

SCHOOL OF Allied Health Sciences



In this Issue . . .

- Announcements
- Welcome & Congrats
- Georgia Health Go Local
- Faculty Promotions
- 2008 Alumnus Banquet & Dance photo album
- Message from the Dean

Have you heard?

Dr. Marie Collins, Chair, Department of Dental Hygiene, has been appointed to serve a three year term to the editorial review board of the American Dental Education Association's Journal of Dental Education.



The board guides editorial policy and reviews articles submitted for publication. Journal topics include clinical trials, innovative testing methodologies and curriculum reform. **Congratulations Dr. Collins!**

"You are prepared today to begin your careers as health care professionals."



School of Allied Health Sciences honors graduates!

Family, friends and faculty packed Grace United Methodist Church in North Augusta to celebrate the SAHS honor graduates on Friday, May 9, 2008.

"You are prepared today to begin your careers as health care professionals," said Dr. Shelley C. Mishoe, Dean. She told the graduates to embark on their careers with caring and daring.

Dr. Mishoe also reminded graduates to balance patient care with caring for themselves. "You should have the courage and conviction to stand up for what you know is right, to do your best at all times, to continuously reach for your full potential." The 277 allied health graduates included the inaugural class of Doctor of Physical Therapy and Master of Physician Assistant graduates.

Grants boost allied health enrollment



The Medical College of Georgia School of Allied Health Sciences will add 70 student slots in six programs through statewide distance-learning sites in Athens, Gainesville, Kennesaw and Lawrenceville over the next two years.

The initiative to combat Georgia's health care workforce shortage is funded by two grants totaling more than \$1.2 million from the University System of Georgia's Intellectual Capital Partnership Program, designed to create jobs and accelerate education for workers in high-demand professions with a documented shortage.

Respiratory Therapy department establishes online degree



An external bachelor of science degree in respiratory therapy has been approved by the University System of Georgia Board of Regents.

This online program will allow registered respiratory therapist with an associate's degree to earn a bachelor's degree in two years after completing prerequisites. Dr. Randy Baker, chair of the Department of Respiratory Therapy, says, "This degree-completion program will allow us to help raise the education level within the profession by offering a program that students can take completely at a distance and fit into their working lives."

(Top of page)

Summer Announcements



Team MCG 08 Campaign

As of May 2, 2008, 77% of our School's faculty and staff had committed to donating to the TeamMCG campaign. Last year 67% responded so this is exciting news! The other Schools reported the following: SOM 27%; SOD 47%; SON 80%; and SGS 78%. **A BIG thank you to all of you who lead this effort and of course, to those who contributed. We greatly appreciate your support and dedication to MCG and SAHS!**



SAHS School-wide orientation will be Friday, August 22, 2008.



Professionalism Forum will be held on Friday, August 22, 2008 at the Imperial Theatre.



MCG Family Day - September 20, 2008.



Rock Eagle Computing Conference will be held October 22, 23 & 24, 2008 in Eatonton, GA.



Dr. D'Amico named Governor's Teaching Fellow

Dr. Mariana D'Amico, assistant professor of occupational therapy in the Medical College of Georgia School of Allied Health Sciences, has been selected for the Governor's Teaching Fellows Program.

"I hope to bring back new techniques and technologies that will enhance teaching, learning and research for the students, the school and myself," says Dr. D'Amico. "This is a great opportunity to hear what other faculty are using and doing in different fields and to create new networks for collaborative research within the system."



Go Local plans to officially be launched on Monday, June 2, 2008.

A special thanks to Dr. Kent Guion, Associate Dean for Student, Faculty and Community Affairs, Peter Shipman, Outreach Services Librarian and Darra Ballance, Assistant Director, Learning Resource Center, who serve on the Advisory Board for 2007-2008.

Go Local is a federally-funded initiative to link users of MedlinePlus, the National Library of Medicine's (NLM) premier consumer health information website, to health services and providers in their local community.

The project is being implemented in phases, first incorporating existing databases, services such as the GRID database (Georgia Rural Health Interactive Directory) at the Medical College of Georgia; the Department of Community Health's (DCH) listing of all licensed health facilities in Georgia; and Georgia's 2-1-1 information and referral services. Once these resources have been successfully utilized as the basis for Georgia's Go Local website, they will systematically begin to add resources county by county all across Georgia.

Welcome

- **Ashley Christman**, Instructor (part-time, temporary), Dental Hygiene (1/10/08)
- **Sharon Cosper**, Assistant Professor (part-time), Occupational Therapy (3/1/08)
- **David Mascaro**, Associate Professor (retiree rehire), Medical Illustration (3/1/08)
- **Grace Miller**, Director of Advancement, SAHS (1/22/08)
- **Vanessa Washington**, Office Associate, Biomedical & Radiological Technologies (2/18/08)

Congratulations

are extended to Dr. Russell and Dr. Pretlow for being awarded tenure!



Dr. Barbara Russell Dr. Lester Pretlow

- **Retired: Robert Stowers** Assistant Professor, Physician Assistant (4/30/08).

(Top of page)

School of Allied Health 2008 Faculty Promotions



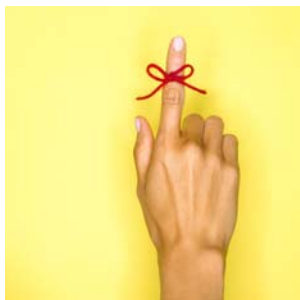
Dr. Elizabeth Leibach (BRT)
Promoted to Professor



Mr. John Meyer (DHI)
Promoted to Assistant
Professor



Ms. Sara Haddow (PA)
Promoted to Assistant
Professor



Remember... submit all new items for the July/August newsletter to Ramona Aune at raune@mcg.edu no later than July 20, 2008.



Message from the Dean ...

The School of Allied Health Sciences: Past, Present and Future

This is a pivotal time as we celebrate the School's 40th anniversary, assess our fulfillment of our school's goals, and embark on setting a strategic direction for the next several years. First, thanks to the dean's office and all alumni, current faculty, emeritus faculty, volunteer faculty, staff and friends of the school for all of your support during homecoming week! We had a record number of events and attendance including several continuing education programs, the second annual Art Hardy Memorial Golf Tournament, an alumni breakfast in BRT, a picnic in PT and an anniversary banquet celebration. A big part of our celebration was the school's recognition of our 2008 Distinguished Alumna, Col. Bobbi Amaker and our school's "Fab 40" Alumni. Please see the [website](#) for further details. The high turnout for homecoming celebrations was unprecedented, setting a high bar for next year's events! I know many of you are already thinking about and working on details for 2009!

Right on the heels of Homecoming were two other major events, including graduation week and registration of new and returning students for Summer Semester. There is literally no good time for faculty and staff to take a break and use accrued leave time. However, it is a good reminder to ourselves that unless we take care of ourselves, we can do little to truly care for others....that includes our students and patients! As many of you know, one of my common themes is balance in our lives. These days, I am not a very good role model of how to do that. Consequently, I am very much aware that our School of Allied Health Sciences has reached the limits of what we are capable of doing. That is not to say that we are "quitters" or that we will "settle." I do believe that now, more than ever before, we need to streamline our efforts and focus on fewer initiatives, with an emphasis on efficiencies, effectiveness and teamwork.

The school administration (deans and department chairs), along with the faculty council have engaged in two full day strategic planning sessions. Although our discussions have not always been easy, I believe we have had some honest and heartfelt dialogue for setting our direction for the future. We will soon be sharing a draft of the proposed school strategic plan for input from our faculty and MCG administration. I look forward to your input and suggestions on how to help shape the next 40 years of the SAHS.

(Top of page)