

# Still

*magazine*



**ATSU'S MOST  
INNOVATIVE COURSES**

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# Our point of **view**

Osteopathic medical students hone their manipulation skills in the Blumenthal Osteopathic Skills Lab on the Kirksville, Missouri, campus.







ATSU-KCOM students work in small groups on the Kirksville, Missouri, campus.

## Educational innovation

Universities must evolve to meet the changing needs of students and society. Growth and progress stem from new and creative ideas. At ATSU, innovative ideas are a core element of our mission and lead to important advances in research, teaching, and learning.

In this issue of *Still Magazine*, we take a closer look at how innovation is transforming ATSU's curricula and how it is benefitting students and faculty. In addition, the family of Natalie Beissel, DO, MS, '16, shares her story while promoting domestic violence awareness and education. You will also learn about the renovation to the Thompson Campus Center, a new program from ATSU's Area Health Education Center, and the 2018 Missouri Mission of Mercy dental clinic.

ATSU's progress and accomplishments are a direct result of dedicated alumni, faculty, staff, and students. Thank you for your inventive ideas and unwavering commitment as we continue to advance the University.

Yours in service,

Craig M. Phelps, DO, '84, president

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## Our mission

A.T. Still University of Health Sciences serves as a learning-centered university dedicated to preparing highly competent professionals through innovative academic programs with a commitment to continue its osteopathic heritage and focus on whole person healthcare, scholarship, community health, interprofessional education, diversity, and underserved populations.

# Still Contents

*magazine*  
Vol. 12  
No. 2

## COVER STORY

# 16

## Innovative course guide

*By Katie Hubbard*

From course design to novel technology, creative and unique ideas are shaping ATSU's curricula.

## 24 Love conquers

*By Katie Hubbard*

The family of Dr. Natalie Beissel honors her memory and promotes domestic violence awareness.

## 30 Community connection

*By Aubrey Henning*

ATSU's Area Health Education Center celebrates 30 years of connecting communities to better health.

## 27 TCC renovation

*By Katie Hubbard*

ATSU updates fitness facility to meet needs of the Missouri campus while honoring longtime director.

## 32 Sharing smiles

*By Aubrey Henning*

Missouri Mission of Mercy comes to Kirksville and provides dental care for more than 1,200 patients.



# Contents spring/summer 2018

**“Science was my oyster, so to speak. I loved science and couldn’t get enough of it.”**

– **Dr. Joseph Turcillo**

Page 12



Cover design by  
Gail Doss  
Photography by  
Kelly Rogers

Akshay Vij, BDS, ACT, and Jenna Haganman, D4, make a digital impression using an intraoral scanner to create virtual 3D models of a patient’s jaw. Being quicker and more comfortable for the patient, intraoral scanning enables use of full-color 3D models for diagnosis, treatment planning, and patient education.

## Inspiration

- 8 Front line of pathology**  
Advocacy for patients and the profession keeps Dr. Melissa Blessing on the political front line.
- 9 Love your work**  
Dr. Mike Love’s career as a dentist in the Air Force fulfills his desire to be a humanitarian.
- 10 What it takes**  
Kelly Boyce describes how she became the first female athletic trainer for the Arizona Diamondbacks.
- 12 Life of learning**  
A lifelong love for learning and science opened the world to Dr. Joseph Turcillo.
- 13 Rural dentistry**  
Dr. Emily Nieto follows through on her commitment to serve rural communities.
- 14 Passion for policy**  
Dr. Janelle Anderson lives life to the fullest while shaping the national healthcare landscape.



## Connections

- 34 Alumni reconnections**
- 37 From the museum**
- 38 Upcoming CE programs**
- 40 Class notes**
- 44 Faculty & staff news**
- 50 Meet the board**
- 52 In memoriam**
- 53 Parting shot**

A.T. Still University (ATSU) is a graduate health sciences university comprised of six schools/colleges:

Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health (ATSU-ASDOH)  
Arizona School of Health Sciences (ATSU-ASHS)  
College of Graduate Health Studies (ATSU-CGHS)  
Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine (ATSU-KCOM)  
Missouri School of Dentistry & Oral Health (ATSU-MOSDOH)  
School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona (ATSU-SOMA)

EDITOR  
Katie Hubbard, MBA

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS  
Anne Ackroyd, BA  
Erin Cole, BA  
Aubrey Henning  
Amanda Martinez, BA  
Laurie Trowbridge, MS  
Devon Williams, BS

DESIGN  
Gail Doss, BFA

CONTRIBUTING DESIGNER  
Judy Funk

PHOTOGRAPHY  
Kelly Rogers

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS  
Rob J Elizondo  
Lesley Miller

ATSU PRESIDENT  
Craig M. Phelps, DO, '84

*Still Magazine* strengthens and extends the positive connections of alumni, faculty, staff, and students to the University and each other by informing, entertaining, and engendering pride in a shared experience and University mission. The magazine focuses on a variety of academic, social, political, cultural, scientific, and artistic issues through the lens of alumni and student achievements, scholarly activity, and institutional news.

CONTACT US  
Submit letters and editorial material to:  
Editor, *Still Magazine*  
A.T. Still University  
Communication & Marketing  
800 W. Jefferson St.  
Kirksville, MO 63501  
[stillmagazine@atsu.edu](mailto:stillmagazine@atsu.edu)

Read *Still Magazine* online at  
[stillmagazine.atstu.edu](http://stillmagazine.atstu.edu).

Record a change of address with  
Alumni Relations at [alumni@atsu.edu](mailto:alumni@atsu.edu).

*Still Magazine* is published biannually  
by Communication & Marketing,  
A.T. Still University.

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# Please join us for a weekend of events!

## 2019 ATSU-ASDOH Alumni Weekend

Feb. 22-23 | Arizona campus

- Give Kids A Smile
- ATSU-ASDOH Alumni Barbecue, honoring the classes of 2009 and 2014
- Alumni award presentations
- Continuing dental education



All ATSU-ASDOH alumni are invited to attend.

Registration is free and available online at [atsu.edu/alumni-asdoh](https://atsu.edu/alumni-asdoh).

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# Inspiration

## Healthy blend

*ATSU-SOMA holds first culinary medicine workshop*

As part of its Osteopathic Wellness Lifestyle (OWL) program, ATSU-SOMA held its first culinary medicine workshop Tuesday, June 5, on the Mesa, Arizona, campus. Student participants learned to blend culinary arts with researched-based medical science to treat and prevent many chronic diseases.

"It has made me more aware of the effects diet has on health," says Benjamin Jiao, OMS II. "I plan to apply this knowledge by incorporating more detailed nutritional advice into treatment plans where appropriate."

In addition to nutrition, the OWL program covers many topics in lifestyle medicine such as exercise, sleep, and stress management. It addresses the overwhelming rates of physician depression and lifestyle imbalance, while promoting wellness and self-care. Students are encouraged to approach patients with an emphasis on wellness, rather than disease.

Ellen Tran, OMS II, helps prepare a healthy meal.

The front line

Love your work

What it takes

Lifelong learner

Rural dentist

Passion for policy



**F**orensic pathologists are tasked with determining the cause and manner of death in sudden, unexpected, or violent deaths. They perform autopsies, analyze medical records and crime scene evidence, and talk to family members and law enforcement to assess whether death was caused by injury or disease. They are integral to public health and the healthcare system, as well as the criminal justice system.

However, the U.S. is facing a critical shortage of these professionals. Forensic pathologists are typically employed by the government and require at least four years of residency and a fellowship. Pay is lower than most medical subspecialties, and training programs often go unfilled. Additionally, few medical students receive enough exposure to the field to strongly consider it as a career.

Melissa Blessing, DO, '12, recently completed a neuropathology fellowship at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, and is currently a forensic pathology fellow at the Harris County Institute of

Forensic Sciences in Houston, Texas. She considers herself fortunate to have attended ATSU-SOMA where pathology courses were taught by forensic pathologist Mark Fischione, MD.

During her time at ATSU-SOMA and extending throughout her anatomic and clinical pathology residency at Mayo Clinic, Dr. Blessing was heavily involved in advocacy of patients and the pathology profession. She served as an elected medical student representative on the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association Board of Trustees and participated in DO Day at the Legislature in Phoenix, Arizona, as well as DO Day on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. In her fourth year, she successfully completed the Osteopathic Health Policy internship program with the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine in Washington, D.C. During her residency, she served on the College of American Pathologists (CAP) political action committee and was a recipient of the CAP Leadership Development award.

“Involvement in the political process will always be an integral part of my career,” says Dr. Blessing. “Public health and advocacy is a powerful – and possibly the only – way to create big change.”

Dr. Blessing notes the opioid crisis has exacerbated the national shortage of forensic pathologists. The recent surge in drug overdose deaths has created an unprecedented demand for autopsies, including toxicology laboratory analysis. In addition, ongoing changes to the U.S. healthcare system significantly affect the pathology field – a field that is essential in all aspects of healthcare, including prevention. Medical professionals like Dr. Blessing, who are on the front line lobbying for reimbursement reform, graduate medical education funding, and other issues relevant to pathology, are vital for the profession and for communities.

“Encountering death and disease on a daily basis demands reckoning with the factors in our personal and professional lives – our families, our society, our environment, and our culture – that impact health,” Dr. Blessing says. “It uniquely positions us to voice those connections in the political arena.”

# The front line

By Erin Cole



Dr. Melissa Blessing is a forensic pathology fellow at the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences in Houston, Texas.

inspiration



Dr. Love (left) helps patients during a humanitarian mission trip.

# Do what you love

By Devon Williams

**U**.S. Air Force Capt. Mike Love, DMD, PHC, '18, always knew he had to excel at something. Dr. Love's younger sister, who seemingly excelled at everything, pushed him to aim high. Motivated by a speech he heard in elementary school, Dr. Love became the high school rifle team commander and class valedictorian and subsequently, the first in his family to attend a major university.

Dr. Love attended Auburn University on an Air Force ROTC scholarship majoring in biomedical sciences and chemistry. Upon graduation in 2008, he received a commission in the Air Force and deployed overseas multiple times. Still, he knew he had more to do.

"I always knew I wanted to go into medicine," says Dr. Love. "I always wanted to be like Patch Adams, be a humanitarian and help others."

He sought a path to healthcare through the Air Force. He greatly valued the impact of the Air Force's humani-

tarian efforts but still wasn't sure what direction to take. A canceled dentist appointment provided his inspiration. Frustrated by the canceled appointment, he asked his dentist for an explanation and was told the cancellation was due to a humanitarian mission in Haiti.

"I had no idea dentists participated in humanitarian missions," he says.

Encouraged, Dr. Love began shadowing dentists and learning more about dentistry. He was invited to attend Dental Access Day in Greenville, South Carolina, and was amazed to see so many people, from all walks of life, attend to receive free dental care.

"It was amazing to see people's reactions after you get them out of pain and give them confidence in their smile," Dr. Love says. "I was just helping, and people were crying and hugging me. They were just so grateful."

Dr. Love called his family and told them dentistry was what he was meant to do. He had finally found his "something."

After attending an interview day, he found his home at ATSU-MOSDOH, which aligned with his belief system and service orientation. Just as he knew dentistry was what he was meant to do, he knew ATSU-MOSDOH was meant to be his dental school.

While attending ATSU-MOSDOH, he was involved in the grassroots formation of the Dentures for Veterans project and participated in mission trips to Guyana and Jamaica where he accompanied ATSU-MOSDOH Dean Dwight McLeod, DDS, MS.

Dr. Love is now serving his country as an active duty officer and dentist in the Air Force. Currently stationed at Eglin Air Force Base, he is attending a one-year Advanced Education in General Dentistry residency program. He continues to help others and be the humanitarian he always dreamed of being.

"I'm doing what I love," he says. "I'm doing what I was trained to do."

# All it takes

By Laurie Trowbridge

**K**elly Boyce, MS, '16, knew she wanted to be an athletic trainer, but she didn't know what steps to take to reach her goal. With a tenacious attitude and an inquisitive nature, she worked to achieve her dream. Here, she describes what it took to earn the distinction as the first female athletic trainer for the Arizona Diamondbacks organization.

## **Why did you pursue a master's degree at ATSU?**

Looking back, I didn't expect to end up where I am today. I was completing my undergraduate degree at Illinois State University when my mentor recommended ATSU as a next step in my education. ATSU has a reputable Athletic Training program, and Arizona was a draw, too, because it's the mecca for spring training. I was hopeful to get, at the very least, an internship with one of the teams.

## **While attending ATSU, you were also working at Mesa Community College (MCC) as a graduate assistant athletic trainer. How did these two experiences prepare you for the Arizona Diamondbacks?**

All of it prepared me. Classes with Bart Anderson, DHSc, MS, AT, ATC, '03, were more clinical and hands-on. We used manual therapy techniques to treat athletes, and I'm continually using those techniques. We have 140 games in our league during the summer. With only six days off during the season, a 25-man roster, nine on the field at a time, and the few in the bullpen, we don't have many extra players. It's a lot of maintenance treatment.

Being at ATSU also put me in front of some amazing instructors who have incredible connections, which allowed me to network with people in the field. I was also able to reach out to Dr. Anderson and Sue Falsone, PT, MS, for advice when I began the interview process with the Diamondbacks.

## **Eleven years ago, Sue Falsone was named the first female head athletic trainer and physical therapist for the Los Angeles Dodgers. How did that influence you?**

It gave me hope that becoming a team athletic trainer was attainable. I asked her a ton of questions, and she gave me her contact information. I was able to gain so much advice and insight from someone who already broke the glass ceiling for others.

## **What led you to the Arizona Diamondbacks?**

I met Ken Crenshaw, medical director for the Diamondbacks, when he visited ATSU to meet and talk with athletic training students. Following his presentation, I immediately introduced myself and shared my desire to work as an athletic trainer in professional baseball. The work being done at the Diamondbacks organization blew my mind because it was so innovative. We exchanged contact information, and I bothered him for a year. At that time, I was working at MCC, and I would email him every two weeks with questions about things I was encountering with athletes. He would give me suggestions to research techniques to implement on the athletes.

## **How did you score an internship?**

During our year of contact, Ken would invite me to seminars and any talks he was giving. I would drop whatever I was doing to listen, learn, shake his hand, and thank him for his time and help. In summer 2015, I finally worked up the courage to ask him for an internship. He said yes, and I spent five weeks with the minor league staff at Salt River Fields.



