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When you are finished reading Connections, please pass it on to a friend or recycle.

Cover: Elizabeth Brandstetter, a junior studying health sciences, talks with Erin Govert, a 2010 CAHS speech-language pathology master’s graduate. Both participated in SHARE, the college’s initiative to reconnect with alumni.

Cover photo: Dave Collins

CAHS students, staff and faculty sought donations for another round of “Operation CAHS: Collecting and Helping Soldiers” this fall.

DPT program director and faculty member Dr. Lizanne Mulligan, PhD, pins DPT student, Robert Mowery. The pinning ceremony marks the successful completion of the DPT student’s first year of the program and the first clinical rotation.
Message from the Dean

Dear CAHS Alumni and Friends:

Little did I know when I was reading a recent issue of The Chronicle on Higher Education that I would discover an alumnus who would help the college reconnect with many of you. While reading James M. Langley’s article published in the July 18, 2010, issue, I learned that while he was working at Georgetown University in the alumni office, he developed a project to reconnect alumni with the university. As part of the project, he recruited current students to conduct interviews during their breaks with alumni living in their hometowns. The students’ questions focused on discovering how alumni might want to reconnect with the university. The alumni responded in touching and remarkable ways.

I called Jim and asked if he would help our college with a similar project, and also discovered he was an alumnus of the University of Cincinnati! He was delighted to help us develop a similar strategy and agreed to return to campus and conduct a workshop to prepare our students to interview alumni. He also helped adapt Georgetown’s questionnaire for our needs. As a result, our students were prepared to interview many of you.

We hope you enjoy reading some of what we heard when we began this adventure. Reconnecting with your passion, creativity, intelligence and productivity has launched an exciting journey—and it has only just begun. We hope to have our students continue these interviews during their breaks and hope you will continue to willingly share your wisdom, professional knowledge and life experiences with the next generation of alumni.

Best wishes,

Elizabeth C. King, PhD, Dean

CAHS freshmen (and future CAHS alumni) pose for their class picture during College Day, held on Aug. 23. New students gathered by college during the university-wide event to meet with their faculty mentors, other faculty and staff, as well as their learning community classmates.
When Erin Govert decided to return to school to get her master’s in speech-language pathology, she came home to Cincinnati. She’d gone away to the University of Colorado-Boulder to earn her undergraduate degrees in speech-language and hearing sciences and elementary education. She was working as an elementary education teacher in Colorado when she decided to enroll in graduate school.

As a graduate student in the College of Allied Health Sciences (CAHS), Govert says she didn’t really take advantage of activities that were available and didn’t really integrate into the campus or the college.

“Being in graduate school was all consuming; I just didn’t have much spare time to give beyond my classes and off-campus practicum,” she says. “I had a close group of friends in my communications sciences classes, but at the end of the day, I was just ready to go home.”

She adds that college life was different for her as a graduate student. “I was older and had experienced life and work already.”

Govert admits that since graduating in 2010, she hasn’t gotten involved as an alumnus the way she’d like to. “It just hasn’t been on my radar to get involved,” she says. She attributes her lack of involvement as an alumnus primarily to a lack of time, however, not desire.

“Time is an issue,” she says. She works at the Cincinnati Center for Improved Communication, a smaller private practice where she works primarily with children age 3 to 8 years old. “But,” she says, “participating in the SHARE project has most definitely made me excited about getting involved as an alum.”

**Students spend their summer reaching out**

Govert’s story is just one of nearly 300 that CAHS students heard over the past summer as part of an initiative called Students Helping Alumni Reconnect and Engage (SHARE). It’s a project that was launched to help the college find ways to reconnect with alumni, build relationships and establish the college as a place where people stay connected.
Audrey Miller, instructor in the Department of Nutritional Sciences, oversaw the project, working with Kari Dunning, PhD, Rehabilitation Sciences associate professor. Current CAHS students contacted over 700 alumni over the summer to schedule time to talk with them, preferably in person, or by phone, about their experiences at UC, their lives since graduation and their thoughts about being involved with the college.

“We’re in a unique situation because this college wasn’t founded until 1998,” says Miller. “Quite a number of our alumni have never identified with CAHS because their major was part of another college when they were in school and was moved to CAHS after they graduated.”

She says that’s played a role in alumni participation, which isn’t where they’d like it to be. “We want to help alumni identify with their programs and departments—where they are now, and what they’re doing now, in hopes to ultimately increase alumni involvement with the college.”

All about feedback and listening

The project was in no way about raising money, says Dunning, a point students made clear up front. “It was about feedback and connecting. Our goal was to reconnect with alumni to begin to develop relationships and establish a sense of place,” she says. “We want to know, what can we do for them so they feel like CAHS is a good place to come home to after they’ve left? We want to establish ourselves as a place where people stay connected. Those connections make the college stronger, and we’re going to our alumni looking for strength.”

Dunning and Miller agree that SHARE was a tremendous success. “It was a great start,” says Dunning. “We all learned a lot.”

Miller says alumni delivered one message in particular loud and clear, indicating that the project’s timing was spot on.

“One of the questions students asked was ‘Why did you agree to meet with me today?’ Time and time again, people said they wanted to reconnect, support the school, and share professional knowledge with students.”

Two students who were interviewers say they’d love to be on the receiving end of that professional knowledge. Elizabeth Brandstetter, a junior health sciences major, says it was good to talk to the alumni because they are on the “other side of the spectrum from me.”

“They’ve gotten into grad school, gotten through it and now are working,” she says. “It was good to hear things that my professors are telling me from someone who’s working in the field. They know what really counts and matters.”

Brandstetter says the project was a glimpse into what it would be like to have a mentor. “Although I was gathering information from them, I was also gathering advice,” she says. “I heard things during the interview I assume I’d hear from a mentor.”

Charles McCombs, a junior health sciences and pre-med major and another student interviewer, says he also gathered lots of advice. He says he “got to listen, learn and grow in ways I might not otherwise,” through the project. He agrees, “It’s nice to connect with someone who’s gone through UC’s program.”

