



Still

mentor | mentee

Mentors
have our
backs.

They
bring out
the best
in us.

point of view

Salute to **service**

ATSU honors veterans and active military graduates from the Arizona campus at a recognition ceremony in Gilbert, Arizona.



Mentors help our students and graduates on the road to success.


In this issue of *Still Magazine*, we celebrate mentors and their important roles in the development of our students and graduates. Many of us have mentors to thank for inspiring us to dream a little bigger, try a little harder, place things in perspective, and not take ourselves too seriously.

Two of my mentors are A.T. Still University-Kirkville College of Osteopathic Medicine (ATSU-KCOM) graduates, Keith Peterson, DO, '60, and E. Lee Rice, DO, '73. Drs. Peterson and Rice went out of their way to provide guidance and support to a young, naive student who later became an osteopathic physician. Watching them practice family medicine and sports medicine, while balancing family, community service, and teaching medical students, residents, and fellows has been critical to my development as a person, physician, and president of ATSU.

Recently I had the opportunity to hear from ATSU students and graduates on the importance of mentors in their lives. It is heartening to know they too are benefiting from the generosity of mentors, many of them ATSU graduates. This September I also had the privilege of visiting with Rebeccah Rodriguez-Regner, DO, '06, who recently returned from the 2016 Rio Olympics after serving as a USA Olympic physician. Dr. Rodriguez-Regner and I first met when I shared my ATSU-KCOM experiences with a pre-med class at her undergraduate university. Dr. Rodriguez-Regner is continuing the mentor-mentee tradition with the next generation of ATSU students and graduates. I am humbled she considers me one of her mentors.

Should you feel inspired to become a mentor, please consider signing up to be an alumni ambassador at atsu.edu/alumni-ambassadors.

Yours in service,



Craig M. Phelps, DO, '84, president



Dr. Rodriguez-Regner and her mentor, Dr. Phelps

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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.

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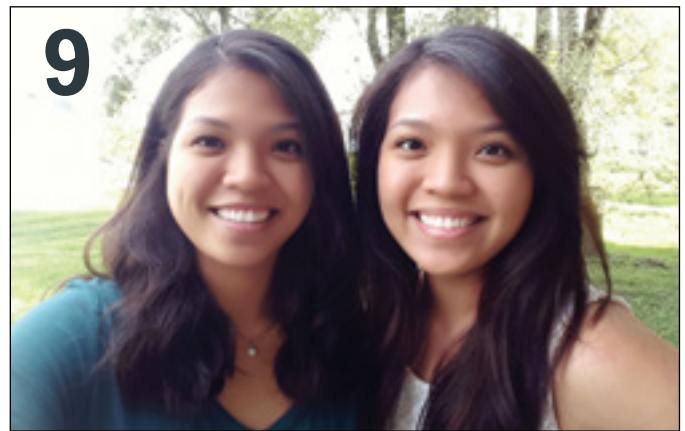
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SPECIAL



Cover design by
Gail Doss
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Kelly Rogers

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his mentee, Hannah
Braungardt, OMS I and
biomed student

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.

Still magazine

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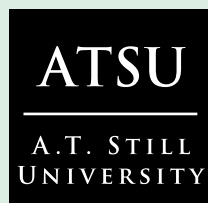
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2016

Big Cedar Pre-conference Skin Surgery Part III

Dec. 1, 2016
Big Cedar Lodge | Ridgedale, Missouri

Big Cedar Primary Care Update

Dec. 1-3, 2016
Big Cedar Lodge | Ridgedale, Missouri



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2017

ATSU CE/CME Cruise Royal Caribbean's Harmony of the SeasSM

Jan. 14-21, 2017
Fort Lauderdale, Florida (cruise departure)
Western Caribbean

Las Vegas – Primary Care Update

March 2-4, 2017
Treasure Island | Las Vegas, Nevada

Primary Care Update

Aug. 4-6, 2017
Tan-Tar-A | Osage Beach, Missouri

Founder's Day – Missouri campus

Oct. 19-21, 2017
Kirksville, Missouri

Big Cedar Primary Care Update

Nov. 30-Dec. 2, 2017
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ATSU CE/CME Cruise Royal Caribbean's Harmony of the SeasSM

Jan. 27-Feb. 3, 2018
Fort Lauderdale, Florida (cruise departure)
Eastern Caribbean

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A.T. STILL UNIVERSITY

ATSU



CONTINUING
EDUCATION

Hats off to the past



The frosh hat, slang for freshman hat, is an old-school tradition that dates back more than 100 years to Dr. A.T. Still's time as president of the American School of Osteopathy (ASO). Fraternities gave these hats to freshmen following a week of "initiation rituals." Students then donned the caps while on campus and in the community.

This particular frosh hat belonged to James B. Eades from ASO's class of 1918. Dr. Eades was originally from Roanoke, Virginia, and served as class president and vice president of the Kirksville Auxiliary. He received his hat circa 1914 as a member of the Atlas Club.


For more artifacts, visit atsu.edu/museum.



Eades' graduation photo from 1918

Hat: Museum of Osteopathic Medicine, Kirksville, Missouri [2015.43.01]

Photo: Museum of Osteopathic Medicine, Kirksville, Missouri [Osteoblast Yearbook 1918]



Smiling kids

Hearts for dentistry

A Hoffa's footsteps

Special bonds

No sugarcoating

The long road

Inspiration

New cooks in the kitchen

ATSU-KCOM students learn healthy culinary techniques

Through a new Culinary Medicine elective course, medical students at ATSU-KCOM are gaining first-hand knowledge of how specific ingredients impact health. By learning how to cook and store healthy meals, students will be able to provide valuable insight to patients who struggle with healthy eating.

The course, which was made possible by a grant obtained through ATSU's SparkTank competition, provides students access to scholarly journal articles that explore different foods and diets. Then, students meet at a local kitchen to gain hands-on experience. Afterward, students indulge in what they've prepared and participate in meaningful discussion that relates to what they learned in the classroom.

"The atmosphere is incredible; students are learning, working together, and having fun," says Jess Roland, OMS II. "Ultimately, this course gives osteopathic student doctors another tool to improve the health of patients."

Keeping kids smiling

By Karen Scott



Dr. Hollen hosts a Give Kids A Smile event with 29 community volunteers.

For Kyla Hollen, DMD, '10, MPH, '11, giving back to the community has always been part of her DNA. She grew up in a small town that emphasized the pursuit of education and public service.

As an ATSU-ASDOH student from 2006-10, Dr. Hollen was exposed to many community service events, one of which was the American Dental Association's Give Kids A Smile. This popular hands-on, student-driven event was a significant highlight of her student experience.

"As a student, not only did the event provide a valuable service to the community, but also raised much needed awareness about unmet oral health needs facing our community on the local and national level," says Dr. Hollen.

According to a 2015 survey released by the Arizona Department of Health Services, more than half of Arizona's kindergarten children have a history of tooth decay – higher than the national average for 5-year-old children. Consequently, when Dr. Hollen and her husband, Christopher Chin, DMD, MPH, '10, moved to Tucson for her pediatric dental residency, they knew the community was a perfect fit.

"The dental community in Arizona and greater Tucson area provided us with so much support and opportunity for professional growth," says Dr. Hollen. "My husband had plenty of options, but I decided to proceed with a start-up practice."

Although she says making the decision to establish her

own practice was scary, she says she couldn't be happier. In her pediatric dental facility, a beach theme camouflages what would otherwise look like a traditional dental office. Surfboards, oars, and an elaborate underwater sea life mural embellish the walls, creating a welcoming and child-friendly environment.

Since Tucson did not previously have a centralized comprehensive care event, Dr. Hollen decided to host her own Give Kids A Smile in February. She recruited 29 volunteers including her husband and fellow ATSU-ASDOH peer, Charles Brown III, DMD, '14. Dr. Hollen also organized the support of several sponsors and community partners to maximize her impact. Together, they were able to deliver much-needed dental care to 43 children yielding \$30,000 in services and \$9,000 in post-treatment care.

Dr. Hollen says, "I love the freedom to create a schedule where I can contribute to organized dentistry with the Arizona Dental Association, organize meaningful community events, and work part time with the pediatric dental residency program in Tucson, where we occasionally host rotating ATSU-ASDOH students."

For ATSU graduates, commencement is a rite of passage that marks immense accomplishment, a new beginning, and a new career. For Dr. Hollen, it also means carrying on the legacy of her experience as a student and keeping her community smiling.

mentor

Joie Harrington, her childhood neighbor in Newport, Oregon

Harrington was a public health nurse and provided a foundation for Dr. Hollen's appreciation of public health and serving the community.



Hearts set on healthcare

By Kit Avanzado

inspiration

With their hearts set on providing oral health-care, the future is bright for twins Ailene and Arlene Invention.

