College expands with new programs...8
Connections mentoring program pairs students with alumni...9
UC researcher studies the evolving role of fathers...17
Distinguished alumni recognized at annual PRaISE conference...18

Global reach of College of Allied Health Sciences

Department of Analytical and Diagnostic Sciences
Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders
Department of Health Informatics
Department of Nutritional Sciences
Department of Rehabilitation Sciences
School of Social Work
Thanks to an anonymous donor, this fall, Health Science students moved into a much-needed laboratory space on the second floor of French East. Nutrition students moved into a new nutrition assessment laboratory, which has teaching, research and service functions. The lab includes the following areas of study: energy expenditure, body composition, biochemical assessment, counseling, eating behavior and dietary assessment. The lab exposes undergraduate and graduate students to various methodologies for nutrition assessment.

Social Work also has a new computer laboratory and video conferencing room in French Hall West with 20 laptops and 11 computers.
Message from the Dean

Dear Alumni and Friends,

It has been a year of tremendous progress and challenges.

“So many dreams at first seem impossible, then they seem improbable and soon they become inevitable.”

—Christopher Reeves

For the first time, the College of Allied Health Sciences reached out to over 2,500 alumni who graduated within the past five years and asked you to complete a follow-up survey. We wanted to know how you were doing in this challenging economy and how we could improve our curriculum to serve our current students better.

Thank you to those who took time to complete the survey. Of all the activities that we do, assessment is one of the most important and sharing the results with our stakeholders, including our alumni, is important to us. We appreciate your help and guidance as we use your feedback to guide our future goal setting.

This newsletter includes highlights from the survey. One of the most significant findings was that regardless of degree level, job status or salary, 88 percent of you reported that “your college education while at the University of Cincinnati has improved the quality of your life.”

This academic year we began the implementation of our newly developed strategic plan. One of our goals was to increase our programmatic offerings, including distance learning, providing students with increased educational opportunities that included more flexibility as it relates to time and place.

Consequently, we recently launched three new online programmatic initiatives:

• In partnership with UC’s College of Business, students can earn a new online master’s degree in health administration.
• A new online 2+2 bachelor’s degree in respiratory care was approved by the Ohio Board of Regents in the spring. We are currently searching for a program director.
• The Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education has approved the addition of 10 students to the Coordinated Program in Dietetics, giving these students the opportunity to complete the clinical portion of the curriculum via distance learning. This will increase the number of students who will be able to sit for the Registered Dietitian exam.

Finally, we are also proud to announce that the Graduate School approved the first, national on-campus certificate program in Animal Audiology in April 2011.

You will also be reading about the generosity of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Keith, who have recently established the Robert W. Keith Audiology Endowment Fund. After more than 40 years of teaching graduate students, Dr. Keith has seen the financial sacrifices students make in order to advance the science of audiology and grow professionally. His goal is to help future students support their education while simultaneously supporting basic and applied research in audiology.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you for your gifts to the college. Our alumni participation rate has steadily increased and approximately 9.5 percent of our alumni were donors in 2011. The support of our alumni and friends helps our college remain a vital and exciting place to work and learn. With your continued support and encouragement, we can continue to accomplish wonderful things.

“The future holds great opportunities. It also holds pitfalls. The trick will be to avoid the pitfalls, seize the opportunities, and get home by 6:00.”

—Woody Allen

Sincerely,

Elizabeth C. King, PhD, Dean

Elizabeth King
Elizabeth King, dean of the College of Allied Health Sciences (CAHS) traveled to Saudi Arabia in September with Nancy Moss PhD, University of Cincinnati College of Nursing associate dean, and Asad Dalia, PhD, professor in the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences, to visit Inaya Medical College in Riyadh.

The medical college, which opened this fall, recently signed a collaborative agreement with CAHS and the UC College of Nursing. UC will provide consultation on curriculum development, faculty and staff development, development of clinical placement of students and overall quality assurance at the new institution.

The school opened with 150 students and with separate facilities for women and men. It reflects the country’s progress toward offering women equal educational opportunities, while maintaining its religious and cultural values.

Currently, students can earn degrees in nursing, clinical laboratory sciences, medical imaging and respiratory therapy. There are plans to offer physical therapy and health administration and further down the road, start a medical school.

“This collaboration offers the college an opportunity to meet one of UC2019’s goals of global engagement,” says King. “We do that by helping our faculty and ultimately, our students, get involved in an international experience that can contribute to the ability to successfully live in a worldwide community with a better understanding of both our diversity and our similarities.”
Distance learning program bridges religious and distance barriers

Students in Jerusalem are earning masters’ degrees in speech-language pathology from the University of Cincinnati, thanks to a distance learning program through the Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) department.

Lisa Kelchner, PhD, an associate professor in CSD, traveled to Jerusalem in June for the graduation of the 28 students who completed the two-year program there. She also had the chance to visit and get to know the program’s 22 first-year students.

Started in 2004, the program is a partnership with Testing and Training International, an organization that helps students who because of religious or cultural restrictions are unable to attend classes and earn degrees through a traditional on-campus experience. Students live either in New York, New Jersey or Jerusalem or may move back and forth during the program.

The distance learning students complete the same course requirements as on-campus students through Blackboard activities, live chat sessions with instructors, and video-streamed classes they can watch at their convenience. Students also meet weekly with on-site instructors who are trained speech-language pathologists.

The graduation celebration was coordinated by the program’s Jerusalem-based liaison, Faige Biron and included a dinner and time for students and Kelchner to speak. Kelchner presented the students with a UC gift. “I was very proud to take UC with me,” she said.

Kelchner explained that some of the graduates come to the United States to complete their required post-graduate clinical fellowships because there are more fellowship opportunities here. But she said there are many employment opportunities in Jerusalem. “There is definitely the need for the services,” Kelchner said.

International students finding their way to UC’s graduate program in nutrition

The Master of Science in Nutrition program has drawn numerous students from abroad over the past few years and those numbers continue to grow.

In the last five years seven students have graduated from the program, coming from Ghana, Russia, India, Lebanon, and China to continue their education in the United States. This fall alone, five students from China, Korea and India began the program.

Denise Al-Rahawi, a 2008 graduate from Lebanon, was looking for some adventure and a career change—she was working on her master’s in public health at the American University of Beirut. Coming to the United States for the first time and earning a master’s degree in nutrition satisfied both. Among the schools she applied to, she said friends and family highly recommended the University of Cincinnati.

“I chose UC because of the good things I heard about it and I was right,” she said.

From the moment she stepped on campus she said everyone was helpful and kind, even down to professors asking if she needed help getting to the grocery. What she most appreciated though was how well her professors prepared her professionally. “I was so well prepared for the clinical portion of my internship, so it wasn’t as difficult as it would have been if I hadn’t had the instruction I did in my clinical and science courses,” she explained. “I learned so much from my professors; their approach to mentoring students made them excellent role models.”

Today she’s in Chicago working for Morrison Management Specialists as a regional clinical nutrition manager and hoping to transfer to the University of Illinois at Chicago from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to continue her doctoral studies in nutrition. Long term her goal is to participate in clinical studies related to nutrition and obesity and help prevent malnutrition through increased awareness. She puts it simply: “As a dietitian, I want to give more to the world.”

Denise Al-Rahawi, American University of Beirut.
Buddhist monk using UC degree to serve those in need in Sri Lanka

It’s hard to imagine how a young Sri Lankan boy who dreamed of becoming a famous cricket player found himself years later a Buddhist monk in Cincinnati and working on a master’s degree in social work.

Aluthgama Chandananda (Chan) believes his family, his faith and the culture in which he grew up, led him to where he is today: continuing his pursuit of a life of service and dedication to others.

He knows his clerical dress makes him hard to miss on campus, and he suspects he’s the first Buddhist monk to graduate from the University of Cincinnati, which he did the first time in 2010 with a bachelor’s degree in social work.

Until he answered the call to serve as a monk for a temple in Cincinnati, he didn’t know a professional social work degree even existed. “We don’t have professional social workers in Sri Lanka, so Buddhist monks do social work,” he explains.

Prior to his move to the United States, Chan was teaching high school level Buddhism and history and getting hands-on social work experience helping students deal with economic, personal and family-related problems. During that time he began a scholarship program to help students facing extreme economic hardships.

The program successfully continues today, as does a housing program he began when he returned to his homeland in 2010 to put his newly acquired degree to work. “There are many poor people in Sri Lanka and I wanted to build a house for a family,” he says. With the help of contributions from friends in Cincinnati he did and has another one underway.

