

Faculty Assembly Newsletter

The Employee Newsletter of the School of Allied Health Professions at the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center

LSU

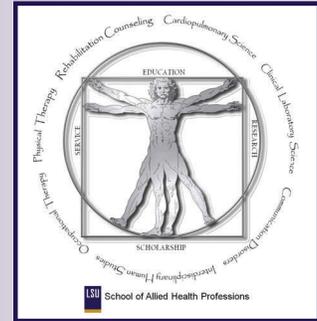
Health Sciences Center

NEW ORLEANS

School of Allied Health Professions

Volume 1 Issue 1

January 2009



Inaugural Issue

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OPEN

Introducing Your Faculty Assembly Newsletter

The FA Newsletter is produced quarterly to keep you informed of happenings and events here at the LSUHSC. The free publication is a platform to inform others within the School of Allied Health Professions 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 the editor at kbruei@lsuhsc.edu. This is **your** newsletter, any and all suggestions are welcomed.



Dr. Scott Rubin...

2008 Winner of the Copping Award!

Scott Rubin, PhD, CCC-SLP, of the Department of Communications Disorders recently was named the 2008 recipient of the LSU Copping Award. The Copping Award is named in honor Dr. Allen A. Copping. Dr. Copping served as LSU Medical Center Chancellor and then President of LSU. He established the award to recognize faculty who are excellent teachers, have demonstrated a life-long quest for discovery and inspire their students. Students are responsible for nominating the recipient of this award.

Scott Rubin was awarded his Ph.D. in Communication Sciences and Disorders from The University of Georgia (UGA), Athens, in 1993. After a period of appointment as an Assistant Professor at UGA he accepted a position at the University of South Alabama (Mobile) where he attained tenure and the rank of Associate Professor. Scott has been on the faculty in the Department of Communication Disorders (COMD) at LSUHSC since 2004. Interestingly, one consideration in Scott's acceptance of the position here over another position in California was the threat of fires and earthquakes at the competing University. It seems he didn't consider the chance of all potential catastrophes very well.

Scott's primary areas of interest are the effects of neurological damage (primarily stroke) on language, cognition, and communication. He engages in research activities focused on electrophysiological and behavioral outcomes related to symbolic processing, neurological damage, (story continued on Pg. 8)

Upcoming Events

April 8
School of Allied Health
Research Day 2009

April 22-23
3rd Annual HDC Institute:
www.hdc.lsuhs.edu/hdcinstitute/

June 22-25
LASARD Autism Summer Institute 2009
www.hdc.lsuhs.edu/asi2009



A message from the President - George W. Hebert, PhD

Dear SAHP Colleagues,

Wow. . .the Inaugural SAHP Newsletter!! What a great time to be part of the School of Allied Health Professions! It really puts a pep in my step to see the progress that we have made since Hurricane Katrina and look forward to the construction of the new teaching hospital – hopefully full with clinics. It was also certainly reassuring during the last LSUHSC town hall meeting to hear Chancellor Hollier minimize the negative impact of possible budget cuts and how strategically sound our mission seems to be. Additionally, Dean Cairo has also reported positive numbers at our last faculty assembly meeting which shows our school growing and becoming stronger. As your current president, I am proud to report that this Delegate Assembly has demonstrated true concern for our school and has represented you well. Some of us also serve as University Senators where I can also say that your needs and causes are again well represented. Finally, I wish to state that I believe it to be an honor to serve as your president of the Delegate Assembly. It has given me (and continues to give me) the privilege of working with and becoming friends with people from other disciplines. Interdisciplinary activities are part of our mission in the Human Development Center, so I feel doubly blessed! Please feel free to join us at a meeting and learn more how your assembly serves you.