Connecting helps alumni too

From an alumnus’s perspective, Mary Pat Turon-Findley, RD, who graduated with her master’s in nutritional sciences in 1984, says staying connected with the college has benefits for alumni too.

“It keeps you sharp, keeps you involved and keeps you in touch with what’s going on with our youth,” she says.

Turon-Findley, a dietitian at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, says she’s kept up with connections over the years and looks for ways she can help. She taught the Nutrition in the Life Cycles class as an adjunct professor, and does presentations whenever she can to different groups at UC, such as the Nutrition Club and to medical school students.
“I think it’s nice for them to be able to put a speaker out there and say, ‘This is an alum,’” Turon-Findley says. She says she also makes herself available to any of the students who have questions and are trying to get into the field. “It’s important for us to step forward, make the connections and get information out there,” she says.

Dunning says they heard that same philosophy from many of the alumni who participated in SHARE. “A lot of them see the opportunity to inspire students and new clinicians in their profession,” she says. “They see these new people coming up, look at the future of their profession, and see that they could get involved and be an inspiration for the new people.”

Serving is a two-way street

Miller says that SHARE was also about finding out about how the college can better serve alumni as well.

“Serving our alumni is very important,” she says. “It goes both ways.” She says many alumni suggested the college offer more opportunities for them to earn continuing education credits through seminars and workshops on campus. “Their feeling was, if they have to get the credits anyway, why not come back to UC?”

She also says people many times forget about the resources available through the college. “We have nationally known experts and researchers who are available for programs or presentations to organizations, classes, or groups, for instance. We want to build awareness about the resources in CAHS.”

The next step is evaluating the wealth of information and feedback alumni shared. Dunning and Jim Clark, PhD, director of the School of Social Work, are taking the lead to summarize and analyze the information and will present their findings to the CAHS Leadership Council in February. The council will make recommendations based on those results and each department will develop ways to connect with their alumni.

Because the response to SHARE was so positive, Miller says they’ll be gearing up in the spring for another round. “Once people heard it wasn’t about donating money, but about feedback and connecting, we saw that people want to reconnect, they just need to be asked. SHARE is an opened door to an opportunity and pathway for alumni to easily get involved,” she says.

Erin Govert admits she’s guilty of not taking the time to find ways to get involved and looks forward to having a “master list” of ways to get involved available through the college. “That’s where I fall short—investigating things,” she says. “I’d love to meet more people, but I’d also like to be sharing experiences.”

Those are results Dunning is happy with. “Wanting to get involved is a great opportunity to build a community with lots of different types of people. We’re pleased to see that.”

Would you like to SHARE?

SHARE project coordinator Audrey Miller says plans are underway to reach out to more alumni through SHARE. “Alumni said it was good to talk to the students and hear good things about the college,” Miller says. “They really appreciated the chance to give us feedback—as one alum said, ‘How many times are you called for your feedback and ideas?’”

Beginning in March, project coordinators will be lining up and training 10–15 students who will serve as the project’s “feet on the ground.” Students will contact alumni living in the same area students live during the summer, to interview them and collect their feedback. The project will wrap up in August.

Let us know if you’d like to SHARE your feedback and get reconnected! Contact Audrey Miller (millerak@ucmail.uc.edu).
Occupational therapy master’s program approved at CAHS

The Ohio Board of Regents unanimously approved a new master’s degree program in occupational therapy in September. CAHS Associate Dean Tina Whalen, DPT, EdD, who has led the program’s development for several years, says the college will now begin the recruitment process for a program director and field service coordinator, positions required for program accreditation.

With completed prerequisites, both occupational therapy assistants and graduates with bachelor’s degrees in health sciences, psychology or other fields could enter UC’s program. Whalen estimates the program will start with the first class of 30 students in the summer of 2016, but will begin offering prerequisites in the fall of 2014.

According to Whalen, the final curriculum was designed to be flexible enough so students could continue to work while completing their degree. The blended curriculum will divide the semester into two seven-week terms, the first involving a week-long “residency” on-campus.

During the residency, students will learn the clinical practice of occupational therapy in lab-based courses, including the assessment and intervention skills they will need to practice in several OT focus areas: neuromuscular, mental health, developmental pediatrics and cognitive. Weeks 2–6 of each term will cover content lessons in an online course format, with competency testing at the end of each term.

More CAHS graduates earning coveted graduate school spots

More students are applying to graduate programs across the country, and the departments of Rehabilitation Sciences and Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) have high numbers of students winning one of the limited available spots in those programs.

“We’re a pre-professional program that opens the door to any number of professional graduate schools, most of which are extremely competitive,” says Thomas Herrmann, EdD, interim chair of the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences.

Almost half of the Winter 2012 and Spring 2013 rehabilitation sciences graduates were accepted into graduate programs. Of the students who applied to medical schools and physician assistant programs, 68 percent were accepted.

In CSD, 48 out of the 54 spring graduates who applied were accepted into graduate programs in audiology or speech-language pathology. An additional five will be attending graduate programs in non-CSD disciplines.

“From a graduate school perspective, our students are very strong and well-rounded by graduation,” says CSD director of undergraduate programs, Carney Sotto, PhD. “We expect a lot from them. They are required to take courses in science, math, the arts and foreign language, and many of them have service experiences on their resume as well.”

From healthnews.uc.edu

New nutrition minor broadens opportunities

Under the leadership of Grace Falciglia, EdD, the Nutritional Sciences Department began offering a minor in nutrition beginning this fall. The minor gives students in a variety of undergraduate majors a strong foundation of the basic principles of food and nutrition, in relationship to overall wellness.

Although students who complete the minor won’t be qualified to provide medical nutrition therapy, the additional courses give them a broader level of expertise to offer potential employers, as well as knowledge they can use to improve their personal nutrition, health and lifestyles.

Delegates visiting this fall from Mount Kenya University (MKU) met with CAHS faculty and former UC faculty member Victoria Wulsin, MD, who is also a chancellor with MKU. MKU is partnering with the University of Cincinnati, working with interested UC colleges in a number of areas, including faculty development, curriculum improvement, and service learning. From left to right: Kennedy Ramani, Dr. Victoria Wulsin, Grace Falciglia, Chanty Accurso, Asad Dalia, Victoria Wangia, Dean Elizabeth King, Simon Nyutu Gicharu.

