

SCHOOL OF
Allied Health
Sciences



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Dr. Steven Harrison, chair of the Department of Medical Illustration in the Medical College of Georgia School of Allied Health Sciences, has been named the 2009 Louis B. Schmidt Laureate by the BioCommunications Association.

The BioCommunications Association is an international group of medical illustrators, photographers and videographers whose work focuses on life sciences and medicine. Click [here](#) to read more.

Congratulations Steven!

Dr. Guion Named Acting Dean

Dr. W. Kent Guion, Associate Dean for Student, Faculty and Community Affairs has been named Acting Dean of the School effective August 1, 2009. He will serve in that position during Dr. Mishoe's leave of absence to participate in an American Council on Education 2009-2010 fellowship. Dr. Mishoe will spend fall semester at Wofford College in Spartanburg, S.C. where she will work with the school's president and senior leadership.



Prior to her departure, Dr. Mishoe stated, "This fellowship is the most comprehensive leadership development program in higher education, and I appreciate MCG's support in nominating me for it. At the same time, it is very reassuring to know I am leaving the School of Allied Health Sciences in such good hands. Dr. Guion and I have worked together closely since he joined the school's administration in 2003, and he is well-positioned to lead the school during my absence. He is an outstanding leader, an innovative educator and a highly respected colleague."

Message from the Acting Dean

It is a privilege and pleasure to welcome everyone to fall 2009. I hope the new and returning students, staff, faculty, and alums are in good spirits and eager to continue on our journey of excellence. When you pause and glance around, it seems more evident than ever before that "change is the only constant." Questions and uncertainties about the economy, health care reform, and global relations seem to dominate the headlines. On further inspection, there are also impressive accolades and accomplishments of several (and I do mean several) members and graduates of our school.

How is it that these two realities can coexist?

My explanation is simple: we associate our actions to a greater purpose. By selecting service over self, we stay focused on our mission and are able to exceed our expectations in spite of gloomy circumstances and limited resources. There is no doubt that some of our strategic initiatives are on hold and difficult decisions must be made to ensure we are good stewards of our resources. Through this period of reductions, we must remind ourselves that our state has sustained cutbacks far less severe than many of our neighbors. We are fortunate.

To close, I would like to thank each of you for sharing your talents and your love of learning, caring and helping. A positive attitude and willingness to be creative has been a vital part in keeping on course with our goals of advancing patient and family centered care and leading positive change in our respective disciplines. I encourage each of you to remain focused on our primary purposes and find space and time to celebrate the joys of life and the accomplishments of our commitment to assist others in their pursuit of better health.

Warmest Regards,

Dr. Kent Guion

Announcements

August 21 - Professionalism Forum (9am; Imperial Theatre)

August 21 - SAHS Student Orientation (1pm; Large Auditorium)

August 28 - AHS Practice Group BOD Meeting (9am; EF-145)

September 4 - SAHS Faculty Council Meeting (12pm; EF-145)

September 9 - SAHS Interdisciplinary Development Series (12pm; EC-1210)

September 12 - Family Day (9am; MCG Wellness Center/Large Auditorium)

October 9 - Employee and Faculty Service Recognition Ceremony (2pm; Large Auditorium)



Paralympian Helps Other Soldiers

A few Occupational Therapy students participated with paralympian Scott Winkler in a six-week course at Fort Gordon Fitness Center.

The course allows students to workout with patients and share in the unique experience with injured soldiers.

Congratulations



Mr. William M. Andrews, Associate Professor in the Department of Medical Illustration, has been named the 2009 recipient of the Broedel Award of Excellence in Education from the Association of Medical Illustrators (AMI).

The award "recognizes and honors a medical illustrator for outstanding educational contributions to the profession of Medical Illustration." Mr. Andrews received the award on August 1, 2009 at the 64th annual meeting of the AMI in Richmond, Virginia.



Mary Anne "Mimi" Owen, Assistant Professor and Director of the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program in Biomedical & Radiological Technologies, was inducted as a fellow of the Society of Nuclear Medicine, TS at the annual meeting in Toronto, CA on June 14, 2009. Being recognized as a fellow by her professional organization is one of the highest honors to achieve. It is a testament to her excellence and it is certainly well-deserved.

PA Students' Annual Mission Trip



During March of this year, Dr. Donald Maner, Associate Professor in the Physician Assistant Department and six Physician Assistant students were privileged to be part of a medical mission team, for the fifth consecutive year. Along with Dr. Sharon Kuhn, the co-medical director for Mission to the World, as well as Betsy Christiansen, a wonderful nurse/missionary, the "team" set out on an ambitious 14-day mission trip to the West Indies island of Trinidad.