A Message from our Past President- Larry Broussard, PhD

Having to write a column as the past president of the faculty assembly delegates triggered reflection on the years I've served with these dedicated colleagues and friends. My initiation into this group was innocent enough—I was asked to attend a meeting by a delegate from our department. All monthly meetings are open to the faculty and I encourage you to attend to observe the delegates in action. In my case I was selected as an alternate delegate and when an opening occurred during a delegate's 3 year term I was chosen to complete the term. My situation is not unique and it is not unusual for a delegate to begin service as an alternate. Delegates are elected by the general faculty assembly to serve 3-year terms and the elected delegates in turn elect officers including vice-president and president. A president typically serves 1 year as president and a second year as past-president. In my case this 2 year term became 4 and a half years due to a "perfect storm" (poor pun intended) of circumstances including the promotion of a president to an administrative position and the departure of a president before serving as past president as well as the Katrina relocation to Baton Rouge.

Speaking of Katrina I think we should all recognize what we as a faculty and school have accomplished post-Katrina. Each faculty and staff member contributed to our amazingly rapid recovery and current growth. Colleagues around the world are amazed that we were able to relocate and resume teaching within a month. Since our return we have upgraded facilities and increased our student enrollment. Our committees have resumed activity and are arguably more productive than ever. This newsletter is yet another example of our progress and vitality. In conclusion I encourage you to be an active committee member and seriously consider serving as a faculty assembly delegate. Working together as a faculty we can meet all of the challenges ahead of us. Thank you for allowing me to serve as a faculty assembly delegate.

A message from our President Elect - Erin Dugan, PhD, NCC, LPC-S



Hello and welcome to all faculty! As an Assistant Professor in the Department of Rehabilitation Counseling, I am pleased to represent my department as a Delegate of the School of Allied Health Professions' Faculty Assembly.

This academic year, the delegates of the SAHP Faculty Assembly will bring new envisions to the SAHP. Dr. Hebert and I are off to a great start with much support not only from Dean Cairo, but the Faculty Assembly delegates as well. This year, the delegates are looking forward to obtaining feedback not only from the faculty of the School of Allied Health Professions, but also the Standing Committee Chairs. One of the many goals this academic year is to look toward the future to create a work environment that is open to communication as well as support within the SAHP. The Delegates of the Faculty Assembly are committed to opening the doors of communication between the faculty and the Administration of the SAHP. This year we anticipate many upcoming events that will provide you with insight into the workings of the Faculty Assembly Delegates.

Your LSUHSC Faculty Assembly Delegates

George Hebert, PhD— President
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The Dean's Corner...

A message from J.M. Cairo, PhD



It is a pleasure to write a letter for the inaugural issue of the LSUHSC School of Allied Health Professions Faculty Assembly Newsletter. This Newsletter demonstrates our Faculty's commitment to the mission of the School and the Health Sciences Center, and it reflects their dedication to our goal of achieving excellence in all of our academic, clinical, and community service programs.

We have made great progress during the past 3 years. Evidence of this progress can be seen in a number of areas. Our programs' applicant pools and student enrollments are at record levels. We successfully recruited an exceptional group of faculty during the 2007 and 2008 academic years. Each of these individuals brings a wealth of knowledge and unique experiences that will enhance our academic and clinical enterprises in the coming years. Following an extensive review of available resources for conducting research, the Grants and Research Committee worked with me to establish an intramural research grant program that will enhance faculty research capacity within the School. Our clinical services have been revitalized by bringing together a group of highly qualified and well respected clinicians. Simultaneously we refurbished our facilities to allow us to better compete in a complex and ever changing healthcare environment.

Our faculty, students, and staff have also contributed to the renaissance of the City of New Orleans following the devastating hurricanes of 2005. Several examples of these efforts include assisting New Orleans residents with rebuilding homes by the Department of Occupational Therapy, providing speech and hearing screening programs for the city's public school students by the Department of Communication Disorders, and a Thanksgiving food drive by our Student Government Association to benefit the homeless of our city. A particularly noteworthy example of the School of Allied Health's commitment to our community is the work of the Human Development Center. The HDC continues to excel in their efforts to advocate for policies and practices that will ensure that citizens with developmental disabilities are provided meaningful opportunities in the areas of employment, education, housing, and access to quality healthcare services. Indeed, their efforts have reached well beyond the borders of our state to impact policies throughout the United States and its territories.