“It’ll fix itself.”

Those are the words twin sisters Ailene and Arlene Invention kept repeating to themselves after traveling to the Philippines to get braces during their sophomore year of high school. Those words, after all, were said to them immediately following their procedures. They had no reason to believe otherwise.

After a checkup with their local dentist in Hawaii, they were mortified to find out things were not so ideal. Their dentist knew immediately something was wrong with their teeth.

“We had no X-rays, records, or documentation to give our dentist back home,” says Ailene. “They couldn’t fix anything without knowing what our teeth were like before the operations.”

Ailene and Arlene were stuck. Their local dentist suggested they wait approximately six months before removing the braces. After the braces were out, they realized their teeth shifted improperly, and more work was required to fix what was done.

Although they felt betrayed by the orthodontist who didn’t provide competent, compassionate care, Ailene and Arlene look back at their experience and see it as a turning point in their lives. They understood firsthand what it was like to not have proper care. That experience set their hearts on healthcare, specifically dentistry.

With friends and former classmates in the healthcare field, the sisters knew dentistry was a great path to take professionally. Furthermore, their negative experience instilled a desire in both Ailene and Arlene to provide positive healthcare experiences for others. They followed the dental path throughout the rest of high school and college.

They attended Chaminade University in Hawaii for their undergraduate studies, but since Hawaii has no dental school, they had to search for postgraduate schools outside the state. In their research, they saw how ATSU’s mission aligned with their own ideals and goals. Through the guidance of their counselors and fellow Chaminade University students who chose ATSU, they decided to pursue their education at ATSU-MOSDOH. Now, as second-year dental students, they are closer to realizing their dream of providing care to the underserved.

“We want to work in community health centers, and we want to participate in outreach clinics,” says Arlene. “That’s where we see the best opportunity to give back and provide care.”

Ailene and Arlene will achieve that goal next year when they start clinical rotations at the St. Louis Dental Education and Oral Health Center. Despite their shared love for dentistry and serving the underserved, they already have plans to part ways after graduation. They will pursue their individual careers and provide positive healthcare experiences for those most in need.

mentor

Patricia Lee-Robinson,
associate provost at Chaminade University

“She was always there for guidance and always made sure we had a plan.”
— Ailene and Arlene Invention



Dr. Hoffa considered law school before earning two degrees at ATSU. His doctorate in health sciences perfectly blended his professional and academic pursuits.

A Hoffa's footsteps

By Katie Hubbard

Looking in the mirror one day at Adrian College, a small liberal arts school in southeastern Michigan, a young man with big shoes to fill decided to pursue a career in healthcare. The young man was Geoffrey Hoffa, and he believed nothing was more noble than helping people with his bare hands. He soon transferred to Michigan State University, and with an aptitude for science, started on his path to becoming a physician assistant.

Geoffrey Hoffa, DHSc, '14, MS, PA-C, '00, DFAAPA, has a desire for helping others that stems from his unique family tree. He is the son of James P. Hoffa, the current Teamsters union president, and grandson of the iconic James R. Hoffa, the former Teamsters president. While the Hoffa side of the family dominates contemporary history, Dr. Hoffa's maternal side of engineering business executives also has a strong influence on him. Balancing labor and executive perspectives, his family provides him with a practical political view from both sides of the bargaining table.

"We have a long family history with a conservative culture," says Dr. Hoffa. "The Teamsters union has always been more conservative than most, yet it has always stood apart with its keen sense of social and economic justice."

After graduating from Michigan State University, Dr. Hoffa moved to Arizona and attended ATSU to earn his physician assistant degree. While at ATSU, he met Randy Danielsen, PhD, PA, DFAAPA, dean, ATSU-ASHS, who became a wise and key ally throughout Dr. Hoffa's career, particularly in the realm of health policy. After Dr. Hoffa graduated in 2000, Dr. Danielsen's friendship and status in the profession influenced him to return to ATSU and earn his doctor of health sciences degree in 2014.

As a clinician, Dr. Hoffa worked mostly in gastroenterology and spent more than five years on a solid organ transplant team at Mayo Clinic's campus in Arizona. There, he worked in liver, kidney, and pancreas transplant, hepatobiliary-pancreatic surgery, hepatology, and transplant nephrology. With each professional position, he sought a greater role as he worked toward leadership.

In 2009, Dr. Hoffa was appointed by the governor of Arizona to serve on the Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants. After he was elected chair in 2012, the board transformed from only fulfilling its quasi-judicial function of regulating physician assistants to also considering statutes and policies that better serve the people of Arizona and the



profession. He believes the ability to affect health policy only comes from the passion one has for making things right.

“I view it as a picture hanging on the wall, but crooked,” Dr. Hoffa says. “Many things you see in the picture look right, but it needs straightening.”

In the current era of healthcare reform, Dr. Hoffa feels some of the most precious things that provided for the health of working people, such as Multiemployer Health Plans established through collective bargaining agreements, are all too often overlooked or don’t receive the credit deserved. To correct this, he plans to continue leading at different levels to improve health policy.

Dr. Hoffa works on a national level through the American Academy of Physician Assistants in addition to his work at the state level with the Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants. Recently, he was appointed chair for the forum of physician assistant state regulators, which seeks to improve the status of regulations around the country. According to him, those regulations and reforms will support the profession, provide greater access to healthcare, and protect the people they serve.

“The country needs a sustainable path of healthcare that isn’t divorced from financial or job market realities,” says Dr. Hoffa. “We could use more thinkers regarding health policy.”

While he focuses much of his effort on policy matters, he also devotes time to other endeavors. At ATSU, he recently completed two years as chair of the ATSU-ASHS Alumni Chapter and a year as chair of the ATSU Alumni Association – the first physician assistant to serve in such a capacity. He maintains his status as an adjunct assistant professor at the University. Additionally, his love for the military motivates him to champion and promote the Teamsters Military Assistance Program.

Through his family influence and well-read history, Dr. Hoffa has a deeply established commitment to eliminate suffering and injustice. That commitment evolved his career as a clinician into one with a focus on health policy and business. Using his knowledge and expertise, he strives to uphold the Hoffa name and to leave bigger footprints than those he follows.

“This family is unique because of its politics and history,” Dr. Hoffa says. “Every successive generation has to be better than the last.”

mentor

Parents James P. and Virginia Hoffa because of their strength and hard work

Choral instructor Kerry Price because she held him to a very high standard

“A mentor is someone who helps develop your philosophy through learning.”

– Dr. Hoffa

Some of Dr. Hoffa’s favorite photos

(photos courtesy of International Brotherhood of Teamsters)



James R. Hoffa with Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.



Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.; Harold Gibbons, member of the Teamsters executive board; and James R. Hoffa attend rites for Viola Liuzzo in Detroit, Michigan, on March 30, 1965. Liuzzo was slain in Alabama following a march from Selma to Montgomery.



James P. Hoffa accepts the nomination for Teamsters president in 2016.

Unbroken bonds

By Kit Avanzado

Motherhood is universally regarded as a sacred bond between mother and child. Imagine a scenario where that bond is broken. That is what Carl R. Backes, DO, '72, desperately tries to prevent.

Dr. Backes has a wealth of experience in neonatal care and has seen many cases in which mothers had to be separated from their children. One of the primary groups this scenario affects is mothers in prison. For most of these mothers, drug-related felonies are the reason behind their imprisonment, and the risk of passing drug addiction to their children is a major concern.

"Why do mothers have to be separated from their babies?" asks Dr. Backes. "That bond is so important."

Roughly 12 years ago, Dr. Backes started a program, which he still runs, in the Marysville, Ohio, prison where mothers and babies are kept together during the term of the mothers' imprisonment. The program's results made waves across the country. The normal recidivism rate for the population of women in prison is roughly 32 percent. For Dr. Backes' program, the rate is only nine percent. He attributes that success to the bonding between mothers and babies.

At the time the program began, it was one of seven in the United States. Today, the program has expanded to care for more than 300 babies. Initially, it only allowed mothers to care for babies up to 18 months. Now, it allows for children up to 3 years old.

"It's amazing to watch mothers and babies grow up together, even in a prison setting," says Dr. Backes.

The program's success in the Marysville prison caused him to question why drug-addicted newborns are taken away from their mothers for so long – even for those not imprisoned. The newborns are placed into intensive care and separated entirely from their parents with little to no contact. To re-establish the bond, Dr. Backes created another program to keep these newborns with their mothers.

His latest program is intensive and has

many protocols, but it is necessary to ensure a child's care is not taken for granted. If the baby is to stay with the mother, Dr. Backes has to make sure the mother is capable. His 24-hour pager makes him completely available to the mothers. They meet at a prenatal clinic in town, and he enrolls them in a rehabilitation program to help rid their addiction to street drugs. A background check and home inspection are also required and has to be coordinated through social services.