From healthnews.uc.edu
Rehabilitation students attend OPTA Leadership Conference

Three DPT students were chosen to represent the University of Cincinnati DPT program at the annual Ohio Physical Therapy Association (OPTA) Leadership Conference in Columbus, Ohio, on Oct. 12. This year’s attendees were PT Student Club representatives Matt DeLange, Marlena Thomas and Katie Rusbacky.

The students attended sessions on legislative issues and had the chance to talk to leaders in the field and network with other students. DeLange (DPT ’16) said it was interesting to see the amount of politics involved in the practice of physical therapy. “I realized how important it is to advocate and be involved in the political process on behalf of the profession,” he says in an email.

Thomas agreed. “I learned of the importance of establishing and maintaining a connection to a state representative and voicing opinion about laws that affect the practice of physical therapy. By doing this, we will be agents of change and advocates for our profession,” she says in an email.

CSD students elected to NSSLHA national council

Katie Carstens and Molly Murrison, seniors in communication sciences and disorders, have been appointed to the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA) executive council.

Carstens, president of the University of Cincinnati (UC) NSSLHA chapter, is the Region 4 Councilor, serving as a liaison between NSSLHA and local NSSLHA chapters in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and Ontario, Canada. Murrison is the Region 4 Delegate to NSSLHA. She also serves as the secretary to the UC NSSLHA chapter.

The appointments of Carstens and Murrison culminate their active roles in the UC chapter over the past three years, where they have served as chapter officers and been active on various committees. Both say their involvement with NSSLHA has been invaluable, giving them opportunities to develop the leadership skills they’ll use in their new roles.

“NSSLHA allows students to take on leadership roles, give back to the community, advocate for our profession, and develop as a professional,” says Murrison in an email. “The experience is really what you make out of it.”

Carstens says strengthening her leadership abilities with the UC chapter gave her the confidence to “take my leadership skills to the next level.”

Both students will serve two-year terms.

Lauren Thomas, Matt DeLange, Kelli Barton, Katie Rusbacky, Marlena Thomas

Molly Murrison  Katie Carstens

To our College of Allied Health Sciences

Alumni and Friends,

Thank you for your support! Here’s what we can do with your gift...
CAHS supporter Ruth Rosevear nurtured a passion and leaves a legacy

Nutritionist, dietitian, philanthropist and long-time College of Allied Health benefactor Ruth Rosevear died on Oct. 6. Rosevear shared her life-long passion for nutrition by educating children and families as a nutritionist for doctors and local clinics, at local schools and health fairs, teaching classes, and publishing more than 50 articles.

In 2003, she established an endowed chair within CAHS for Dietary Studies in Maternal and Child Nutrition, which is held by Debra Krummel, PhD. According to Grace Falciglia, EdD, nutritional sciences department head, “the gift helps develop the areas of life cycle nutrition, emphasizing prenatal nutrition, nutrition during pregnancy, and follow-up of infant and child development and nutrition.”

“By endowing a chair, Ruth left us a legacy that enables me to help obese, pregnant women and their babies reduce their risk of future chronic disease,” says Krummel. “That legacy continues through the mentoring of students who are completing research projects, their degrees, and becoming colleagues in our profession.”

In addition, Rosevear’s gift established the Ruth Rosevear Lecture Series, an annual event that brings in experts in the field in honor of Ruth’s passion for nutrition education.

“Ruth Rosevear was a role model to the many lives she touched,” says CAHS dean Elizabeth King. “The sparkle in her eyes lit up her passion for giving to others. She gave not only through her lifetime of pioneering work in teaching and research in nutrition, but through her lasting legacy in an endowed chair.”

Debra Krummel and Ruth Rosevear

Don’t miss upcoming college and alumni events—see the back cover for details

• lab coats
• lap tops
• audiometers
• AAC devices
• ultrasound
• a continuous read stress test capable ECG machine
• undergraduate and graduate scholarships
• grip dynamometers
• goniometers
• microscopes
• centrifuges
• extra sets of hoses and connectors for the gas analyzers
• wound models
• joint models and skeletons
• mobile overhead suspension system for gait training with mobility impaired people
• travel to professional conferences
• membership to professional organizations
• summer stipends
• AV equipment to support distance learning
• keynote speakers and community engagement programs
• exam study guides
• exam fees
• instructional materials
• graduate student travel and research
• summer outreach programs that benefit the community and educate our students
• study abroad
• recognition awards

…to name a few items we need during the year.

From your grateful
CAHS Dean
Elizabeth King,
Associate Dean
Tina Whalen, faculty,
staff, & students!
Faculty and staff recognized for excellence in 2013

**Faculty Excellence in Teaching**
Sarah Couch, PhD, RD

Faculty and students alike recognize Department of Nutritional Sciences professor Sarah Couch for her dedication and effectiveness as a teacher. They say her instruction in the challenging graduate level Macronutrients course is just one example. She's innovative, incorporating service learning into classes, and “flipping her classroom”, by discussing a case study in class based on a PowerPoint posted for students to review before class.

**Faculty Excellence in Service**
Rebecca Leugers, MS, PT

Rebecca Leugers, an assistant professor in the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences, is leaving her mark as a professor, and through her service to the college, university and her profession. Throughout her entire career at the University of Cincinnati, steady and consistent service has been her standard. She's extended her commitment to serve even more over the last few years, serving on numerous committees, some of which include the faculty representative to the Administrative Council; Secretary/Treasurer of the Academy of Fellows of Teaching and Learning; and Chair of the Ohio Physical Therapy Continuing Education Committee, among others.

**Faculty Excellence in Research**
Aimee Dietz, PhD

Aimee Dietz, assistant professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, is currently principal investigator on two grants funded through the Institutional Clinical and Translational Science Award (via NIH) and co-investigator on an R01. Her research focuses on developing therapies for people with aphasia. One NIH grant supports her work with researchers from Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center in her Augmentative and Alternative Communication and Aphasia Lab, using functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to measure language recovery in people with post-stroke aphasia. She also promotes student research by supporting 10–12 master’s and doctoral students in her lab.