He felt called to continue his education so he returned to UC and began the master’s program in September. After graduating in 2012 he plans to work for two to three years in the United States, “providing service to this society where I studied,” he explains. Then he plans to go where he knows there is great need for well-trained social workers—home to Sri Lanka. “It is my sincere hope that my training as a social worker, my previous experience as a high school teacher and my life-long vocation as a Buddhist monk may all coalesce, rendering me a person not only able to fulfill such dreams, but worthy of doing so as well,” he says.

Department of Rehabilitation Sciences connects internationally through research

Rehabilitation sciences assistant professors Kari Dunning, PhD, PT, NCS, and Dan Carl, PhD, spent time traveling abroad this summer presenting findings from their research and making international connections.

Dunning was part of a group chosen to present their work at the International World Physical Therapy Congress in Amsterdam in June. She and fellow collaborators received the Outstanding Abstract and Presentation Award for North America and Caribbean region for their poster, “Can corticospinal tract integrity be determined by lower extremity Fugl Meyer score: a transcranial magnetic stimulation study”.

Carl presented at the 11th International Symposium on Biomechanics and Medicine in “Swimming” Oslo, Norway in June. His poster, “Correlation Between Dry Land Strength Measurements and In Water Force Generation”, was a presentation of work he completed with University of Cincinnati undergraduates. The project offers an alternative test that’s significantly less expensive to conduct than an established one and is supported by USA Swimming, the national governing board for the sport.

Both agree that presenting to an international audience offers tremendous opportunities to exchange ideas with people from different cultures and health care systems.

“It’s refreshing and allows us all to be open to new ideas,” said Dunning. “We learn so much about different health care systems and we can bring these new ways of looking at issues to our local and regional research and patient care,” she explained.

According to Carl, a majority of the participants at his conference, which is held every four years opposite of the Olympic games, attend regularly, and he says “it’s a great way to network with others sharing your passion.”

“There are many of them are or were coaches and participants in the sport. A lot of the elite coaches and governing bodies of swimming are interested in seeing the research and what may be coming in the future,” he explains.
Tywauna Hardy was one of 40 Greater Cincinnati area leaders to receive the 2011 Cincinnati Business Courier Forty Under 40 Award, recognizing her commitment to the community. The prestigious award recognizes Cincinnati’s next generation of leaders and innovators.

CAHS alumnus takes love for mentoring and training to Africa

Tywauna Hardy, a 2004 graduate of the College of Allied Health Sciences, took a big step this summer toward achieving her dream to train, mentor and promote laboratory medicine.

The American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) chose her to serve as a global consultant to train laboratorians in Rwanda, Africa, in August. The training is part of ASPC Global Outreach, which works with in-country partners in 17 countries, providing hands-on skills practice and laboratory management support through workshops and mentorships for laboratorians and medical laboratory instructors.

Hardy and another consultant worked with 20 laboratorians who came from throughout Rwanda to learn about clinical chemistry, lab safety and how to effectively train others when they returned to their labs. Hardy says the attendees had a wide range of skills, some working with skills learned on the job to those who had earned associate degrees. She says using scenarios from her in-lab experience helped bridge gaps.

“It was wonderful to be able to teach others my craft,” said Hardy. “They were so happy and excited that someone took time out to be a resource so they can enhance their lives and the people around them,” she said.

Hardy knows the value of connecting with someone with experience in the field. “I had a mentor when I started out and it was the best thing ever,” she explains. She credits that person with helping her see the different opportunities available in laboratory science, something she’s taken full advantage of. Within only six years, she’s worked as a bench technician, worked in a hospital, in a reference lab, as a supervisor and now is the chemistry lab manager at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center.

She says her varied experience helped her as a trainer in Rwanda and will help her in her role as a mentor. “If you’ve only worked one place you’ve only seen one way of doing things,” she explains. “It’s nice to bring all those experiences together and be able to help others.”

Would you be interested in connecting with CAHS faculty and students when they travel to a location near you?

If so, reach out to us on our Facebook page or contact Kelly Chirumbolo, alumni coordinator, at kelly.chirumbolo@uc.edu or 513-558-4080.
Annual PRaISE conference a success

Over 100 student posters and podium presentations at the Presentations of Research and Innovative/Scholarly Endeavors (PRaISE) conference showed how graduate and undergraduate students in the College of Allied Health Sciences (CAHS) are making waves in the field.

In its thirteenth year, the conference was organized by CAHS and held on May 21 in the college’s French East building.

Ralf W. Schlosser, PhD, Professor and Chair, Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Northeastern University, Boston, Mass., gave the keynote address, “Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) in the Allied Health Fields”, which provided guidance for blending evidence into practice.

The conference was also the backdrop for recognition of the college’s distinguished alumni.

Read more about the CAHS alumni who were recognized at the conference on page 18.

Students go to Columbus as advocates

Twenty students from the School of Social Work and the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders traveled to the State Capitol Building in Columbus, Ohio, in February to participate in Advocacy Day. Participants went to advocate for social services and the people who need them, speaking with state legislators about the importance of maintaining funding for social services in the face of upcoming budget cuts. They also listened to speakers about the importance of understanding the budget and funding for social services. The National Association of Social Workers—Ohio Chapter hosted the event.
A message from our chair, Terri Hollenkamp ’83

Many of the events that the council has organized provide wonderful opportunities for students and alumni to work together. Last year, Communication Sciences and Disorders held a function titled “Speed Dating for a Career”. More than 35 alumni and 60 junior/senior students participated. It was a fun night and the feedback was great from both students and alumni. There have also been departmental luncheons and socials, allowing participants to reconnect and network with alumni, faculty, and students.

CAHS Leadership Council recognizes the need for leadership, expansion, and to think more “outside the box.” Although we are actively seeking two to four new council members, we would also like to continue to establish a stronger network of “friends” of CAHS. By “Friends”, I am referring to those who may be inspired to help the college. Here are just a few ways you can become a friend:

- Communication: Become an advocate to the college by learning what our students and faculty are doing, and then share this information in your respective fields and professions.
- Sponsorship: If you are part of a larger company, or run a company yourself, consider sponsoring or hosting an event for the college, such as PRAISE.
- Mentoring: Consider mentoring students.
- Collaborating: With faculty and developing opportunities for clinical or internships for CAHS students.
- Continuing education: Attending CE events and lectures.

Please consider becoming more involved in the CAHS!

I look forward to hearing from you and welcome your involvement.

Terri Hollenkamp
President
Rehab Resources, Inc.
2315 N. Heather Hill Blvd.
Cincinnati, Ohio 45244
513-474-4123 (office)
513-604-1538 (cell)
513-474-4130 (fax)

CAHS Leadership Council, alumni and students connect at Oct. 1 event

Laura Harrison and her husband Don, senior vice president of health affairs and provost emeritus, hosted a CAHS Leadership Council Meet & Greet in their home on Oct. 1. Council members, students and CAHS alumni guests had the opportunity to network and learn about the latest activities of the CAHS.

Both Laura and Don have been active supporters of CAHS. Laura has served on the council since it was formed in 2008; she completes her term on the council at the end 2011. Don was instrumental in the founding of the CAHS in 1998.

While the college has critical financial need, we recognize that support is defined in so many meaningful ways. Personal expertise and advocacy are also vital for our success.
College News

Highly respected professor Rick Devan passes away

Rick Devan, PhD, technical consultant to the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD), died in Gainesville, Fla., on June 8.

An avid scuba diver, he had just returned from a dive at Ginney Springs, Fla., when he died of heart failure. He was 68.

According to his sister Sylvia Devan Moss of New York, NY, scuba diving fed his natural curiosity to understand the inner workings of everything, including ocean creatures. “He loved the camaraderie and being under that water with the other forms of the animal kingdom,” she said.

That curiosity was evident in his professional life as well. “We relied on him greatly,” said childhood friend Nancy Creaghead, also a professor and head of the CSD department. “He not only supported our needs, but was especially valued for constantly exploring and learning new and better ways to support teaching and research technology needs. He had a passion for teaching.”

He was an alumnus of Holmes High School in Covington, Ky. He earned his master’s degree and held a doctorate through the University of Cincinnati and Fairleigh Dickinson University in New Jersey.

Survivors include his sister, friends and colleagues. Memorials may be sent to Camp Ernst, 7615 Camp Ernst Road, Burlington, KY 41005-9424.