As we go forward in the coming year, we will be confronted with a series of unprecedented challenges. Although these challenges may seem extraordinary and even daunting at times, we should continue to strive for excellence in all of our endeavors. Our past accomplishments should give us hope for the future and remind us of what we can achieve both individually and collectively.



Departmental Update— Cardiopulmonary Science

by **Tim Cordes, MHS**

This past May the Department of Cardiopulmonary Science started its separate track program. While still granting a baccalaureate degree in Cardiopulmonary Science, the program was divided into two separate tracks; Respiratory Therapy and Cardiovascular Technology. We have added several new courses to each of the programs with the major additional emphases on polysomnography (sleep studies) in the respiratory program and vascular technology in the cardiovascular technology program. These classes will enhance the marketability of graduating seniors. Applicants will be choosing one track in which to specialize.

We have just recently graduated the class of 2008. The newest alumni are Rodney Brenk, Brandon Castilaw, Jason Faucheux, Seth Goldberg, Margaret Nguyen, Hien Pham, and Loan Tran. The Faculty Award was given to Rodney Brenk, the Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Technology was given to Hien Pham, and the John B. Bobear Award for Clinical Excellence in Respiratory Therapy was given to Seth Goldberg. The RRT credential has already been earned by Rodney Brenk, Jason Faucheux, Seth Goldberg, and Hien Pham. The RDCS credential has already been earned by Rodney Brenk, Jason Faucheux, and Hien Pham.

The faculty will be attending the Louisiana Society for Respiratory Care annual state convention in Baton Rouge in April 2009 and will be competing in the Pelican Bowl competition.



Departmental Update–

Physical Therapy by Penny Kroll, PT, PhD

The Department of Physical Therapy has welcomed four new faculty members since the school year began (Kevin Brueilly, PT, PhD, Yi-Po Chiu, PT PhD, Dennis Driver, PT, DPT, OCS, MTC, FAAOMPT, and Tamara Gravano, PT, DPT, GCS). In addition to helping with the teaching responsibilities, the “old” faculty have enjoyed having the assistance for committee responsibilities and other related tasks, since prior to the summer they had been handling everything alone.

The first Doctor of Physical Therapy program graduates are set to walk to their new diploma in May 2009, with 20 students set to graduate. Following closely behind them will be 30 now second year students, and 40 now in the first year DPT class. The department plans to continue to grow in size as there are plans to admit approximately 40 more students beginning in the summer of 2009, bringing their enrollment to approximately 110 students.

Despite being very busy with studies, the DPT students have been active in their community services. Over the past 6 months, the students have hosted or participated in three community events, raising nearly \$3,500 for worthy causes, and have three more events planned for the next month. Thanks go out to **Jennifer Culotta**, DPT Class of 2009 for her role in planning the events. **Allison Daly**, DPT Class of 2009, was recently chosen for an internship opportunity with her professional organization, the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA). Allison will be interning with the APTA Government and Payment Advocacy unit in Alexandria, VA in the Spring of 2009. During the one month internship, Ms. Daly will working on a project to educate fellow students on governmental advocacy and how to approach legislators. Allison’s faculty are very proud of her being chosen to represent the national body of student physical therapists for this very important event. **Jessica Gregus**, DPT Class of 2009, was one of five winners of a National competition held by the Geriatric Section of the APTA. Jessica designed and entered a brochure designed for patient education in the topic of the body’s response to aging. The entire brochure can be viewed at <http://geriatricspt.org/clients/58%20Your%20Bodys%20Response%20to%20Aging.pdf>.

With additional faculty lines filled and the phasing in of the DPT program complete, I expect increased focus in the area of research and scholarly productivity in the coming year. Kirk Nelson’s pending completion of his PhD is one step in that direction, as is the establishment of a research laboratory space on our 7th floor. Even despite the heavy teaching loads, however, some faculty have managed to be productive with regard to scholarship: since arriving at LSU in May, Dr. Brueilly had one paper published and one in press, presented research at Louisiana Physical Therapy Association (LPTA) meeting, and has had one accepted for presentation at 2009 APTA; Dr. Chiu also had an poster accepted for presentation at the 2009 APTA and another at the 2009 International Stroke Conference of the American Heart Association; Dr. Eason has had one manuscript accepted for publication; and Ha Hoang presented a poster at the Fall LPTA meeting.