**Innovative Use of Technology in Teaching**
Chalee Engelhard, EdD, PT, GCS

Chalee Engelhard assistant professor of clinical, director of clinical education, has embraced technology, using it in innovative ways in the classroom. She incorporated web-based multimedia training into an educational module she developed for clinical instructors in the DPT program. She also uses online tools such as wikis and discussion boards to help students interact and stay connected.

Students and colleagues alike value her use of technology, saying tools like the module encourage clinical instructors to learn and improve student interaction. They say role-playing with the module is easy to view, uses real-life scenarios, and stimulates discussion that leads to an improved student program.

**Staff Excellence**
Beth Bextermueller, program manager

Faculty members say Beth Bextermueller, program manager for Health Sciences and DPT, keeps their programs running smoothly with her willingness to work hard, positive attitude, and desire to help others be successful. Always an ambassador, she talks with potential students and families, sharing detailed program information, and works hard to make their visits special. She seeks out opportunities for senior internships, and recruits speakers and volunteer opportunities for the Health Sciences Club. She helped seniors give back by organizing a fitness assessment fundraiser for the senior scholarship fund. Students consider her an ally and value her words of wisdom.

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**CAHS welcomes new faculty and staff**

- **Don Hodges, MA**, director of information technology, director educational technology and instructional support
- **Chris McCoy, MA**, assistant director academic, Student Affairs
- **Megan Patton, MEd, RHIA**, visiting assistant professor clinical, Department of Health Informatics
- **Noah Silbert, PhD**, assistant professor, CSD
- **Rachel Smith, MS**, research assistant, School of Social Work
- **Victoria Wangia, PhD**, associate professor, educator; program director, DADS
- **Lisa Williamson**, adjunct instructor, CSD
Rehab Resources and Rehab on the Run are therapist-owned companies focused on providing friendly, quality staff and superior service to patients and healthcare organizations. They’ve partnered with CAHS for more than 15 years by providing continuing education and clinical experiences for students, participation in research projects and lectures within the college.

With over 50 speech pathologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, physical therapy assistants, and certified occupational therapy assistants across the Dayton and Greater Cincinnati area, they make supporting the next generation of professionals a priority. They’re proud to continue their support of CAHS as a sponsor of the PRaISE conference.

American Rehab Partners (ARP) uses successful partnerships—with clients, families and other health care professionals—to achieve the best treatment outcomes and customer satisfaction. Owned by therapists, ARP promotes evidence-based practice focused on individualized patient care.

ARP values education and research and is pleased to support CAHS students as they enrich their education through PRaISE. Through CAHS and this research-based event, our future rehabilitation professionals will have a research-based foundation that will further improve the quality of rehabilitation professions.
**Department of Analytical and Diagnostic Sciences**

**DADS faculty take on industry leadership positions**

Pamela Greenstone, MEd, RHIA, became the president of the Ohio Health Information Management Association (OHIMA) effective July 1, 2013. The OHIMA, the professional health care organization for credentialed health information management specialists, has more than 3,000 members. As president, Greenstone attended the 2013 Summer Leadership Symposium in Chicago, Ill., on July 12-13. The conference was sponsored by the AHIMA, the industry’s national organization.

Jan Kelly was appointed as the project leader for the OHIMA’s board’s Academic Endeavors and Diversity strategy. As the project leader, she will be planning and co-coordinating two educational sessions for Ohio HIM educators during the 2013-2014 association year.

**Department of Rehabilitation Sciences and Department of Nutritional Sciences**

**Rehab and nutrition partner on Boys Hope Girls Hope life skills workshops**

CAHS rehabilitation and nutrition students teamed up to conduct life educational workshops on nutrition and fitness for students from Boys Hope Girls Hope, an organization that provides educational opportunities to underserved Cincinnati youth.

Using guidelines from participating faculty Elise Cowie, Dan Carl, PhD, Susan Kotowski, PhD, and Lizanne Mulligan, PhD, the 10 nutrition and 10 rehabilitation students developed and conducted six, 20-minute workshops on April 13. The workshops taught participants how a healthy lifestyle goes hand-in-hand with healthy food choices and fitness routines.

Eden McDaniel, one of the rehabilitation student participants said, “Seeing the lack of basic knowledge about the body that those kids had—things that I assumed were common knowledge like counting a pulse and whether it should go up or down with activity—was really eye opening. Being able to arm them with the knowledge to have more awareness about their bodies, was really fulfilling. Hopefully, through programs such as the Boys Hope Girls Hope event, this information is passed down by peers and, as a result, the pay-it-forward phenomena can help create a healthier youth.”
School of Social Work

Spring break study abroad opportunity looks at UK child welfare system

Social work students traveled to London over spring break as part of a study abroad course for a first-hand look at the United Kingdom’s child welfare system, one that in the early 1900s was a model for the system in the United States. Assistant professor Carol Wheeler-Strother, PhD, MSW, led the group of 17 graduate and undergraduate students on the nine-day trip, which also included two days in Paris.

Hosted by the School of Social Work at London Metropolitan University, students explored the policies and practices of child welfare and adoption in the United Kingdom. The group participated in workshops at the university with social work faculty and students, as well as with the Black Adoption Coalition and the British Association for Adoption and Fostering.

Wheeler-Strother says in addition to giving students the opportunity to compare and contrast the differences between the countries’ child welfare systems, the first-time trip was an experience in cultural immersion for the students in both London and Paris.

She says plans are already underway to return in 2015, with hopes of including a service learning component.

School of Social Work

New certificate addresses need for Spanish-speaking allied health providers

The McMicken faculty senate approved a certificate in Spanish for Social Work and Health Care Services on Sept. 10. It’s a partnership between the College of Allied Health Sciences’ School of Social Work and UC’s romance languages and literatures department in the McMicken College of Arts & Sciences.