"My goal is to have a baby stay with the parent if at all possible," says Dr. Backes. "Over a span of four years, I cared for 627 babies with this program."

The special bond between mother and child is one Dr. Backes does not take lightly. It's a bond he knows has a bigger impact than most any medication available. Through his programs, he will continue to fight to keep those mother-baby bonds unbroken.



mentor

Dr. John Miliones,
pediatrician

Dr. Miliones suggested Dr. Backes go into pediatrics, and that's where Dr. Backes found his interest and passion in neonatal care.



By Laurie Trowbridge

High fructose corn syrup (HFCS) has been linked to the nation's obesity and diabetes health crisis in recent years. While working for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Renee Dufault, DHEd, MAT, '16, uncovered another reason to be concerned about HFCS: mercury.

Dr. Dufault learned some manufacturers use lye to separate corn starch from the kernel. As she continued her research, she discovered lye was made by pumping salt through large vats of mercury. The process piqued her curiosity and made her question if traces of mercury could be found in the sweetener. Examining HFCS samples, she discovered mercury and further confirmed her findings through collaborations with researchers at the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute and two professors. She wanted to alert the scientific community as well as the public, but she was surprised by the FDA's response.

"The agency did not want me to publish my findings," says Dr. Dufault.

HFCS is found in many processed foods such as juices, sodas, candy, breakfast bars, and baking mixes. According to Dr. Dufault, the prevalence of HFCS in the nation's food supply could mean the population is consuming increased amounts of mercury, possibly placing themselves at a higher risk for disease. For pregnant women and young children, mercury could produce developmental problems such as shorter attention spans, poor fine motor function, and slow language development.

Dr. Dufault left the FDA to publish her findings and then, in 2010, founded the Food Ingredient and Health Research Institute (FIHRI), where she also serves as founding executive director. FIHRI is the only federally recognized non-profit devoted entirely to food ingredient safety, education, and research.

"Founding FIHRI was a way to give the cause of food safety legitimacy," Dr. Dufault says.

While the goal of educating the public about food contaminants appears simple on the surface, in reality, it is not an easy task.

"When people already believe their food supply is safe, promoting the idea of making food safe is an uphill battle," says Dr. Dufault. "It takes an insider with a conscience and the background to tell the public their food is not safe."

Despite the challenges and because of the successes, Dr. Dufault and her dedicated volunteers continue to investigate and deliver data to encourage how food production should be modified. Currently, she is writing a science-based book to make the case that the nation's food supply is contaminated with various toxins and how those toxins could contribute to the development of many Western diseases, including Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, autism, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. All book royalties for the first two years will fund future FIHRI research endeavors to be conducted by students working on their advanced degrees.

Emboldened by her research and ethics, Dr. Dufault remains undeterred and doesn't sugarcoat the evidence. She hopes to help the public understand the connection between food quality and disease prevalence and prevention.

"Improving birth outcomes and child health is a priority for me," she says. "Improving public health is a priority for me."

mentor

Dr. Charlotte Levine,
a primary care physician who took
Dr. Dufault under her wing

"You can do anything you set your
mind to with the help of good friends
and mentors." — Dr. Dufault

The long road

By Robyn Siroky

It was a long but inspired road that led Cassandra Villatoro-Bank, DO, '11, to the field of osteopathic medicine. She grew up in Guatemala in a bilingual home with an American mother and Guatemalan father. Born and raised in a poverty-stricken community, her father pursued his undergraduate degree and encouraged her to do the same.

"He always encouraged me to earn my college degree," she says. "He was an economist and advised me to study business."

She moved to Colorado Springs, Colorado, as a high school sophomore, then followed her father's advice and earned her bachelor's in business administration from the University of Colorado, Boulder. After partnering with her brother in a textile business, she felt drawn to study fine arts. She put together a portfolio and was accepted to the Kansas City Art Institute in Kansas City, Missouri, where she earned another bachelor's degree in industrial design.

Dr. Villatoro-Bank's career eventually turned toward Tempe, Arizona. As the Latin American manager for sales and marketing at America West Airlines/US Airways, she helped build relationships within the Latino community in the United States, Mexico, and Central America.

"I was impassioned by my relationships with new Latino immigrants and U.S.-born Latinos who were leaders in their respective fields," she says. "I found varied disparities within the community of educated Latina leaders in business, science, and government."

Her career path soon crossed with Armaity Austin, MD, an attending physician at a medical center in Phoenix. Dr. Austin became her mentor by fostering her interest in medicine and encouraging her to learn more about the shortage of Latinas in the medical field.

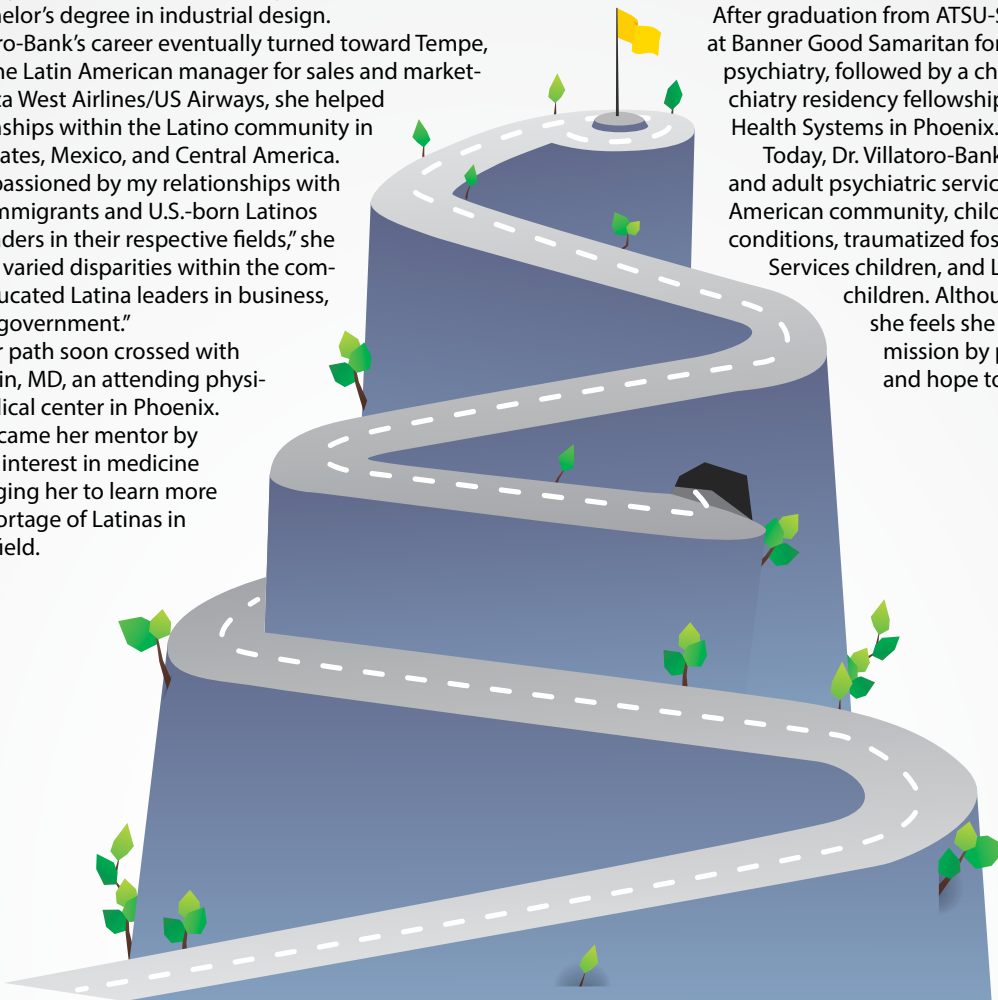
This relationship led to pre-med courses at Arizona State University, followed by an internship as a Spanish medical interpreter at Wesley Health Center in south central Phoenix. There, Dr. Villatoro-Bank worked alongside Medical Director Mark Stephan, MD, MBA, another mentor who encouraged and guided her through medical school applications.

Dr. Villatoro-Bank was accepted as part of ATSU-SOMA's inaugural class. During her third year, she completed a clinical rotation at Banner Thunderbird Medical Center in Glendale, Arizona. In the center's inpatient psychiatry department, she finally zeroed in on her calling.

"I felt drawn to the field of psychiatry," she says. "It was such a privilege to learn about the patients' upbringing and trials and tribulations in life."

After graduation from ATSU-SOMA, she matched at Banner Good Samaritan for a residency in adult psychiatry, followed by a child and adolescent psychiatry residency fellowship at Maricopa Integrated Health Systems in Phoenix.

