



College of Education and Health Professions

SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY

Preparing Leaders to Serve

Patricia W.
Walker, Ed.D
Dean

Education

Geriatric Health
and Wellness

Nursing

Occupational
Therapy

Physical
Therapy and
Human Move-
ment Science

Sacred Heart
University
5151 Park Ave.
Fairfield, CT
06825-1000

Dear Alumni:

As we continue to plan for the 10th Anniversary celebration of the College, I am pleased to announce the establishment of the College of Education and Health Professions Alumni Leadership Award. The Award will be given for the first time next September during Homecoming. The purpose of the award is to recognize alumni of Education, Nursing, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Human Movement Science, Athletic Training, Exercise Science, and Geriatric Rehabilitation and Wellness. Nominations will be accepted from both faculty and alumni. Selection of Alumni Leadership Award recipients will be based upon continuing service to the University, distinction within your profession, or contribution to the fulfillment of the mission of the college. A committee of faculty and alumni will select up to 3 recipients annually.

This award program honoring our alumni will complement two additional award programs. The Community Partner Award will recognize individuals or organizations who have demonstrated exceptional collaboration to further the goals and mission of the college. The Dean's Service Award will recognize individuals within the college who have either a sustained record of service or who have had an outstanding year of service.

We hope that by establishing these award programs we will be able to thank those individuals and organizations who bring distinction to the college, who enable us to deliver excellent academic programs to our students, and who assist us in our mission to serve and advocate for our communities.

We invite you to nominate one of your peers for the Alumni Leadership Award and please plan to join us for the celebration. A nomination form is enclosed in this newsletter for your convenience. You can also access it through the newsletter on the college website at: www.sacredheart.edu/cehp.cfm/.

We hope you enjoy this issue of the newsletter and we look forward to hearing from you.

Patricia W. Walker, Dean
cehpalumni@sacredheart.edu
www.sacredheart.edu

Rita McDougald-Campbell
'00 CAS-Administration
Department of Education

Education Program News

Faculty

Edward Malin, Ph.D.
Professor & Chair

Antoinette Bruciati, Ph.D.
Instructor

Karen Christensen, Ph.D.
Clinical Associate Professor

Maureen Fitzpatrick, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

Michael Giarratano, MS
Assistant Professor

Velma Heller, Ed.D.
Assistant Professor

Edward Hendricks, MA
Instructor

Ed Joyner, Ed.D.
Associate Professor

Abdul Latif, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

Lois Libby, Ph.D.
Associate Professor

Maria Lizano-DiMare, Ed.D.
Assistant Professor

Karl Lorenz, Ed.D.
Assistant Professor

Paul Massey, MS
Assistant Professor

Sondra Melzer, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

Edward Murray, Ph.D.
Associate Professor

Gerald Neipp, Ed.D.
Assistant Professor

Terry Neu, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

Gail Nordmoe, Ed.D.
Assistant Professor

Anthony Pittman, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

Stephen Rubin, Ph.D.
Associate Professor

Cima Sedigh, Ed.D.
Assistant Professor

Dorothy Vasquez-Levy, PhD.
Associate Professor

Teaching American History Grant in Conjunction with Stratford and New Haven Public Schools

SHU Education and History Departments are collaborating with the Stratford and New Haven Public Schools to provide history courses for grades K-12 teachers in the two communities. The courses are developed and funded by a three year Teaching American History grant which Lois Libby, Associate Professor of Education helped to write, along with Alice Daniels, a recent graduate of our sixth year program in Educational Administration.

The focus of the courses is on history content and related teaching skills. The theme is Equity and Equal Access in American History, and subtopics are Human Rights, Women Students and Immigration and Labor History. The project began in January with 40 graduate students with Lois Libby, Ed Joyner, Associate Professor and R. Bryan Bademan, Assistant Professor of History as the faculty. Teachers will develop curriculum units in the courses which will result in projects in their classes as well as a culminating “Human Rights Day” at Stratford Academy this spring.

