College of Health Sciences Newsletter, September 2016

Irvin B. Harrell (Editor)
Old Dominion University
Picnic features tribute to distinguished alumni

The 2016 Welcome Back Picnic on Sept. 13 served as a marquee event for the 30th Anniversary Celebration of the College of Health Sciences. The event featured many of the college’s 30 Distinguished Alumni, Big Blue, students, staff, faculty, giveaways, contests, karaoke and last but not least plenty of food. More photos on Page 4.

Big Blue poses with Distinguished Alumni Darleen Mastin and Bud Brame.

Martha Walker, from the School of Physical Therapy and Athletic Training, ran away with the COHS Slogan Contest crown.
Welcome to the new academic year! The campus and our college are bustling with enthusiasm as we continue the College of Health Sciences 30th Anniversary. We have had a variety of celebrations including a Norfolk Tides Baseball Game at Harbor Park, recognition of 30 distinguished alumni from the five schools and our Welcome Back Picnic. But that’s not all. We will have Homecoming events, cheer on the Monarchs at the ODU football games, feature an alumni leader in a Dean’s Distinguished Lecture, and publish a commemorative magazine! We welcome all faculty, students, alumni, college advisory board members and supporters to join us in our ongoing celebrations!

Each year, I present the State of the College address as an opportunity to review our many accomplishments and look forward to our new aspirations. This year, I had the pleasure of not only highlighting the past year, but also provided a snapshot of the college over the past three decades. I continued with my customary nautical theme as a salute to our beautiful Virginia coastline, ODU’s expertise in coastal resiliency and as an anchor for my messaging. This year’s address was titled “All ABOARD THE 30th Anniversary Cruise.” Please take a moment to look at the State of the College Address located at odu.edu/hs

We have several key initiatives and continued success to report. The college is implementing a new PhD Program, our enrollment growth is steady, philanthropy has grown by 200 percent over baseline and grant funding has grown by almost 400 percent at an all-time high of more than 8 million annually. Students’ first-time pass rates on their credentialing exams was 100 percent for several programs and far exceeded national averages for every program. And, our number of alumni surpassed 14,000.

In summary: We are “up” in every major goal for our college through demonstrated outcomes. What a great start to a year and a wonderful celebration of three decades of accomplishment!

By achieving new heights and improving how we tell our story, we will have even more talented people become involved with our college in a variety of roles: as board members, donors, students, faculty, alumni and supporters. I am proud to recognize our many talented people, highly ranked programs and new initiatives. Here’s to another successful academic year and the next 30 years!

From the Editor

Have no fear, the journey is only beginning

You’ve come a long way College of Health Sciences! On the special year celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the college, I have enjoyed taking a trip back in time as the college historian of sorts.

So many fantastic firsts, from its distance learning programs and PhD programs to its entrepreneurial endeavors and outstanding leadership. The college has really grown up in the past three decades thanks to faculty, staff, students and community partners.

And the sky is still the limit!

As we push forward toward new frontiers, we do so with a slogan that so encapsulates our mission: “Learning Together. Healing the World.” On my third fall as a proud member of this college, I foresee a future full of promise and accomplishments as healthcare becomes increasingly collaborative and global-minded. And each month I have the privilege of keeping you abreast of our innovative spirit.

Stay tuned…
Zika provides service learning opportunity for students

Since the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the Zika virus disease outbreak a public health emergency of international concern, health officials in the Commonwealth of Virginia have more closely monitored mosquitoes for Zika. Latest statistics reveal that there are ongoing increases in reported cases of the Zika virus disease in Virginia, predominantly from travelers who recently visited a Zika affected country.

Although there has not been a confirmed case of locally transmitted Zika virus in Virginia, experts say that there is always a possibility. In an effort to reduce the risk of human transmission of the virus in the Hampton Roads region, the Old Dominion University Center for Global Health has partnered with the Norfolk Department of Public Health (NDPH) and the Eastern Virginia Medical School (EVMS) Graduate Program in Public Health to create a service learning opportunity in vector control called the Zika Mosquito Control Summer Project.

The project was implemented from June 2016 to August 2016. The Center for Global Health recruited a total of 10 students from ODU and EVMS to participate in the project. To cover the height of the mosquito season, the students worked over two five-week sessions. These sessions offered the students an opportunity to work closely with mosquito control specialists from the Norfolk Department of Public Health to learn about the fundamentals of mosquito control and surveillance.

To ensure that the students were given a diverse service learning experience, they were given an opportunity to engage in various mosquito control and surveillance related learning activities. For example, the students learned about the Integrated Vector Management (IVM) mosquito program, which places an emphasis on source reduction surrounding potential vectors of Zika virus such as the Aedes albopictus mosquitoes. Another learning activity involved working with a vector control biologist from the public health department in field and lab work. The field work involved setting mosquito traps so that the mosquitoes could later be identified at the species level in the vector control laboratory.