Today, Dr. Villatoro-Bank offers child, adolescent, and adult psychiatric services. She helps the Native American community, children with congenital conditions, traumatized foster and Child Protective Services children, and Latino families and their children. Although the road was long, she feels she finally fulfilled her life's mission by providing medical care and hope to her community.



mentor

Dr. Armaity Austin

"Dr. Austin and I met at Valley Leadership, a leadership organization in Phoenix. At the time, she was an attending physician at St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center and fostered my interest in medicine."

— Dr. Villatoro-Bank



Mentoring matters

Success in St. Louis

Strong comeback

No fear

Features

Strong

Dubbed one of the nation's top athletic trainers during NBC's competition-style TV show, "STRONG," Mathew Miller, MS, '06, and partner Nicole Bentley placed as top three finalists.

A former strength and conditioning coach for the Wynn Las Vegas show "Le Rêve – The Dream," Miller's training philosophy was rigorous, but methodic. He also credits a harmonious team dynamic to their success.

"What kept us going was our ability to communicate and trust each other, and being vulnerable," says Miller. "We still keep in touch."

Web exclusive: See more photos and read a full Q&A with Mathew Miller online at stillmagazine.atsu.edu.

Miller and Bentley compete on "STRONG," a competition taking contestants on a transformative journey.

It takes a mentor

It takes a village to raise a healthcare professional.


A long list of people contribute to the success of ATSU's alumni.

Family members, teachers, colleagues, and many others play important roles, but one of the most critical roles belongs to mentors.

Mentorship is one of the most professionally rewarding relationships for healthcare professionals. Mentors come in all forms with different experiences and skill sets. They are teachers, parents, colleagues, peers, and the like. They demonstrate excellence in their field and elevate their mentees' professional capabilities. Whether mentees are new students or seasoned professionals, mentors are essential resources for navigating the healthcare continuum and achieving successful and satisfying careers.

the **mentor**

Dr. Vineet Singh encourages his mentees, including Hannah Braungardt, to be lifelong learners.



Formal and informal mentors have guided and encouraged students and alumni across ATSU. These mentors have championed their mentees by fostering insight, supplying needed knowledge, and expanding growth opportunities. They have personally invested time and energy in helping them develop their careers and reach their goals. In many cases, these mentors inspired mentees to become mentors themselves.

Still Magazine caught up with ATSU mentors and mentees to learn more about their mentorship experiences. In their own words, they describe how those relationships influenced their career paths.

mentee *relationship*

By Katie Hubbard

mentor | mentee

Thomas Knutson Jr., DO, '97, and Lex Towns, PhD, met in the early 1990s at ATSU-KCOM. Dr. Towns, an anatomy professor, left a lasting impression on Dr. Knutson personally and professionally. Nearly 25 years later, Dr. Knutson created an endowment fund in honor of his mentor, Dr. Towns.

Dr. Towns

I have had the privilege during my time at ATSU-KCOM to interact with many excellent students who chose to be anatomy fellows. As they helped teach all the anatomy courses, the other anatomy faculty and I treated them as friends and colleagues. These were students who typically had been on rotations and were prepared to provide invaluable insights concerning how our courses should contribute to patient care.

Dr. Knutson stands out even among the stellar group of anatomy fellows. He was a pleasant and hard-working young man. I recall we played basketball together at the Thompson Campus Center during intramural basketball season. He was a competitive athlete in college, and that physical vigor carried over into his day-to-day life as a student and anatomy fellow.

Dr. Knutson

Dr. Towns was head of the Anatomy department when I started at ATSU-KCOM in 1992. He was an excellent teacher but an even better father, husband, and family man. I realized all of these things through the years.

I always knew I wanted to be an orthopedic surgeon. When the opportunity to be an anatomy fellow presented itself, Dr. Towns gave me a chance. That opportunity helped me throughout my career, starting at the basics of truly understanding anatomy and its many variants. The fellowship allowed me to get into a teaching role and also a speaking role. Speaking in front of a class wasn't my strength!

All of those experiences later helped me in my internship and in securing an orthopedic residency. I have been in practice for 14 years and now have the opportunity to teach other students.

When I was recently approached with the opportunity to donate back to ATSU, the only name that came to mind was Dr. Towns.

mentor | students

Lihua Dishman, DBA, MBA, is an assistant professor for ATSU-CGHS' Health Administration programs. At the 2016 ATSU-CGHS Awards Reception, she received the Professor of the Year award based on her leadership, guidance, inspiration, and intellectual integrity. Her students say she is "very dedicated" and a "great role model."

I come from a family of educators, and I knew I was born to teach. Later in my career, I realized teaching is not equal to mentoring. As I developed as an educator, I noticed mentoring a student often brought more fruitful results than simply telling the student what to do. I also noticed it brought me joy to watch students grow and be more competent in their disciplines or professions, and more purposeful in their pursuits.

On my path as an educator and mentor, several people have guided me, particularly Bill Blackerby and Dr. Patricia L. McDonald. They are professors at Siena Heights University and are authentic, genuine, and always willing to help others. Collectively, they taught me to recognize each student's individuality, listen to students' voices, respect differences in views, be supportive, show empathy, guide students to find themselves, and ask students, "How can I help?" when appropriate.

Watching my students grow brings me the uttermost joy and pride. I also enjoy having appreciative dialogues with students because these exchanges bring out the best in students. This is particularly important when working with our students in the Doctor of Health Administration program. They are successful practitioners, but most of them have not done scholarly research. Therefore, providing opportunities for students to appreciate their innate strengths and positive energy helps them see they already have the foundation to succeed in conducting scholarly research.



Dr. Dishman

For example, when I worked with a student for the first time in my quantitative research course, I reached out to her in the first week to learn about her specific needs and expectations so I could help her more effectively. During the conversation, she seemed unsure and was very reluctant in expressing her thoughts. Later, I worked with her in a healthcare economics and financial management course. During our first-week conference call, she was very upfront and pointed out a few areas she would like to improve with my guidance. A few weeks later, she reached out to me for a Skype meeting to discuss a research paper and writing scholarly papers in general. From my lens, this is progress because this is how students build self-confidence, develop academic maturity, and lead themselves in learning.

business partner | mentee



Dr. Frazer (center) visits with his mentor Alfred Gaston (far left) and other otology icons Howard House, MD; Edward Johnson, PhD; and Aram Glorig, MD, circa 1985.

My mentor was Alfred Gaston, a hearing aid dispenser. When I earned my PhD in audiology in 1981, graduates had minimal training in dispensing hearing aids and no training in managing a private practice. When I went into business with Al, he taught me how to dispense hearing aids and how to run a practice.

Al demonstrated quality, compassionate care for patients. He always ran late seeing patients, but they loved him because he took time to understand and help them as much as possible. Patients felt they received 100 percent of his time and effort.

I have mentored students for more than 30 years. As a perpetual learner and because I wanted to set an example for other master's-level audiologists, I decided to earn my AuD degree. As an ATSU alumnus, I mentor student interns from ATSU and many other audiology programs across the United States. Our practice currently has a student intern from ATSU and another from the University of California, San Diego.

Based on my experiences, good mentors ask their mentees questions and don't just give them answers. They stretch mentees' abilities and gradually increase their responsibilities. They encourage creative thinking and help them take ownership of patients and projects. They teach them to "manage up" by helping them learn to communicate with others in the practice and address management-level issues.

Gregory Frazer, AuD, PhD, '00, is an inaugural graduate of ATSU-ASHS' Doctor of Audiology program. He owns six audiology private practices in Southern California and is also the director of audiology for Pacific Eye & Ear Specialists in Los Angeles. As a former board member of the Audiology Foundation of America, he helped drive the profession to accept and support the doctor of audiology degree.

Good mentors are also empowering. I try very hard to empower my mentees by supporting and advising them and also allowing them to work without my help.

Mentoring is fun because I learn something from each intern, and I enjoy seeing them succeed. Recently, an intern and I were fitting a reluctant husband with hearing aids. We tried to convince him hearing aids didn't mean he was old or disabled. Sitting with his arms and legs crossed, he asked his wife to say something to test his new hearing aids.

His wife looked at him and said, "I love you!"

The husband's face became flushed and tears rolled down his cheeks.

The intern, who also had tears, said to the husband, "See what you would miss hearing without hearing aids?"

In another instance, an intern and I helped a young dancer who had a vestibular neuritis in one ear. When she came to us, she was ataxic and walking like she was drunk because of her neuritis. The dancer had just auditioned and won a TV commercial for a major product, but she needed to shoot the commercial in two weeks.