Bridgeport Host Magnet Schools

For the past two years Lois Libby has been working as part of a grant team to establish a Pre-K-Grade 8 Host Magnet School in partnership with Sacred Heart University and the Discovery Museum to be located on the grounds of the Discovery Museum. It will focus on science and technology. In the process of grant development this past spring, the Bridgeport Board of Education decided to add a second grant proposal for a magnet school comprised of three learning communities, each with a singular magnet focus: a zoological school in partnership with the Beardsley Zoo, a physical and aviation science school which will be an extension of the Pre-K-Grade 8 school and an information technology school. Both proposals have been submitted to the Connecticut State Department of Education and are on an approved State Department of Education list for bonding consideration for the next fiscal year. The schools will be built upon approval from the Bonding Commission.



Cont'd
Bridgeport Host Magnet Schools

These host magnet schools will be operated by the City of Bridgeport but will be open to students from area communities in order to improve opportunities for racial integration in the Bridgeport region. In addition to Bridgeport, area boards of education have submitted letters of support for the applications and have agreed to enroll students who wish to attend from their communities.

Sacred Heart University will be able to use the schools as laboratories for its education department and plans to hold education classes at the Pre-K-Grade 8 Magnet School. The Instructional Technology Department plans a contract to offer two-year old laptops to the teachers and students at the schools and will be providing computer maintenance. SHU parents of pre-schoolers will be approached about the possibility of sending their children to the pre-school program which is scheduled to offer daycare early in the morning and after regular school hours. Other departments within the university will be tapped to offer student internships at the schools as well as to develop partnerships that have not as yet been conceived. The earliest possible opening of the schools is 2008.

Nursing Programs News

St. Francis Accelerated RN to BSN Cohort Program

Faculty

Dori Taylor Sullivan, Ph.D.
RN, CAN, CPHQ
Chair

Anne Barker, Ed.D, RN
Associate Professor

Susan DeNisco, APRN, MS, FNP
Clinical Asst. Professor

Kathleen Fries, MSN, RN
Instructor

Michael Hargrave, RN, MS, MBA
Instructor

Brenda Renzulli, RN, MBA
Instructor

Linda Strong, Ed.D., RN
Assistant Professor

Constance Young, Ed.D., RN
Associate Professor

The third cohort of the accelerated RN to BSN program, located at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford, Connecticut is scheduled to graduate in Spring 2006. Recruitment is underway for cohort four, expected to start in September 2006. This innovative partnership has been successful in supporting more than 35 RNs to achieve their BSN.

Sacred Heart University Nursing Department Offers Approved Contact Hours

Professor Michael Hargrave, Chair of the Continuing Education Committee, led the process and submitted our application to provide approved contact hours for various continuing education programs under the auspices of the Connecticut Nurses Association.

HOLD THE DATE: FOR THE 25th NURSING DEPARTMENT ANNIVERSARY DINNER DANCE CELEBRATION, MARCH 25TH AT 6:30 PM. DETAILS WILL FOLLOW

Occupational Therapy Program News

Faculty

Jody Bortone, MS, OTR/L
Assistant Professor & Chair

Amy Darragh, Ph.D., OTR/L
Assistant Professor

Lenore Frost, MS, CHT,
OTR/L
Academic Fieldwork Educa-
tion Coordinator

Mary Ellen Johnson,
MAHSM, OTR/L
Instructor

Heather Miller Kuhaneck,
MS, OTR/L
Instructor

Education Workshop

The Occupational Faculty and first year students attended a continuing education workshop “Recognizing and Helping Children with Sensory Processing Disorder” presented in North Haven, Connecticut on November 30, 2005 by Carol S. Kranowitz.