The students were also given an opportunity to work with vector control specialists in conducting backyard mosquito inspections. During this activity, students were able to engage in mosquito habitat identification and community education. Other activities involved working with the epidemiology office at the NDPH to learn how reported infectious diseases are handled within the city.

The Zika Mosquito Control Summer Project provided an avenue for students to engage in a service learning project that not only furthered their educational goals but also offered them an opportunity to support local mosquito control and surveillance efforts.

“This collaboration with the Norfolk Department of Public Health and Eastern Virginia Medical School will continue and the Zika Mosquito Control Summer Project will be available for students next summer,” said Dr. Muge Akpinar-Elci, director for ODU’s Center for Global Health.
From left, Dean Shelley Mishoe recognizes College of Health Sciences Distinguished Alumni David Csillan, Carter Ficklen III, Deanne Shuman, Laura Pattie, Kathie Zimbro, Darleen Mastin, James Speckhart, Karen Royall and Bud Brame.

From left, Debbie Bauman, Kimberly Adams Tufts and Richardean Benjamin honor Dean Mishoe for her years of service in the college’s leadership role.

And what’s a picnic without a little hula hoop and some karaoke.
Student lands summer internship, scholarship

Danielle Bush is on a roll.

The senior majoring in Environmental Health and minoring in Occupational Safety interned this summer at Sumitomo Industries in Chesapeake, where she received “outstanding reviews,” said Associate Professor Gary Burgess. But her opportunities didn’t stop there.

She recently was awarded a $1,000 scholarship from the Greater Tidewater Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE). In addition to the scholarship Danielle also was invited to the ASSE’s upcoming conference in South Carolina.

“I was really excited when I found out I had received the scholarship,” she said. “It is really encouraging to have the extra support in my senior year.”

Danielle was born in San Diego, Calif., and grew up in Lincoln Park, Mich., near Detroit. After graduating from high school, she moved to Portsmouth and attended Tidewater Community College.

While looking for her next step in education she looked into opportunities at Old Dominion University’s College of Health Sciences.

“I have always been drawn to healthcare and taking care of others in general and actually stumbled across the curriculum for the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Health,” she said. “I looked up the various careers for the degree and was excited with the options as they seemed to be a perfect fit for me. So, I was sold – I dived right in.”

During her summer internship, Danielle received practical experience that will serve her well in her future career. Among the research she conducted at Sumitomo was how to keep welders cool, respirator safety and other requirements by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). She trained staff, performed audits and inspections, and assisted the environmental health safety manager.

With summer behind her, Danielle has turned her focus back to her studies. She plans to graduate in May. Meanwhile, she is working on making the best use of her scholarship.

“It will either put a dent in my book costs, or perhaps, help cover the costs of converting some of my remaining classes to graduate classes,” she said.
For the second consecutive year, the College of Health Sciences held a Norfolk Tides Night on Aug. 27.

More than 100 people attended the event, which took place in the sweet seats out in right field. The weather was perfect. The food was delicious. The fireworks were fantastic. And the Tides were triumphant, beating the Charlotte Knights 9-5.
Alumnus to share leadership insights

As part of the Dean’s Distinguished Lecture Series, Brian Dawson — chief executive officer and president of BD Perioperative & Healthcare Consulting — will be guest speaker at the College of Health Sciences next month.

Dawson will present “Leadership Success Using a 16th Century Samurai Code” on Friday, Oct. 14, from 12:30 to 2 p.m. in Room 2008 at the college. Dawson recently served as the director of perioperative services at St. Anthony Hospital in Lakewood, Colo. BD Perioperative & Healthcare Consulting in Denver, Colo., has been in operation for 30 years. The company partners with organizations to provide cost-cutting, sustainable solutions for perioperative business.

Dawson, who received his nursing degree at ODU in 1998, has years of expertise in efficiency, quality and excellent patient care, financial management, business management, administrative processes, system processes in the pre-op, perianesthesia, perioperative, post-anesthesia, sterile processing and endoscopy.

If you’re interested in attending the lecture, RSVP by Oct. 7 to ksalamon@odu.edu or 757-683-6871. Lunch will be provided.

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Upcoming Events

September

Sept. 24
COHS Homecoming Event:
Welcome Reception, COHS Atrium 10:00 a.m.
Parade ODU Campus 10:30 a.m.
Tailgating, ODU Campus 12:30-3:30 p.m.
Homecoming Game, ODU - S. B. Ballard Stadium 3:30 p.m.

October

Oct. 8 – 11
Fall Student Break

Oct. 20
Dean’s Student Advisory Committee Luncheon, 12:30-1:30 p.m.
Location: HS 2114