**How were you selected as the Diamondbacks new athletic trainer?**

I emailed Ken after I completed my internship, letting him know working in professional baseball was my goal. He worked with me to apply for positions with other teams. A few weeks later, a Diamondbacks employee was promoted to another team, opening a rookie athletic trainer position.

Hearing this news was the most exciting moment of my life, and within the next two hours, I submitted my application. I had eight phone interviews! It was overwhelming, but it was nice to talk with everyone I worked with during my internship. To me, it showed the importance of the team being included in the decision.

In my final interview, I met with Director of Player Development Mike Bell, and all he said was, "If Ken says you're good, you're good." Right then and there I was offered the position. I really had to refrain from screaming with joy. I did give out a few hugs.

**Where do you plan to go from here?**

Right now, I'm incredibly happy with the Diamondbacks. Recently, my supervisor challenged me with helping new hires and training them on the techniques we use with our athletes. I'm grateful for the opportunities that have been afforded to me here, and I'm looking forward to trying new things with the organization.

Kelly Boyce is the first female athletic trainer for the Arizona Diamondbacks organization.

Photo credit: Joanna Wedge

# A love for learning

By Aubrey Henning

From the streets of New Jersey to the shores of California, Dr. Turcillo's journey to become an osteopathic physician began with his determination to learn.

**G**rowing up during the Great Depression in a cold water flat in Garfield, New Jersey, Joseph Turcillo, DO, MD, FACP, '59, had nothing but a strong family bond. His mother, who was illiterate and spoke broken English, was unable to teach him to read and write. After being held back in school because of his own illiteracy, he was determined to learn.

"When I learned how to read, the whole world opened to me," says Dr. Turcillo. "Science was my oyster, so to speak. I loved science and couldn't get enough of it."

Dr. Turcillo was inspired by his family doctor to pursue a career in medicine. As a doctor, he knew he could meet his family's medical and financial needs, so he worked at a nearby factory to save up for his college education.

During his time at Farleigh Dickinson University, where he earned his bachelor's degree, Dr. Turcillo got a job at Passaic General Hospital in New Jersey cleaning up the surgery room. Later promoted to scrub nurse, he learned valuable skills he would apply in his career.

Not immediately accepted into medical school following his bachelor's

program, Dr. Turcillo started studying biophysics at Saint Louis University (SLU). After two years excelling in the program, his mentor, B.J. Luyet, offered him the opportunity to stay at SLU as a doctoral candidate. At the same time, he was accepted at ATSU-KCOM. Honored by the recognition of both universities, he accepted ATSU-KCOM's offer.

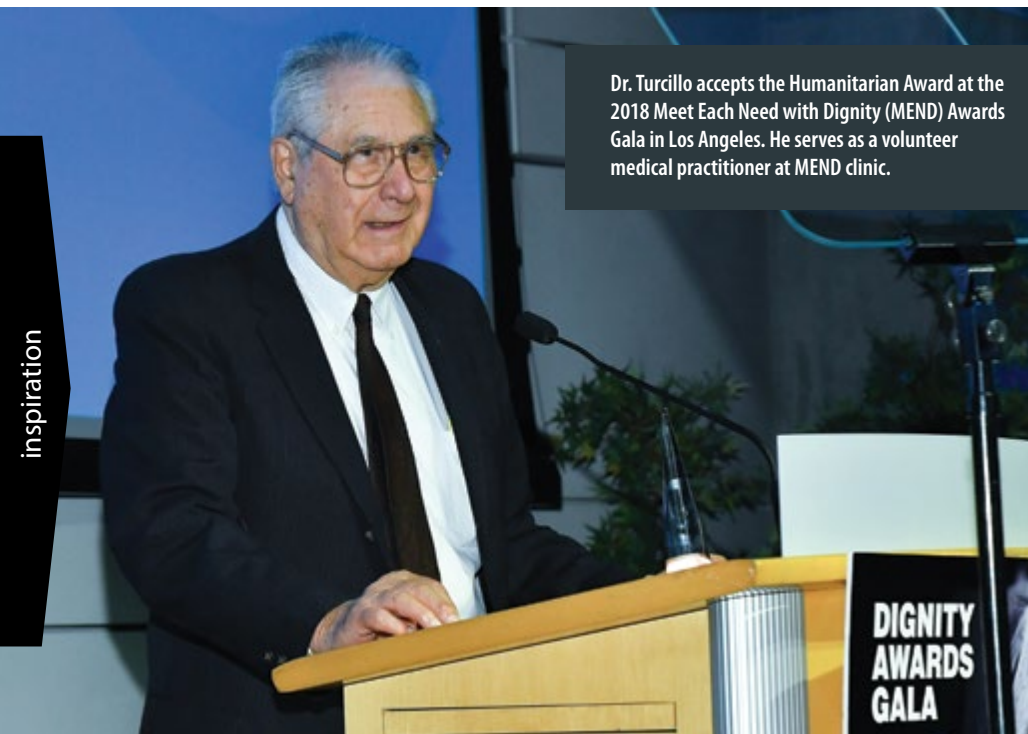
"I did not appreciate osteopathic medicine then as much as I appreciate it now," says Dr. Turcillo. "The fact that you get the osteopathic principles and work on the musculoskeletal system is extremely important to being a successful doctor."

Dr. Turcillo emphasizes the importance of continuing education. In 1995, he was certified in internal medicine, and shortly after, he was elected to the American College of Physicians as a fellow.

Throughout his practice, Dr. Turcillo has been reassured of osteopathic medicine's importance. Working with patients in severe pain where it is difficult to find the cause, he has seen the practice relieve discomfort.

"Chronic muscular pain is some of the worst pain in the world," says Dr. Turcillo. "Osteopathic medicine has an answer for that."

Today, Dr. Turcillo resides in Malibu, California. Retired from private practice, he still uses his skills to educate doctors and aid the community. He serves as a volunteer medical practitioner at Meet Each Need with Dignity, as a member of the Medical Education Committee of Saint Joseph Medical Center in Burbank, and on the board of governors of City of Hope. His love for science and determination to learn new things inspires him to continue to study medicine to this day.



Dr. Turcillo accepts the Humanitarian Award at the 2018 Meet Each Need with Dignity (MEND) Awards Gala in Los Angeles. He serves as a volunteer medical practitioner at MEND clinic.

Photo credit: Vince Buccini Photography

# Rural route dentist

By Amanda Martinez

According to her classmates, Emily Nieto, DMD, '14, MPH, '13, didn't just say she was going to work in rural communities — she went out and did it.

Dr. Nieto's first experience with dentistry came as a dental assistant at a private practice in high school. The experience left a lasting impression on her.

"One patient cried after her two front teeth were fixed," she recalls.

Before coming to ATSU-ASDOH, Dr. Nieto pursued her undergraduate degree in religious studies and worked as a community organizer in Chicago.

"I found I was being called to more direct service than my degree in religious studies allowed," says Dr. Nieto.

Having a background in community service and social change gave her the head start she needed to apply to dental school. Dr. Nieto knew she wanted to go into community dental work, rather than private practice. She was drawn to ATSU-ASDOH's dual degree option so she would be able to receive her MPH degree alongside her DMD degree.

Her rotations in Bethel, Alaska; rural South Dakota; Nogales, Arizona; and Silver City, New Mexico, served as her "advanced training." In South Dakota, Dr. Nieto traveled around in a recreational vehicle to provide dental services to the community.

Following graduation, Dr. Nieto dedicated three years to working in a community health center in Clovis, New Mexico. When that contract ended, she moved to a reservation near Tohatchi, New Mexico. Today, she is one of eight dentists for 40,000 residents on the reservation.

At her satellite clinic outside Gallup, New Mexico, Dr. Nieto is the only dentist for at least 26 miles. She works alongside a number of expanded-function dental assistants because of limited dental resources in the area. Since New Mexico has no dental schools, the need for dental care is high, and the ability to recruit new practitioners is low.

Dr. Nieto's former classmate Scott Howell, DMD, MPH, '14, knew she would become a phenomenal general dentist who would bring health to rural families and communities.



"When we were students, Dr. Nieto was one of the few people I could point to and say, 'She's going to do it,'" Dr. Howell says. "She's going to go out there and be the model ATSU-ASDOH graduate."

Dr. Nieto treats a patient at her practice in Tohatchi, New Mexico.

# Salsa, skydiving, and healthcare policy

By Anne Ackroyd

**A**s a public health management analyst with the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Janelle Anderson, DHEd, '17, MPH, '09, plays an important role in shaping the national healthcare landscape. She's also a professional salsa dancer who

enjoys traveling and skydiving. This ATSU-CGHS alumna is committed to living life to the fullest and fulfilling the University's mission to serve the underserved. Her passion for helping others led her to public health policy, working at the national level to improve access to care for those in need.

Although she considered going to medical school, after working at a nonprofit organization that connected patients with affordable medication, Dr. Anderson realized she could have a more meaningful impact in public health.

"I realized there was a deficit in people communicating available health programs," she says. "You need someone who knows what is available and what people can access."

One such program is the National Health Service Corps (NHSC). NHSC builds healthy communities by providing scholarships and student loan repayment

options to primary care providers in the medical, dental, and behavioral health fields who agree to practice in health professional shortage areas (HPSAs). Dr. Anderson reviews HPSA applications to identify areas of the U.S. experiencing a shortage of healthcare professionals. Once a HPSA application is approved, healthcare facilities within that area can qualify to become an NHSC site. These facilities then recruit NHSC healthcare providers. The program allows community health centers in rural and underserved areas to attract talented medical professionals by easing the burden of student loan debt.

"We make sure underserved communities have access to care," says Dr. Anderson. "That's a big deal to me. It's why I got into public health."

Recently, Dr. Anderson and her team rolled out a national update of geographic and population HPSAs. They created a management system using standardized data sets to collate information, which state primary care offices had previously collected manually. By making this information available at the click of a button, they streamlined the HPSA application process.

"It was the first time in my career I was part of something that will have long-term positive effects on healthcare on a large scale," says Dr. Anderson.

While she is dedicated to her career, Dr. Anderson is also a proponent of work-life balance. She loves traveling and skydiving, and even dances on a professional salsa team in Washington, D.C. As someone who zealously pursues personal and professional success, Dr. Anderson has sage advice for anyone considering a career in healthcare policy.

"If you're interested in something, start researching," she says. "Have all the information you need, so when the opportunity arises, you can begin the journey immediately."

Dr. Anderson plays an important role in shaping national healthcare policy at HRSA.



inspiration





- Innovative courses
- Remembering Natalie
- TCC updates
- AHEC's 30th anniversary
- MOMOM in Kirksville

# Features

## Make it better

### *ATSU-CGHS holds 2018 Commencement Ceremony*

ATSU-CGHS celebrated achievements of 108 graduates from the class of 2018 at its Commencement Ceremony held at the Mesa Arts Center on Friday, May 25. Graduates were congratulated by ATSU President Craig Phelps, DO, '84, and ATSU-CGHS Dean Don Altman, DDS, DHSc, EdD, MPH, MBA, MA, '12.

The commencement speaker was Martin Levine, DO, '80, MPH, '03, FACOFP dist., interim clinical dean and professor of family and community medicine at Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine. He encouraged graduates to consider their role in providing quality healthcare, improving access to health services, and developing policies that make sense for everyone.

"You are now on the frontline of healthcare in the United States," Dr. Levine said. "When you hear anything about healthcare, think about where you are and what you can do to make it better."

Christopher Graham, MHA, '18, follows the recessional after receiving his degree from ATSU-CGHS.



# THE INNOVATIVE COURSE GUIDE

Take a closer look at a dozen cool classes that will make you want to be a student again.

By Katie Hubbard

Educational innovation is a high priority at ATSU. The University's mission places an emphasis on innovative academic programs, and faculty members are continuously finding new, effective ways to educate students. From course design to novel technology, creative and unique ideas are shaping curricula University-wide.

After scouring the course catalog and speaking with dozens of faculty members around ATSU's circuit, the University has no shortage of cool classes. Hundreds of amazing courses, featuring best practices and evidence-based research, are available to students every year. On the following pages, *Still Magazine* presents a condensed guide to 12 of ATSU's most innovative courses preparing the next generation of healthcare professionals.

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## DIGITAL DENTISTRY

Digital technology is revolutionizing the field of dentistry. It is dramatically improving patient experiences and quality of care received. It is also improving the dentist's experience in providing services while decreasing treatment time and costs.

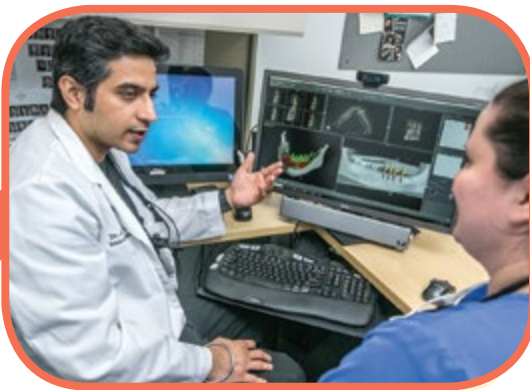
As technology continues to advance at a rapid pace, many dental procedures that were done manually or conventionally are now done digitally. To keep its students at the forefront, ATSU-MOSDOH created a new Digital Dentistry elective for students completing their final year of clinical training.

"Digital dentistry is no longer the future; it's the present," says Akshay Vij, BDS, ACT, specialty care director of esthetic and digital dentistry at the St. Louis Dental Education and Oral Health Center. "In the last year, we have incorporated digital dentistry in a meaningful way."

The curriculum features intraoral scanning for crowns, bridges, dentures, diagnostics, and more. After completing a patient's scan, the case may be sent to partner dental laboratories for their advanced capabilities or to in-house milling units and 3D printers that allow same-day restorations. The curriculum also gives students an opportunity to learn about guided implant planning and surgery, as well as interdisciplinary treatment planning, which improves predictability and patient outcomes.

Dr. Vij takes digital dentistry education a step further and offers a three-day training session for a small group of students. First, students learn about intraoral scanning, design and milling restorations, and improving esthetics with customized staining to better match patients' teeth. Then, students apply these skills and techniques on live patients.

"The course gives students an advantage and preparedness, regardless of where they choose to practice," Dr. Vij says. "We want our students to be ready to perform digital dentistry on day one."