Videonystagmography and rotational chair testing by the intern showed the dancer had no vestibular function in her right ear. The intern worked with the dancer and showed her self-directed vestibular rehabilitation exercises, which aid in compensation and adaptation of the brain to heal the damaged balance mechanism. The intern contacted the dancer daily for two weeks and saw her once a week in person to evaluate her progress. We told the dancer to let the commercial director know she had a virus attack the balance mechanism in her right inner ear, so she may need to do the dance routine several times to get it right, or in smaller segments.

The dancer emailed us from Atlanta, Georgia, to let us know she was able to dance well enough to finish the commercial. She also said the director was very understanding about her balance problem, since he had vestibular neuritis in the past as well! The intern's face beamed when the patient told her none of this would have been possible without her expertise and care.

“I am doing what I should do and what I have always done, which is to foresee students’ needs, be there for them, and reach out to those who are at risk but not seeking help.”

– Dr. Lihua Dishman, ATSU-CGHS

“As a mentor, I truly want all my mentees to succeed and be the best in their professional careers.”

– Dr. Vineet Singh

Vineet Singh, PhD, is a professor for microbiology/immunology at ATSU-KCOM. His mentee, Hannah Braungardt, is a first-year medical student and is working toward her master’s degree in biomedical sciences. Dr. Singh is helping her complete her thesis research, which focuses on decreasing *Staphylococcus aureus* in environments such as hospital settings.



Braungardt and Dr. Singh once had a competition to see who could resuspend more DNA. Dr. Singh finished 14 before Braungardt finished two.

Dr. Singh

Mentoring is important because it can help mentees identify their strengths, expand their abilities, and bring creativity to their research projects. My mentee, Hannah, is a serious and ambitious student. She once worked on an experiment where she tried to determine the impact of some genetic mutations on antibiotic tolerance in *S. aureus*. While we tried to find reasons to explain her results, she realized she was using methicillin-sensitive *S. aureus* while she was supposed to use methicillin-resistant *S. aureus* strains. She was utterly disappointed. Since then, she began taking everything more seriously and is progressing really well with her research project.

Braungardt

Mentorship means letting me mess up, but not too badly. I mean that in a good way. Dr. Singh will watch me mess up and not correct me. Once something doesn’t work, he will explain why it went wrong. I always learn so much more than if he would have told me how to do it from the beginning.

As a DO and biomed student, I have a weird schedule. Dr. Singh is always willing to help me outside of normal hours, even on weekends. He often tells me a story about a mango tree. It is a long story, but it comes down to staying focused on what is important. I’ve heard the story probably 10 times. He may be trying to tell me something.

Become a | mentor

Learn how you can become a mentor for students and other alumni by signing up as an ATSU alumni ambassador at atsu.edu/alumni-ambassadors.

professor | mentee

Melissa M. Blessing, DO, '12, is a current neuropathology fellow at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, and future forensic pathology fellow at the Institute of Forensic Sciences in Houston, Texas. While she was a student at ATSU-SOMA, she became inspired to pursue pathology. Now she mentors others wanting to follow in her footsteps.

Mark Fischione, MD, and Julie Gibson, MD, were highly influential in my decision to pursue a career in forensic pathology. Both were my professors at ATSU-SOMA. In addition to being gifted teachers, they were extraordinarily passionate about their profession. Dr. Gibson passed away in 2011, and Dr. Fischione is currently a pathology professor at ATSU-SOMA and a practicing forensic pathologist.

Most medical students get little exposure to pathology as it is not a required clinical rotation and is taught as a fundamental science of medicine, rather than a medical specialty. Forensic pathology in particular is something most medical students are rarely exposed to as a career option, yet research indicates exposure as a medical student is integral to choosing this specialty.

Dr. Fischione's pathology lectures had a huge influence on me as a medical student. He instilled fundamental principles of pathology alongside memorable case stories that brought home the relevance of what we were learning. In my first year of medical school, Drs. Fischione and Gibson shared their experiences as forensic pathologists with our class and opened my eyes to this fascinating subspecialty. Subsequently, in my fourth year of medical school, I completed an elective month of forensic pathology at the Maricopa County Medical Examiner's Office in Phoenix, Arizona, and had the opportunity to work with Dr. Fischione and his colleagues. This rotation was instrumental in my decision to pursue a career in forensic pathology.

Being a mentor means being encouraging and honest and sharing your passion for your specialty, as well as the inherent challenges. I've been actively involved in mentoring for three years, starting with a PGY-1 pathology resident followed by ATSU-SOMA students interested in pathology. As awareness of physician burnout increases, the importance of making informed career choices while following our passion has become clear. I am enormously grateful to my mentors and am honored to share the responsibility of mentoring the next generation of physicians.

colleague | mentee

New Mexico native Sarah Usher, DMD, '14, MPH, '13, is the dental director for La Casa Family Health Center, a federally qualified health center (FQHC) in Roswell, New Mexico. She is an ATSU-ASDOH alumna and spends much of her time helping those with special needs.

While I have several mentors, Ray Lyons, DDS, has been an instrumental influence on in my post-doctoral path. He is a well-known special needs dentist in local and

national communities and within professional organizations such as the American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Dentistry (AADMD) and Special Care Dentistry Association. Additionally, he is the only dentist in New Mexico who solely provides care to patients with special needs.

I met Dr. Lyons in 2014 when I started my Advanced Education in General Dentistry program at the University of New Mexico. He became an active mentor as my residency attending and now is a colleague and friend. He even traveled from Albuquerque to Roswell to provide specialized training to my dental team so we too can provide the best care for patients with special needs.

Dr. Lyons is charismatic, patient, humble, and compassionate. He always thinks of others before thinking of himself and wants to share his knowledge of special needs. As a continual resource for clinical excellence, he extended my knowledge about implementing a sustainable dental home for patients with special needs, assisted me in navigating the professional dental community on local, state, and national levels, and encouraged me to serve as an advocate for my FQHC.

To me, being a mentor means being so selfless that you are willing to share your knowledge, time, and energy and focus on someone other than yourself. I have become a mentor as a board member and the student/resident adviser for AADMD. I enjoy working with students on their local volunteer endeavors and serving as a resource for professional and educational advancement.



Dr. Lyons (left) visits La Casa Family Health Center to provide specialized training for staff including Keon Ahghar, DDS, (center) and his mentee, Dr. Usher (right).

parent | mentee

Rebecca Anderson is a third-year dental student at ATSU-MOSDOH. Although this is her first year seeing patients at the St. Louis Dental Education and Oral Health Center, she has been around dentistry her entire life.

To me, a mentor is someone who encourages me to keep learning and be the best I can be. A mentor also provides positive feedback and constructive criticism while being a positive role model.

My father, Dr. David Anderson, is my mentor and has greatly influenced me throughout my career path. He is an oral surgeon, and I was fortunate enough to start job shadowing him in eighth grade. I filed charts, assisted by stabilizing patients' airways, and helped at the front desk with billing. I enjoyed watching procedures because he always made a connection with patients.

In 2013, he joined me on a study abroad opportunity to Nicaragua. We visited six different dental clinics and helped approximately 300 dental patients. It meant so much to me that he took time out of his busy schedule to spend two weeks helping Nicaraguans and teaching students about dentistry. It was one of my favorite experiences.

My dad is hardworking, smart, compassionate, and a great communicator. I talk to him every day, and he always encourages me to be better in every way. It was great to see how his work truly helps those in pain, and it made me want to help others as well. I am definitely influenced by his career and work ethic, but I am excited to take my own path within dentistry!



Rebecca Anderson and her father, David, provide dental care for patients in Nicaragua.

Mentoring matters

Mentors play a fundamental role in all stages of a health-care professional's career.

For these ATSU students and alumni, their mentors have positively influenced the trajectory of their careers through support, guidance, and encouragement. Although each relationship is unique, these mentors seem to have one shared purpose – to help their mentees succeed. ■

Tell us about your | mentor!

Still Magazine would love to hear more mentorship stories from the ATSU community. Email stillmagazine@atsu.edu about your experience for possible inclusion in the next issue. Submissions will be edited for style and length.

The difference a smile makes

By Katie Hubbard

Positive changes in a community are sometimes hard to see, but for residents of Lafayette Square and neighboring communities in downtown St. Louis, Missouri, dental students from ATSU-MOSDOH are making a visible difference, one patient at a time. Through the St. Louis Dental Education and Oral Health Center, students are improving the appearances and attitudes of patients with unique and complex oral health cases. In turn, these patients are providing students with the experience of caring for a vulnerable population that has historically lacked access to oral healthcare services.

Fourth-year dental students have seen many memorable patients since the center opened in July 2015. One of Kristen Alexander's favorite patients is a boxer. When he first came to the center, most of his teeth were knocked out. The dental team determined he needed an immediate denture, so they removed his teeth and placed the denture in the same day.