Hurricane Katrina Relief

The Student Occupational Therapy Association (SOTA) in an effort initiated by the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), are raising funds for hurricane Katrina relief. AOTA is focusing its efforts on fundraising for activities of daily living items. The SHU SOTA is seeking collaboration with Quinnipiac OT students to join in the fund raising effort. We wish the students the best in this endeavor.



Occupational Therapy Classrooms and Labs



Physical Therapy and Human Movement Science News

Faculty

Michael Emery, Ed.D., PT
Associate Professor
Chair

Gary Austin, PT, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

Donna Bowers, PT, PCS
Clinical Assistant Professor

Salome Brooks, PT, MBA
Academic Coordinator of
Clinical Education
Assistant Professor

David Cameron, PT, MS, OCS
Clinical Assistant Professor

Kevin Chui, PT, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

Beverly Fein, PT, Ed.D.
Associate Professor
Academic Coordinator of
Clinical Education

Pam Levangie, PT, D.Sc.,
Professor

Michelle Lusardi, PT, Ph.D.
Associate Professor

Human Movement Science
Gail Samdperil
Clinical Assistant Professor
Director

Wendy Bjerke, MS
Clinical Assistant Professor

Timothy Speicher, MS, ATC CSCS
Clinical Assistant Professor

Carrie Silkman, MEd, ATC
Clinical Coordinator and
Assistant Athletic Trainer

Sacred Heart University Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Center

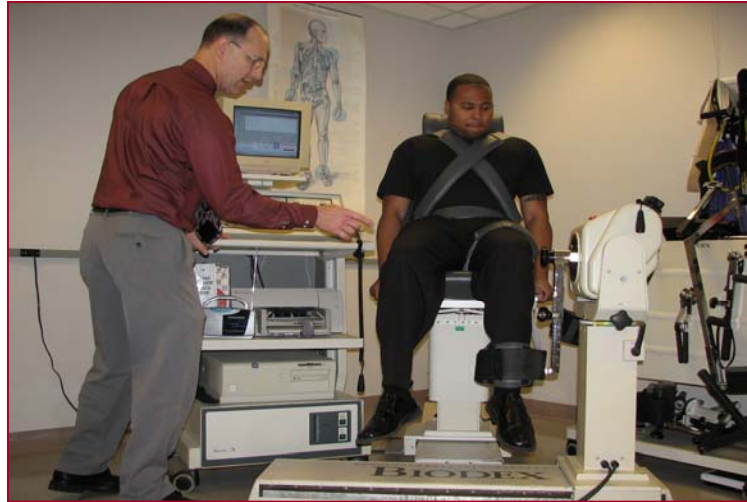
Fairfield
 5151 Park Avenue, Fairfield, CT
 Tele: 203-396-8181
 Shelton
 2 Corporate Drive, Suite 233
 Shelton, CT
 Tele: 203-924-5370

One of the truly unique aspects of the Physical Therapy Program at Sacred Heart University is the clinical enterprise that is part of the department. The University has out-patient clinics on campus in Fairfield, and in Shelton, CT, as well as contract physical therapy services provided to a skilled nursing facility (St. Joseph's Manor in Trumbull), an assisted living community (Crosby Commons in Shelton), school-based pediatric services (Cooperative Education Services of Trumbull) and an inter-disciplinary screening, education and referral center for underserved people on the east side of Bridgeport, CT (St Charles Health and Wellness Center). These activities provide clinical education experiences for our students, and clinical practice and research opportunities for our faculty. These clinical activities also allow us to remain current and credible as practitioners and scholars, as well as meet the service mission of our University.



**Victor Vaughan, PT, ATC, MS: Clinical Manager
Fairfield**

“We are committed to achieving the highest level of patient satisfaction by providing the most innovation, state-of-the-art rehabilitation services in a highly personalized and positive environment”.