Dr. Akshay Vij discusses 3D implant planning with a student.



## SHOCK BLOCK

Every spring, first-year medical students at ATSU-KCOM learn about types of shock a physician may encounter in a clinical setting: hypovolemic, obstructive, cardiogenic, and distributive shock. Patient shock is complex because it involves many fields of knowledge, including internal medicine, physiology, microbiology, pharmacology, and surgery. The sooner a physician identifies the type of shock and begins appropriate treatment, the better a patient's chances of survival.

In past years, shock was taught in discipline-based silos, which created overlapping course content and left students with a fragmented view of the topic. In spring 2018, faculty members upended the traditional, aligned shock curriculum to improve students' learning experience.

Matthew Hardee, DO, led a faculty initiative to integrate shock lectures into a two-day section called Shock Block. With the help of Robert Theobald, PhD; William Sexton, PhD; Sarah Brewer, DO; Roy Danks, DO; and Neal Chamberlain, PhD, he collected shock lectures from each discipline and combined the material into one PowerPoint presentation. Within a few meetings, the faculty members cut repetitive content and whittled 406 slides into 164 slides.

"We were surprised by the amount of material that was repeated in each of our courses," Dr. Chamberlain says. "The typical seven-hour lecture was cut down to four hours."

The newly integrated lecture allowed each faculty member to speak about his or her area of expertise as it related to shock. This format also allowed the faculty members to learn from each other.

In addition to streamlining lecture content, they also revamped learning exercises to reinforce course material and put knowledge into practice. The day following the integrated lecture, students worked in small groups to complete shock cases on paper. Then, they moved to the Drabing Human Patient Simulation Center for hands-on practice.

As for the results of Shock Block, students performed as well or better on paper cases than in previous years. Lecture attendance, which is optional because of online recordings, increased from 25 percent to 62 percent. Additionally, feedback from students was positive. They seemed to enjoy the integrated approach, including the flow and consistency of content.

"The only major complaint from students was they wanted more simulated shock cases," Dr. Chamberlain says. "We're keeping that in mind for next year."

Top: ATSU-KCOM students work together to save a patient in the Drabing Human Patient Simulation Center.



**TELL US ABOUT YOUR FAVORITE COURSE BY EMAILING [STILLMAGAZINE@ATSU.EDU](mailto:STILLMAGAZINE@ATSU.EDU).**



## DOCTOR OF ATHLETIC TRAINING PROGRAM: WINTER INSTITUTE

For one week, students in ATSU-ASHS' online Doctor of Athletic Training (DAT) program gather in Arizona for a Winter Institute. Students come face to face with nationally recognized faculty for an in-depth, interactive educational experience on innovations to advance athletic healthcare.

The week is intensive, and the days are structured on themes: leadership, higher education, patient care, and research. Students must come to the institute with an innovation project to lead back at their own organization. They work in groups throughout the week to develop those projects. They also work in groups to discuss contemporary literature and to reflect on what they learned each day.

"My drive to come home and help advance both our local practice and the profession is incredibly high," says one DAT student. "I have already started putting my project into action."

"I have thought for too long I could not change things at my institution," says another student. "I have come back with a renewed sense of urgency and willingness to advocate for myself and my patients."

Eric Sauers, PhD, ATC, FNATA, '97, professor and chair, interdisciplinary health sciences, is the institute facilitator. He modeled the Winter Institute after attending the Harvard Macy Institute for Leading Innovations in Health Care and Education. He considered the Harvard Macy Institute to be transformational and wanted DAT students to have a similar experience.

"This course, more than any other I have taught in my 18 years here at ATSU, changes the way students view themselves as healthcare providers and how they interact with their patients and their environment," Dr. Sauers says. "That is powerful."

Top: DAT students participate in the 2018 Winter Institute.

## LEADERSHIP AND PRACTICE

In today's volatile healthcare environment, leaders need to be knowledgeable and adaptable to guide their organizations effectively and ethically. The pressure is on for these leaders to solve dilemmas successfully while keeping an eye on the bottom line. For students in the online Doctor of Health Administration program at ATSU-CGHS, the Leadership and Practice course introduces leadership theories and styles and how they are applied in the real world.

The course emphasizes professional development and lifelong learning. Students are encouraged to identify websites, journals, leadership books, and other resources to begin building their own personal library. In addition to discussions and assignments, students complete a series of self-assessments to help identify their leadership strengths and opportunities for growth.

"Self-assessments allow students to gain insight into who they are personally and professionally as leaders," says John Fick, EdD, FACHE. "We want our students to continue growing as leaders, even after they have a terminal degree in hand."

Students have the opportunity to develop their own leadership philosophy as well as the opportunity to apply theoretical knowledge in an online hospital simulation. The simulation provides a unique, safe setting for team building, decision-making, and implementing change management.

In the Lakeview Hospital simulation, students assume the role of vice president of patient services and are asked to improve wait times in the emergency department. They review the case in detail, interview stakeholders, evaluate and implement tactics, and receive feedback. With limited time and resources, their goal is to get at least 60 percent buy-in from stakeholders.

"Students receive immediate feedback based on their decisions while learning the complexities of an organization," Dr. Fick says. "As scholar-practitioners, we want them to become accustomed to being change agents."

Below: Students practice change management in the Lakeview Hospital simulation.



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John Fick

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## HEALTH AND HEALING

ATSU-SOMA's mission emphasizes preparing students to serve the underserved. To fulfill its mission, the School selects students who desire to work in medically underserved communities, particularly in community health centers. Because these students often come from diverse, underserved backgrounds, the School introduced three pre-matriculation modules to level differences among incoming students.

The modules, created and produced by Harvard Medical School, include topics on genetics, immunology, and physiology. According to Deborah Heath, DO, associate dean of curricular integration, these three disciplines are ubiquitous to students' medical education and are essential building blocks for more complex coursework.

Prior to and during their first year, students are granted access to the online modules for a total of 10 weeks. While on campus, students study the topics in small, student-led interactive groups as part of their first course titled Health and Healing.

"The modules provide all students with a common language and foundational support for our highly integrated clinical curriculum," says Dr. Heath.

The Harvard modules feature best practices in education, including pre- and post-exams, frequent self-assessments, and interactive videos. Some lessons take students inside the hospital of Massachusetts General with world-renowned researchers and clinicians. Students participate in bedside encounters with these researchers and clinicians who collaborate in patient management and discuss clinical relevance of basic sciences.

"Harvard faculty members are teaching our students through these modules," Dr. Heath says. "Currently, we are collaborating with Harvard to assess the impact of these modules on our students."

Below: Students complete an exercise scenario from Harvard Medical School's HMX Physiology course.



©Harvard Medical School, HMX Fundamentals



## DOCTOR OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PROGRAM: CERTIFICATE IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Occupational therapists work with individuals across the life span to facilitate full participation in all aspects of everyday living, regardless of abilities. These therapists address physical, emotional, cognitive, and behavioral issues and usually interact with people who have developed impairments compromising their ability to function.

ATSU-ASHS' Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) program added four courses to its curriculum to better prepare students to care for varied patient populations. The courses, which emphasize prevention and primary care, comprise a certificate in public health. They include Introduction to Behavioral Sciences and Health Education, Public Health Concepts, Identifying Community Health Needs, and Development of Community-Based Programs.

ATSU-ASHS teamed up with ATSU-CGHS to provide this certificate to students, making the OTD program the first program in the country to have a public health certificate embedded in its curriculum. Students who graduate with the certificate will have an advantage, as they will be able to understand and assess community needs and possess skills and strategies to develop and implement programs in underserved areas. According to Jyothi Gupta, PhD, OTR/L, chair, occupational therapy, the program emphasizes contextual influences on health and well-being with social determinants of health and public policy threaded throughout the curriculum.

"The new accreditation standards include population-based care," Dr. Gupta says. "Since this is the expertise of public health, it made sense to prepare our students to work with other professions and disciplines."



Students in the Doctor of Occupational Therapy program will now earn a certificate in public health.

## COLLABORATIVE DENTAL ROUNDS

Beginning in fall 2014, ATSU-ASDOH took a new approach to integrating didactic and preclinical material with clinical experiences to improve student learning. Faculty introduced Collaborative Dental Rounds, where students from each year of the four-year dental medicine program team up to treat simulated patients.

Modeled after a course presented at the American Dental Education Association Annual Session & Exhibition by Marquette University School of Dentistry, Collaborative Dental Rounds develops simulated patients to offer the groups of multiyear students an opportunity to apply basic, preclinical, and clinical sciences within a real-time digital platform. Students have the opportunity to get medical consults and use axiUm software, a dental practice management system. Students also respond to clinical "interventions" when the treatment plan is suddenly modified.

"Some first-year students feel lost at the beginning," says Klud Razoky, BDS, who oversees the course. "After the first session, they see the value of the experience and feel it is beneficial."

Within this course, students have the opportunity to learn and the opportunity to teach. Students periodically meet with faculty mentors to produce high-quality digital presentations.

"The course allows faculty to connect with students and guide their learning to a subject matter that may be of particular interest to them," says Amy Jensby, DMD, CPH, '11, course instructor. "I enjoy watching students move into a leadership role by their fourth year."



## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES

In ATSU-CGHS' Environmental Health Sciences course, students learn about community health and variables that negatively affect health. The 10-week class, offered through the online Master of Public Health program, is jam-packed with concepts ranging from epidemiology and toxicology to chemistry and biology.

As students work through each module, they delve into topics such as food-borne illness, vector-borne illness, air pollution, waste disposal hazards, and issues associated with climate change. They discuss health implications of each topic, as well as advantages and disadvantages of management alternatives. The evidence-based course encourages students to substantiate their ideas and opinions on established research.

"Students learn how interconnected our environment is to our health and well-being," says Rochelle Mascarenhas, BDS, MPH. "A multitude of factors influence lifestyles and health outcomes."

Sharing public health information is essential, and according to Dr. Mascarenhas, messages need to be tailored to each audience accordingly. Instead of submitting traditional papers, students complete assignments by conveying information to a population through a specific medium. Depending on the population's traditions and culture, mediums may include audio and video public service announcements, trifold brochures, research briefs, or social media campaigns.

Many course assignments and discussions focus on counties in northeast Missouri, where ATSU-CGHS is based. These assignments allow students the option to participate in outreach opportunities to educate diverse communities while increasing their awareness of environmental health principles.

"Students need to base their opinions and advice on credible evidence," Dr. Mascarenhas says. "As experts in public health and as providers, the public will look to them for advice."

## CLINICAL ULTRASOUND

Ultrasound imaging has become increasingly popular in medical practice to assess and diagnose various conditions. To ensure students are practice-ready, ATSU-KCOM implemented ultrasound education into its medical school curriculum. In 2011, the College was one of the first osteopathic medical schools in the country to use the technology, and since then, it has integrated a Clinical Ultrasound course into the first two years of the four-year curriculum.

Students master ultrasound techniques for all body regions and systems in hands-on labs. In the first semester, ultrasound labs align with gross anatomy labs. In the following semesters, labs correlate with systems blocks. Students learn clinical applications of ultrasound and its use to diagnose pathological conditions. Students also learn "living anatomy" with the technology through cadaveric dissection.

"Our efforts resulted in a successful hybrid of a dissection-based Gross Anatomy course with embedded ultrasound imaging," says Tatyana Kondrashova, MD, PhD. "Such integration resulted in better retention of anatomical knowledge and significantly enhanced student learning."

The course continued its innovative approach to education by adding ultrasound phantoms to the labs, including simulators with pathological conditions. Many labs added clinical cases where students are presented with a case, followed by a demonstration and practice on fellow students. Additionally, the cardiology block added a workshop combining electrocardiography and echocardiography to help students better understand cardiac physiology.

"My goal is to make basic medical education more interesting and engaging for students through ultrasound," Dr. Kondrashova says. "The course not only covers all body systems and organs but also teaches them clinical reasoning and procedural skills."



ATSU-KCOM students learn to use ultrasound during the first two years of the DO program.



## INTEGRATED ULTRASOUND EDUCATION

Innovation is woven throughout the first two years of ATSU-SOMA's program, from the clinical presentation curriculum to early contextual clinical training where second-year students are distributed among community health centers to work with underserved populations. While students are provided integrated basic and clinical sciences didactic material, a variety of methodologies incorporate active learning strategies, including flipped classroom, small-group cases, and hands-on physiologic and imaging methods.

As part of the hands-on imaging approaches, ultrasound technology is an essential component of this active learning model. Rather than learning to use ultrasound independently, it is embedded in the learning of a skill. For instance, in an Osteopathic Principles and Practice lab focused on the evaluation and treatment of the shoulder, ultrasound imaging allows students to visualize normal anatomy while practicing osteopathic manipulative treatment procedures.