If you haven’t had an opportunity to come see what’s been happening in the department recently, you should drop by. We are located on the 7th floor. Please stop by and we’ll be happy to show you what we have been up to.



Departmental Update—

Communication Disorders

by **Theresa Nicholls, MCD, CCC-SLP**

The Department of Communication Disorders graduated its first class of seven Doctor of Audiology students at the spring 2008 commencement. A new graduate class of twenty-one SLP students began in the summer of 2008 and the Doctor of Audiology program admitted its largest class to date with twelve students who began the program in the fall of 2008.

Our department was honored to be represented at the American Speech, Language and Hearing Association's Annual Conference held in Chicago, Ill. in November of 2008. Dr. Robert Turner served as the Audiology convention chair, Dr. Annette Hurley was an invited speaker, and Dr. Meher Banajee presented at the conference. Dr. Turner was also named as a Fellow for the Association.

We proudly hosted a luncheon and continuing education for all external-site clinical supervisors in speech-language pathology on December 10, 2008. The turn-out was great and attendees reported having a wonderful time getting to know each other and sharing ideas about clinical teaching in speech-language pathology.

Our department's Speech, Language and Hearing Clinic has expanded with several recently established specialty clinics and services including a pre-school language disorders group, in the newly refurbished preschool language room, an autism group, a laryngectomy group, cochlear implant assessment, programming and rehabilitation, an adult neurogenic group and comprehensive augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) services. The clinic has also been increasing community involvement by offering speech language screenings and therapy services to charter schools in the New Orleans area and consultative AAC services to the Recovery School District and private hospital clinics.

Our department would like to welcome new audiology faculty member, Dr. Laurie Schmidt, who began her tenure at LSUHSC on December 1, 2008. We would also like to recognize the clinical coordinator for audiology, Jerald James, who received his Doctor of Audiology in December of 2008. Congratulations Dr. James!!!

Presidential Fun Quiz

See How Many You Can Answer Correctly (Answers In the Next Issue)

Barack Obama is our nations 44th president, but there actually have only been 43 presidents; Can you explain Why?

THE TALLEST president was _____ at 6'4"; at 5'4", _____ was the shortest.

FOURTEEN PRESIDENTS served as vice presidents: How many can you name?

Name all the Presidents that are buried in Arlington National Cemetery?

While president, he was arrested for driving his horse too fast and fined \$20. Who was it?

Departmental Update—

Occupational Therapy by OT Faculty

The Occupational Therapy Department is pleased to welcome back their 2010 class with 35 returning students and 34 new students in the incoming 2011 class. In addition to preparing for the upcoming spring semester with students, three faculty members (Kelly Alig, Rennie Jacobs and Kerrie Ramsdell) are also continuing to work towards their doctoral degrees.

A few recent changes have occurred in the faculty: Jo Thompson was named Interim Department Head and Kelly Alig was named Interim Program Director.

Both faculty and students have been involved in various community and other volunteer endeavors during the past semester, and remain active in several others this semester. Listed are some of those activities: Collaboration with Rebuilding Together in building ramps and fences for several families in the metro New Orleans area.

- Participation in the Gulf Coast Building and Remodeling Expo in the fall semester, providing information for consumers on home modifications and universal design.
- Collaboration with the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America (RESNA) for their annual conference in New Orleans in June 2009.
- As a service learning project in the Health-Disability Continuum Class, Kerrie Ramsdell has collaborated with the Advocacy Center related to ADA compliance with RTA fixed route buses. This involvement showcases how students are collaborating with RTA and the Advocacy Center to improve access and services for riders with disabilities in New Orleans.
- Faculty are supervising and coordinating student involvement in community activities with Louisiana Youth Enhanced Services (LA-YES) and the local Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE).

Special congratulations go out to Kerrie Ramsdell, who was awarded OT of the Year for 2008 by the Louisiana Occupational Therapy Association.