The program will meet a growing need for Spanish-speaking professionals in health care and social work. The undergraduate certificate comprises 22 credit hours of classwork, service learning and an optional study abroad experience.

Students must have completed Spanish 1002 or an equivalent basic Spanish course before taking the certificate courses. Though classes focus on social work, students in health sciences or other liberal arts majors like sociology or anthropology could benefit from the certificate as well.

Associate professor of social work Christine Lottman says the certificate will help students by better preparing them for the job market after graduation and by training them early how to meet the needs of an underserved population.

You can download information about the new program at www.artsci.uc.edu/departments/rll/undergrad.html under “Certificates.”

From healthnews.uc.edu

School of Social Work

Social workers take part in Professional Development Day

Over 200 School of Social Work students, faculty, staff, alumni, and field instructors participated in a Professional Development Day on Oct. 8 at Tangeman University Center.

The event included a morning presentation by Melissa Bilancini and Adrienne Gavula from the Ohio ACLU, who discussed issues such as advocacy, the role of social workers in resolving issues, and ways to take action with legislators.

During the afternoon session, Danielle Smith and Dorothy Martindale from the NASW Ohio Chapter discussed issues including social work job opportunities, implications of the Affordable Care Act on social work employment, and student loan forgiveness for social workers.

The event gave students an opportunity to meet and network with professionals from the field, which included a mix of undergraduate- and master-degreed social workers. Professionals attending could also earn continuing education credits.
Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

CSD launches new social skills class for children

Leslie Raisor-Becker, PhD, visiting assistant professor of communication sciences and disorders, launched the Social Skills Enrichment Group Sept. 30 for children ages 4–6 at UC’s Speech, Language, and Hearing Clinic.

The 10-week class offers direct training on social skills for children who have social or language impairments. “So many social things happen in school, not just in the classroom, but in the hallways and during recess. All those places become difficult for these children,” says Raisor-Becker. “They may start to feel anxious in social situations and avoid interacting with their peers.”

Social Skills Enrichment Group sessions are structured similar to a preschool environment, with various activities designed to help children learn the “script” for social situations. By taking part in a social skills group, many children (with or without a specific diagnosis) may be able to gain valuable interaction skills that will help them be successful in school by taking part in a social skills group.

Sessions are led by speech language pathology graduate students and supervised by communication sciences and disorders faculty members who are licensed and certified speech-language pathologists. As part of the class, Raisor-Becker is extending a pilot project from this summer’s language and literacy enrichment class—using a therapy dog to calm children and increase their communication skills.

From healthnews.uc.edu

Department of Nutritional Sciences

Dietitian Megan Coleman receives national recognition

Megan Coleman, a part-time, second-year master’s student in nutrition, was chosen from 65 registered dietitians in the country as the recipient of Lincare Enteral Services’ Achievement Award for Registered Dietitians (RD). Coleman, who completed her undergraduate degree at UC, is a registered dietitian and full-time medical nutrition specialist for Lincare. As part of the award, she received a weeklong vacation, which she took to Sedona, Ariz., with her mom.

Megan, a home health dietitian who calculates, recommends and monitors tube feedings, focuses on helping patients maintain their quality of life at home, rather than being readmitted to the hospital. The company also recognized Megan for her top compliance rates—she recently had the best rates in the Cincinnati area, giving Cincinnati the highest rate in the company.

“To increase compliance, I’ve developed a couple of different educational handouts for my patients. I found that when you first become a dietitian, you’ve learned all of this information and you want to tell your patient everything. But it’s the small tips that count.”

She adds, “Most patients don’t have just one thing, they have multiple comorbidities. If my job is just making their life easy with tube feeding, and ensuring they stay with that, then I’m happy.”

From healthnews.uc.edu

Accident leads sisters down a new path to speech pathology

This fall Miranda Boston joined her twin sister, Megan, in the CAHS speech-language pathology graduate program, where Megan is enrolled through distance learning. It’s not where they expected to be when they started at UC—Miranda was pursuing a degree in rehabilitation sciences and Megan was studying early childhood education.

Their paths changed with a terrifying ATV accident in July 2010 and three strokes that followed that left Miranda with paralysis on her left side and weakness in her left hand. Inpatient speech therapy as part of Miranda’s rehabilitation led her to change her major to communication sciences and disorders and set her sights on becoming a speech language pathologist, working with adult patients who have survived strokes, helping them regain their speech.

“ ’I know how frustrating it can be,” says Miranda. “I hope I can motivate them with my personal experience. Not many speech language pathologists have actually been in their shoes.”

Miranda’s experience has inspired Megan to enter the speech pathology field as well. She hopes to use her undergraduate degree in early childhood education from UC to prepare her to work with children.

“The more I watched Miranda’s therapy, the more I realized how much we take for granted, being able to talk and eat and swallow,” says Megan. “I realized I could work with kids and make a big difference helping them.”

From healthnews.uc.edu

From healthnews.edu, April 18, 2013
Department of Nutritional Sciences

Nutrition professor’s winning ‘Big Idea’ a winner for local food pantries

Assistant professor Seung-Yeon Lee, PhD, says she’s dreamed of making nutrition education available in the city’s food pantries. As a winner in the Big Idea Challenge, a project sponsored by The Greater Cincinnati Foundation, she’s closer to making that dream come true.

The challenge asked residents to submit ideas for their communities in seven different categories. Lee’s proposal to create nutrition education programs in Cincinnati’s 55 food pantries won in the Health and Wellness category. As a winner, she receives $500, and a nonprofit organization will receive a $5,000 grant to get Lee’s idea rolling.

Lee says it was a combination of her work as an educator, researcher and volunteer that gave her the idea.

“Through my research, teaching, and service, I established partnerships with St. Vincent dePaul and FreeStore FoodBank, and I could clearly see their needs,” says Lee. “Based on findings from my studies, the food insecure populations have increased risk for diet-related chronic diseases and depressive feelings.”

The programs will encourage clients to choose healthy foods within their limited resources, and through goal-oriented nutrition education, empower pantry clients to make progressive changes to achieving their health goals.