Special thanks to the SAHS, Dr. Mishoe, and Dr. Dadig as well as GAPA for their support in making this mission trip to Trinidad possible.

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SAHS Appointments

Christopher Block, PT, DPT, Assistant Professor and Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education (ACCE) in the Department of Physical Therapy, July 1, 2009.

Michael Todd, DHS, Assistant Professor, Department of Biomedical & Radiological Technologies, July 15, 2009.

Presidential Search Committee

Dr. Kent Guion, Acting Dean in the School, has been appointed a member of the Medical College of Georgia Presidential Search Committee.

A national search will be conducted to replace MCG President Daniel W. Rahn who has accepted a position as chancellor of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. The Search Committee, which will guide the first stage of the search. USG Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr. and the Board of Regents have engaged R. William Funk and Associates, Dallas, Texas, to serve as the search firm for the committee.

The initial meeting of the committee was held on Wednesday, August 12, at which time the members were formally charged with their roles and responsibilities in conducting the search.



Dental Hygiene students from the class of 2010, volunteering during a three night phonathon to help raise funds for the school of dentistry building initiative.

Physician Assistant Students Dominate Medical Challenge Bowl

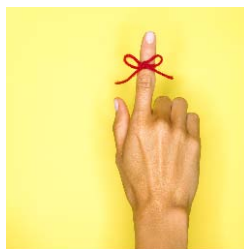


(Left: Ronald Sanders; middle: moderator for Challenge Bowl, Jerry Erickson, and far right: Elicia Parvin)



Two Physician Assistant students dominated the Georgia Association of Physician Assistants' 2009 Student Medical Challenge Bowl in Hilton Head, S.C.

Second-year student Elicia Parvin of Cumming, GA., and first-year student Ronald Sanders of Decatur, GA., were the school's winning team at the challenge bowl. The competition tests the medical knowledge of physician assistant students in Georgia. MCG students have won the competition for five of the past six years.



Remember... submit all new items for the September/October newsletter to Ramona Aune at raune@mcg.edu no later than October 1, 2009.

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State of the School Address



On July 23, 2009, Dr. Shelley Mishoe, Dean, gave her annual state of the school address.

Dr. Mishoe stated that during these fiscally challenging times, our School is finding ways to be more efficient and effective. She stated, "it's more important than ever that we focus, not on everything we can do, but on strategic and key initiatives." A focus on patient- and family-centered care, for which MCG already is nationally renowned, is key to the school further distinguishing itself."

The School's continued infusion of technology into teaching to reflect and respond to the evolving learning styles of students, preserving teaching excellence and the school's commitment to students as well as continuing to build a health workforce for Georgia by assessing the economic impact of faculty, programs, and graduates, are efforts that will continue to make a mark.

Dr. Mishoe also focused on other key initiatives, including:

- Interdisciplinary education and how the school could collaborate more within the school and with MCG's other schools to enhance education and ultimately benefit students.
- Alignment with MCG research discovery institutes, particularly the Brain & Behavior and the Vision Discovery Institutes.
- Continued collaboration with more than 900 clinical affiliates in 100 counties across Georgia, including academic partnerships with Augusta State University and the five-campus Georgia Perimeter College. Both schools now offer associate degrees in allied health sciences and, if qualified, their students are guaranteed admission to MCG's undergraduate allied health programs.

SAHS leadership team also contributed to the speech by highlighting additional accomplishments.

Dr. Doug Keskula, Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, announced that a new doctorate in occupational therapy is under development.

Dr. Kent Guion, Associate Dean for Student, Faculty and Community Affairs, noted an increase in enrollment, particularly in the number of graduate students. Total school enrollment was 697 in 2007 and 718 in 2008. He also showed the number of student volunteer hours, which the school began tracking last year. Eighty-seven students volunteered a total of 4,886 hours at a total of 180 sites.

Dr. Joseph Cannon, Associate Dean for Research and Kellett Chair of Allied Health Sciences, stated that external funding has steadily increased, noting a good balance between education and research funding.

Dr. Elizabeth Wark, Assistant Dean for Faculty Practice, reported that the Allied Health Sciences Practice Group had exceeded its revenue goals for the past two years. There are 32 active contracts in the group and 34 SAHS faculty involved in practice.

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