Rennie Jacobs was recently accepted to present at the Midwest Deans' Research Conference held at St. Ambrose University in Davenport, IA on March 6-7.

Shannon Mangum and Jo Thompson will be presenting a poster at the annual American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) conference this April in Houston. Shannon will also be presenting a 3-hour workshop at the conference with several OT staff members from Southeast Louisiana State Hospital.

“The whole art of teaching is only the art of awakening the natural curiosity of young minds for the purpose of satisfying it afterwards.”

(Anatole France; 1844 - 1924)

Rubin wins Copping Award- Continued from Pg. 1

and physiological aging here at LSUHSC, including work with Dr. Erich Richter in Neurosurgery. Scott is also collaborating with researchers at LSU's Baton Rouge campus (where he is an Adjunct Associate Professor) and Tulane University, Department of Psychology (Uptown Campus). Appropriately, in COMD here at LSUHSC he teaches Neuroscience, Aphasia and Related Disorders, Motor Speech Disorders, Dysphagia Swallowing, and Medical Aspects of Speech-Language Pathology.

As a recovering “actor”, Scott achieves his pleasure by presenting cutting-edge neurophysiological principles to the students in his Department – and when invited, to any other interested audience. The following quote from his Copping Award nomination characterizes Scott's classroom teaching; “It never feels like Dr. Rubin is lecturing. Rather, he walks around the classroom like a kid in a candy store who just cannot contain his enthusiasm... and... he does so with complete professionalism and an absolutely infectious personality”.

Rubin joins an elite group of educators from the New Orleans campus. Past winners of the award include: Pat Snyder (1997), Sharon Jones (1998), Kim Simmons (1999), Debra Judd (2000), Henry McCarthy (2001), Bridget Langley (2002), Jane Eason (2003), Diane Merendino (2004), Larry Broussard (2005), Andrew Pellet (2006), and Louaine Spriggs (2007).

Departmental Update–

Clinical Laboratory Science

by Michele Zitzmann, MHS, MT, CLS

The Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences welcomes 25 new students, who began classes on January 14th. Meanwhile, the senior students are performing their clinical rotations. The following hospitals are serving as clinical affiliates this year: University Hospital (LSU Interim Hospital), Touro Infirmary, Children's Hospital, East Jefferson General Hospital, Ochsner Clinic Foundation, West Jefferson Medical Center, St. Tammany Parish Hospital in Covington, North Oaks Medical Center in Hammond, Our Lady of the Lake in Baton Rouge, Lafayette General Medical Center in Lafayette, and Chabert Medical Center in Houma. We are very excited about having our students acquire clinical experience in these laboratories.

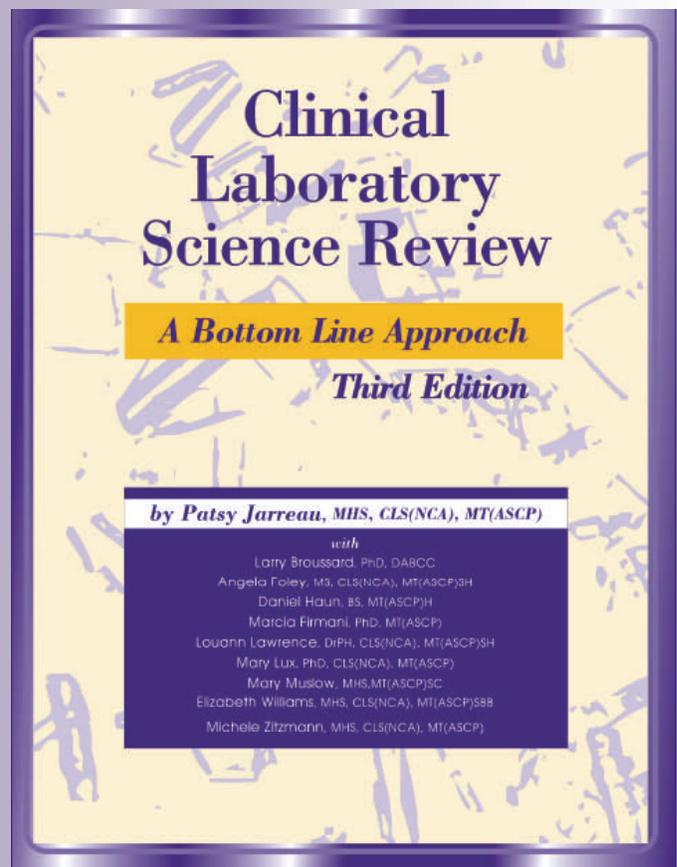
In October, 2008, Liz Williams traveled to Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Novgorod, Russia to discuss CLS/MT education and practice. She made the trip with 25 other Medical Technologists from the United States. In addition to giving and attending presentations, Liz had the opportunity to visit a research center, regional hospital, medical college, and a university.