**Thomas Kascak, PT, CHT, MBA: Clinical Director
 Fairfield Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Center**



**Kerry Rudich, MS, PT, OSC, Clinical Director,
 Shelton Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Center**

Rehabilitation Specialties

- Orthopedic and Sports Physical Therapy
- Athletic Training Services
- Pediatric Physical Therapy
- Aquatic Physical Therapy
- Work Hardening
- Functional Capacity Evaluation
- Occupational and Hand Therapy
- On-site Ergonomic Job Analysis
- Golf Performance Enhancement
- Fitness Program Consultation & Design
- Nursing Home Contract Services
- Home Health Contract Services

Welcome New Faculty



Ed Joyner, Ed.D., Associate Professor, Education Department

Ed recently retired as the Executive Director of the School Development Program at Yale University where he was also an Assistant Professor of Child and Adolescent Development. He spent the first thirty-five years of his career as a high school social studies teacher, assistant principal, principal, and college administrator. Ed received his Master of Arts in Teaching from Wesleyan University and holds a doctorate in School Administration and Organization Behavior from the University of Bridgeport. His research interests include leadership, community building, effective teaching, and enhancing student holistic development.



Michael Giarratano, MS, Clinical Assistant Professor, Education Department

Mike comes to Sacred Heart with 9 years experience as an Adjunct Faculty Member in the Education Department, 16 years experience with the Connecticut State Department of Education as a presenter/assessor in the BEST program, and 25 years as an elementary Principal in Fairfield. Mike holds a Master's Degree and Sixth Year Certificate from the University of Bridgeport and is currently pursuing his Doctor of Education, Educational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University.



Kevin Chui, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Physical Therapy Program

Kevin comes to SHU from New York University where he worked as a Research Assistant in the Human Performance Laboratory. His research interests include examining different movement patterns to test motor control theories. In his clinical practice, Kevin has focused on geriatric patient care in nursing home, homecare and assisted living settings. His teaching experience includes: geriatric and musculoskeletal patient care, measurement and evaluation of movement, and research methods and statistics. Kevin holds a Masters of Science degree in Physical Therapy from Long Island University and a PhD from New York University with a concentration in pathokinesiology.



Lenore Frost, MS, CHT, OTR/L, Clinical Assistant Professor and Academic Fieldwork Coordinator, Occupational Therapy Program

Lenore has been at Sacred Heart for three years as a part time instructor and has now joined us as a full time Clinical Assistant Professor and Academic Fieldwork Coordinator in the Occupational Therapy Program. Lenore comes to Sacred Heart with a Masters in Organizational Management from the University of Phoenix and is enrolled in a PhD program in Health Services at Walden University. Lenore is a registered Occupational Therapist and a certified hand therapist.

Faculty and Staff News

Aging with Grace Project SHU-St. Charles Health and Wellness Center

The Aging with Grace Elders Program began in September, 2005 and sought women and men to help craft toys for children of the Gulf Coast who lost all their belongings in the Hurricanes. The women crafted “Rag Dolls” and the men wooden toys, cars and planes. Dr. Linda Strong, Assistant Professor in Nursing and Co-director of the SHU-St. Charles Health and Wellness Center and Donna Bowers, Instructor, PT, co-director of the “Asthma ELF (Exercise your lungs for life)” program are pictured below.



Faculty Activity

Dr. Terry W Neu, Assistant Professor, Department of Education, presented a paper “The Social and Emotional Needs of Gifted Boys: What a Challenge” at the National Association for Gifted Children’s Conference in Louisville, Kentucky. This presentation was a segment of his forthcoming book being published by Prufrock Press. Terry’s co-author is Rich Weinfeld a long time friend and former special education director in Montgomery County Maryland.

Dr. Neu has been asked to sit on a special committee of the Council for Exceptional Children. This committee will be searching the US for twice exceptional students, that is gifted students that also demonstrate learning disabilities or Aspergers Syndrome. Through a generous grant from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, academic support services will be provided to the recipient students starting in 7th grade and continuing through college in the form of a full scholarship. This program is slated to parallel the new wording of IDEA special education law that describes twice exceptional students for the first time.