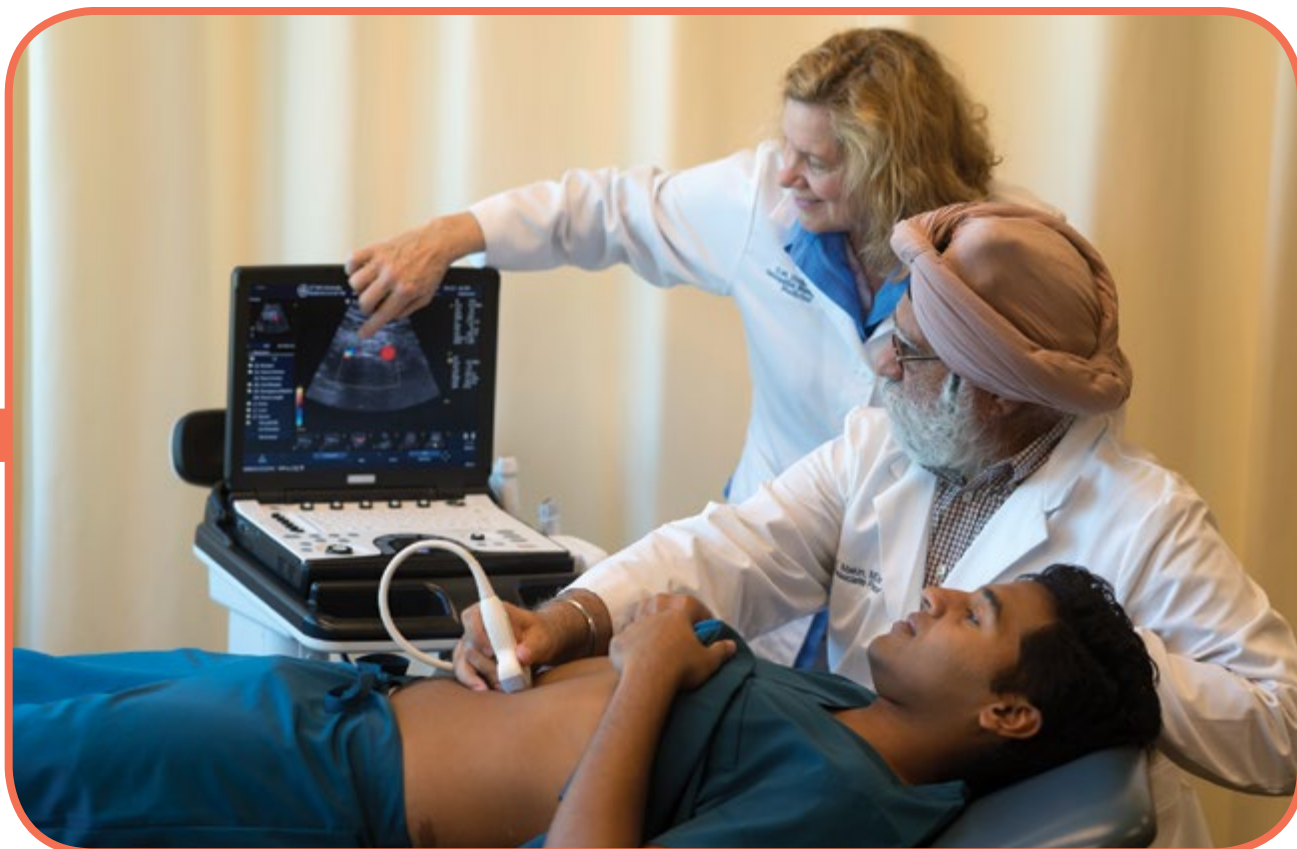
Professor Inder Makin, MD, PhD, has more than 25 years' experience in ultrasound applications and instrumentation. He initiated the use of ultrasound in ATSU-SOMA's research projects with Deborah Heath, DO, associate dean of curricular integration, and then joined forces with Kellie Bliven, PhD, ATC, director, interdisciplinary health sciences, to incorporate ultrasound into the curriculum.

In addition to using ultrasound in teaching and research, the School has integrated ultrasound education in the community. ATSU-SOMA collaborated with faculty members at Northwestern University to improve ultrasound imaging expertise. The cross-town partnership, led by Dr. Makin, enables faculty to gain knowledge from experts at each institution.

"With the additional competency of knowledge and skill in point-of-care ultrasound imaging, DO graduates will be highly competitive as they move toward the single-accreditation residency programs in 2020," Dr. Makin says. "Collaboration with Northwestern University represents substantive progress in enhancing osteopathic medical professional training."

The partner institutions received a \$350,000 grant to continue these collaborations. In addition, Dr. Makin and his colleagues are creating a lecture series for faculty development. While many medical schools still do not teach ultrasound, ATSU-SOMA's ultrasound initiatives demonstrate the importance of this technology in medical education and ensure it is part of students' educational fabric.

Below: Drs. Deborah Heath and Inder Makin perform abdominal ultrasound on a student.





## REMOVABLE PROSTHODONTICS: PARTIAL DENTAL PROSTHESES

Prosthodontics is usually the most daunting area of dentistry for students. The specialty, which involves the restoration and replacement of teeth, is challenging because it requires knowledge of all dental specialties and how they are related. Creating partial dental prostheses, or partial dentures, means prosthodontists first have to consider many factors such as occlusion, periodontal health, restorative options, and extractions.

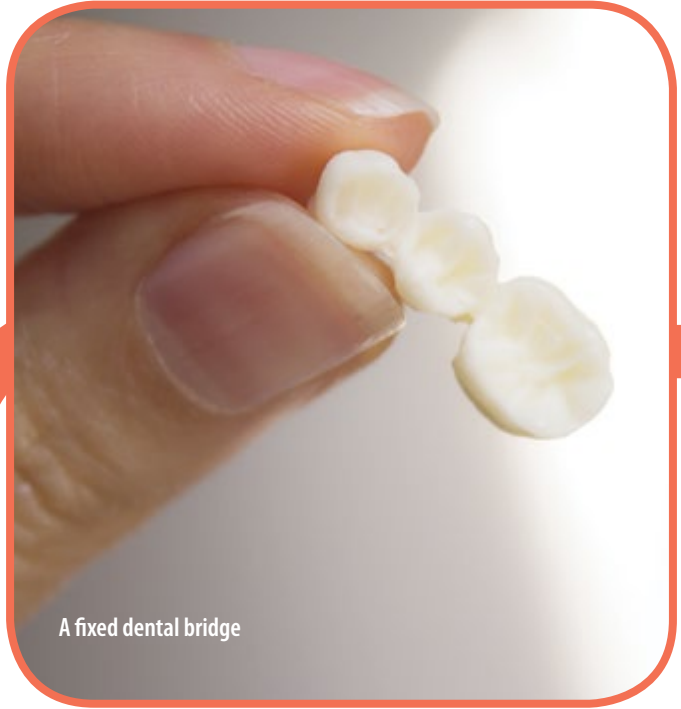
"As a student, I did not want to be a prosthodontist," says Ammar Musawi, MDS, BDS, whose specialty is prosthodontics. "Then, I realized I didn't like it because of the way it was taught."

In ATSU-MOSDOH's Partial Dental Prostheses course, faculty members took a new approach to educating students. Dr. Musawi and Robert Collinge, DDS, primary faculty members for the course, implemented student-centered learning in the form of small group case discussions.

The three-week course breaks students into small groups with a faculty member assigned to each group. Then, students in each group work together to complete 10 patient cases – more cases than in previous years. Rather than teaching or dictating, the faculty member observes and guides the group as needed through the partial denture design process.

Since faculty implemented the change in course format, student course evaluation scores have improved. Feedback from students indicates they enjoy working together in small groups, as well as the increased number of cases.

"I tell students they may not like the course, but once they understand it, they understand how all disciplines of dentistry should be considered when treating a patient," Dr. Musawi says. "The way we are teaching it now is how I wish I could have learned it."



A fixed dental bridge

## FIXED PROSTHODONTICS

Critical thinking, hand skills, and the latest technology converge in ATSU-ASDOH's Fixed Prosthodontics course. The course, which comprises a significant portion of the second-year curriculum, teaches students to make crowns and bridges and ultimately provide esthetic restorations best suited to their patients' needs.

In 2015, ATSU-ASDOH faculty implemented prepCheck analytical software into the course as a way for students to receive objective feedback of their preparations. It offers precise measurements and a "report card" in which students evaluate the percentage of their preparation meeting clinical requirements. Additionally, it gives students another opportunity to gain competence in digital dentistry.

"This software enables students to look at their preparation and reflect on the good and bad aspects of their work," says Tamer El-Gendy, DMD, BDS, MS, '10. "It helps them improve their hand skills by giving them instant feedback."

ATSU-ASDOH was among the first schools in the country to implement prepCheck software into its curriculum. The software proved to have great potential, and today, faculty members are conducting research to implement the technology into grading.

"This course is one of the toughest courses students will take during their dental education," Dr. El-Gendy says. "It is very rewarding to see a huge improvement in students' hand skills and critical thinking." 📌



A removable  
partial denture





# Love conquers

How one family turned tragedy into education and awareness

By Katie Hubbard

**N**atalie Beissel, DO, MS, '16, had just started her fourth year of medical school at ATSU-SOMA. The Minnesota native was completing rotations at El Rio Community Health Center in Tucson, Arizona. She was excelling academically – ranked in the top 10 percent of her class. Compassionate and energetic, she embodied traits of the ideal physician. In addition to being highly respected by faculty members and peers, she had a loving, supportive family. Her whole life was ahead of her, along with a promising career in internal medicine.

On July 30, 2015, everything changed. Natalie was killed in a tragic act of domestic abuse at her home in Tucson.

The news of Natalie's untimely death sent shock waves through communities from Arizona to Minnesota.

"I couldn't breathe – I just couldn't catch my breath," says Natalie's brother, Nick, who received the late-night call from his mother. "I told my wife, Shelly, and she just screamed."

Her family members found themselves in a state of shock, disbelief, and unexplainable sadness. The next several days felt like a fog had settled in around them. They were beyond devastated. They didn't sleep; they didn't eat. The situation played out like a TV crime show as they talked to detectives to try to figure out what happened.

"We realized it was never going to get better or easier," Shelly says. "Life after Natalie was never going to be the same."

Death from domestic abuse is not often mentioned in an obituary, but the Beissel family did not want to hide the facts. Her cause of death was stated clearly in the first sentence.

"Domestic abuse happens all the time," Shelly says. "People don't want to talk about it."

The statistics on domestic violence are staggering. In the U.S., a woman is assaulted or beaten every nine seconds. According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, more than 20,000 phone calls are placed to domestic violence hotlines each day. Additionally, the presence of a gun in a domestic violence situation increases the risk of homicide by 500 percent.

"We know all the red flags, now," Shelly says. "Unfortunately, we learned this information too late."

In the days following Natalie's death, her grief-stricken family and friends rallied together to honor her memory. Almost immediately, a scholarship was established at ATSU-SOMA in her name. A few months later in October, which is also Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Natalie's family joined ATSU faculty, staff, students, and friends for a candlelight memorial and tree dedication on the Mesa, Arizona, campus.

"The outpouring of support we received from everyone at ATSU was unbelievable," Nick says. "The School continues to share Natalie's story with students every year."

In May 2016, the Beissel family attended the annual ATSU-SOMA Innovator's Gala to award the first scholarship in Natalie's name. The next day, at the ATSU-SOMA Commencement Ceremony, Natalie was granted her doctor of osteopathic medicine degree posthumously. Her parents, brother, sister-in-law, and nephews accepted the degree on her behalf.

"Natalie's dream was to become a doctor," Shelly says. "We knew we had to do something to honor her."

**Bags & Beers for Nat**, which is held annually at the Herkimer Pub and Brewery in Minneapolis, features a bag toss tournament, wine toss, silent auction, raffles, and more. At each event, Nick Beissel (right) shares Natalie's story with the crowd and discusses the importance of domestic violence awareness.



The Beissel family presents the first Natalie Beissel Memorial Scholarship to Aleksandra Kardasheva, DO, '16 (center), at the ATSU-SOMA Innovator's Gala in May 2016.

feature story

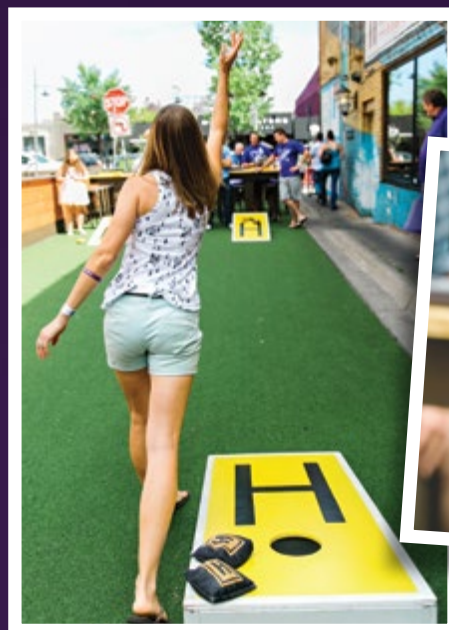


Photo credit: Nadeau Creative





For more information about the Natalie Beissel Memorial Scholarship, visit [atsu.edu/nataliebeissel](http://atsu.edu/nataliebeissel).

Roger, Lonna, Shelly, and Nick Beissel honor Natalie and promote domestic violence awareness at the third annual Bags & Beers for Nat.

Approximately one year after her funeral, the Beissels held their first Bags & Beers for Nat event in support of domestic violence awareness. The event, which celebrated Natalie's life and her fun-loving personality, raised nearly \$23,000 in a single afternoon. Half of the proceeds went to her scholarship fund, and half went to the Domestic Abuse Project, a Minneapolis-based organization that provides programs to prevent domestic violence.

Bags & Beers for Nat was such a success, the family decided to hold another event the following year. They didn't expect the second event to be as successful, but to their surprise, they again raised about \$23,000 with 275 people in attendance. Their third event, in 2018, surpassed 300 people and raised more than \$28,000.

"Natalie's classmates and faculty members live all over the country, and they fly in for this event every year," Shelly says. "We actually had to get a permit from the city to accommodate the additional people."

This year, the family decided they wanted this initiative to become more than an annual event. They founded Love Conquers Violence, a nonprofit organization with a mission to honor Natalie and increase domestic violence awareness and education. While Bags & Beers for Nat will remain the primary event, Love Conquers Violence has added more events to reach families and children.

"If we can save one person and another family from going through what we've gone through, that means we've succeeded," Nick says.

So far, the proceeds from Love Conquers Violence have positively affected more than 140 families. Nick and Shelly have heard stories from people who said Natalie's story gave them the courage to leave an abusive relationship. They've had people reach out for help and resources. Some have personally taken action to help others escape dangerous situations.

"If something seems off, say something," Shelly says. "The only way we can break the silence is by talking about it."

The Beissels' message is clear: Remember Natalie. Remember it can happen to anyone, and remember to make a difference. Love can conquer violence. Love can conquer all. **S**

## Red flags

according to the National Domestic Violence Hotline

- Embarrassing or putting you down
- Looking at you or acting in ways that scare you
- Controlling who you see, where you go, or what you do
- Keeping you or discouraging you from seeing your friends or families
- Taking your money or refusing to give you money for expenses
- Preventing you from making your own decisions
- Telling you that you are a bad parent or threatening to harm or take away your children
- Preventing you from working or attending school
- Blaming you for the abuse or acting like it's not really happening
- Destroying your property or threatening to hurt or kill your pets
- Intimidating you with guns, knives, or other weapons
- Shoving, slapping, choking, or hitting you
- Attempting to stop you from pressing charges
- Threatening to commit suicide because of something you've done
- Threatening to hurt or kill you
- Pressuring you to have sex when you don't want to or do things sexually you're not comfortable with
- Pressuring you to use drugs or alcohol
- Preventing you from using birth control or pressuring you to become pregnant when you don't want to become pregnant

For anonymous, confidential help, visit [www.TheHotline.org](http://www.TheHotline.org) or call the 24-hour national hotline at 800.799.SAFE (7233).