From healthnews.uc.edu

Study uses telehealth to provide children better access to therapy

The incidence of childhood voice disorders is estimated as high as 23 percent, putting a large number of children at risk for dealing with educational and social disadvantages. Unfortunately, limited access to proper treatment adds yet another hurdle for children to overcome.

Communications sciences and disorders associate professor Lisa Kelchner, PhD, and investigators from the University of Cincinnati and Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center believe results from their new study that uses telehealth, can help reduce those hurdles by increasing families’ access to treatment.

Telehealth uses electronic and telecommunication technology to provide health care. The study, led by Kelchner and funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research Quality (AHRQ), will use telehealth to provide eight weekly Internet-based teleconferencing sessions with a speech-language pathologist for children diagnosed with voice disorders. Children will also use an interactive Web portal preloaded with therapy material for daily home practice.

Kelchner says telehealth also gives clinicians greater access to voice and video images from therapy sessions using store-and-forward technology.
Researchers to study the effects of second-hand smoke on child welfare workers

School of Social Work professor Shauna Acquivita, PhD, and assistant professor Xan Boone, MSW, are collaborating on a first-time study of the effects of second-hand smoke, also known as environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) on child welfare workers.

Acquivita’s long-time interest in tobacco-related research led to the study; she did tobacco cessation counseling in a hospital before beginning her doctorate, and also saw the hazards of social workers’ exposure to ETS due to their work with populations that have a high rate of tobacco use.

Boone saw the risks as well, based on her experience as a child welfare worker for 25 years, and the concerns those workers voice today in the trainings she conducts.

Acquivita leads the study, which is funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, and in addition to Boone, includes researchers from the University of Cincinnati’s College of Education, Criminal Justice and Human Services, and Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center.

Acquivita believes child welfare workers would be an ideal source of education on tobacco cessation for their clients. That’s why they’re hoping the study’s data will not only support efforts to fund education and intervention programs for the workers, but for their clients as well.

CAHS faculty active in scholarly work

★ Results from nationally recognized research of rehabilitation sciences associate professors Nancy Talbott, PhD, and Dexter Witt, DPT, is in press (and available online) with Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. “Ultrasound Examination of the Serratus Anterior during Scapular Protraction in Asymptomatic Individuals: Reliability and Changes with Contraction,” is a continuation of their research using ultrasound imaging of the shoulder and scapula.

The work looks at isolated muscle activity with both electromyography (EMG) and rehabilitative ultrasound. “We’re looking at the architecture of the muscle in a way we haven’t done before,” says Talbott. “We can see isolated muscle activity and make adjustments to make treatment more effective.”

★ School of Social Work instructor Gary Dick conceptualized, developed and edited Social Work Practice with Veterans, a book that looks at the issues families face when a family member goes to war. Dick says the book is timely because “veterans are a population with increasing needs for not only social work services, but services involving a wide list of health disciplines.”

The book is a collaborative effort between different health care disciplines, and includes contributions from students, faculty, and alumni from CAHS, as well as faculty from nine other universities. The book is in press and scheduled to be available in February.

★ The American Academy of Audiology Foundation has recognized Counseling-Infused Audiologic Care, a book co-authored by John Greer Clark, associate professor of audiology, as one of the seven indispensable audiology textbooks published in the past 25 years.

The book is based on the authors’ belief that patients are more successful
when a healthcare practitioner’s interpersonal skills are fully developed. It’s the first commercial audiology textbook approved by the American Academy of Audiology and the American Board of Audiology as a way for current audiology practitioners to earn continuing education credits.

- **Shane Keene, DHSc**, associate professor in analytical and diagnostic sciences, took part in research that studied attitudes of respiratory therapists and hospital administrators about the use of clinical simulation labs for continuing education in hospital settings.

  The findings, published in *The Internet Journal of Medical Simulation*, indicate that respiratory therapists believe that the clinical simulation lab is a valuable learning tool and prefer that activity as part of continuing education.

  The findings also revealed that hospital administrators believe the benefits of these labs outweigh the costs, and are beginning to research the feasibility of providing that type of training. However, administrators are not making the financial commitment necessary to provide that type of training, resulting in a disconnect that researchers expect to continue for the near future.


  The presentation was a discussion of the Mid-Collegiate Touch Point Conference, which Whalen and Labiner were involved in planning this year.

  The Mid-Collegiate Conference, held on Nov. 2, gave students and faculty the opportunity to explore the importance of successful collaboration and interdisciplinary and patient-centered care.

  An interdisciplinary committee of faculty and staff planned the half-day conference, which used video vignettes of interviews with a former traumatic brain injured patient, her family, and her health care team. CAHS faculty and staff members facilitated interactive roundtable discussions with the 300 third-year students who attended the conference.

- **Susan Carlson**, retired School of Social Work professor, has published *I Can’t Imagine… Artwork from the Terrain of Grief*. The book is a collection of artwork Carlson created to help her deal with her grief after her 19-year-old son’s death.

  The book is available through LuLu Publishing (lulu.com/shop/susan-carlson/i-cant-imagine/paperback/product-21208560.html), with proceeds benefitting the Benjamin Carlson-Berne Scholarship of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra.

- **John Pantel, MS, RDN** ‘08 has published a cookbook to take the guesswork out of meal planning and preparation for people with diabetes. *The Everyday Meal Plans for Diabetes* includes complete easy-to-prepare diabetic meal plans, eliminating the need to convert recipes or find recipes to meet the nutritional needs of someone with diabetes. The meal plans use common, everyday ingredients, including whole grains, lean meats, and fresh fruits and vegetables, to make great-tasting meals. The recipes provide consistent carbohydrate meals that help manage blood sugars while providing the energy needed for a healthy and active lifestyle.

- **Chris Wilson, DPT** ‘13, a physical therapist for Ohio State University Sports Medicine, was active in student, local, state and national physical therapy organizations as a graduate student. As an alumnus, he’s taken his involvement to the next level as an advocate at the state and national level for House Bill 220. The bill, which is currently in committee, would grant diagnosis and imaging privileges to physical therapists.