Certificate in Animal Audiology

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) now offers a Certificate in Animal Audiology, the first program of its kind in the country. In addition to online coursework, students will participate in discussions with guest speakers (animal behaviorists, veterinarians and researchers in the field) and complete 20 hours of hands-on work in the UC Facility for Education and Testing of Canine Hearing and Laboratory for Animal Bioacoustics (FETCH-LAB).

If you would like additional information about the this Certificate, visit www.cahs.uc.edu or contact Pete Scheifele, PhD, at 513-558-8519.

Coordinated Program in Dietetics

Students can now earn a bachelor’s degree in dietetics in four years plus six summer credit hours, through the Coordinated Program in Dietetics (CP). The program combines the didactic program in dietetics (DPD) coursework and supervised practice into one program, shortening what takes approximately five years to complete via the traditional bachelor degree plus dietetic internship route. With the degree and a verification statement of program completion, students can register to take the national Registration Exam for Dietitians to earn the Registered Dietician credential.

If you would like additional information about this program, visit www.cahs.uc.edu or contact the Department of Nutritional Sciences at 513-558-7503.

Master’s of Health Administration

The new Master’s of Health Administration (MHA) program is a distance learning degree program to train professionals for administrative and managerial roles in health care settings. The two-and-a-half-year program includes instruction from professors in the colleges of allied health sciences, medicine and business, as well as outside experts.

The program began in June and already has grown from 16 students to a total of 43 students enrolled in the fall quarter, with expectations that enrollment will double within a year.

If you would like additional information about the online MHA program, visit www.healthadministration.uc.edu or contact an Enrollment Advisor at 877-398-3050.

UC group attends spring NBASLH convention

Communication Sciences and Disorders faculty members, Carney Sotto, PhD, director of undergraduate studies, Nancy Creaghead, PhD, department head, and five CAHS students attended the National Black Association for Speech-Language and Hearing (NBASLH) 2011 convention in Indianapolis in April. Attendees looked at ways NBASLH aims to close the gap between the current scientific knowledge base in communication disorders and the consumer’s communication needs in many different countries.

Pictured here at the NBASLH mentoring luncheon are: left to right, Carney Sotto, Derrick Robinson, SLP graduate student, Damian Wilson, CSD student, Mike Williams, CSD student and McNair Program participant, Vanessa Hardin, SLP graduate student and Yates Scholarship recipient, Danielle Hayes, June PhD graduate.
Making connections
pairs underrepresented University of Cincinnati relationships that make an impact. working in the allied health field to help develop allied health science students with professionals successful career in allied health. on helping students navigate their path to a to achieving success. It’s a partnership that focuses underrepresented students an edge when it comes Student or mentor, Connections offers you the Connections will do for you. imagined you could. Learn more about what opportunity to grow in ways you may never have Connections is support that gives offer the kind of about building “Mentoring has meant a lot background.” — Zig Ziglar thought they could.” could because someone else further than they thought they thought of people who will help you succeed.” connecting with allied health “Being mentored for me meant Drake Center. Environmental Health and is also the appointment as an assistant professor in the Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics Department of Environmental Health and is also the Director of Clinical Research at the Connections mentoring program begins outreach to freshmen Thanks to a new mentoring program started through the College of Allied Health Sciences, mentees and alumni mentors are joining together to help freshman in their education and career paths. Connections focuses on increasing the diversity of students successfully completing academic programs in CAHS and increasing the diversity of professionals working in the field. It also pairs students enrolled in undergraduate programs in the CAHS with a mentor working in the allied health field.

The college launched Connections in the spring as a pilot program with three students participating. The program this fall has 20 mentees and 18 alumni have signed on to become mentors.

Connections mentoring program begins outreach to freshmen

Faculty members recognized for excellence

Faculty Excellence in Research:
Kari Dunning, PhD, PT, NCS, is an assistant professor in the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences who has been recognized with this honor because of her significant and consistent research activities. She has a secondary appointment as an assistant professor in the Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics Department of Environmental Health and is also the Director of Clinical Research at the Drake Center.

Despite a decrease in federal funding for research, she has been successful in securing external grants and contracts to partially fund her work. Her primary area of interest is finding optimum therapy strategies to facilitate functional recovery for people with neurological diagnoses, primarily stroke.

Her research has real-life applications outside the clinic, offering hope for a better quality of life to individuals disabled by stroke and other conditions. The depth of her work can be seen in numerous peer-reviewed articles, including selected articles in the press, in addition to a number of national and international meetings and presentations.

Faculty Excellence in Teaching:
Rebecca Leugers, MS, PT, is an assistant professor in the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences who is known for creating a classroom atmosphere that fosters self-confidence, a positive self-concept and mutual respect. Her carefully structured lessons have earned her wide praise from her students and colleagues.

Students appreciate her approach to helping prepare them for the reality of clinical practice by inviting real patients into the classroom. Students see the whole person behind a patient’s injuries, learn empathy for their patients’ conditions over sympathy for their limitations.

Her teaching excellence was recognized this year at the university level as well, when she was awarded the prestigious Mrs. A.B. “Dolly” Cohen Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Faculty Excellence in Service:
Tina Whalen, DPT, MPA, PT, is an associate professor in the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences with a long-standing commitment of service to her department, the college, the university and the greater community during her 21 years at the University of Cincinnati. She’s been instrumental in the department’s ongoing growth, including the approval of the Doctor of Physical Therapy program and the phenomenal growth of the bachelor’s in Health Sciences program.

She’s led the college’s initiatives to significantly increase retention of first-time freshmen and contributed to the growth and development of the integrated core within the college. Her efforts have had an impact on research as well; she played an instrumental role in obtaining a $250,000 Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant in 2011.

The Ohio Physical Therapy Association (OPTA) named Nancy Talbott, PhD, MS, PT, associate professor at the College of Allied Health Sciences, the Physical Therapist of the Year at its annual conference this past April in Dublin, Ohio.

Connections mentoring program begins outreach to freshmen

Faculty members recognized for excellence
New positions and promotions

Promotions
Xan Boone, MSW, assistant professor educator, Social Work.
Cathy Kerr, PhD, LISW-S, assistant professor educator, Social Work.

New Faculty
Shauna Acquavita, PhD, MSW, assistant professor, Social Work
Michael McCarthy, PhD, MSW, assistant professor, Social Work
Amy McMahon, MSW, assistant professor, Social Work
Elizabeth Warning, MS, MT(ASCP), visiting instructor, Analytical and Diagnostic Sciences
Karla Washington, PhD, assistant professor, Communication Sciences and Disorders
Lisa Zimmer, MSW, field service instructor, Social Work

New Staff
Natalie Burch, program coordinator, Social Work
Whitney Chaffin, BS, assistant director academic, Analytical and Diagnostic Sciences
Derrick Chandler, AAS, equipment application specialist, IT
Kelly Chirumbolo, program manager, alumni and external affairs, College of Allied Health Sciences, Nursing and James L. Winkle College of Pharmacy
Dawn Clineman, MS, program coordinator, instructional design
Rochelle Davis-Topmiller, RSM, HR director administrative
Meridy Glenn, director of development, College of Allied Health Sciences and James L. Winkle College of Pharmacy
Jill Hulsman, AA, financial administrator I, Communication Sciences and Disorders
Karen Kreyenhagen, BS, financial administrator I, Social Work
Joshua Sampson, MPA, assistant director academic
Melanie Woods, MA, assistant director academic
Monica Wilkins, PT, MHA, director of minority recruitment and retention
Natalie Williams, MA, program coordinator, Health Informatics

Active grants increased from $3,207,548 to $3,517,043, a 10% increase. However, the 5-year increase is 197%.

Faculty continue to be active in scholarly activity with a combination of published in refereed journals or in press.

139 journal articles
104 national presentations were made.
7 book chapters were written.

Freshman to sophomore retention improved substantially from 79.9% to 84.7%.

Faculty/staff giving was 81% the second highest participation rate across the University of Cincinnati.

Program enrollment highlights 2010-2011

The undergraduate program in communication sciences and disorders grew 37%.
The undergraduate program in dietetics has grown 41%.
The undergraduate program in health sciences grew 14%.

The College's overall headcount enrollment increased by 34%
(1,995 students to 2,664 students).
This increase includes the School of Social Work joining the College of Allied Health Sciences.
Department News

Department of Nutritional Sciences

Medical student receives new nutritional sciences scholarship

Loren Brook is the first recipient of a new scholarship offered by the Department of Nutritional Sciences. Supported by a private donor, the scholarship is for a qualified medical student enrolled in the University of Cincinnati’s College of Medicine seeking to earn a master’s in nutrition between the third and fourth year of medical school. The scholarship pays full-time tuition plus a stipend for the master’s program.