To recognize and honor the TCC's longtime director, ATSU launched the Dan Martin Court campaign to renovate the existing basketball court area.

# Fit for renovation

ATSU upgrades fitness facility, honors longtime director

By Katie Hubbard

**T**he Thompson Campus Center (TCC) has been a fixture on ATSU's Kirksville, Missouri, campus for more than 35 years. Students, faculty, and staff have come to the center to burn stress, improve fitness, and embrace a healthy lifestyle.

At the time it was built, the TCC was a first-rate fitness facility. Over the years, as ATSU's Missouri campus community grew, so did the TCC's annual membership. The traditional basketball court, free weights, fitness equipment, whirlpool and sauna, and racquetball courts were supplemented with specialized cardio equipment, a climbing wall, and other minimal cosmetic updates.

The "gym" concept and desired fitness amenities expected by today's students have changed. To meet an increasing demand for current fitness services, the TCC started a renovation to enhance its members' experiences. Providing ample, high-quality fitness opportunities aligns with the University's whole person healthcare priority.



To meet growing needs and desires of the campus community, the TCC's renovations optimized space for cardio and weight equipment, as well as group activity classes.

The three-phase renovation began nearly five years ago. First, the upstairs level was remodeled to allow more room for weight equipment and cardio machines. One of the racquetball courts was repurposed to create space for additional equipment. Second, the downstairs whirlpool and sauna were removed, which expanded the studio for group activity classes. In addition, a family restroom was added. Third, both locker rooms were revamped. The hallways and ceilings were updated, and new electrical, plumbing, and LED lighting were installed. In total, the facility's functional space increased from 1,200 to 4,000 square feet.

While much has changed, one person has stayed the same. Dan Martin, MA, has been a part of the TCC since its opening in 1982. As director of ATSU's wellness programs, Martin has been instrumental in implementing a wide range of health and fitness regimens. He provides direction for all fitness operations and programming on Missouri and Mesa, Arizona, campuses. His passion for health and wellness has promoted ATSU's mission of providing whole person and community healthcare. It has also inspired thousands of individuals to embrace positive lifestyle choices.

Because of Martin's influence, the TCC has become a hub for recreation, as well as a center for health and learning. While members participate in activities like basketball, indoor soccer, yoga, spin class, or circuit weight training, they are immersed in an environ-

ment that incorporates holistic wellness and maximizes potential in body, mind, and spirit.

In recognition and honor of Martin's service, the University launched a campaign to rename the basketball court as Dan Martin Court. The campaign will top off the facility's renovations by upgrading the court flooring and peripheral equipment. The initial goal of \$115,000 will cover installation costs of a maple wood floor, with a total goal of \$300,000 to include new basketball goal systems, volleyball net system, scoreboard, LED lighting, divider curtain, and more.

"Working out and playing basketball in the TCC kept many of us sane during those first years of medical school," says David Fife, DO, '05. "We loved the Rotator Cuff tournament and working for Dan in the TCC."

Dr. Fife and his wife, Alicia, are strong supporters of the campaign. Thanks to the Fifes and other generous donors, the initial goal has been met. With nearly \$118,000 raised to date, ATSU's alumni, employees, and friends continue to push the campaign toward completion and ensure the TCC will meet campus community needs for years to come.

"Dan motivates and inspires by doing," says TCC Assistant Director Lynda Furney, MA. "He doesn't just talk healthy lifestyle, he lives it. Dan is the Thompson Campus Center!" **S**



One of the racquetball rooms was repurposed to accommodate additional fitness equipment.

Learn how you can help the University continue renovations at the TCC and honor its longtime director through the Dan Martin Court campaign. Contact Brad Chambers, director of development, at [bradchambers@atsu.edu](mailto:bradchambers@atsu.edu) or 660.626.2494.



# Connecting communities

**A** network with many roles, the Missouri Area Health Education Centers (MAHEC) network has one underlying principle in every program it provides, serving the rural and underserved.

From outreach programs for youth to continuing education for healthcare professionals, MAHEC is available every step of the way. Its main purpose is to create a relationship between communities and healthcare institutions, build interprofessional relationships across healthcare disciplines, and provide community members with career options in healthcare that can make a difference in their communities.

MAHEC is a part of a nationwide network, AHEC, which addresses the lack of diversity and distribution of healthcare professionals. Founded in 1988, MAHEC now consists of seven regional centers and three program offices, which provide resources to help communities recruit, train, and retain their healthcare personnel.

The founding MAHEC program office is located on ATSU's Kirksville, Missouri, campus. In partnership with the University, the office supports ATSU by connecting communities and future healthcare professionals to the University. While MAHEC equips students from rural and underserved areas with resources to be successful at ATSU, ATSU educates students to serve as providers. When students return to work in their hometowns, rural and underserved communities benefit from MAHEC and ATSU's partnership.

## The pipeline

MAHEC's network works like a pipeline, recruiting community members in rural and underserved areas to pursue healthcare careers and preparing them to serve in their own communities.

To inspire students in rural and underserved areas of Missouri, MAHEC offers youth recruitment programs to expose participants

to a wide range of health careers. Those who pursue healthcare for their career path are guided through the preparation and application processes and provided with resources and experiences to help them succeed.

"Our focus is healthcare for the underserved, but we are also providing education about health and health careers," says Janet Head, EdD, MS, RN, founding director, ATSU AHEC. "We are getting people connected with education opportunities, careers, and a quality life."

In addition to helping future professionals gain interest in healthcare careers, MAHEC offers clinical training opportunities in rural and underserved areas and continuing education for providers. MAHEC participants join at various points along the pipeline. Although not a requirement of the program, the goal is for students to eventually work in their home community or another underserved community in Missouri.

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**"My participation in the AHEC program opened my eyes to healthcare disparities in underserved areas and the importance of improving access to care. I have a strong desire and have made a commitment to work in an underserved area."**

**– Ilesha Draper, DO, '16  
St. Louis, Missouri**

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# to better healthcare

By Aubrey Henning

## Serving the community

MAHEC strives to build a positive relationship between academic institutions and their surrounding communities. With three participating healthcare universities, Saint Louis University, University of Missouri, and ATSU, MAHEC is able to connect communities with institutions to form a relationship beneficial to both parties.

"From the beginning, the concept of AHEC has always been an academic community partnership," says Michael French, co-director, ATSU AHEC. "It's intended to be a program that uses resources available from the academic center and links them to communities to help the community achieve their health goals and health workforce goals."

Resources from the institutions may be used to improve community health, while community members provide students with real-life experience in their profession. MAHEC offers programs that include interaction with volunteer community members, providing future health professionals training in communities they will serve.

"Having students out in the community earlier helps build their relationships with people in the community," says Elizabeth Duzan, administrative coordinator, ATSU AHEC. "They'll have a bigger impact in promoting health."

## Continuing the mission


In commemoration of 30 years of MAHEC, this October a new program was launched for students completing the last two years of their professional program. Highlighting interprofessional relationships among healthcare providers, the Missouri AHEC Scholars Program is open to various professions, including students in medi-

cal, dental, pharmacy, nurse practitioner, nursing, physician assistant, social work, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and public/population health programs. Its main goal is to supplement the education students are getting in their core program, build relationships among future providers, and enhance students' ability to look at the whole picture when treating a patient.

"The idea is to integrate those services that are most critical," says Dr. Head. "The whole idea of interprofessional working and integration of core services, like behavioral and oral health, into one setting is really important."

In addition to 80 contact hours of classroom work, the program requires 80 hours of experiential learning activities completed through volunteering, organized service projects, or clinical rotations. Upon completion, providers will have a network of professionals to

refer patients to when the need arises and be able to recognize the value of working with other professions to treat patients.

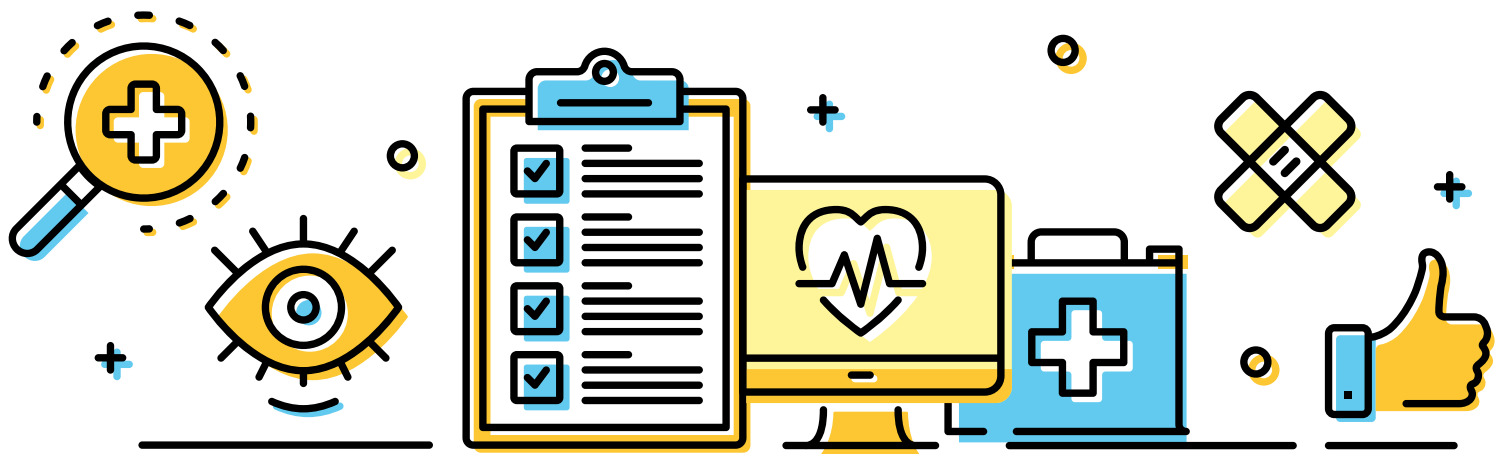
"A big part of the interprofessional portion of this program is not only to show them how to work together but also the need for working together," says Duzan. 

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**"In my 18 years at AHEC, I have been able to witness the impact of AHEC programs in Missouri and across the country, one student at a time. When students return to serve their communities, the mission of AHEC is achieved."**

– Paula Overfelt, MEd, executive director, Northwest MAHEC St. Joseph, Missouri

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# Sharing a smile

By Aubrey Henning

**S**haring a smile can brighten someone's day. For volunteers at Missouri Mission of Mercy (MOMOM), sharing a smile included more than showing a smile on their face. It was about restoring health to people in their community.

On Aug. 3 and 4, hundreds of volunteers transformed Truman State University's Pershing Arena in Kirksville, Missouri, into a dental clinic and provided free oral healthcare to underserved populations.

"It is phenomenal to be in a huge gymnasium buzzing with people who are there simply to give themselves to help another human being," says 2018 MOMOM Co-chair Tisha R. Kice-Briggs, DDS, member, ATSU Board of Trustees. "It is such an uplifting event that gives me faith in society."

Having been involved with MOMOM since its start in 2011, Dr. Kice-Briggs has seen its impact. She previously served as a volunteer completing fillings and extractions. As a full-time dentist, she enjoys using her unique skills to serve patients.

"It feels great to help people in need," says Dr. Kice-Briggs. "This event gives me a renewed sense of gratitude and appreciation for my profession."

As co-chair of 2018 MOMOM, Dr. Kice-Briggs was excited to see the clinic in her own community. This was the seventh annual event and was the first time the clinic came to northeastern Missouri. Kirksville is the smallest town to host the clinic thus far.

"Providing these basic services changes people's lives," says Dr. Kice-Briggs. "Having a healthy, attractive smile gives people back their confidence and their basic health."

Another Board of Trustees member was in attendance as a volunteer. Bertha Thomas, who grew up poor in Detroit, Michigan,




Above: Drs. Tisha Kice-Briggs and Amanda Fitzpatrick, 2018 MOMOM co-chairs, lead the team effort to provide care for 1,200 patients in two days. MOMOM is hosted by the Missouri Dental Association (MDA) and MDA Foundation.

Left: Bertha Thomas was one of more than 800 people who volunteered their time and expertise at the clinic.

knows firsthand the value of MOMOM's mission. Unable to afford health and dental insurance, Thomas first saw a dentist in her teen years. As a high school student, she had major dental problems.

"These problems affected my health and self-esteem," says Thomas. "I understand what it means to be unable to afford to go to a dentist."

Holding MOMOM's mission close to heart, Thomas volunteered by raising funds through a Mother's Day brunch, recruiting French and Spanish interpreters, and serving as a general volunteer at the clinic.

In addition to two board members, ATSU-KCOM Dean Margaret Wilson, DO, '82, and ATSU-MOSDOH Dean Dwight McLeod, DDS, MS, more than 100 ATSU faculty, staff, and students served in various areas of the clinic. The event provided more than \$815,000 in free dental care to approximately 1,200 patients. 



[Reconnect](#)

[Class notes](#)

[Faculty & staff news](#)

[Meet the board](#)

[In memoriam](#)

[Parting shot](#)

# Connections

## **Whoa, baby!**

*Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy departments host annual baby lab*

On Friday, Aug. 17, ATSU-ASHS' Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy departments joined together to host an annual baby lab on the Mesa, Arizona, campus. The lab taught students about normal development of babies ages 0-24 months in an interdisciplinary fashion.

Students worked in small groups, observing movements of the babies in different positions. The youngest babies were observed lying on their tummies or backs, while the ones who could crawl and walk were observed playing with toys placed around the room.

"The baby lab is an excellent opportunity for students to observe the developmental changes that happen in infancy," says Deanne Fay, PT, DPT, MS, PCS, professor, physical therapy. "By combining physical and occupational therapy students into the same lab, students gained the additional benefit of seeing different developmental presentations from the perspective of the other discipline."

# Reconnect



Nashville, Tennessee | April 18

## American Academy of Audiology (AAA) Conference

Hosted by Tabitha Parent Buck, AuD, chair, audiology, ATSU-ASHS, and Andrea Ruotolo, AuD, '05, post-professional program director, ATSU-ASHS, audiology alumni and students learned about the entry-level program size increasing to 14 students, continued growth of the AFA Balance & Hearing Institute, and the first cohort of students in the redesigned post-professional program starting in July.