Two of our senior students recently received national scholarships. Jarret Going earned one of only five ASCP (American Society of Clinical Pathologists) Legacy Scholarships valued at \$5,000. Ashley Pierre earned one of six API (American Proficiency Institute) Scholarships valued at \$2,000. We are very proud of Jarret and Ashley for being recipients of such prestigious national scholarships!

Our department recently said "goodbye" to Dr. Louann Lawrence, as she retired on January 16th. She was Department Head for 14 years and plans to return to Fort Worth, Texas to be closer to her family. We will certainly miss her, but wish her a happy and healthy retirement! We are pleased that Dr. Larry Broussard has been named as Acting Department Head.

The faculty plans to attend several state and national conferences in the Spring and Summer semesters. The senior students will be attending the Annual Louisiana/Mississippi Joint Meeting in Alexandria, LA in April. The students will compete in the student bowl competition and attend review sessions for the national certification exams.

Faculty members will also begin preparing the 4th edition of *Clinical Laboratory Science Review: A Bottom Line Approach*. Publication rights for the book were donated to LSUHSC in honor and memory of Betty Lynne Theriot (BLT), a friend and former faculty member in our department. Proceeds from the sale of the book fund the only endowed professorship in the School of Allied Health Professions, student scholarships, and the BLT Memorial Outstanding Student Award given at the annual SAHP Honors Ceremony. The BLT Distinguished Professorship is held by Patsy Jarreau, Program Director and editor of the book. Since 2003, more than \$90,000 has been used to support the professorship, scholarships, awards, and other departmental activities.



Departmental Update— Rehabilitation Counseling

by Erin Dugan, PhD, NCC, LPC-S

The Department of Rehabilitation Counseling welcomed its 2010 Master of Health Sciences class last Fall! Over the past year, the faculty of the Department of Rehabilitation Counseling has focused its efforts on recruiting students, presenting at local, regional, and national conferences, and publishing research.

Together, with the students, the faculty members presented at numerous conferences during the fall 2008 semester as well as had recent publications.

PRESENTATIONS

Henry McCarthy

- *Rehabilitation Consultation to Improve Consumers' Access to Public Transportation*
- *Practical Wisdom: Positive Rehabilitation Psychology and the Legacy of Beatrice Wright*

Jan Case

- *Revisiting Vocation: Opening Windows in the Client/Counselor Relationship for Empowering Change in Life*
- *Counseling Adults in their Career Choices*
- *Managing Dual Relationships*
- *Reading the Code of Ethics for Rehabilitation Counselors as Literature: A Natural Catalyst for Rehabilitation Counselor Confidence and Competence*
- *Person Centered Later Life Transition Planning for Persons with Disabilities*
- *The Application of Critical Thinking and Creativity in Ethical Decision Making: The DECK*

Erin Dugan

- *Introducing Play Therapy Into the Rehabilitation Counseling Profession*
- *Introduction to Child-Parent Relationship Therapy*
- *So Many Professions: Which One Do I Join?*