The MD/MS program is designed to enhance the knowledge of evidence-based nutrition therapies and the ability to incorporate nutrition assessment and effective behavioral strategies into comprehensive treatment plans. When he completes the program, Brook will be the first medical student in the country to earn dual medical and nutrition degrees.

School of Social Work

Kimmins Southard recipient of 2011 C-Ring Award

Fourth-year social work student Kimmins Southard, BSW ’11 received the prestigious 2011 C-Ring Award at the annual C-Ring Banquet on May 14. Southard, a Cincinnatus Scholar, was honored for her academic excellence, service, leadership and advocacy for women and girls.

Southard has devoted her time to a number of organizations and causes. She’s a leading advocate for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) community and has shown her commitment to social justice and change through her involvement with RAPP, a racial awareness program where students educate each other and debate social justice issues.

Southard also served as a peer advocate in the UC Women’s Center Reclaim program, a health educator with the University of Cincinnati Wellness Center and was a participant in the Ohio Council of Advocates for Youth, which encourages a positive and realistic approach regarding adolescent sexual health.

“It feels fantastic to be recognized for all of the advocacy work I have done while at UC,” Southard said. “It has definitely motivated me to bring the same energy with me in my future endeavors and not to give up fighting the good fight for social justice.”

School of Social Work

Students raise $750 for “Giving What You Can” project

Last spring, School of Social Work seniors raised $750 for the Giving What You Can Project. The project stemmed from their study of the book “The Life You Can Save”, by Peter Singer. Singer examines how Westerners choose to spend their resources and offers alternative choices that would have significant impact on the mortality rate and quality of life in other countries.

The project asked students to become informed, think deeply about the issue of extreme poverty, assess what reasonable commitment they could make to eradicate it and put their commitment into action. Their commitments and donations remained confidential. Students researched possible beneficiaries of the project and submitted the names and information about where they would like to see the money go.

Leah Taylor, BSW ’11 and current MSW student, suggested the monies go to the Fuller Foundation—Homes from the Heart project, a group she worked with building houses last year in El Salvador.

The students plan to make this the beginning of an ongoing relationship with the Fuller Foundation.
Department of Rehabilitation Sciences

DPT Class of 2011 celebrates with Hooding Ceremony

The Department of Physical Therapy (DPT) Class of 2011 celebrated the completion of their educational requirements with a Hooding Ceremony on Aug. 29. Over 275 guests attended the ceremony in Kresge Auditorium and the reception that followed in CARE/Crawley Atrium.

The class selected and recognized fellow graduate Beth Smith as this year’s “Butterfly Award” recipient. Each year the graduates choose a classmate who best exemplifies the physical therapist characteristics of compassion, leadership and fellowship.

Department of Analytical and Diagnostic Sciences

Programs’ exam pass rates hit high score

Exam pass rates for students in department programs are at or near 100 percent. Content, policy and style revisions over the past 18 months appear to be having a positive impact on clinical laboratory science (CLS) distance learning students’ certification exam results. Their board certification exam pass rate during the January-March 2011 cycle was 100 percent, exceeding the national rate of 86 percent. Their pass rate for the April-June cycle also surpassed the national rate, 92.6 percent to 86.9 percent.

The Advanced Medical Imaging Technology (AMIT) program has a pass rate of 100 percent on the national registry exams for nuclear medicine, MRI and sonography. At least two nuclear medicine students passed with distinction, with results pending for three more students.

Department of Analytical and Diagnostic Sciences

CLS grad receives award

Melanie Giusti, BS, MLS (ASCP), a 2002 CLS program graduate, received an “American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science Keys to the Future” Award at the ASCLS Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Ga., in July.

Department of Rehabilitation Sciences

UC Presidential Scholarship recipient chooses Health Sciences program

Brian Barney, a recipient of the University of Cincinnati Presidential Scholarship, has joined the freshman class in the UC Health Sciences program. As a Presidential Scholarship recipient Brian will receive full fees, tuition and room and board for four years.

He attended Seton Academy in South Holland, Ill. He chose the Health Sciences program at UC because he believes the exercise science program track offers the preparation he needs for graduate school. He says he’s looking forward to learning more about the sciences of the human body, making connections with classmates, teammates and professors, and volunteering in the local community.

Department of Analytical and Diagnostic Sciences

CLS Distance Learning grads chosen as ambassadors

The American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) chose Angeleen Strauss ’08 and Sarah Torres ’09 to serve as Ambassadors during 2011-2012. The Clinical Laboratory Science Distance Learning graduates were among 23 laboratory professionals nationwide chosen to raise awareness among high school students about careers in medical laboratory science.

Department of Analytical and Diagnostic Sciences

Sarah Torres is the alternate team chief for the Laboratory Biodetection Team at Travis Air Force Base.

Angeleen Strauss
Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

Ceremony recognizes first-year AuD students

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) celebrated its annual recognition of the first-year Audiology students (Class of 2014) in May. Dr. Judith Marlowe, a CSD Distinguished Alumni, gave a keynote address reflecting on the significance of the white coat ceremony as a rite of passage into the clinical community, calling the practice of audiology “a unique opportunity to combine ‘science and the art of the possible’ to enable our patients access to options and opportunities.”

Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

CSD holds awards banquet

A record number of faculty, students, staff and clinical preceptors gathered for the annual Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) Spring Awards Banquet. National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSLSLHA) president, Logan Haines, and the Student Academy of Audiology president, Brittney Hackworth, highlighted the many activities of the student organizations.

Awards were presented to Stephanie Astor (Southwest Ohio Speech-Language-Hearing Association Scholarship); Laura Miller (Frieda Lotze Scholarship); Anna Reinstatler (Sheri Bloom Award); Logan Haines (Ohio Speech-Language-Hearing-Language Association (OSHLA) Outstanding Undergraduate Award); Lori Morrison and Carissa Maatman (OSHLA Outstanding Graduate Award); Justin Burwinkel (OSHLA Scholarship Nominee); Sonya Kapoor (Julie Glor Award); and Dora Murphy (Jean W. Rothenberg Award).

Donna Murray, PhD, gave the keynote address and was also recognized as the department’s 2011 Distinguished Alumni for her many years of experience working with individuals with autism spectrum disorders as a speech-language pathologist in a clinical setting and as an autism consultant in the community. A CSD adjunct faculty member, Dr. Murray is the co-director of the Kelly O’Leary Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders (TKOC) at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center and the director of clinical services for the Division of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics.

Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

FETCH~LAB helps local shelter cut kennel noise

As summer faculty and students at University of Cincinnati’s Facility for the Education and Testing of Canine Hearing and Lab Animal Bioacoustics (FETCH~LAB) worked with the League for Animal Welfare in Batavia, Ohio, to install new sound-absorbing panels.

The panels, designed to absorb the echo and noise common to dog kennels, were installed between the pens and along the walls in one section of the shelter’s two-dog housing areas. The sound-absorbing panels are filled with glass wool and plastic mesh encased in perforated aluminum. It’s the first time these panels have been used in the Tristate to mitigate kennel noise.

When the shelter was awarded a $5,000 grant to install sound panels, director Mary Sue Bahr contacted Pete Scheifele, PhD, FETCH~LAB’s director and assistant professor of communication sciences, who offered to take sound readings of the space and help the shelter determine what it would need. FETCH~LAB volunteers recorded peak sound levels of 100 dBA and higher, with an overall average of 94 dBA, levels which can cause hearing loss in dogs.

FETCH~LAB volunteers installed the panels on July 23 in one of the shelter’s smaller dog areas and employees say they are already noticing that barks and conversations don’t echo off the walls as the panels. Bahr says if levels drop significantly when new readings are taken, she will look for funding to install panels in the remaining kennel areas.

From healthnews.uc.edu, Aug. 10, 2011
College of Allied Health Sciences | Connections Fall 2011

Student News

Department of Analytical and Diagnostic Sciences

Catherine Earl named UC Scholar-Athlete of the Month

Track and field team captain Catherine Earl was named May’s University of Cincinnati Scholar-Athlete of the Month. Earl, a senior, carries a 3.827 grade point average in Health Sciences and says, “I think the biggest value to being a student athlete is that you learn time management skills needed in the real world. Without athletics I probably wouldn’t have the grades I have today.”

Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

New student group promotes diversity and offers support

A new student group, Multi-cultural Concerns in Communication Sciences and Disorders (MC2 in CSD), has been formed to give students a forum to discuss multi-cultural issues that affect individuals in CSD. The group will also pair students from diverse and underrepresented backgrounds and first generation college students with mentors to encourage involvement in professional and leadership activities. The group plans to meet three or more times a quarter on the main campus and east campus.

Student elected to SAA

Stephanie O’Bryan has been elected a member-at-large for the Student Academy of Audiology (SAA) and is serving as the chapter relations committee chair. The SAA is the national student organization of the American Academy of Audiology and introduces students to lifelong involvement in activities that promote and advance the profession of audiology.

Back row from left to right: Emily Schwieterman, Carney Satto, Laura Brothers, Caitlin Leahy (UC NSSLHA Chapter VP), Brooke Goodall, Vanessa Hardin. Front row from left to right: Jordan Grisstock, Anna Thorsden, Anna Reinstatler (UC NSSLHA Chapter President), Heather Buchenroth, Morgan Haines, Katie Carstens

Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

NSSHLA awarded Chapter of the Year and Gold Chapter Recognition

The University of Cincinnati National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSHLA) Chapter earned Gold Chapter Recognition earlier in the year, an award given to three chapters out of 319 global chapters demonstrating an awareness of student issues and concerns, outreach to the community, educational opportunities and social and fundraising activities promoting the profession and national association. Out of those three chapters recognized as Gold Chapters, the UC chapter was awarded the Chapter of the Year Honors at the 2011 American Speech-Language--Hearing Association annual convention in November.

The chapter has put their commitment to community outreach to work in numerous activities. Their list of annual activities includes preparing and serving dinner for families at the Ronald McDonald House, playing bingo with residents at Little Sisters of the Poor Home in Clifton and participating in the UC Relay for Life.

They added new activities this past year as well, creating literacy Christmas baskets for children throughout the city, making surgical gowns for Operation Smile at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center (CCHMC), and posting fliers across campus to promote Better Hearing and Speech Month and the speech-language pathology and audiology field.

Vanessa Hardin, a first year SLP Grad student was also one of thirty-two students (from over 200 applicants) chosen to participate in the Minority Students Leadership Program (MSLP) which took place at the ASHA Convention in San Diego, November 15–20. The purpose of the MSLP is to recruit and retain racial/ethnic minorities that have been historically under-represented in the professions. MSLP participants gain focused educational programming and activities that build and enhance leadership skills, an understanding of how the association works and an opportunity to interact with leaders in the professions of audiology, speech-language pathology, and speech, language, and hearing sciences.

Student awards

Maggie Yoder received a $1,000 scholarship to study abroad from the freshmen National Honor Society, Alpha Lambda Delta. Maggie is currently studying in Germany.

Communications Sciences and Disorders sophomore Megan McDonald received the Annie Fitzgerald Award for Leadership and Service. The annual award recognizes three University of Cincinnati undergraduate students who possess a deep passion for community engagement.

Anna Reinstatler, CSD junior, was awarded the undergraduate URC summer fellowship. Her study, Interactive Training Protocol: Communication Between Dietary Staff and Residents with Dementia, will serve as her senior thesis.

The Clinical Aphasiology Conference held in May, accepted a poster of second-year master’s/docotoral student Jennifer Keelor. She was also honored with one of only 16 National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD) fellowships to attend the conference.

Erin Hegner, second year AuD student, completed research at Boys Town National Research Hospital last summer. The research was funded by a National Institute of Health-T35 Grant which supports sixteen students nationally each year. Hegner presented her research findings on the mechanics of inner-ear transduction in mutant mice at the February Mid-Winter Conference for the Association for Research
in Otolaryngology in Baltimore, Md. and again in March at the annual conference for the American Auditory Society in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Ryan Johnson, second year AuD student received the 2010–2011 National Hearing Conservation Association’s Student Research Award. Each year the NHCA awards at least two scholarships to undergraduate or graduate students focusing on applied/practical studies in hearing loss prevention/ hearing conservation at regionally accredited U.S. institutions.

Department of Nutritional Sciences
Students awarded fellowship and study opportunities
Ann Minter, graduate student in Nutritional Sciences, and advisee of Seung-Yeon Lee, PhD, was awarded a 2011 University Research Council Graduate Student Research Fellowship. Her proposal was among 217 applications received, of which only 34 percent were funded.

Brittany Wells, a Certificate Student in the Department of Nutritional Sciences, was awarded a fellowship at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center (CCHMC) for the 2011-2012 academic year. She will be working on a collaboration between CCHMC and the Cincinnati Public Schools to develop an interactive website related to the school lunch program.

Natasha Burse, a Ronald E. McNair Scholar, completed a summer internship with Abby Pears, PhD, and Sarah Couch, PhD, on the physical activity habits of teenagers diagnosed with hypertension. She’s also exploring the possibility of starting another bike to Haitians. Schlater won fourth place in the program, The World Goes Round, to ship donated bicycles to Haitians. She’s raised enough through Mission Photography to fund a second mission trip and to sponsor a little boy from the orphanage, so he can go to school.

Student awards
Leah Taylor, BSW ’11 and current MSW student, received the 2011 College of Allied Health Sciences Spirit of Community Award for her high standard of contribution to student life within her college and the campus community.

Gwen Brown with her daughters Rachel (left) and Kenetra, and Professor Michael Tebbe at the NASW Awards ceremony in May.

Gwen Brown, MSW ’11, was selected as the 2011 MSW Student of the Year for the Cincinnati Region VI of The Ohio Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW).

Student raises funds and takes mission trip to Haiti
Sophomore Laura Schlater traveled to Haiti this past summer where she volunteered at the Fedja Orphanage near Port au Prince. She raised money for the trip through Missionphotography, a project she began to fund her mission trips. She photographs weddings, engagements, and portraits, asking only for a donation.

She’s raised enough through Mission Photography to fund a second mission trip and to sponsor a little boy from the orphanage, so he can go to school. She’s also exploring the possibility of starting another program, The World Goes Round, to ship donated bicycles to Haitians. Schlater won fourth place in the first National Student Day Award for her service efforts.

School of Social Work
Pi Sigma Social Work Honor Society News
The Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center is the newest Pi Sigma community partner. Pi Sigma members volunteered at the 2011 Sickle Cell Disease Zoo Day at the Cincinnati Zoo on April 30. The event was held for families of children ages 0-6 with sickle cell disease.

The University of Cincinnati chapter welcomed 53 new inductees (45 MSW, seven BSW and one alumnus) at the induction ceremony in April. Dean Elizabeth C. King was also awarded an honorary membership.

Member Jacqueline Scruggs began her doctoral studies in the UC Counselor Education program this fall.

Department of Communication and Science Disorders
Workshop studies need for speech analysis software
Suzanne Boyce, PhD, a professor of communication sciences and disorders, was one of the organizers of a one-day workshop that focused on making speech analysis technology more accessible in education.

Held on January 31, “Software to Empower Learning and Research in Speech (STELARIS): A Workshop for Developers and Teachers”, drew top software developers from around the world to discuss the need for user-friendly software to analyze speech acoustics.

Boyce believes more accessible, user-friendly software will lead to more students interested in speech science, teachers teaching it more effectively and both pursuing better research focused on it.

She said workshop participants were enthusiastic and plan to continue the discussion at future conferences. The group established a website http://stelaris.groupsite.com and met again at the InterSpeech Conference in Italy this fall.

Department of Rehabilitation Sciences
CAHS faculty participate in ASHT annual conference

Of the 38 posters presented at the American Society of Hand Therapists (ASHT) annual conference September 22–25 in Nashville, Tenn., CAHS faculty presented three of them. Dexter Witt, DPT, MHS, OCS, Susan Kotowski, MS, AEP, and Nancy Talbott, PhD, MS, PT, presented the poster that won the conference Best Poster award, “Scapular Muscle Activity During Extremity PNF Patterns with Varying Modes of Resistance: Implications for Upper Extremity Rehabilitation”.

In addition, Witt gave a scientific platform presentation on testing for Biceps Pathology: Analysis of Muscle During the Speed’s Test.

Department of Nutritional Sciences
Debra Krummel, PhD, RD, has been asked to review for the Kidney, Nutrition, Obesity and Diabetes (KNOD) Study Section at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Sarah Couch, PhD, RD, and graduate student Amanda Thopy won the outstanding featured abstract award at the American Society of Hypertension Annual Meeting in New York City in May. The abstract’s topic was the effects of the DASH diet on brachial artery flow mediated dilation (FMD) in adolescents with pre-hypertension and hypertension.
Nutrition Assessment lab here at UC.