"He was grumpy and never smiled," says Alexander. "When I gave him his denture, he became teary-eyed and short with me because he didn't want to show how emotional he was."

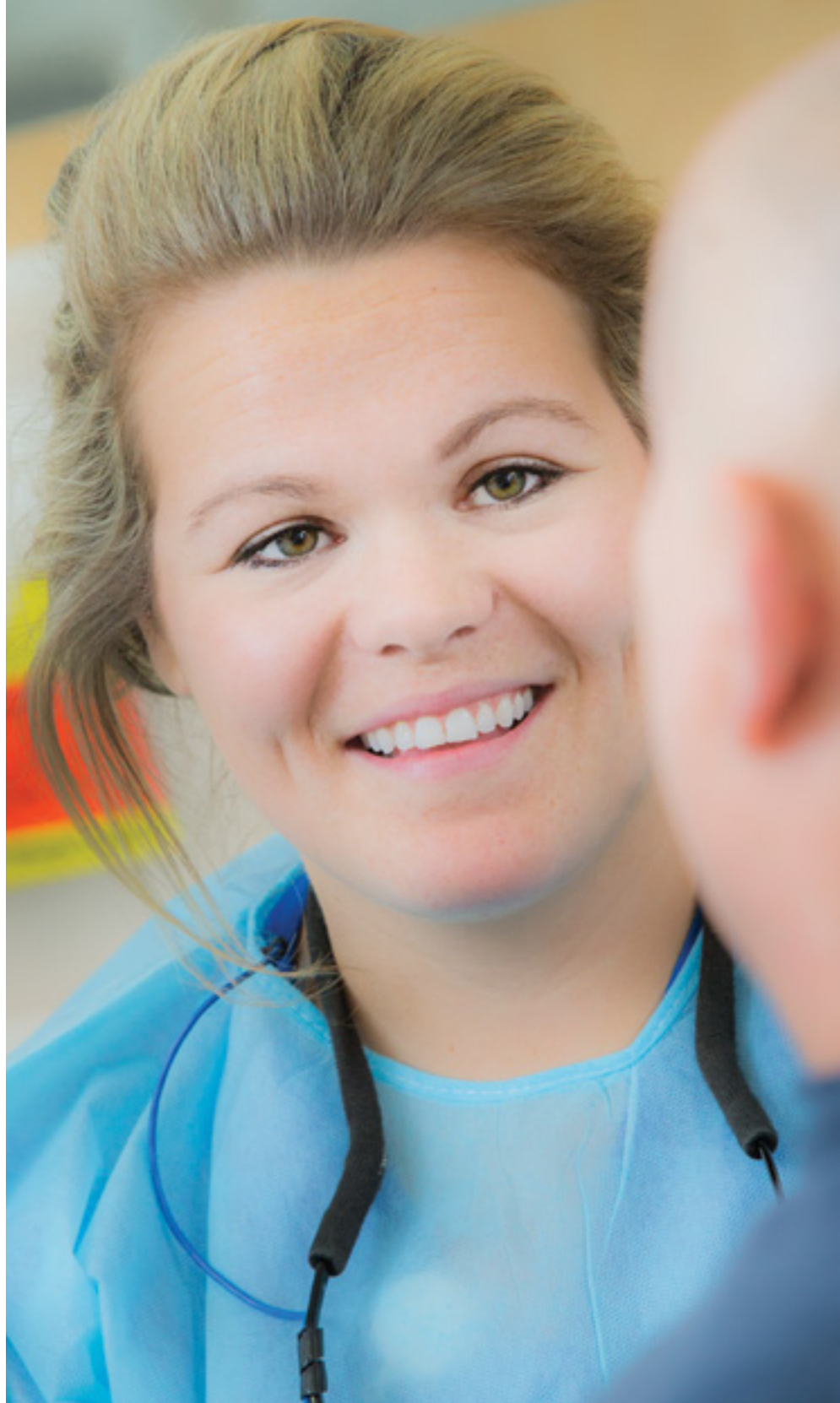
The patient returned to the center one week later. When Alexander asked him if he had received compliments on his teeth, he couldn't stop smiling.

"People ask me what medication I'm on because all I do is smile," says the patient. "No one has seen me smile in years."

Alexander also cares for a patient with a genetic disorder that discolors her teeth, leaving them almost completely dark brown. As a child, the patient had crowns. When the crowns fell off, she was unable to afford further care and avoided social settings. Now through the center, she has a financially feasible plan to get new crowns.

"I'm making crowns for her two front teeth right now, and we'll deliver those soon," Alexander says. "I think that will make a big difference in her mental health and daily life."

Maricon Copeland, another fourth-year student, understands the pain and depression patients go through. She had braces growing up, and even though the process was tough, her new smile remodeled her attitude and confidence. That experience led her to dentistry.



For more than a year, Valerie Paulo and her fellow classmates have cared for patients in downtown St. Louis.

“I always smiled and was happy, but now I really can’t stop smiling.”

– Ovaloretta Harris on her patient experience

As a student dentist, she sees patients leaving the center feeling healthier and happier every day. She recently made her first denture for a patient. Although the denture still has to be processed and delivered, she was excited to see how the patient’s face looked younger and fuller.

“He just tried the denture, and he looks so happy,” says Copeland. “Those moments are so rewarding.”

Valerie Paulo’s first denture case was also memorable. She saw her patient every week for several weeks while making the denture, and they formed a close relationship. The elderly woman patient gave her advice and words of wisdom. She even brought Paulo little gifts.

“For my last appointment with her, she gave me a bracelet from her jewelry box,” says Paulo. “So I wrote her name on a tag, attached it to the bracelet, and told her I would always keep it to remember my first case.”

Other patients have kept students on their toes. For example, Jake Hamby, an engineer-turned-dental student, sees a patient with epilepsy. The patient has an implant and carries a magnetic device with her at all times. She instructed Hamby on what to do in the event she has a seizure.

“She’s actually had a few minor seizures while visiting the center, and I had to rub the magnet over her implant,” says Hamby. “It resets the firing order of the neurons.”

As students continue to see a wide variety of patients and cases, they are learning how to care for a population that hasn’t regularly seen a dentist. In fact, many patients have never visited a dentist. Consequently, students are educating patients on oral healthcare and the importance of consistent brushing and flossing.

One patient in his late 50s came to the center with black tartar and calculus buildup. He had never been to the dentist and thought his teeth were rotten. No one ever taught him the importance of going to the dentist, brushing his teeth, or flossing.

“After I cleaned his teeth, he couldn’t quit looking at himself in the mirror,” says Alexander. “He had every tooth, but when he went home, everyone thought he had gotten dentures.”

Each patient experience is a reminder of the importance of good oral health. As students rotate through the center, community members continue to express how thankful they are to have access to the center’s services.

“My experience with the student dentist was wonderful,” says Donna Wilkinson, who saw Supriya Koirala for a comprehensive exam. “She was professional and thorough, and I plan to go back.”

Cindy Fears, a chronic teeth grinder, split one of her molars at 4:00 p.m. on a Friday and had to use the center’s urgent care services.

“I was relieved to get into urgent care,” Fears says. “I recommend this center to all people under all circumstances.”

Another patient who has been thankful for the center’s services is Ovaloretta Harris. A former backup dancer and choreographer, Harris has worked with MC Hammer, TLC, Janet Jackson, Bobby Brown, and many others. She teaches dance to kids in the community and has become well-known among the dental students.

“I always smiled and was happy, but now I really can’t stop smiling,” says Harris. “Everybody can see how much more confident and happy I am.”

When she started coming to the center in late summer 2015, she was excited and wanted to fix everything in one day. Of course, her student dentist, Kaleb Greene, explained the process would take time. Before long, she was taking selfies with everyone in the center.

“It was an awesome and enlightening experience,” says Harris, who recommends the center to others in the community. “Students take the time to explain the process to patients.”

In addition to Harris’ case, Greene has been fortunate to see several cases from beginning to end. One case was especially educational as he worked with a prosthodontist on a full mouth rehab that included buildups on 28 teeth and 14 crowns. He notes this case was extensive and is something typically not seen in private practice because the treatment plan would cost \$50,000-\$60,000. But at the center, pricing is much more affordable.

“The patient is 6’7” and always looked mad,” says Greene. “He was very intimidating, but after his first few appointments, he came in with a huge smile on his face.”

Greene was surprised by the sense of camaraderie between students and patients. Like many students, he enjoys the different patient interactions while becoming versatile in his skills.

“I’ve been around dentistry my entire life, and I’ve seen how much of an impact you can have on someone’s life by changing their smile,” says Greene. “That’s what made me go into dentistry.”

It’s clear the students are forming real connections with the surrounding community. They have taken an interest in the lives of their patients, and as a result, patients have reciprocated by keeping in touch with their student dentists and bringing homemade treats and special trinkets in appreciation.