PUBLICATIONS

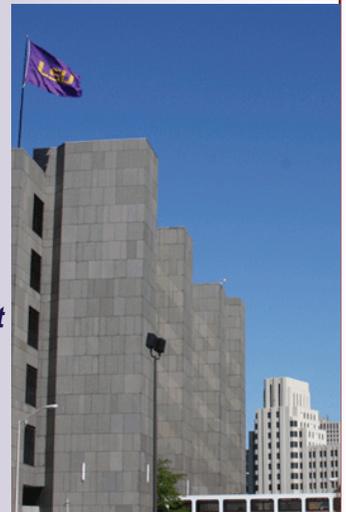
Jan Case

- *Special issues in rehabilitation counselor ethics. Journal of Applied Rehabilitation Counseling (in press)*
- *Preplanning by rehabilitation counselors proves critical in disaster preparedness. Counseling Today (August 2008)*
- *Playing with a "Full DECK": A Creative application of the Integrative Decision-Making Framework of Ethical Behavior. Rehabilitation Education (in press)*

Erin Dugan

- *Working with Children Affected by Hurricane Katrina: Two Case Studies in Play Therapy. Journal of Child and Adolescent Mental Health (in press)*

With the successful completion of the 2nd year MHS class's comprehensive examinations, the Department of Rehabilitation Counseling is eager to kick off its Spring semester! The students have requested Independent Supervised Research Projects to be implemented into their curriculum that will focus on **Providing Play Therapy Services to Children with Disabilities** and **Grant Writing**. The faculty is looking forward to the completion of the 2nd year MHS class in their internship experience and their upcoming graduation in May 2009.



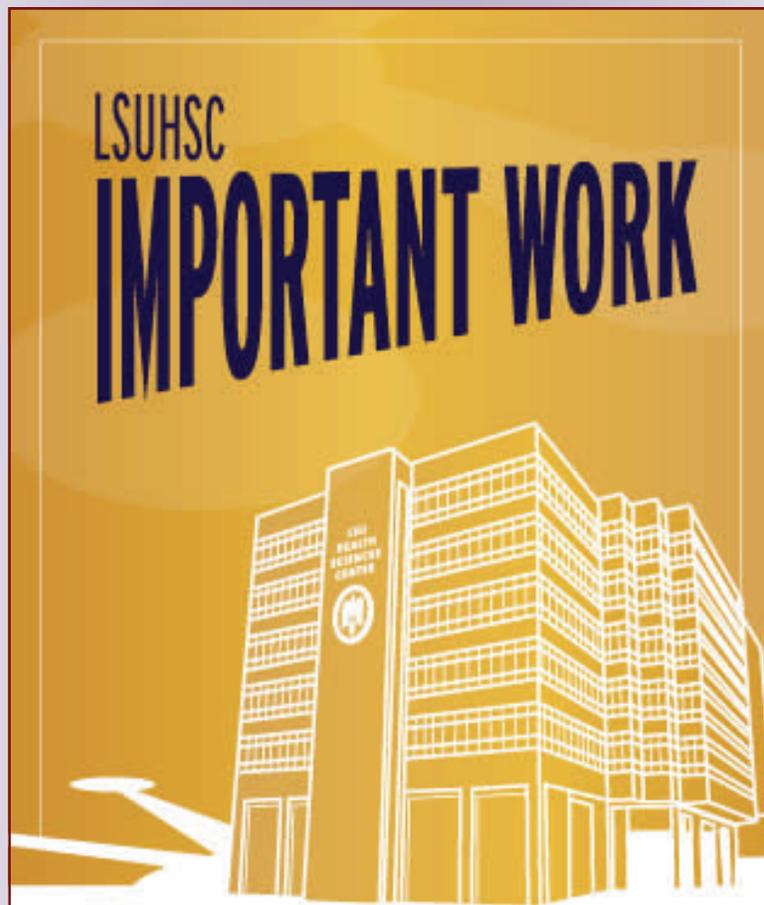
Departmental Update–

The Human Development Center

by George Hebert, PhD

The Human Development Center (HDC) was established in 1974. The HDC is a member of a network of 67 University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) programs located throughout the U.S. This network was established by Congress and overall purpose of the UCEDD programs is described in the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (PL 106-402). Basically, all UCEDD programs are directed to perform four core functions related to supporting individuals with disabilities and their families (across the lifespan) to participate in all aspects of life in the community, including: (a) interdisciplinary training, (b) research and evaluation, (c) community service, and (d) dissemination. UCEDD programs are further directed to address one or more area of emphasis enumerated in the Act.