  As an advocate for the profession, Wilson’s article “Springboard to Innovation”, published in the September issue of *ATPA Perspectives*, looked at how the ATPA Innovation Summit helped highlight the role of physical therapy in innovative health care models across the country.

  Wilson gives credit for his successful entry into the profession to the DPT faculty at UC. “They are a tremendous resource to UC DPT students. They will not hesitate to go the extra mile to find a way to adapt to your learning style and ensure you succeed as a student and clinician. The mentorships I cultivated as a student continue to pay dividends as a new grad;” he says.

  Wilson’s family recently celebrated the birth of daughter Caroline.
The benefits of being a mentor are endless. The relationships and knowledge you gain can be life changing.

Mentor: Jason Roberts, 2010 graduate, Coordinated Program in Dietetics. Works as an outpatient clinical dietitian with the Department of Veteran Affairs.

Mentee: Allison Brokenkotter, a junior/senior in dietetics

What inspired you to become a mentor?
I want to give back to UC and to my profession. When I was a student I would have loved to be involved in a program like Connections.

How do you hope to support/help your mentee?
I want to be available to answer any questions or provide support in regards to classes, or what to expect when applying to internships, as well as offer opportunity for job shadowing and provide advice.

In what ways have you and your mentee been connecting?
So far we are mostly connecting via email. We met in person during orientation and are looking forward to the upcoming socials.

What do you like best about being a mentor?
The thing I like best about being a mentor is the feeling of giving back to UC and the nutrition profession.
Are you interested in learning more about mentoring allied health students?
Contact Monica Wilkins 513-558-9858 or monica.wilkins@uc.edu.

Mentor: Genise Caldwell, 2005 undergraduate in Communications Sciences and Disorders; 2007 master’s degree in Speech-Language Pathology
Works at the Hamilton County Educational Service Center and Smart Healthcare.

Mentee: Breonna Simmons, senior in the Communication Sciences and Disorders program.

What inspired you to become a mentor?
As part of UC’s Darwin T. Turner Scholars program, I learned the importance of giving back. I believe it’s my obligation to give back: time, expertise and financially. The university invested in me, and I would like to invest my time and effort in students. I’ve been a mentor since 2011.

How do you hope to support/help your mentee?
Job shadowing, troubleshooting any problems that may arise academically or professionally, and offering a listening ear.

In what ways have you and your mentee been connecting?
Many ways: text, face-to-face, telephone, email.

What do you like best about being a mentor?
The interchange of encouragement, answering questions or helping her problem solve challenges.

Mentor: Antonia Susarret, 2012 graduate in Exercise Science; currently a second-year medical student at UC College of Medicine. This is her second year as a Connections mentor, in addition to informally mentoring pre-med students through the medical school application and interview process.

Mentee: Nana Ama Entsuah, a pre-med health sciences junior.

What inspired you to become a mentor?
My own mentors. I attribute much of my success to the support and encouragement they have given me over the years. Passing that on is the best way I know to thank them.

In what ways have you and your mentee been connecting?
We’ve connected over subjects such as her current coursework, long-term scheduling, and career planning. Whether over lunch, a tour of the College of Medicine, or just texts and emails, we try to keep each other updated and provide mutual support despite our busy schedules.

What do you like best about being a mentor?
I’m able to make great use of my experience in the Health Sciences program. Having recently been in my mentee’s shoes, I’m able to provide more practical, immediately useful resources for navigating the pre-med years and getting to medical school. Rather than being her sole example, I’ve also been her access point to medical professionals and introduced her to other professionals.

“"There is more happiness in giving, than in receiving.' The happiness and thought of uplifting and encouraging someone else is priceless and worth the time.”

“"I’m a firm believer in making skills and experiences transferrable to any situation, and working with a mentee is the chance to pass that concept on to a younger generation.”
Distinguished Alumni award criteria

- Graduate of the University of Cincinnati more than 10 years ago in one of the following departments or programs: Analytical and Diagnostic Sciences, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Health Informatics, Nutritional Sciences, Rehabilitation Sciences, or Social Work
- Has made a significant contribution in their chosen profession through practice, teaching, administration, education, research, writing, or organizational work involving health care or an innovation in health care
- Current employees of the University of Cincinnati are not eligible for consideration.

Recent Graduate Achievement award criteria

- Graduate of the University of Cincinnati College of Allied Health Sciences within the past 10 years
- Have distinguished themselves in their chosen profession or community service
- Current employees of the University of Cincinnati are not eligible for consideration.
- Individuals who have been presented the Recent Graduate Achievement Award may be nominated and selected at a later date for the Distinguished Alumni Award. However, there must be at least five years between the presentation of the Recent Graduate Achievement Award and the nomination for the Distinguished Alumni Award.
The College of Social Work and the Carl H. Lindner College of Business co-hosted Karen Bankston, PhD, the 2013 Kautz Alumni Master, to share her expertise on “Building Relationships through Visionary Leadership,” on Oct. 9 and 10.

Bankston, a 2005 graduate of the UC College of Nursing PhD in Nursing Research program, is the associate dean of clinical practice, partnership, and community engagement at the UC College of Nursing.

Alumni Masters are chosen as part of the University of Cincinnati’s Kautz Alumni Masters Program. The Kautz Alumni Masters Forum brings distinguished UC alumni to campus to interact and connect with students. She is the first African-American woman and first UC employee to receive the award.

“Dr. Bankston’s visit was an important event for our students because it gave them an opportunity to understand the life experiences of an extraordinarily successful professional,” says Jim Clark, PhD, director of the School of Social Work. “Karen’s story was inspirational and evoked the hopes and dreams of our own social work students who, like her, are deeply committed to serving their clients and the public good.”

Bankston was chosen for the award for her leadership impact in the field of health care and education. She is the former senior vice president/CEO of Drake Center, Inc. and vice president of operations/chief operating officer and vice president for patient care/chief nursing officer at University Hospital (now UC Medical Center).

@PrezOno is on tour; meet him in a city near you!