“It’s nice to get messages from patients,” says Copeland. “You almost become part of their family.”

Seeing unique and complex cases is certainly challenging for these soon-to-be dentists. Even though the daily rigors can be exhausting, the overwhelming sentiment from students regarding their experiences is how glad they are to see smiling patients. Whether they walk out or dance out of the center, these happy patients are proof that a smile really can make a difference. ■



Ovaloretta Harris and her student dentist, Kaleb Greene, get their groove on to celebrate a special friendship.

Sydney strong

By Kit Avanzado

feature story



There she was – lying flat on the floor and unable to move. Her phone was too far away to call for help. She knew something was wrong, but did not have the strength to move or even scream for help. This scenario is everyone’s nightmare, but for Sydney Priest, it was reality.

As a second-year medical student at ATSU-KCOM, Priest thought her main challenge was passing her board exam. She had no idea she’d soon be facing the biggest challenge of her young life.

Her day started just like any other. After classes, she went back to her apartment to have lunch and continue her studies. Something felt different though. She started to feel dizzy and nauseous. In an attempt to sleep it off, she went to bed. She could not fall asleep, and her nausea never stopped. She ran to the bathroom to try to compose herself. Then it happened. She tried to go back to bed but suddenly couldn’t walk. Her right side was weak, and she was forced to crawl. In her attempt to call for help, she grabbed for her phone but accidentally kicked it across the room.

For hours, she lay still. Paralyzed, weak, and helpless, Priest feared the worst. Her parents and boyfriend tried to contact her. After multiple failed attempts, they too knew something was wrong and reached out to her friends and classmates.

Shortly thereafter, her friends walked into the surprisingly unlocked apartment to check on her. They found Priest unresponsive on the floor. Shocked, they immediately dialed 911, and she was rushed to the hospital. Results of the CT scan revealed a stroke.

Due to the severity of her condition, Priest was flown to University Hospital in Columbia, Missouri. There, doctors discovered she experienced a basilar artery occlusion, a rare kind of ischemic stroke. These strokes occur because of an obstruction within a blood vessel supplying blood to the brain.

With Priest still unresponsive, the medical team was unsure when the symptoms began. Without a timeline, they could not administer tissue plasminogen activator, a clot-breaking medication. Instead, an emergency procedure was required to remove the 3-centimeter blood clot in the back of Priest’s brain. Thankfully, she came through the operation without any complications.

Meanwhile, back on ATSU’s Kirksville, Missouri, campus, news broke of Priest’s sudden medical emergency. Faculty, staff, and students banded together to support her. Some made personal visits to the hospital. Several others created a video to wish her a speedy recovery.

In an overflowing Mehegan Classroom, faculty, staff, and students were shoulder-to-shoulder signing cards full of well wishes. A GoFundMe page was created and raised more than \$13,000 for Priest and her family. Students organized sporting tournaments to contribute to the cause, and bright pink bracelets emblazoned with the words “Sydney Strong” were sold to further aid Priest’s recovery.



After Priest’s stroke on Jan. 26, faculty, staff, and students packed Mehegan Classroom to show their support.



Left: Red is usually the color associated with stroke awareness. However, Priest's friends created "Sydney Strong" bracelets in pink, her favorite color.

Above: Priest attributes her successful recovery to the hard work of all the healthcare professionals and support from her ATSU family. She will resume classes on Jan. 8, 2017.

"I just had so much support from my family, ATSU, and various others across the country," says Priest. "It was incredible."

Her widespread support propelled her through the grueling rehabilitation process. To regain strength and mobility, her rehabilitation began during her two-week stay in intensive care at University Hospital. She was then transferred to the University of Kansas Hospital's rehabilitation inpatient center. There, she was able to concentrate on her recovery and be close to her family.

Priest's rehabilitation at University of Kansas lasted about a month. For five days a week, she had physical, speech, and occupational therapy. The therapists engaged her in exercises focused on basic movements such as walking, swallowing, and eating. Through the hard work of Priest and the rehabilitation staff, she was able to regain her ability to walk, eat, and even drive. Considering the severity of the stroke, her incredibly fast recovery was almost unheard of.


"Honestly, if it wasn't for them, I would still be paralyzed," Priest says.

Back on track and healthy, Priest's focus once again shifts to her studies. She maintains her status as a medical student, but the academic challenges will not be any different from before. Although memories of what happened that fateful day still linger, the support from her campus family helps her readjust.

"She's an amazing friend and such an integral part of our ATSU family," says Samantha Greenseed, OMS II. "I'm just so happy she's back."

Prior to the stroke, Priest intended to become a pediatric cardiologist. She wanted to pursue that path because she could relate to those it affected, since she was born with a congenital heart defect and lives with a pacemaker. However, after the incident, she now wants to serve in the field of rehabilitation medicine and help others going through similar rehabilitation experiences.

"I've been so inspired by my rehab doctors," says Priest. "I want to be able to encourage others and let them know I've been there. I want them to know they can recover too."

After overcoming the odds, Priest is ready to resume classes and take on a new set of challenges. It's her spirit, compassion, and empathy that motivates and enables her to endure the struggles of medical school while still recovering from the debilitating stroke that changed her life. While she focuses on school and recovery, the University as a whole sees her as an inspiration. They see her as a model of persistence and perseverance. More than anything, they see her as strong – Sydney strong. 

Dr. Sarah Eickmeyer, rehabilitation medicine

"She came in every day for a month while I was in rehab and was very encouraging and supportive. She is the perfect model for what I would like to be some day."

– Sydney Priest

mentor



**COMING
IN 2017**

**Celebrating 125 years of ATSU
and osteopathic medical education**

Overcoming the fear of falling

By Karen Scott

In April 2013, 76-year-old Elizabeth Welsh was making her way to her local bookstore when she fell. While she was able to get up, first responders insisted she go to the hospital. The physician discovered what Welsh thought was a superficial injury was actually very serious.

After several surgeries, Welsh was not interested in leaving her house. Her daughter, who was growing concerned of her mother's fear of leaving home, learned of ATSU's Still Standing Fall Prevention Outreach and enrolled her

mother in the eight-week program.

"When my daughter signed me up for the program, I thought 'What do I need that for? I'm not going anywhere,'" says Welsh. "Once I got into it, the students were wonderful. I got my confidence back."

Participants like Welsh who enroll in ATSU's fall prevention program can expect to graduate with a better understanding of how to prevent falls and manage the fear of falling. Participants are exposed to student coaches grouped into teams of two or four.

"My most memorable moment of the program was the smile and pride on Elizabeth's face when she shared how much confidence she gained," says student coach Nia Jarrett, PA, '17. "The cognitive restructuring of the program showed results quickly, and as she shared her experience, the seeds of confidence grew in the other participants."

Elton Bordenave, MEd, CHC, director of ATSU's Aging Studies Project, says stories like Welsh's are all too common.

"Falls are the leading cause of fatal



Physician assistant students Nia Jarrett, Renata Whitlock, and Maja Teoharevic (in blue shirts) help participants learn to prevent falls at Shadow Mountain Senior Center in Phoenix.

and non-fatal injuries for older Americans," he says. "This fact is what prompted us to spearhead a dynamic program focused at curbing falls among older adults in Arizona."

Since the program began in 2008, more than 2,500 participants have completed the fall prevention program. This year marks a particularly exciting time as each residential program on the Arizona campus will be represented. Students from physical therapy, occupational therapy, audiology, athletic training, osteopathic medicine, and dental medicine will be trained as coaches to deliver the nationally


recognized program and then assigned to a teaching site.

Students are encouraged to team with peers from different health professions programs. These dynamic groupings give students a unique opportunity to learn about the need for interprofessional collaboration in practice.

"Falls in older adults are a multifaceted problem requiring an interprofessional solution," says Bordenave. "This program offers students an invaluable opportunity to work collaboratively in a team, learn about the contributions of other disciplines, and improve their communication skills,

ultimately giving them the skills needed to effectively work in health professions teams in actual practice."

During her falls prevention training class, Jarrett learned alongside an occupational therapy student. She says exposure to different healthcare disciplines opened up a discussion of how participants do not need to be limited as their lives change.

"Patients need strategies and a plan on how to navigate their lives, and if by chance there are some limitations, communication and planning by multiple healthcare professionals can renew their quality of life," says Jarrett. 

Reunion & events
roundup

Class notes

Faculty & staff news

In memoriam

Parting shot



Connections

Coats of compassion

At ATSU, the White Coat Ceremony is a symbol of a student's dedication to becoming a compassionate, competent healthcare professional.