Faculty and Staff News

Cont'd

Dr. Karl Lorenz, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Education, attended the VII Congreso Iberoamericano de Historia de la Educacion Latino Americana, in Quito, Ecuador from September 13-16. He presented a paper, in Spanish, whose translated title is: "Philosophical Zoology in Brazil: Exploring Modern Currents of Scientific thought in the College Pedro II in the Mid-Nineteenth Century." Karl also had an article published titled: "Science Education reform in the Brazilian Secondary School: 1960-1980" in *Portugese Journal of Pedagogy*

Karl also published an article titled "First Experiences With Object Lessons in Nineteenth-Century: Origins of a progressive pedagogy for the Brazilian Secondary School." Published in *Educational dialogues (Trans), Journal of the Graduate Program in Education*, Pontifical Catholic University of Parana; Brazil, January/ April, 2005.

Antoinette P. Bruciati, Instructor, Department of Education, presented a paper at the 3rd Conference on Education and Information Systems: Technologies and Applications (EISTA 2005) held in Orlando, Florida in July, 2005. entitled: **Using a Robotic Arm to Evaluate the Programming Ability of K-12 Educators**. This paper was selected as the best paper of those presented in the session: Applications of Information and Communication Technologies in Education and Training.

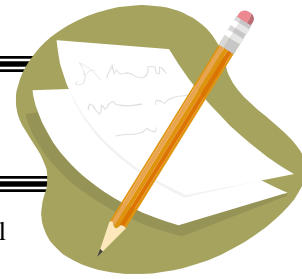
Congratulations to **Antoinette (Toni) Bruciati**, she has completed her dissertation and graduation requirements for her doctoral degree at Nova Southeastern University Graduate School of Computer and Information Sciences.

Anne Barker, Ed.D (Nursing), **Dori Sullivan, Ph.D.** (Nursing) and **Michael Emery, Ed.D.** (Physical Therapy) completed a text on clinical leadership entitled, Leadership competencies for clinical managers; The Renaissance of Transformational Leadership, published by Jones and Bartlett Publishers, January, 2006. The text is a resource for clinical managers and students of health care management.

Donna Bowers, PT, PCS and **Michael Emery, Ed.D.**, received a grant in the amount of \$8,500 from the Inner City Foundation for Charity and Education for the project entitled the "Asthma Elf." The project began in January, 2006 and is an outreach program of the St Charles Health and Wellness Center. The project will provide exercise training and education for children with Asthma in the city of Bridgeport.



Class Notes



Holly Simms (BSN 2003) is enrolled in the graduate program for nurse anesthetists at Bridgeport Hospital

Maureen Tiroletto (BSN 2003) will be finishing her master's degree in nursing at the University of Hartford – she was a graduate of the first cohort of the accelerated program for RN to BSN at Saint Francis Hospital in Hartford, CT

Irene (McDonald) Haight (BSN 2002) will be completing her MSN as a Family Nurse Practitioner at Sacred Heart University in May 2006; she is also employed as an adjunct clinical instructor.

Christina (DosSantos) Tiago (BSN 1999) graduated in May 2005 with her MSN as a Family Nurse Practitioner – she co-authored an article with Professors Susan Denisco and Carol Kravitz on Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder that was highlighted on the cover of Journal for Nurse Practitioners recently

Jill (Saja) Keller (BSN 2000) graduated with an MSN as a FNP (May 2005) and published an article in a professional nursing oncology journal detailing the results of a pilot research study on standardized education for new breast cancer patients.

Jennifer Nelson (MSN 2005) (FNP) was the co-recipient of a national award for her work in promoting awareness of Primary Care Week from the American Medical Student Association.

Congratulations to 2005 Occupational Therapy Program graduates Christine Busher and Jamie Cianciolo, both who have begun working in CT public schools employed by Norwalk Rehabilitation Services (NRS). Christine and Jamie were selected from among several qualified applicants to be recipients of NRS' tuition-for-work benefit.

