCC-SLP  
  
Scott S. Rubin, PhD  
  
Michele B. Zitzmann, MHS, MLS (ASCP) - Secretary  
Laurie M. Schmidt, AuD, CCC-A, F-AAA

Occupational Therapy  
Communications Disorders, Audiology  
Rehabilitation Counseling  
Occupational Therapy  
Rehabilitation Counseling  
Interdisciplinary Health Studies  
Communication Disorders, Speech  
Language Pathology  
Communication Disorders, Speech  
Language Pathology  
Clinical Laboratory Sciences  
Communication Disorders, Audiology

*“Providing educational programs, contributing to the body of knowledge through research and scholarship, and providing patient care and community outreach of the highest quality for the citizens of Louisiana.”*