Salt Lake City, Utah | April 20

## American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) Conference

Alumni and students from four residential and online occupational therapy programs joined Jyothi Gupta, PhD, OTR/L, chair, occupational therapy, ATSU-ASHS, to hear about the programs going through reaccreditation and to honor Cynthia Wheeler, OTD, '17, MS, OTR/L, '98, for serving two years as chair of the ATSU-ASHS Alumni Chapter Board.

Branson, Missouri | April 25-27

## Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons (MAOPS) Convention

An alumni and student luncheon commemorated the many achievements of MAOPS and the Missouri-based osteopathic schools from the past year. During the luncheon, ATSU-KCOM and ATSU-SOMA alumni and students came together to hear Margaret Wilson, DO, '82, dean, ATSU-KCOM, present the many accomplishments and future strategic priorities of ATSU.



Portland, Oregon, and Seattle, Washington | May 3-4

## Portland and Seattle Alumni, Students, and Friends Reception

Alumni and students from multiple ATSU colleges and schools attended regional receptions hosted by Vice President of University Advancement Shaun Sommerer, PhD, and Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs Ann Boyle, DMD, MA. Updates spanned the Missouri and Arizona campuses, particularly regarding the University accreditation site visit this fall.



Washington, D.C. | May 5

## American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) Annual Session

Jae Park, DMD, PhD, MSD, MS, professor and chair, postgraduate orthodontics, ATSU-ASDOH, hosted a reception attended by alumni and residents. Announcements included activities held for the 10-year anniversary of the Orthodontic program.

Southfield, Michigan | May 18

### Michigan Osteopathic Association (MOA) Convention

The 119th MOA Annual Spring Scientific Convention was held in Southfield, Michigan, from May 17-19. During this time, ATSU hosted an alumni and friends welcoming reception where attendees enjoyed an evening to reconnect with each other and hear the latest from ATSU-KCOM and ATSU-SOMA alumni leaders.



New Orleans, Louisiana | May 22

### American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) Conference

Ted Wendel, PhD, senior vice president, university planning & strategic initiatives, ATSU; Randy Danielsen, PhD, PA-C emeritus, dean, ATSU-ASHS; and Bert Simon, DHSc, PA-C, chair, physician assistant studies, ATSU-ASHS, hosted alumni and students and highlighted numerous initiatives, including the eight learning sites around the country where students rotate and the innovative ultrasound curriculum during students' first year.

Cleveland, Ohio | June 13

### Ohio Area Alumni, Students, and Friends Reception

Bob Behnen, MBA, associate vice president, university advancement, ATSU, hosted alumni and students from ATSU's various colleges and schools at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and provided updates from across the University.

Hopatcong, New Jersey | June 23

### New Jersey Area Alumni, Students, and Friends Reception

Alumni and students in the New Jersey area had the opportunity to visit the Fred, DO, '68, and Eleanor Steinbaum residence for a regional reception, also hosted by Craig Phelps, DO, '84, president, ATSU; Margaret Wilson, DO, '82, dean, ATSU-KCOM; and Lori Haxton, MA, vice president of student affairs, ATSU. Eleanor Steinbaum was recognized as an honorary member of the Kirksville Osteopathic Alumni Association for her many years of support of the osteopathic profession and ATSU-KCOM.



New Orleans, Louisiana | June 28

### National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) Convention

Randy Danielsen, PhD, PA-C emeritus, dean, ATSU-ASHS; Eric Sauers, PhD, ATC, FNATA, '97, chair, interdisciplinary health sciences, ATSU-ASHS; Tamara McLeod, PhD, ATC, director, athletic training, ATSU-ASHS; and Tim Nicollelo, MS, ATC, '12, member, ATSU-ASHS Alumni Board, gave updates to alumni and students about the numerous ATSU faculty and alumni receiving awards at the convention this year. They also recognized Michael McKenney, MS, ATC, '99, with the ATSU-ASHS Alumni Chapter's Humanitarian of the Year Award for his selfless work in developing future generations of outstanding athletic trainers.



Mesa, Arizona | Aug. 20

### Kinesiology Summer Institute

Don Altman, DDS, DHSc, EdD, MPH, MBA, MA, '12, dean, ATSU-CGHS, and Tracie Rogers, PhD, chair, kinesiology, ATSU-CGHS, welcomed alumni and students to the annual Kinesiology Summer Institute by concluding the first day with a reception.



Check out our alumni Facebook page at [facebook.com/atsu.alumni](https://facebook.com/atsu.alumni) for more event photos and updates, and like us while you're there!

# UPCOMING alumni events

Visit [atsu.edu/alumni/events](http://atsu.edu/alumni/events) for current event information, or contact [alumni@atsu.edu](mailto:alumni@atsu.edu) to learn more. Registration for conferences is not required to attend ATSU alumni events. All ATSU alumni in the area are always invited to attend, even if an event is in conjunction with a different profession's conference.

**Jan. 24**

**PT Alumni & Students Reception (APTA CSM)**  
Washington, D.C.

**Feb. 22-23**

**ATSU-ASDOH Alumni Weekend**  
Mesa, Arizona

**Feb. 25**

**AT Alumni & Students Reception (DAT Winter Institute)**  
Gilbert, Arizona

**March 8**

**PA Alumni & Students Reception (ASAPA)**  
Prescott, Arizona

**March 15**

**DO Alumni & Students Reception (AAO)**  
Orlando, Florida

**March 22**

**DO Alumni & Students Reception (ACOFFP)**  
Las Vegas, Nevada

**March 27**

**Audiology Alumni & Students Reception (AAA)**  
Columbus, Ohio

**April 5**

**OT Alumni & Students Reception (AOTA)**  
New Orleans, Louisiana

**April 11**

**DO Alumni & Students Reception (AOMA)**  
Scottsdale, Arizona

**April 13**

**Orthopedic & Neurologic PT Alumni & Residents Reception**  
Scottsdale, Arizona

**April 24-26**

**DO Alumni Booth & Luncheon (MAOPS)**  
St. Charles, Missouri

**May 4**

**Orthodontics Alumni & Residents Reception (AAO)**  
Los Angeles, California

**May 17**

**DO Alumni & Students Reception (MOA)**  
Dearborn, Michigan

**May 21**

**PA Alumni & Students Reception (AAPA)**  
Denver, Colorado

**June 27**

**AT Alumni & Students Reception (NATA)**  
Las Vegas, Nevada

# TECHNOLOGY AT HAND

By Katie Hubbard



3D printing is shaping the future. At ATSU, the rapidly developing technology is offering solutions for students, instructors, and researchers. Now, it is even helping the Museum of Osteopathic Medicine recreate fragile items from its collection.

In 1897, the artist Howard Kretschmar, DO, created a statue of A.T. Still, DO. The statue was destroyed in the 1960s, and the only piece of the statue's cast that remains intact is Dr. Still's right hand. The plaster cast, which is on display at the museum, is too delicate for guests to handle.

Thanks to 3D printing, the original cast of Dr. Still's hand was recreated to exact proportions. It measures nearly nine inches long and is printed with the durable material acrylonitrile butadiene styrene. The recreated hand took more than 20 hours to print.

"It's amazing to be able to use this new technology to recreate an artifact that is more than 100 years old," says Jason Haxton, MA, director, Museum of Osteopathic Medicine.

ATSU received its first 3D printer in 2015, and in November 2017, it received an additional, larger 3D printer. These printers, which are in use daily, are housed in the A.T. Still Memorial Library. Debra

Using a Stratasys F170 3D printer, two models of Dr. Still's right hand were recreated to exact proportions.

Museum of Osteopathic Medicine, Kirksville, Missouri [2018.01]

Loguda-Summers, CLSS, is the library's public service and 3D print services manager and oversees printing projects on the Kirksville, Missouri, campus. Since the beginning of 2018, she has printed more than 1,200 3D objects.

"3D printing is enhancing education and research across the University," says Loguda-Summers. "Along with printing requests from students, we have worked with several departments, the A.T. Still Research Institute, SparkTank winners, and now the Museum of Osteopathic Medicine."

# Upcoming **Continuing Education** programs



## Medical

### 2019

#### **ATSU CME/CE Cruise Primary Care Update**

Jan. 19-27, 2019  
Royal Caribbean - Adventure of the Seas®  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida (cruise departure)  
Eastern Caribbean

#### **Las Vegas Primary Care Update**

Feb. 28-March 2, 2019  
Caesars Palace | Las Vegas, Nevada

#### **ATSU Alaska CME/CE Cruise**

June 14-21, 2019  
Royal Caribbean - Ovation of the Seas®  
Seattle, Washington (cruise departure)

#### **Tan-Tar-A Primary Care Update**

Aug. 2-4, 2019  
Tan-Tar-A | Osage Beach, Missouri

#### **Founder's Day Manipulation Update**

Oct. 2019 – Dates TBD  
Missouri campus | Kirksville, Missouri

#### **Big Cedar Primary Care Update**

Dec. 5-7, 2019  
Big Cedar Lodge | Ridgedale, Missouri

### 2020

#### **ATSU CME/CE Cruise Primary Care Update**

Jan. 12-19, 2020  
Royal Caribbean - Allure of the Seas®  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida (cruise departure)  
Western Caribbean

#### **Las Vegas Primary Care Update**

March 5-7, 2020  
Treasure Island | Las Vegas, Nevada

#### **Founder's Day Manipulation Update**

Oct. 2020 – Dates TBD  
Missouri campus | Kirksville, Missouri

#### **Big Cedar Primary Care Update**

Dec. 3-5, 2020  
Big Cedar Lodge | Ridgedale, Missouri

For more information, call **660.626.2232** or email [continuingeducation@atsu.edu](mailto:continuingeducation@atsu.edu).

*ATSU is accredited by the American Osteopathic Association to provide osteopathic continuing medical education for physicians.*



## Physical Therapy

### Special Topics in Shoulder Rehabilitation: A Lecture and Lab Course

Feb. 2, 2019

Arizona campus | Mesa, Arizona

### DIN-1: Foundations of Dynamic Integrative Needling Systems (DINS)

March 15-17, 2019

Visit [www.mptalliance.com/courses/din-1](http://www.mptalliance.com/courses/din-1) to register for the course.

### PWR!® Therapist

April 13-14, 2019

Arizona campus | Mesa, Arizona

### Screening, Examination, and Therapeutic Interventions for Athletes with Lower Extremity Impairments: A Lecture and Lab Course

June 1, 2019

Arizona campus | Mesa, Arizona

*ATSU-ASHS Physical Therapy department is qualified to provide physical therapist continuing education courses and activities according to the Arizona State Board of Physical Therapy (Rule R4-24-402).*

### Comprehensive Care in Multiple Sclerosis – Demystifying Rehabilitation!

June 8, 2019

Arizona campus | Mesa, Arizona

### Musculoskeletal Imaging: Applications to Clinical Practice

June 15, 2019

Arizona campus | Mesa, Arizona

### Examination and Intervention Strategies for Common Orthopedic Conditions around the Elbow, Hand, and Wrist

Aug. 24, 2019

Arizona campus | Mesa, Arizona

For more information, call **480.219.6056** or email [ptceu@atsu.edu](mailto:ptceu@atsu.edu).

## Dental

### Laser: An Emerging Scientific Technology Workshop

Jan. 26, 2019

Arizona campus | Mesa, Arizona

### ATSU-ASDOH Alumni Weekend *Clinical Updates 2019*

Feb. 23, 2019

Arizona campus | Mesa, Arizona

### Dental Ethics

All day, every day | Web-based  
[ce.atstu.edu](http://ce.atstu.edu)

### Clinical Dentistry and Ethics

All day, every day | Web-based  
[ce.atstu.edu](http://ce.atstu.edu)

For more information, call **480.219.6086** or email [asdohce@atsu.edu](mailto:asdohce@atsu.edu).

*ATSU-ASDOH is an ADA CERP recognized provider.*

Visit [ce.atstu.edu](http://ce.atstu.edu) for additional course information and registration.

A.T. STILL UNIVERSITY | ATSU

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CONTINUING  
EDUCATION

## '70s

**Donald E. Snyder Jr., DO, '72**, welcomed a new addition to his family. His daughter had a second son, George, on April 4.

## '80s

**Paul Burk, DO, '83**, an ear, nose, and throat physician, joined Touchette Regional Hospital in Centreville, Illinois.



**R. Todd Dombroski, DO, FAAFP, '87**, Fort Worth, Texas, was elected to the board of governors of the American Academy of Osteopathy. He was one of four osteopathic physicians to be elected as a governor and will serve a two-year term.

**Denise Clark, DO, '89**, Eustis, Florida, was named senior medical director of VITAS Healthcare's hospice and palliative care program, serving Lake and Sumter counties. In addition to her position at VITAS, Dr. Clark is a clinical assistant professor at Florida State University College of Medicine.

**Tracy L. Hall, DO, '89**, married Mark Jenner, PhD, on June 16. Dr. Jenner is dean of Briner School of Business at Greenville University in Illinois. Dr. Hall continues practicing family medicine in Greenville at the same location, under new management, since 1992. Both were featured recently in *The RECORD*, Greenville University's alumni magazine.

## '90s

**J. Matthew Halverson, DO, FAAFP, '92**, was featured in the summer 2018 issue of *Hampton Roads Physician* magazine.



**Michael J. Sampson, DO, FAOASM, '92**, Moultrie, Georgia, was named associate dean and chief academic officer of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine South Georgia.

**Michael McKenney, MS, ATC, '99**, received the Humanitarian of the Year award from the ATSU-ASHS Alumni Chapter Board.



**Kristin A. Severson-Solberg, DO, '99**, joined OakLeaf Clinics – Eau Claire Medical Clinic as a board-certified internal medicine physician with specialization in geriatrics. She formerly practiced at Hudson Physicians in Hudson, Wisconsin.

Dr. Severson-Solberg completed her residency at Northeast Regional Medical Center in Kirksville, Missouri, in 2002 and a fellowship in geriatric medicine at Aurora Sinai Medical Center in Milwaukee in 2003.