The HDC currently employs approximately 40 full-time and another dozen part-time faculty and staff. Note: Because HDC operates projects that are statewide and some that have national scope, you may not have ever seen some of our employees. While HDC does not operate any academic programs, per se, HDC employees contribute to undergraduate and graduate education within the School and University in a variety of ways. For example, HDC faculty/staff provide guest lectures in a variety of classes and arrange and supervise field experiences for students in several degree programs. In the future we hope to work with Department heads and faculty in other departments to see how we may be able to collaborate to provide instruction and/or supervision in ways that meet the needs of departmental curricula and support our core mission of “interdisciplinary training”.



FOCUS ON FACULTY

Penny G. Kroll, PT, PhD

Professor and Department Head- Physical Therapy



The new Department Head of Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center School of Allied Health Professions Department of Physical Therapy in New Orleans, Dr. Penny Kroll, is new to Louisiana. Well, not really. Penny may be the new department head, but she is no stranger to Louisiana. Dr. Kroll has her roots here being raised on Forked Island, and having graduated from LSUHSC (LSUMC at the time) in New Orleans with a BS in Physical Therapy in 1975. She is also no stranger to many other places. She left the Big Easy after completing her undergraduate physical therapy studies to take on the Big Apple. She carved a niche for herself at New York University (NYU) as she continued her studies achieving her MA in Kinesiology of the Disabled, and her PhD in Clinical Research. New York City (NYC) was home to Penny from 1975 to 1991, during which time she served as 1st Lieutenant for the United States Public Health Service. Once she left the service she held many staff and supervisory positions in orthopedic settings, and eventually held the position of the Director of Rehabilitation at the Hospital for Joint Disease. She also found time to serve on the faculty of many academic institutions in the NYC area.

In 1991 Penny settled back down south in the warmer climate of the southeast and served on the faculty of the University of Miami in Coral Gables, FL. After 12 years, she left sunny South Beach to head back north to assume the positions of Chair and Associate Professor at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. Lucky for us in June of 2007 this Louisiana girl made her way back home to the good food and the great football! She returned to where she started, currently serving as Department Head and Professor at LSUHSC SAHP Department of Physical Therapy in New Orleans. Her homecoming is very timely since she will have the pleasure of being a part of the first class of Doctorate of Physical Therapy students this coming May.

Her illustrious career thus far has also included numerous research projects, publications, manuscript reviews, academic institution advisory committee duties, and lectures. Considering the diversity of settings in which Dr. Kroll has worked in her career, her clinical focus has been inpatient and outpatient orthopedics and her instructional focus has been the movement sciences, specifically kinesiology and biomechanics.

Penny married a fellow physical therapist (Michael) who was in the class above hers. At NYU he went onto obtain his master's degree in physical therapy, and was at the dissertation phase of his PhD just prior to his death from cancer in 1990. The union of these two highly intellectual individuals produced yet another highly intellectual individual in their daughter, Erin. She graduated from the University of Florida with two degrees; in Mathematics and Linguistics. Penny is proud to point out that Erin had a "knock-out GPA", and is currently working towards her MBA at Temple University. As fate would have it, she is employed in Philadelphia at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Penny's last stop before coming home to Louisiana.

Since back here in Louisiana, Penny moved into the Warehouse District in New Orleans with her sweet Sharpei, Allie. She and Allie love taking walks, which sometimes can be quite exciting. Just ask Penny how she managed to break both wrists this past Spring in a leash "incident". Not to worry because her rehabilitation has progressed very nicely. She's back to enjoying the great food in New Orleans, Zydeco music and dancing, and sharing good times entertaining her friends. She's even been able to spend time with her family in Vermillion Parish and Michael's family in Baton Rouge.

We're delighted to have Penny back home! She is a huge asset to LSUHSC and our profession! "Welcome home, Penny!"

Story adapted from an article appearing in the September/October 2008 issue of the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association's Bayou Bulletin by Kinta Mader LeBlanc, PT, MPT.