Jillian Oparowski, class of 2006, and Elizabeth Tontini and Lisa Scanlan, class of 2007 are the most recent recipients of NRS' tuition-for-work benefit for Occupational Therapy students. Congratulations to you all! Our deepest thanks to Norwalk Rehabilitation Services for their continued generosity and support of our program.

Lisa DeCesare (1993, MAT 1995) and Bret Henkel (MAT 2002) were married on July 30, 2005. They both are teachers in the Fairfield Connecticut Public School system. They reside in Milford, Connecticut.

Marc D'Amico (MAT 1995) was appointed Principal of Glenville School in Greenwich, Connecticut. He formerly was the assistant principal of Julian Curtiss School, also in Greenwich, Connecticut.

Eric Larson (MAT 2000) was appointed Principal of Burr Elementary School in Higganum, Connecticut. He was selected from a pool of 29 candidates. He previously was the assistant principal at Pleasant Valley Elementary School in Groton.

Monson Lane (6th Year 2000) was appointed Principal of Cutler Middle School in Mystic, Connecticut. He was formerly the assistant principal at Cutler.

Patricia (Tricia) Staley (MAT 2003) has been named Assistant Principal of H.H. Ellis Technical High School in Danielson, Connecticut.

Scott Fitzgerald (MAT 2004), Athletic Director for Stevens High School in Claremont, NH, is the host for Corker Sports, which airs on Saturday mornings in the New Hampshire area.

Aleftheria Koutikas (2004) recently accepted a position as a travel nurse based out of San Diego, California. She previously had been working at Yale New Haven Hospital as a pediatric nurse since September, 2004.

Gus Lindine (6th Year 2004) has been appointed Athletic Director for Greenwich High School in Greenwich, Connecticut. He previously was the head football coach and special education teacher at Bethel High School in Bethel, Connecticut.

Keep in Touch

We want to know what you have been doing.

Share your news and events by submitting a class note. e-mail your notes to:
cehpalumni@sacredheart.edu.



Mission Statement

The College of Education and Health Professions seeks to foster the development of women and men who demonstrate intellectual and professional integrity, who value compassionate service to others, and who take leading roles in communities governed by spiritual and moral values.

As a professional college within a catholic university rooted in the liberal arts tradition, the College of Education and Health Professions is committed to providing an education built upon deep respect for the dignity of the human person and a recognition of the responsibility of each individual to contribute to the building of a more just society. Specifically, the college strives to teach the skills necessary for developing ethical responses to new and ever-changing circumstances of a future filled with discoveries, technological advancements and social change.

The college provides opportunities for students to gain knowledge, experience, skills, and values necessary to begin a first career, to advance in an existing career and to prepare for new career challenges in response to the changing needs of society.

The college's cooperation with professional partners in the community ensures that students benefit from an integration of academic, internship and clinical experiences. This collaboration also enriches the education and health care endeavors of the community and instills an ethic of community service among students.

The College is committed to professional and academic excellence and measures this by the quality of its faculty, programs, resources and student achievements.

SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY

10th Anniversary Committee

Dr. Patricia Walker, Dean
 Michele Peloso—Office of the Dean
 Rita McDougald-Campbell-Education Program-(CAS-Admin, 2000)
 Kim Macomber, Ryan Matura Library
 Patti DaSilva-Physical Therapy Program
 Dr. Gail Nordmoe-Education Department
 Brenda Renzulli-Nursing Program
 Dr. Michelle Lusardi-Physical Therapy Program
 Monica Sartor—Nursing Program MSN
 2005)
 Dr. Connie Young—Nursing Program
 Sheila Watts-Geriatric Health and Wellness (MSGRW 2004)
 Heather Miller-Kuhaneck-Occupational Therapy Program
 Dr. Lois Libby-Education Department
 Dr. Cima Sedigh-Education Department
 Ann Miron-Community Relations and Special Events



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