Lindsay Greiner, Allison Baker and Debra Krummel measuring a baby at the Nutrition Assessment lab here at UC.

Language therapies did improve children’s participation and socialization levels.

Communication Under Six (FOCUS) was valid and reliable in measuring children’s ability to use newly acquired speech-language skills to be included with others.

He’s working with the nationally recognized stroke team at the University of Cincinnati Academic Health Center, to see where his research interests fit in with their work.

Her research evaluated whether a newly developed pediatric outcome measure, the Focus on the Outcomes of Communication Under Six (FOCUS) was valid and reliable in measuring children’s ability to use newly acquired speech-language skills to be included and participate with others.

Her research found that the measure is valid and that speech and language therapies did improve children’s participation and socialization levels.

They used data from Krummel’s study and gathered a second set of data by measuring infants at the UC Nutrition Assessment lab. Their results showed that between the groups, DHA infants had increased length at birth and decreased body fat. They concluded that DHA causes infants to be longer and leaner at birth.

Because few studies have been done concerning DHA, pregnancy, and infant anthropometry, these study results as well as future studies may help improve the outcomes of obese pregnancies. The findings will also be included in the submission of an R01 grant.

Student awarded funding to expand unique VA grant

Because war experiences and a veteran’s return home can result in changes that have an impact on the entire family, Riegler expanded the treatment to include a parenting skills component, one that hasn’t been done within the VA before. The program will provide the veteran and family members training in cognitive rehabilitation, problem-solving skills and positive parenting, through an interactive website and videoconferencing.

“I believe integrating positive parenting training and involving key individuals in the veteran’s life will go a long way in facilitating and supporting positive changes in behavior,” says Riegler.

The Veterans Health Administration Office of Patient-Centered Care and Cultural Transformation (OPCC & CT) is funding the grant and chose it for its focus on using a new approach to health care delivery.
A team from the Facility for Education and Testing of Canine Hearing and Laboratory for Animal Bioacoustics (FETCH~LAB) completed acoustic mapping of the Georgia Aquarium dolphinarium and monitoring of the facility’s $110 million expansion.

FETCH~LAB director Pete Scheifele, PhD, Laura Kretschmer, EdD, and Gopu Potty, PhD, (University of Rhode Island Ocean Engineering Department) led the on-site mapping crew. FETCH~LAB student technicians Anirhudda Desphande and Whitney Brinker also conducted the on-site data collection.

To complete the acoustical mapping, the team measured and analyzed underwater noise levels, theatre show noise effects and in-air noise levels, under varying conditions.

Reports are in the process of being submitted to the aquarium. Because the expansion monitoring marks the first time an aquarium is using an established protocol to provide acoustically safe and enriching acoustics for marine animals in captive habitats, a paper is also being written.

The University Research Council (URC) has awarded a $25,000 grant for “Safer Sex for African American Substance Abusing Women,” to associate professor Ruby Lipscomb, PhD, School of Social Work and Ann Kathleen Burlew, professor of psychology. The grant was one of eight awarded through URC’s annual interdisciplinary granting program, designed to bring together faculty from across the university to work on an interdisciplinary research project.

Despite reports that fatherhood is in a state of crisis, School of Social Work associate professor and researcher Gary Dick, PhD, has found that most men today want to be more actively involved with their children in a nurturing way.

Dick, who has presented at national and international conferences and conducts training on fatherhood, has devoted extensive research to studying fathers, exploring men’s relationships with their fathers, and how they translated that experience into how they parent their own children.

In his research he’s found that men often face barriers to playing a significant role in the emotional lives of their children. The demands of work and the management of the household have an impact, as well as the fact that “many men have never been taught how to be emotionally responsive toward their children.”

He recently completed a new instrument to measure fatherhood, the Paternal Engagement Scale. Funded by a University of Cincinnati Development Grant, the 49-item instrument measures nine areas of a father’s involvement with his children. As part of the study Dick examined the state of 304 Cincinnati fathers and how they carried out their parental role. He’s also interviewing fathers from across the United States for a new book, “Diversity of American Fathers”.

According to Dick, understanding the complexities of men’s relationships with their own fathers has been the missing—and significant—link in understanding how men construct their fathering role. “In my research I have discovered that father’s play a significant role in the emotional lives of their children that have a far-reaching impact on adult development.”
Distinguished alumni recognized at annual PRaISE conference

The annual Presentations of Research and Innovative/Scholarly Endeavors (PRaISE) conference was the backdrop for recognition of distinguished alumni from the College of Allied Health Science (CAHS). The following alumni were recognized at the May 21 conference:

**Analytical and Diagnostic Sciences Distinguished Alumni Award**

**Marein de Jong, PhD**

Seventeen-year-old Marein de Jong arrived in the United States in 1998 from the Netherlands, eager to dive into her education and her role as a swimmer on the University of Cincinnati swim team. She earned a degree in both Clinical Lab Sciences and Biological Sciences, choosing to pursue Clinical Lab Science to receive a more in-depth and medical-related education to supplement her interests in biology. 

De Jong returned to the Netherlands to continue her education, earning a master’s in biomedical sciences with a specialty in oncology, at VU University in Amsterdam. She then pursued her doctorate in immunology at VU University Medical Center in Amsterdam. De Jong still remains in academia as a post-doctoral researcher at the Academic Medical Center in Amsterdam. She’s also enjoying a new role as a first-time mother.

She continues to be grateful for her time at UC and for Monty Hopkins, head coach of the UC swimming and diving team. “Although I graduated almost eight years ago, my time at UC has greatly influenced me and I still notice it every day,” she said.

---

**Communication Sciences and Disorders Distinguished Alumni Award**

**Wayne Secord**

Wayne Secord, PhD, received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Speech and Hearing Science from The Ohio State University (OSU) in 1971 and 1977. In 1980 he received his doctoral degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) from the University of Cincinnati.

He was an assistant professor in CSD and also served as an adjunct professor from 2000-2003. Currently he’s a senior research scientist in speech-language pathology at OSU.

Awarded the Honors of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) in November 2010, Secord is also an ASHA Fellow and a Fellow of the Ohio Speech-Language-Hearing Association (OSHLA). He has also received awards for outstanding clinical achievement from UC, OSU, OSHA, the ASHA Foundation and the Speech-Language-Hearing Association of Western New York.

Secord has authored or co-authored more than 80 articles, books, tests and intervention programs on assessment and treatment of speech and language disorders, and served as the editor of “Language, Speech, and Hearing Services in Schools” from 1992 to 1998.

As a principal investigator of funded projects and developer of new academic programs, he has raised more than $5 million to support his university-level academic and clinical innovations. His funded projects have supported the graduate training programs of more than 30 doctoral- and 300 masters-level students.

A former school speech-language pathologist, Secord is a frequent conference presenter and a nationally recognized expert on clinical and educational assessment of children with disabilities in communication, language, and literacy, and the delivery of school-based speech and language services.

---

**Health Information Management Young Alumni Achievement Award**

**Christine Schumacher**

Christine (Tina) Schumacher graduated Summa Cum Laude in 2007 with a bachelor’s degree in Health Information Management.

Schumacher has worked for the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) since 2006 and is currently the business implementation manager. In this role she serves as a subject matter expert in laws, regulations and policies governing the administration of VA health care benefits. She also serves as co-chair of the Executive Leadership Council Business Practice Workgroup, which facilitates communication and training efforts in the administration of healthcare benefits and works with various sub-council leaders.

Prior to her current position Tina worked as a coding manager and coding supervisor, providing development, implementation, and maintenance support to the health information and coding programs. She also developed comprehensive quality management programs to monitor, track and trend coding accuracy and productivity.
Schumacher has also worked in Clinical Coding with Mercy Health Partners and Fernald Medical Monitoring Program.

Nutritional Sciences Recent Graduate Achievement Award

**Tamera Ward**

Tamera (Tammy) Ward earned her degree in dietetics from the College of Allied Health Sciences in 2008. As a student, Tammy had the opportunity to learn more about the connection between cancer and nutrition as an intern in an acute care rotation at Jewish Hospital, which has the area’s only adult Blood and Marrow Transplant Center (BMTC) serving individuals with hematological cancers.