Alumni top the list of people University of Cincinnati president Santa Ono plans to meet and talk with as his #HottestCollegeinAmerica Tour continues making its way across the country. Named for his popular Twitter hashtag, the tour kicked off in January 2014 and brings UC to its national Bearcat family. Check the tour schedule (uc.edu/alumni/connect/events/hottesttour/schedule.html), and if it’s making a stop near you, plan to join your fellow Bearcats, get to know President Ono, and learn more about today’s—and tomorrow’s—UC!

Los Angeles-Orange County, Calif. January 29, 2014
San Diego, Calif. January 30, 2014
Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. February 19, 2014
Naples, Fla. February 20, 2014
Houston, Texas April 2, 2014
Dallas, Texas April 3, 2014
New York City April 8, 2014
Cleveland, Ohio April 30, 2014
Pittsburgh, Pa. May 8, 2014
Chicago, Ill. May 21, 2014
Baltimore, Md. June 11, 2014
Washington D.C. Date TBD

“Karen Bankston was a dynamic speaker who gave an excellent talk. I particularly appreciated her comments on the importance of developing your own strengths and knowing your own values, and then using them to drive the work you do, while also helping others to do the same.”

–Emily Resnik, graduate research assistant, School of Social Work, and president, Social Work Graduate Student Association
Dear CAHS Alumni and Friends:

Another exciting year has passed with many accomplishments to report from the Leadership Council. Here are a few highlights:

On Sept. 12, a surprise party for Robert (Bob) Keith, PhD, celebrated his many years of service to the college and his newly endowed Audiology Research Fund. Ninety-two people from the community and college attended, and Bob was truly touched by the acknowledgement of his great efforts. Congratulations again to Bob Keith!

Another focus this year was the initiative by Dean King to reach out to alumni through student interviews. This initiative was coined in March by the acronym “SHARE”, Students Helping Alumni Reconnect and Engage. Leadership Council vice co-chairs were involved in the project; Audrey Miller, visiting instructor in nutritional sciences oversaw the project, working with Kari Dunning, PhD, associate professor in rehabilitation sciences. CAHS students interviewed almost 300 alumni, who shared invaluable information. This information will be used to guide the college in areas of growth and development. We thank all of the alumni who participated. Interviews will continue throughout the coming year, so stay tuned for further information.

In the spring, the Leadership Council established three subcommittees. These subcommittees allow the council members to focus on individual interests, and also open participation to community partners, alumni, or college faculty who would like to help the college by increasing their involvement. Please take a moment to consider how your talents may help the college achieve its many goals by joining a subcommittee. The subcommittees are:

- **PRAISE** — fundraising and increasing business partnerships
- **Research** — analyzing data from the SHARE initiative
- **Community Engagement** — letting the community know who we are and how we impact the community, public relations

We continue to strive toward increasing scholarship and research funding, and continue to build relationships among our alumni and friends. We want to hear from you, so please give us a call. This is a great way to give back to CAHS while making new friends!

Have a blessed New Year!

Terri Hollenkamp
Terri Hollenkamp, MA, CCC-SLP
Chair, Leadership Council
hollenkampt@aol.com

**Why I give**

Judith Marlowe’s devotion to her field is as strong today as it was 42 years ago when she graduated from the University of Cincinnati’s Speech Pathology and Audiology master’s program. It’s evident not only through her work for the past 20 years with Natus Medical, Inc., but also as an alumna serving on CAHS’s Leadership Council.

As a member, she’s motivated by the stories of students’ determination to pursue degrees, while juggling demands of school, work, family and finances. “We’re undoubtedly losing promising, talented individuals due to financial hardships,” she says. But she sees how every gift makes a difference. “Few of us can manage sizable gifts—small gifts add up,” she says.

For her, contributing to CAHS has long-term benefits: “Forty-two years from now there will be audiologists and other health professionals who will carry on the traditions of learning and service that are the hallmark of an education in this college.”
Celebration honors Bob Keith

Supporters came from near and far to celebrate Bob Keith, PhD at a surprise birthday party held in his honor on September 12, at the Kingsgate Marriott in Cincinnati. The party not only celebrated Keith’s birthday, but also celebrated the full funding of the endowment for audiology research named in his honor.

More than 90 colleagues, current and former students, friends, family, and donors to the endowment attended the celebration. Nancy Creaghead introduced co-chairs of the endowment’s fundraising efforts, Lisa Hunter, an audiologist, and Paul Willging, MD, an otolaryngologist at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, who spoke at the event. Rola Farah, a recent doctoral graduate, also spoke.

“We’re honored that such an esteemed and nationally recognized faculty member would take the lead in creating an endowment to benefit audiology research,” says CAHS Dean Elizabeth King. “Bob Keith is a special man; we wanted to do something special to acknowledge all he has done for the college.”
Save the date
April 11 kicks off a big weekend for CAHS alumni and friends!

Friday, April 11
UC’s Alumni Weekend kicks off.

The annual CAHS PRaISE Conference joins the university-wide Annual Undergraduate Conference: Research, Scholarship and Creative Works in UC’s Fifth Third Arena. As a participant, CAHS undergraduates can present any faculty-mentored research or scholarly project that they’ve worked on during summer, fall and/or spring semesters. Students can present using poster presentations, 10-minute oral presentations or display booths.

Part of the PRaISE Conference includes the CAHS Distinguished Alumni Awards. There’s still time to submit your nominations (see page 18).

School of Social Work Alumni Day
Reconnect with faculty, staff and one another during the school’s Alumni Day. Plan to attend sessions that day as well, to earn CEUs.

Saturday, April 12
CAHS alumni luncheon with other UC Academic Health Center alumni

Sunday, April 13
Golden Bearcats—All UC alumni who graduated 50 years ago or more are invited to attend the Golden Bearcat Brunch. The Class of 1964 will be honored and inducted into the Golden Bearcat Society. Go to uc.edu/alumni/ connect/events.html for a schedule of the weekend’s events.

For questions regarding CAHS alumni events contact Tiffany Marsh, interim alumni program manager, at tiffany.marsh@uc.edu.

Upcoming Home Economics and Nutrition spring event
Look for information on cahs.uc.edu, Facebook or eConnections