## '00s

**Michael Cruise, MS, PA-C, '04**, joined the Samaritan Walk-in Clinic in Newport, Oregon.

**Earle M. Pescatore Jr., DO, MHA, '04**, Osceola, Iowa, joined Clarke County Hospital's Specialty Clinic. He is sub-specialty certified in female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery and board certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. In addition, he is a fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

**Linda Hodges, DO, '05**, published a new book, "Weight Loss that Works: Secrets to Restoring Confidence and Reclaiming Your Body."

**Jamie Moenster, DO, FACOS, FACS, '05**, Tucson, Arizona, was named Outstanding Plastic Surgeon at the 2018 Influential Health & Medical Leaders event in June.

**"I remember as a young person learning who A.T. Still was and being drawn to learn as much as I could about medicine and care for the whole person."**

– **Kirksville native Beth Hill**

'09



**David Tannehill, DO, FACP, '05**, Fenton, Missouri, was elected president of the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons Board of Trustees.



**Carolyn Leyva, PT, DPT, '07**, became director of rehabilitation services at South Georgia Medical Center.

**Katherine Hansen, DO, '09**, Arlington Heights, Illinois, joined Northwest Community Healthcare Medical Group as a breast surgical oncologist. She is board certified by the American Osteopathic Board of Surgery.

**Beth Hill, MS, PA-C, '09**, joined Eastern Plumas Health Care's Pine Street Medical Clinic in Portola, California.

**Abigail Mitchell, DHEd, MSN, RN, CNE, FHERDSA, '09**, is the 2018 Nurse of Distinction for DeGraff Memorial Hospital in North Tonawanda, New York. She was recently promoted to professor at D'Youville College in Buffalo, where she has been an educator for more than 13 years. Additionally, she was the 2009 Western New York Nurse of Distinction.

Dr. Mitchell has been an RN for more than 27 years. She joined DeGraff Hospital in 2006 as per diem nursing supervisor who worked with the nursing team to increase knowledge, enhance best practices, and improve patient outcomes. She is now manager of clinical operations, helping drive the transformation of services at DeGraff. She is focused on improving quality initiatives, assisting with the new emergency department renovations, and building a culture of leading with care.

**Rupesh Prasad, MD, MPH, '09**, is an internal medicine hospitalist and quality and utilization officer at Aurora Sinai Medical Center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He is a senior fellow with the Society of Hospital Medicine and fellow with the American College of Physicians (ACP). He was the ACP Wisconsin Chapter's Young Internist of the Year in 2015.



**Kipp Van Meter, DO, '09, MS, '07**, Winsted, Connecticut, joined Charlotte Hungerford Hospital Primary Care, part of the hospital's multispecialty group of outpatient service providers and physicians.

## '10s

**Brandon McDaniel, MS, '10**, Santa Monica, California, joined Som Sleep Advisory Board. He is a Major League Baseball head strength coach.

**Terez Yonan, DO, '11**, was featured in the April 2018 issue of *The DO* magazine and Rewire.News for her article on medicine and faith.

**Clinton Lepetich, DMD, '12**, became co-owner of Children's Dental Village in Tempe, Arizona. He joined the clinic in 2014.

**Rebecca Toland, DHEd, '12**, joined Columbus State University as an assistant professor of health sciences.



**Daniel Diaz, DO, '14**, a primary care sports medicine specialist, joined MidMichigan Physicians Group and serves on the medical staff at MidMichigan Health.

**Suzie Squires, MS, '14**, received the Gatorade Secondary School Athletic Trainer of the Year for District 7.

**Paula Arciaga, DO, '15**, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, joined Holy Cross Medical Group as an internist.

**Leo E. Bay, DO, '15**, graduated from the St. Louis University Family Medicine Residency Program at HSHS St. Elizabeth's Hospital. Following completion of an obstetrics fellowship in Duluth, Minnesota, Dr. Bay will practice with Essentia Health in Ashland, Wisconsin.

**Bhargav Chandrashekar, DO, MPH, MHA, '15**, started a new role as occupational health physician/medical director for GlaxoSmithKline, just outside of Philadelphia.

**“Thank you, ATSU-KCOM, for allowing me to complete multiple rotations in occupational and environmental medicine to find this unique specialty and my passion in medicine.”**

'15

– Dr. Bhargav Chandrashekar

**Nikki Kett, MS, '15**, Ann Arbor, Michigan, is an assistant men's and women's swimming and diving coach at the University of Michigan. She earned her master's degree in kinesiology with a concentration in exercise and sports psychology from ATSU.

**Melissa Key, MS, ATC, '15**, was awarded the National Athletic Trainers' Association Foundation doctoral scholarship.

**Melissa Kuehl, DO, '15**, joined Mercy Hospital Fort Smith as a hospitalist. She completed an internal medicine residency at Freeman Health System in Joplin, Missouri.



**Nilofar Sanaiha, DO, '15**, graduated from her family medicine residency at White Memorial Medical Center in Los Angeles in June. She is currently completing a fellowship in geriatrics at UCLA for 2018-19.

**Kathleen Saoud, DO, '15**, Munster, Indiana, joined Community Hospital as a pediatrician.

**Joseph Tasch, DO, '15**, graduated from the West Virginia University Medicine Camden-Clark Internal Medicine Residency Program. He plans to continue his training in nephrology at Ohio State University.



**James Tucker, DO, '15**, joined the family medicine team at Hannibal Regional Medical Group.

**Chet Adams, DMD, '16**, Show Low, Arizona, received the Northland Pioneer College Outstanding Alumnus Award for the spring 2018 semester.



**Andrew Goodrich, DO, '16**, was elected 2018-19 chief resident for the last year of his emergency medicine residency in Saginaw, Michigan. Dr. Goodrich just completed his year as president of the Emergency Medicine Resident Association of Michigan, as well as presenting his research at the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine in Indianapolis. He will begin a critical care fellowship in 2019 at the University of California at San Diego.

**Dawn White, DHSc, '16**, and **Phillip Stephens, DHSc, PA-C**, adjunct professor, health sciences, ATSU-CGHS, published "State of evidence-based practice in physician assistant education" in the March 2018 issue of the *Journal of Physician Assistant Education*.

**Mylhan Myers, DO, '17**, entered his first year of residency at the University of Kansas School of Medicine – Wichita Family Medicine Residency Program at Via Christi Hospitals.

**Corey J. Richardson, DHSc, MBA, '17**, presented his research on physician assistants at the Federation of State Physicians Health Programs Annual Education Conference & Business Meeting in Concord, North Carolina.

**Christine Dowling, DMD, '18**, joined First Care Clinic in Hays, Kansas.

Submit class notes to  
[stillmagazine@atsu.edu](mailto:stillmagazine@atsu.edu).



# ATSU proudly announces the relaunch of its A.T. Still Legacy Society!

For more than 125 years, the tradition of excellence in healthcare education has endured and flourished at ATSU. This strong tradition is a direct result of the generosity of alumni and friends who have chosen to provide a lasting legacy for the University – an investment in its future.

The A.T. Still Legacy Society was established to recognize the important commitments of alumni and friends who have made planned gifts to ATSU, including bequests, charitable gift annuities, trusts, life insurance, and other future financial commitments. This society provides ATSU an opportunity to thank today's donors for tomorrow's gifts.

The University often receives legacy gifts from family of alumni. Family members see firsthand ATSU's positive influence on alumni and their communities. These families want to ensure their loved one's legacy lives on.

One such family to ensure a legacy is the Zinkons. Donald L. Zinkon, DO, '65, was a radiologist from Manchester, Tennessee, and was a winter resident of Haines City, Florida. Dr. Donald Zinkon died in May 2004 at age 74. The alumnus donated his wealth to his son, Dennis L. Zinkon, who in turn set up a trust with ATSU-KCOM as a benefactor.

Dennis Zinkon, who was affiliated with the Professional Golf Association, felt strongly about giving back to the university that made a difference in his family's life. He died unexpectedly July 15, 2016, from a pulmonary embolism. Upon his death, ATSU-KCOM received more than \$1 million in unrestricted funds to address the College's most pressing needs.

Families, like the Zinkons, have many ways to secure a legacy through ATSU. Your family has options to secure a legacy, too. Contact Bob Behnen, MBA, associate vice president, university advancement, with your gift idea: 660.626.2180 or [rbehnen@atsu.edu](mailto:rbehnen@atsu.edu).



Donald L. Zinkon, DO, '65

A.T. STILL  
—◆—  
LEGACY SOCIETY

# faculty & staff news

ATSU

**Forrest Bollow, EdD**, is the new university data manager for Assessment & Accreditation. Dr. Bollow previously served as an accreditation specialist.



**Anabel Burgara**, became assistant director of Human Resources on the Arizona campus.

**Art Davalos-Matthews, MA, LPC**, mental health wellness counselor, completed basic training in Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing and started offering the approach to students seeking a more rapid treatment response.

**Scott Edward, MEd, MBA**, admissions counselor, admissions, received the Arizona campus Employee Excellence Award for the second quarter of 2018.

**Stephen Emlund** was promoted to senior web developer for Administrative Computing.

**Jane Hawthorne**, university data manager, assessment & accreditation, retired from ATSU in July. She joined the University in 2007 as executive assistant to the ATSU-ASHS dean. She was promoted to ATSU-ASHS data and contract manager before assuming her role as university data manager in 2011.

**Jason Haxton, MA**, director, Museum of Osteopathic Medicine, received the Missouri campus 2017-18 Registered Student Organization Advisor of the Year award for his work with the Society for the Advancement of Historical Osteopathy and Philosophy.

**Brenda Jackson**, administrative assistant, academic affairs, received the Arizona campus Employee Excellence Award for the first quarter of 2018.

**Kimberly Jones, MS**, is the new director of Student Life. She previously served as a disability resources adviser.

**Jill Matejck** joined Assessment & Accreditation as an accreditation specialist.

**Stephanie McGrew, MHA, '15**, is ATSU's new diversity & inclusion coordinator.

**James Michael Menke, PhD**, associate director, A.T. Still Research Institute, published a chapter titled "Sociobiology" in the Encyclopedia of Personality and Individual Differences.

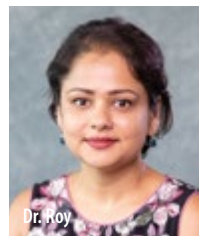


**Kim Perry, DDS, MSCS**, associate vice president, university strategic partnerships, was selected for American College of Dentists fellowship by its board of regents. She was inducted during the organization's fall 2018 annual meeting and convocation ceremony.

**Ruth Pipes**, secretary, Museum of Osteopathic Medicine, received the Missouri campus Employee Excellence Award for the second quarter of 2018.

**Beth Poppre, EdD, MEd**, associate vice president, student affairs, received her doctor of education degree in organizational leadership from Grand Canyon University in November.

**Debosree Roy, PhD**, joined the A.T. Still Research Institute as a postdoctoral fellow.



**Liz Sprout** joined Human Resources as the new employment coordinator for the Arizona campus.

**Kelcey Williams, MBA**, was promoted to benefits coordinator for Human Resources.

**Gary Wiltz, MD**, chair, Board of Trustees, received the National Association of Community Health Centers' 2018 John Gilbert Award. The award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated a high level of excellence in the community healthcare field.

faculty & staff news

# ASDOH

**Heather Andrew, RDH**, joined the School as an instructor.

**Jean Brady, MA, RDH**, joined the School as an instructor. She will see periodontal and implant maintenance patients.

**Wayne Cottam, DMD, MS**, vice dean, was appointed as a board member to the Beyond Flexner Alliance, which aims to promote social mission in health professions education.

**Mai-Ly Duong, DMD, MPH, MAEd, FAGD, FSCD, '12**, was promoted to associate director, special care dentistry, and was recognized as one of the Phoenix Business Journal's 2018 Health Care Heroes.

**Wendy Hardina** became the School's education support specialist.

**Herb Kaufman, DDS**, stepped down from his role as associate dean for clinic operations. He will remain at the School as a consultant.

**Satish Kumar, DMD**, associate professor, joined the School's periodontal faculty. He is board certified in oral medicine, orofacial pain, and periodontics.

**Tim Lukavsky, DDS**, was promoted to director, special care.

**Mindy Motahari, DMD, MEd, '08**, is the School's new assistant dean for comprehensive care. She has served in multiple roles including CCU director, interprofessional education director, and interim co-director of clinical education.



**Jeff Parent, DDS**, was appointed associate dean for patient care and clinic education, effective July 15. He previously served as assistant dean for clinical progress and student success.

**Jae Park, DMD, PhD, MSD, MS**, professor and chair, postgraduate orthodontics, was appointed as a contributing editor for the *Journal of Clinical Orthodontics*. He was appointed as the scientific program chair for the 2021 College of Diplomats of the American Board of Orthodontics annual session. In addition, he was appointed to the National Board Dental Examination Part II Ortho-Pediatric Dentistry/Advanced Dental Admission Test Construction Committee.

**Seena Patel, DMD, MPH, '10**, was promoted to associate professor.



**Bart Anderson, DHSc, MS, AT, ATC, '03**, associate professor, athletic training, was awarded tenure. In addition, he received the National Athletic Trainers' Association Athletic Trainer Service Award.

**Cailee Welch Bacon, PhD, ATC**, was promoted to associate professor. In addition, she received ATSU-ASHS' Distinguished Service of the Year award for excellence in service to the University, community, and profession.

**Kellie Bliven, PhD, ATC**, director, interdisciplinary health sciences, received the National Athletic Trainers' Association Most Distinguished Athletic Trainer award.

**Lori Bordenave, PT, DPT, PhD**, associate professor, was promoted to director of the residential Doctor of Physical Therapy program.

**Ann Lee Burch, PT, EdD, MPH**, vice dean, was selected by the Higher Learning Commission for its Peer Corps.

# ASHS

**Rachel Diamant, PhD, OTR/L, BCP**, professor, occupational therapy, received ATSU-ASHS' Educator of the Year award for excellence in teaching, inspiring students to think critically, and promoting intellectual curiosity.

**Michelle DiBaise, DHSc, MPAS, PA-C, DFAAPA, '14**, was named interim director of the California-based Physician Assistant Studies program.

**Susan Falsone, PT, MS**, associate professor, athletic training, published a book, "Bridging the Gap from Rehab to Performance," which discusses the thought process and physical practice of guiding an injured athlete through rehab and back to the field of play.