She’s back with the BMTC at the Jewish Hospital/Mercy Health Partners as the clinical dietitian, working with patients prior to transplant to determine and correct deficiencies, and provide education regarding what to expect during and after transplant. In addition, she follows them during their inpatient admission to provide adequate nutrition via oral intake, parenteral or enteral nutrition as needed.

Ward’s work at Jewish Hospital/Mercy Health Partners has not gone unnoticed. In February 2010 she was named Blood and Marrow Transplant Center Associate of the Month for her evidenced-based approach to nutrition-related patient care.

This year Ward was also recognized for her accomplishments as a clinical dietitian with the Ohio Physical Therapy Association Emerging Leader Award, given for her impressive accomplishments in her short time as a doctor of physical therapy.

Rehabilitation Sciences Recent Graduate Achievement Award

**Lynzie Schulte, PT, DPT**

Lynzie Schulte, PT, DPT, graduated from the College of Allied Health Sciences (CAHS) in 2005 with a bachelor’s degree in health sciences and earned her doctoral degree in physical therapy in 2008 from The Ohio State University.

Currently Schulte is a doctor of physical therapy in acute care and outpatient orthopedic at St. John Medical Center in Westlake, Ohio. She provides training and mentoring for new staff, serves as a clinical instructor for physical therapy students, and provides patient care.

This year Schulte was also recognized with the Ohio Physical Therapy Association Emerging Leader Award, given for her impressive accomplishments in her short time as a doctor of physical therapy.

Schulte is the co-author of “A Retrospective Study Observing Demographic and Medical Comorbidities in patients Seen with Pro Bono Physical Therapy”, a platform presentation in New Orleans at the 2011 Combined Section Meeting.

In her free time Schulte enjoys volunteering at the Free Clinic of Greater Cleveland providing pro bono outpatient physical therapy services to those in need.

School of Social Work Distinguished Alumni Award

**Ruth Clinton**

Ruth Clinton earned her bachelor’s degree in social work at the University of Cincinnati in 1978 after deciding she needed a change from teaching piano lessons.

After graduation she began working for the Salvation Army Family Services. Over the next 29 years she moved from casework to branch office supervision, to emergency home supervision, to assistant director of Family Services. Clinton also spent 20 years of her time at Salvation Army coordinating the adult day services.

Clinton took a brief break from work to pursue her master’s degree at Kent School of Social Work at the University of Louisville, graduating in 1984.

Prior to her retirement in 2007 Clinton received several awards including the National Council on Social Work Education Heart of Social Work award in 2007, Ohio Association of Adult Day Services Andre Bogner Award in 2007, Association for Professionals in Aging (Cincinnati area) for Outstanding Service Provider in the Field of Aging in 2002, and Social Work Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni Award in 2009.

Clinton remains active in her retirement by playing piano, golfing, ushering for the Cincinnati Symphony and enjoying time with her two daughters, six grandchildren and three great-grandsons.
School of Social Work

School of Social Work board actively working for the school and community

The School of Social Work Alumni Board provides the leadership “to connect, serve, and advocate” University of Cincinnati social work graduates, the SSW, and through its activities, the greater Cincinnati social work community.

In the last four years we’ve organized our structure and functions with a focus on achieving our goals. We’ve developed a comprehensive database to connect and communicate with alumni. The quarterly UCSSW Alumni Newsletter has strengthened connections by highlighting graduate activities, giving updates about the SSW, discussing relevant social work issues and resources, and communicating alumni activities.

To further connect, the alumni board has sponsored class mixers and each May, sponsored an Alumni Day. In its fifth year, the Alumni Day offers graduates a day of social work continuing education and an efficient and effective networking opportunity for participants. It’s also an opportunity to celebrate and recognize distinguished alumni for their work in the social work profession.

Since service is core to social work, the SSW Alumni Board has implemented activities within the school and community. This fall a second “career speed mentoring” event took place. This event pairs current undergraduate and graduate students with working social work professionals to discuss practice areas and give students information that may help them determine field placement and social work career choices.

SSW alumni last year also participated in two community service projects, one in association with the Alumni Association.

The ongoing vision of the SSW Alumni Board is to further realize its goals by broadening activities and increasing support to alumni, the School of Social Work, and the College of Allied Health Sciences.

To receive the quarterly e-newsletter, visit www.cahs.uc.edu to update your information.

M. Kay Brown, MEd LISW-S, 102, Chair of Social Work Alumni Board

Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

Education shows the way for UC graduate Brittany Spencer

“Our home life was not very good,” she says. “There was a lot of violence and I knew I needed to keep myself out of it if I wanted to get past where I was and the lifestyle I grew up in.” During her sophomore year, her father was convicted of drug trafficking and sentenced to 10 years in prison.

While comforting her family, she tried to keep her academic life apart from her family life. Spencer went so far as to remove herself from her family’s home; she’s lived in six different places since graduating from high school and continues to work two jobs to support herself.

In addition to her classwork, Spencer became a member of the National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association and a volunteer at the Ronald McDonald House. During her senior year, Spencer worked with Jo-Anne Prendeville, EdD, on an honors research project studying literacy skills in young children. This fall she entered the college’s graduate program in speech-language pathology and plans to continue the study through graduate school and work on it for her thesis.

For her dedication and achievement, Spencer was selected as a student marshal and the college’s flag bearer for the 2011 commencement ceremony. Her family was there to watch her graduate—including her siblings, D.J., 19, and Paige, 16.

“I tell them that education is everything,” says Spencer. “It’s not an option, it’s the only way. I couldn’t imagine not going to school—this is my path out of the lifestyle that I’ve had.”

From UC Academic Health Center News, June, 2011
Robert W. Keith, PhD Audiology Research Endowment Fund established to support student research

It would come as no surprise to students or colleagues of Robert Keith, PhD, that although he’s retired, he’s still focused on helping audiology students follow their dreams to advance the science through research.

The adjunct professor of audiology in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders and professor emeritus in the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery has made a leadership gift to establish an endowment to support basic and applied clinical research in audiology.

The Robert W. Keith, PhD Audiology Research Endowment Fund will support masters’ and doctoral level students in research that advances understanding of the auditory system and its function.

For more than 40 years, Keith has shared his passion for education and research, earning the respect and admiration of students and colleagues alike. “I appreciate everything he did for me,” says Paul Willging, MD, a member of the Pediatric Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery department at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital who completed his ENT residency training with Keith and whom he considers a mentor.

Willging points to Keith’s role within the field of audiology, where his work as a clinician and researcher has left a lasting impact. He’s the author of several tests used in identifying auditory processing disorders. “He’s one of the pioneers in neurosensory monitoring,” says Willging. “When you think of neurosensory monitoring, that’s Bob Keith.”

As a man who practiced what he taught, Keith’s students see an endowment in his name a fitting tribute. “Dr. Keith never stops thinking, and he instills the importance of lifelong learning in his students—he always has,” says Lisa Hunter, PhD, (MA ’86) senior clinical director at Cincinnati Children’s Medical Center, a colleague and former student.

For more information on the endowment and how you can contribute, visit www.uc.edu/Endowments or please contact Meridy Glenn, director of development at the College of Allied Health Sciences, meridy.glenn@uc.edu. You can also use the pledge envelope attached to this publication to donate.

Caryn Perry, Student Academy of Audiology Cincinnati president and Robert W. Keith, PhD president and

CAHS reached out to more than 2,500 alumni who graduated within the past five years. Here is a sample of the results:

83% working in positions relating to major
70% working full time
11% working part-time
78% would choose CAHS again

72% started college and graduated with the same major
88% college education improved the quality of life
70% student loans were the major source of funding for college

Mean salary of CAHS alumni their first year after graduation (in US dollars)

CAHS students step up with support for Proudly Cincinnati campaign

College of Allied Health Science students are doing their part to help the university raise $1 billion by 2013. Students made donations to department senior class gifts to the Proudly Cincinnati campaign.

The Department of Analytical & Diagnostic Sciences held a raffle and Advanced Medical Imagining and Technology and Clinical Laboratory Science students raised $346.00. Forty-five spring and summer Communication Sciences Disorders graduates donated $20.11 each, to donate a total of $904.95.
Calling all nominations for the 2012 Distinguished Alumni Awards

In May 2012, an alumnus from each department of the College of Allied Health Sciences will be recognized for his or her professional accomplishments. Please join us as we continue this wonderful tradition by nominating someone you feel deserves recognition. Complete and submit your nomination online at www.cahs.uc.edu.

Please submit your nomination(s) by February 15, 2012.

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 Information Management, 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
- Has 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.

Stay in Touch!

Connections is about staying in touch
- Just go to www.cahs.uc.edu where you can fill us in on items such as: your move to a new state; your move to a new job; your promotion; your special interests; your wedding; your growing family!
- To submit a photo with your update please send digital photos to Kelly Chirumbolo, alumni coordinator, at kelly.chirumbolo@uc.edu. Please make sure your camera is set to the highest quality setting when taking photos with your digital camera.

We’re on Facebook!
- Join the Facebook group alumni: UC College of Allied Health Sciences
- College events and announcements will be posted within the group to keep you up to date on what is going on in the college.

E-mails—are you receiving ours?
- If you are not receiving e-mail messages from the college, please contact Kelly Chirumbolo, alumni coordinator, at kelly.chirumbolo@uc.edu. Stay connected!

Save the date—2012 Reunion

May 18 and 19, 2012
School of Social work will be hosting its Annual Alumni Day May 18. University wide activities will be hosted May 19.
Alaina Lopez
Hometown: Cincinnati, Ohio
UC Degree: BS, Dietetics, 2010

As the child of a military father, Alaina Lopez moved and grew up all over the world before settling in Nairobi, Kenya for high school. The stark difference she saw between nutritional conditions of people in Africa and what she saw when she vacationed in the United States was what led her to a career in dietetics. “In Africa I saw kids struggling to get enough to eat, suffering from malnutrition. I’d come to the States and see the complete opposite—people suffering from obesity.” She believed there had to be a balance between the two. When she learned that dieticians helped people find it by helping them get healthy based on what they ate, she said “it just clicked; I knew that was what I wanted to do.”

During her senior year she completed an internship at Good Samaritan Hospital in Cincinnati and worked there briefly before starting at Cincinnati Children’s Medical Center in September.

When she looks ahead at where she’d like to go with her career she admits that she “wants to do everything.” “I see myself doing adult nutrition at some point,” she says “but I love being at Children’s.” She sees a role for herself in fighting the obesity epidemic. “I’d like to get them when they’re young and help them to change so they’re not suffering through this when they’re adolescents and adults,” she explains. “I feel like this is a chance for me to make an impact.”

April Martin
Hometown: Gregory, Michigan
UC Degree: BS, Health Information Management, 2009

April Martin is a believer in the benefits of distance learning. She began working toward a degree from CAHS in 2007 while juggling the responsibilities of running a medical transcription business she had started two years earlier. Distance learning gave her the flexibility she needed.

It led to her pursuing her master’s in strategic leadership from Stephens College in Columbia, Mo., which she’ll complete in December. “I’ve loved distance learning, although I did have reservations initially about how I was going to like it,” Martin said. “Given where I was in my life, distance learning was the only way I could get my further degrees.”

Her company, QID Transcription Services, has grown steadily since its beginning and today that growth has exploded. Martin has four full-time employees and 18 contractors who serve clients nationwide.

Martin’s not only working to expand her business, she’s also working to help expand her field through her master’s project. She’s developing a vocational development program for inner city students in an effort to increase diversity in health information management and health care documentation. She hopes to present the program to the Detroit Public Schools’ board in December and kick off the program sometime next year.
Alumni Highlights

Julie Kenniston
Hometown: Mason, Ohio
UC Degree: MSW, Social Work, 2010

Julie Kenniston says postponing medical school after graduating from the University of Dayton was what eventually led her to a career in social work. She got her first social work experience soon after graduation, working at a residential facility in Columbus, Ohio, for adjudicated juvenile delinquents.

After getting married and moving to Cincinnati, she worked as a sexual abuse investigator with Hamilton County Children’s Services, a job that she says “sealed the deal”.

“I met the most incredible families,” she says. “You realize how resilient people are and how much they bring to the table when you’re working with them. It’s what sold me and why I ended up getting my master’s in social work.”

She started the master’s program in 2005 when she began working at Butler County Children’s Services (BCCS) after working nearly nine years as independent consultant, traveling nationally and internationally training social workers, police officers and prosecutors in forensic interviewing.

She completed her master’s in 2010 and is the director of training and education for BCCS. She founded and secured funding in collaboration with the Butler County United Way the Center for Family Solutions in Butler County, an organization that works with community partners to offer services for families dealing with sexual abuse and domestic violence. She volunteers as the executive director for the center.

As for becoming a doctor, she has no regrets about taking a different path. “I think social work is where I was meant to be,” she says.

Kathy Groves-Wright
Hometown: Covington, Kentucky
UC Degrees: MA Speech-Language Pathology, 2001; PhD, 2007

It’s not surprising that as an English literature major Kathy Groves-Wright had an interest in language. That degree opened her eyes to looking at language from another perspective however, and launched her journey to becoming a speech-language pathologist.

She became interested in communication and how brain injury affects language while working on her master’s in linguistics. That led her to the University of Cincinnati, where she earned her master’s in speech-language pathology. She was simultaneously awarded at fellowship at the Cincinnati VA Medical Center and a University Distinguished Graduate Fellowship to complete her doctorate.

During her doctoral studies her interests included how brain injury impacts speech and language, head and neck anatomy and voice and swallowing impairments. Those interests merged and are evident today in her clinical practice at the VA where she’s a dysphagia-oriented speech-language pathologist.

She serves as the speech pathology coordinator for the multi-disciplinary head and neck cancer care program. In addition to clinical work where she’s studying laryngeal and swallowing functioning, she’s responsible for administrative duties and helping advance the voice and swallowing rehabilitation program.

“I love my wonderful job,” says Groves-Wright. “I love working as part of a multidisciplinary team where I have many opportunities to learn from the physicians and other allied health professionals.”

But it’s working with the patients that means the most. “I love working with the veterans. It’s a privilege to serve those who served our country,” she says.
Michelle McGuire’s thoughts are never far from children. The most obvious reason right now is her new son, born at the end of September.

Her other job is another reason. As a physical therapist at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center’s (CCHMC) outpatient base, she treats a variety of patient diagnoses including developmental delay, cerebral palsy and torticollis. She also works in Children’s Comprehensive Neuromuscular Center providing physical therapy to patients with Duchenne muscular dystrophy and other neuromuscular conditions.

Her work there also has her involved with a number of national and international clinical trials, serving as the clinical investigator.

Over the next year she’ll be part of training the next generation of health professionals, serving as a physical therapy mentor/trainer to the LEND (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and related Disabilities) trainee/physical therapy resident. She was a graduate of the LEND program in 2008.

Although she’s been out of school for four years, she says she learns something new every day through her interactions with patients, families and her colleagues. “The great thing about Children’s, you’re surrounded by people with so much experience and you can draw from that experience.”

Professionally, she’s turning her focus to becoming a pediatric specialist. She’s already preparing for the exam, which she hopes to take in two years, meeting regularly with a study group. But she’s not letting that take away from her other focus on being a mother and creating new memories as a family.

Deborah Wolterman likes to describe her career since graduating from the University of Cincinnati College of Allied Health Sciences as non-traditional, though she says others might call it “career ADHD.”

Early on she moved into the emerging field of laboratory information systems, working as the director of laboratory services for Jewish Hospital, which at the time was one of three hospitals making up the Health Alliance of Greater Cincinnati.

When the Health Alliance Laboratory was formed she served as the administrative director until the lab was sold to LabOne and she became the corporate director of pathology.

Her career path led her to work as a consultant until she took a position with Medlab, a privately held company headquartered in Cincinnati which specializes in the long-term care market as well as the traditional lab markets, operating laboratories in five Midwestern states.

Wolterman currently develops new lab markets in other states and designs software applications for clients and internal logistics.
For the first time, all mid-collegiate allied health sciences students—in imaging, clinical laboratory sciences, communication science disorders, dietetics, food and nutrition, health sciences, and social work—came together in an all-day event to learn, discuss, and reflect upon the ways that these professions affect the lives of individuals, families, and communities.

A national leader in its approach to the allied health sciences, the College of Allied Health Sciences believes that students majoring in allied health science fields who are at the midpoint of their college careers have both the right and the responsibility to consider the far-reaching implications of work in their chosen future professions, both uniquely and in combination with other allied health sciences, in the lives of individuals, families and communities. This touch-point conference provided just such an opportunity.

The conference was held at the University of Cincinnati on November 4 and November 5, 2011. Attending were approximately 350 faculty members, students, and other supporters of the allied health sciences.

Medical Ethics

Make your Distinguished Alumni nominations, see page 22 for details.