**Angie Kiselyk, MS, PA-C**, was promoted to assistant professor, physician assistant studies.



**Kenneth Lam, ScD, ATC**, associate professor, interdisciplinary health sciences, received ATSU-ASHS' Scholar of the Year award for excellence in the scholarship of discovery, integration, application, and teaching.

**Jesse Thompson, EMT**, is the simulation equipment specialist for the Physician Assistant Studies program.

**Alison Valier, PhD, ATC, FNATA**, director, athletic training, received the National Athletic Trainers' Association Athletic Trainer Service Award.

**Lorie Weber, PA-C**, was promoted to instructor, physician assistant studies.

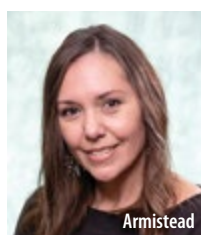
**Sara Wilson, MPAS, PA-C**, assistant professor, physician assistant studies, received the Arizona campus 2017-18 Registered Student Organization Advisor of the Year award for her work with the J. Louis Kettle Society.



CGHS

Dr. Altman, seated left

**Don Altman, DDS, DHSc, EdD, MPH, MBA, MA, '12**, dean, participated in a weeklong volunteer opportunity in Vientiane, Laos, teaching dentists in a master of public health program. The opportunity was made available through Health Volunteers Overseas and the University of Health Sciences of Laos.



**Tanya Armistead**, academic adviser, received the Outstanding Employee of the Year award at the College's annual awards banquet in May.

**Sarah Everman, PhD**, was promoted to associate professor, kinesiology.

**John Fick, EdD, FACHE**, associate professor, health administration, was appointed to the 2019 Annual Meeting Planning Committee of the Association of University Programs in Health Administration's Leadership Development Committee.

**Jaana Gold, DDS, PhD, MPH, CPH**, associate professor, public health, was selected to join Oral Health America as an advocate scholar for Oral Health Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill in October.

**Colleen Halupa, EdD**, associate professor, health education, received the Professor of the Year award at the College's annual awards banquet in May.



**Patrick Palmieri, DHSc, EdS, MBA, MSN, ACNP, RN**, adjunct professor, health sciences, was elected to the board of directors for the Accreditation Association for Hospitals and Health Systems (AAHHS). AAHHS assumed management of the Health Facilities Accreditation Program from the American Osteopathic Association.

In addition, Dr. Palmieri was ranked No. 81 on the Peruvian government's list of Peruvian researchers across the globe.

**Susan Thomas, MEd**, joined ATSU-CGHS as an instructional designer. Prior to joining the College, she was an instructional designer at Truman State University.

**Letha Williams, PhD, FACHE**, chair, health administration, was appointed to serve another term on the Filerman Prize Selection Committee of the Association of University Programs in Health Administration. Her term of service runs through June 2021.



Dr. Ahmad

**Zulfiqar Ahmad, PhD**, professor, biochemistry, was awarded tenure.

**Neal Chamberlain, PhD**, professor, microbiology/immunology, received the Max Gutensohn, DO, Outstanding Teaching Award from the class of 2021 during the Missouri campus Student Government Association awards ceremony in April.

**Linda Kerr** was promoted to triage nurse/data entry for the clinic business office.

**Jeong Sook Kim-Han, PhD**, was promoted to director of core imaging facility/research scientist, pharmacology.

**Tatyana Kondrashova, PhD**, associate professor, family medicine, received the Max Gutensohn, DO, Outstanding Teaching Award from the class of 2020 during the Missouri campus Student Government Association awards ceremony in April.

KCOM



Dr. Norimatsu

**Yohei Norimatsu, PhD**, assistant professor, physiology, received a three-year, \$382,343 grant from the National Institutes of Health to support his study of "Atomic-scale refinement of CFTR and TAAR1 molecular models for the study of drug binding."

**Kathy Schroeder**, standardized patient coordinator, curriculum, received the Missouri campus Employee Excellence Award for the first quarter of 2018.



Dr. Snider

**Karen T. Snider, DO, FAAO, FNAOME**, assistant dean, curriculum, was elected to the Board of Trustees of the American Academy of Osteopathy. She was one of two osteopathic physicians to be elected as a trustee and will serve a three-year term.

**Bruce Young, PhD**, was promoted to professor, anatomy.

**David Brzezinski, MD**, adjunct professor, received the Outstanding Teaching Award from the class of 2021 during the Missouri campus Student Government Association awards ceremony in April.

**Matthew Greaves, DDS**, was promoted to comprehensive care unit director at the St. Louis Dental Education and Oral Health Center.

**Bryant Kiley** is the School's business operations manager at the St. Louis Dental Education and Oral Health Center.

**Ammar Musawi, MDS, BDS**, director, preclinical education and simulation clinic, received the Outstanding Teaching Award from the class of 2020 during the Missouri campus Student Government Association awards ceremony in April.

MOSDOH

**Avanija Reddy, DMD, MPH**, was promoted to specialty care director at the St. Louis Dental Education and Oral Health Center.

**Akshay Vij, BDS, ACT**, was promoted to specialty care director at the St. Louis Dental Education and Oral Health Center.

**Thomas Bennett, DO**, director, clinical science education, became chair of the ATSU-SOMA Faculty Council and Faculty Assembly in August.

**Kelli Glaser, DO, FACOFP**, chair, family & community medicine, is the School's new representative for University Faculty Senate. Her term began in July.

**Uzoma Ikonne, PhD**, was appointed interim chair of the Basic Medical Science department, effective Aug. 1.

**James Keane, DO, MEd**, assistant professor, joined ATSU-SOMA in the Osteopathic Principles and Practice department and A.T. Still University Osteopathic Medicine Center Arizona.

**Inder Makin, MD, PhD**, was promoted to the rank of professor. He joined the School in 2009 as an adjunct professor and then became associate professor in 2012.

**Jeni Rogers** was promoted to executive assistant.



SOMA

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Left to right: ATSU-ASDOH Dean Robert Trombly, DDS, JD; Dr. Irvin Silverstein; and Dr. Craig Phelps

## Dr. Irvin Silverstein receives first President's Medallion Award

ATSU President Craig M. Phelps, DO, '84, awarded Irvin Silverstein, DDS, MEd, the first President's Medallion Distinguished Service Award on July 13, 2018, during ATSU-ASDOH's White Coat Ceremony. The award is bestowed upon a member of the community for outstanding support and service to ATSU.

"The dental degree has the power to change lives, as well as public policy," Dr. Silverstein says. "There are many honorable things dentists do for people, and I hope my receiving this award serves as an inspiration to others that they, too, can make a positive impact on society, our country, and the world."

A 1978 graduate of Northwestern University, Dr. Silverstein has provided dental care to the underserved for more than 30 years. His humanitarian efforts include development of the Special Needs Program at University of Southern California County Hospital, providing pro bono care to special needs patients, assisting the U.S. Navy humanitarian efforts, and serving as a leader and mentor.



Photo credit: GradImages

# Welcome to ATSU

*New members named to Board of Trustees*



## Gerald R. "Reid" Downey III

**City:** Atlanta, Georgia

**Education:** Georgia Institute of Technology

**Background:** Downey serves as president of GRD3 Properties and limited partner and investment adviser to Cultivation Capital. He is a regular mentor, speaker, and presenter at Georgia Tech's Scheller College of Business for graduate and undergraduate programs. He also serves as a mentor and teacher to the Georgia Tech women's basketball team on topics including education, career planning, and personal financial management.



## Herb B. Kuhn

**City:** Jefferson City, Missouri

**Education:** Emporia State University

**Background:** Kuhn is president and CEO of the Missouri Hospital Association (MHA). In addition to ATSU's Board of Trustees, he serves on the boards of Healthcare Services Group, Missouri Health Plan, Missouri Health Connection, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellows. Prior to joining MHA, Kuhn served in roles with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), including director of the Center for Medicare Management, deputy administrator of CMS, and acting administrator and acting director of the Center for Medicaid and State Operations.

meet the board

# A serving heart

By Aubrey Henning

**R**eid W. Butler, JD, has served on ATSU's Board of Trustees for seven years. Having spent the majority of his career working in real estate, Butler offers a unique set of skills to the University. Although his background does not include a career in healthcare, Butler's heart to serve the underserved allows him to feel right at home at ATSU.

Butler uses his expertise in real estate to make an impact in his community. His career in real estate began in 1984, working for Evans Withycombe in Phoenix, Arizona. As a co-owner of the business, he helped to take the company public, listing it on the New York Stock Exchange. Evans Withycombe was later sold to Equity Residential for \$1 billion.

"Taking a company public in an initial public offering was an amazing experience," says Butler. "We combined all the things we had done in Arizona in the housing industry with Wall Street."

Following his work with Evans Withycombe, Butler and his wife opened a real estate business of their own, Butler Housing Company. Since its start in 1997, the business has worked with apartments, affordable housing, and land development and combines affordable housing with housing for veterans and people with developmental disabilities. Butler's background connects him to ATSU's mission to serve the underserved.

"What keeps me coming back is learning about A.T. Still and the University's strong commitment to underserved communities," says Butler. "The philosophy of being committed to underserved populations and educating healthcare providers with an eye toward serving the underserved around the country and around the world is an exceptional idea."

With 34 years of experience in real estate, Butler is able to apply his skills as chair of the real estate committee on ATSU's Board of Trustees. His work has included campus planning for the St. Louis Dental Education and Oral Health Center and Kirksville, Missouri, and Mesa, Arizona, campuses.

"Serving as chair of the real estate committee is a great opportunity for me to share my expertise with the needs of the University," says Butler. "Creating campus growth and buildings that fit programming, are well thought out, properly financed, and will stand the test of time is a rewarding experience."



Reid Butler uses his expertise in real estate to help his community and ATSU.

While Butler keeps busy running his own company, he enjoys fly-fishing and reading mysteries in his spare time. Although an avid reader of mysteries, it is no mystery Butler has a serving heart.

# In memoriam

## 1940s

**Dorothy H. Neff, DO, '48**  
May 7, 2018  
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

## 1950s

**Thomas F. Sheffer, DO, '51**  
June 14, 2018  
Schaumburg, Illinois

**Bernard H. Green, DO, '53**  
Oct. 18, 2012  
Flint, Michigan

**Bertram H. Marx, DO, '54**  
Oct. 6, 2017  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

**Donald G. Burns, DO, '55**  
June 28, 2018  
Middletown, Ohio

**Glenn R. Ellis, DO, MD, '55**  
May 18, 2018  
Fair Oaks, California

**R.C. "John" Pearson, DO, '55**  
April 3, 2018  
Woodland, Washington

**Philip Golding, DO, '56**  
June 28, 2018  
Boynton Beach, Florida

**Wallace B. Snowfleet, DO, '56**  
May 25, 2018  
Muskegon, Michigan

**Howard H. Hunt, DO, '57**  
Aug. 2, 2018  
Lewisburg, West Virginia

**John J. Millin, DO, '58**  
June 20, 2018  
Plant City, Florida

**Graham H. Chesnut, DO, '59**  
June 6, 2018  
Spearfish, South Dakota

## 1960s

**Nicholas J. Gatto, DO, '60**  
Dec. 27, 2017  
Warwick, New York

**R. Stuart Young, DO, '61**  
July 28, 2018  
Harbor Beach, Michigan

**Robert P. Poetz, DO, '63**  
April 10, 2018  
Chesterfield, Missouri

**Melvyn Ziegler, DO, '63**  
Jan. 16, 2018  
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

**Wayne C. Cole, DO, '65**  
April 17, 2017  
Providence, Kentucky

**Billy T. Carpenter, DO, '66**  
Sept. 5, 2018  
Rising Star, Texas

**Paul R. Gutheil, DO, '66**  
June 23, 2018  
Columbus, Ohio

**David L. Berg, DO, '68**  
July 4, 2018  
Chesterfield, Missouri

**Spencer Schaeffer, DO, '69**  
July 9, 2018  
Natick, Massachusetts

## 1970s

**James D. "Don" Smith, DO, '70**  
April 20, 2018  
Kirksville, Missouri

**Larry C. Liebhart, DO, '73**  
Aug. 15, 2018  
Madison, Ohio

**Kevin A. Murphy, DO, '78**  
Aug. 4, 2018  
Auburn Hills, Michigan

## 1980s

**Les L. Barrickman, DO, '82**  
May 10, 2018  
Fairfield, Iowa

## 1990s

**Timothy M. Thompson, DO, '91**  
Aug. 9, 2018  
St. Louis, Missouri

**James R. Dixon II, DO, '93**  
April 19, 2018  
Brewton, Alabama

## 2000s

**Mona L. Klingler, AuD, '02**  
April 16, 2018  
Stow, Ohio

**Steven Reichenbach, AuD, '07**  
Jan. 6, 2015  
Murrieta, California

**Mary J. Carpi, AuD, '09**  
March 30, 2018  
Las Vegas, Nevada

**Michelle S. Hovorka, MS, '09**  
May 26, 2018  
Ronan, Montana

## Friends

**Ruth Chronister**  
July 27, 2018  
Kirksville, Missouri

**Mary E. Mock**  
May 28, 2018  
Mobile, Alabama

**Kevin L. Rhodes, DO**  
June 18, 2018  
Kirksville, Missouri

Read full-length obituaries  
online at [stillmagazine.atsu.edu](http://stillmagazine.atsu.edu).



parting shot

Dental students work as a team to determine their patient's treatment plan.

## Faculty as first patients

On Monday, Aug. 27, second-year ATSU-MOSDOH students interviewed faculty members acting as patients. Each faculty member memorized a scenario, including a new name, age, and health history. They came with pictures of the patient's mouth, a dental chart, and X-rays.

The student dentists greeted each "patient" and collected necessary information. Working as a team, they conducted a patient assessment and determined the types of treatment needed, such as extractions, crowns, or partial dentures. Additionally, they had to consider factors

like the patient's health, treatment costs, and current medications. The interaction gave students their first experience in communicating with patients and finding the best treatment plan.

"In practice, they will see a patient with multiple problems, and they need to follow a specific sequence in treating that patient," says Ammar Musawi, MDS, BDS, director, preclinical education and simulation clinic. "Taking the whole person approach, they need to work with the patient to determine the appropriate course of action."

800 W. Jefferson St.  
Kirksville, MO 63501