On July 15, more than 300 ATSU students filled the Mesa Arts Center as they eagerly awaited their respective White Coat Ceremony. Students from ATSU-ASDOH, ATSU-SOMA, and ATSU-ASHS' Physician Assistant Studies (PA) and Doctor of Physical Therapy programs celebrated this milestone event, marking the beginning of their journey into a career in healthcare. In addition, 70 students from the PA class of 2017 participated in a pinning ceremony, representing the completion of a didactic year of study and entry into the clinical phase of the program.

New ATSU-SOMA students celebrate their entry into osteopathic medical school with crisp white coats.

Reunion roundup

Greater New York Dental Meeting

Nov. 29, 2015

Jack Dillenberg, DDS, MPH, ATSU-ASDOH dean, and Chris Halliday, DDS, MPH, former ATSU-MOSDOH dean, host an event at the country's largest dental convention in New York.



DO Alumni, Students, and Friends Reception

Dec. 3

ATSU-KCOM and ATSU-SOMA alumni reconnect during an alumni reception held in conjunction with an ATSU continuing education program at Big Cedar Lodge in Ridgedale, Missouri.

ATSU-ASDOH Alumni Weekend

Jan. 21-23, 2016

Michele Pindyck, DMD, '11, and Meena Tappouni, DMD, '10. A record number of ATSU-ASDOH alumni return to the Arizona campus to provide care to underserved children at Give Kids A Smile and attend reunion activities. The ATSU-ASDOH Alumni Board recognized Dr. Tappouni with the Public Health Dentistry Award and Joe Creech, DDS, chair, pediatric dentistry, with the Living Tribute Award.



Doctor of Health Sciences Winter Institute

Feb. 15

Don Altman, DDS, DHSc, EdD, MPH, MBA, MA, '12, ATSU-CGHS dean, and Kathleen DiCaprio, PhD, chair, doctor of health sciences, ATSU-CGHS, welcome alumni and students to the annual institute with a reception in Gilbert, Arizona.



American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) Combined Sections Meeting

Feb. 18



Ann Lee Burch, PT, EdD, MS, MPH, ATSU-ASHS vice dean; Jim Farris, PT, PhD, chair, physical therapy, ATSU-ASHS; Erik Salley, PT, DPT, MA, OCS, MDT, '14; and Robin Galley, DPT, OCS, '12, ATSU-ASHS Alumni Board member. Dr. Salley receives the Humanitarian of the Year Award from the ATSU-ASHS Alumni Board during an alumni and students reception in Anaheim, California.

Arizona State Association of Physician Assistants (ASAPA) Conference

March 4



Randy Danielsen, PhD, PA, DFAAPA, ATSU-ASHS dean, and Bert Simon, DHSc, PA-C, chair, physician assistant studies, ATSU-ASHS, provide updates in Sedona, Arizona, to alumni and students, including progress on physician assistant students integrating into community health centers around the country.

American Academy of Osteopathy (AAO) Convocation

March 18



Eric J. Snider, DO, C-NMM/OMM, chair, OMM, ATSU-KCOM, and Shana Shosky, DO, '12, assistant professor, OMM, ATSU-SOMA, provide ATSU updates as alumni and students network and reconnect with faculty and staff in Orlando, Florida.

American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP) Convention

April 6

Richard LaBaere II, DO, associate dean, Still OPTI; Kelli Glaser, DO, chair, family and community medicine, ATSU-SOMA; and Shaun Sommerer, PhD, vice president, university advancement, welcome guests to an alumni, students, and friends reception in San Juan, Puerto Rico.



American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) Conference

April 8

Meghan O'Donnell, OTR/L, '14, and Brandi Buchanan, OTD, faculty, occupational therapy, ATSU-ASHS. Residential and online alumni and students gather in Chicago, Illinois, to hear updates and meet incoming Chair Jyothi Gupta, PhD, OTR/L.



American Academy of Audiology Convention

April 13

Tabitha Parent Buck, AuD, chair, audiology, ATSU-ASHS; Gregory Frazer, AuD, PhD, '00; and Brenda Lowe, AuD, '09, ATSU-ASHS Alumni Board member. Alumni and students gather for a reception at AudiologyNOW! in Phoenix, Arizona, and recognize Dr. Frazer for his Distinguished Service Award from the ATSU-ASHS Alumni Board.



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



Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association (AOMA) Convention

April 14-15



Alumni and students gather at a reception hosted by ATSU President Craig Phelps, DO, '84, and ATSU-SOMA Dean Jeffrey Morgan, DO, MA, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Hacienda del Sol Guest Ranch Resort

April 21



Don Altman, DDS, DHSc, EdD, MPH, MBA, MA, '12, ATSU-CGHS dean; Randy Danielsen, PhD, PA, DFAAPA, ATSU-ASHS dean; Ann Lee Burch, PT, EdD, MS, MPH, ATSU-ASHS vice dean; Jack Dillenberg, DDS, MPH, ATSU-ASDOH dean; Wayne Cottam, DMD, MS, ATSU-ASDOH vice dean; and Jeffrey Morgan, DO, MA, ATSU-SOMA dean, provide updates to alumni, students, and friends at the annual regional reception in Tucson, Arizona.

Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons (MAOPS) Convention

April 28-30



ATSU-KCOM and ATSU-SOMA alumni, students, faculty, and staff gather in St. Charles, Missouri. Margaret Wilson, DO, '82, ATSU-KCOM dean, recognizes Jeffrey Davis, DO, '00, as the incoming MAOPS president and Mark Pelikan, DO, '99, as the outgoing MAOPS president. Numerous alumni and students receive awards for their contributions and accomplishments.

More roundups on next page

Reunion roundup, cont.

American Association of Orthodontists Annual Session

May 1

Jae Park, DMD, PhD, MSD, MS, chair, postgraduate orthodontic program, ATSU-ASDOH, and Michael Papademetriou, DMD, MS, clinical director, orthodontics, ATSU-ASDOH, hold a reception for alumni and residents in Orlando, Florida.



Michigan Osteopathic Association (MOA) Convention

May 13

Christopher Bailey, DO; Ryan Christensen, DO, '12, ATSU-SOMA Alumni Board chair; and Jessica Winkler, DO, '15. Dr. Christensen provides updates to attendees during the alumni and students reception in Dearborn, Michigan.



American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) Convention

May 14

Catherine Jones-Payne, MS, PA-C, '11; Linda Wheelis, manager, advanced physician assistant studies, ATSU-ASHS; Justin Ehmke, MS, PA-C, '07; and Lori Ehmke. Randy Danielsen, PhD, PA, DFAAPA, ATSU-ASHS dean; Bert Simon, DHSc, PA-C, chair, physician assistant studies, ATSU-ASHS; and Geoffrey Hoffa, DHSc, '14, MS, PA-C, '00, DFAAPA, ATSU Alumni Association Board and ATSU-ASHS Alumni Board past chair, provide updates regarding the new certificate program in psychiatry and behavioral health at a reception in San Antonio, Texas.



Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Museum

June 9



G. Scott Drew, DO, FAOCD, '87, trustee, and Shaun Sommerer, PhD, vice president, university advancement, welcome ATSU alumni, friends, and students to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame for a regional alumni event in Cleveland, Ohio.

National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) Convention

June 23



Pat Cordeiro, MS, ATC, '01; Greg Holm, MS, ATC, '98; Pat McKeon, MS, ATC, '01; and Jen McKeon, MS, ATC, '02. Alumni and students enjoy a reception in Baltimore, Maryland, hosted by Randy Danielsen, PhD, PA, DFAAPA, ATSU-ASHS dean; Eric Sauers, PhD, ATC, FNATA, '97, chair, interdisciplinary health sciences, ATSU-ASHS; and Tamara Valovich McLeod, PhD, ATC, FNATA, director, athletic training, ATSU-ASHS, and receive updates on the progress of sports safety research and the growth of the Doctor of Athletic Training program.

Kinesiology Summer Institute

Aug. 22



Kate Larson; David Larson, MS, '14; and Sarah Johnston, PhD, assistant professor, kinesiology, ATSU-CGHS. Alumni and students of the Kinesiology program celebrate the first evening of their annual institute with a reception in Gilbert, Arizona, hosted by Don Altman, DDS, DHSc, EdD, MPH, MBA, MA, '12, ATSU-CGHS dean, and Tracie Rogers, PhD, chair, kinesiology, ATSU-CGHS.

American Osteopathic Association Osteopathic Medical Education Convention

Sept. 16-19



ATSU President Craig Phelps, DO, '84, and ATSU Alumni Board Chair and KOAA Board President Howard Levine, DO, '87, present the 2016 KOAA honors excellence awards during the ATSU Alumni, Students, and Friends Reception in Anaheim, California. Recipients include Stanley E. Grogg, DO, FACOP, FAAP, '71, Alumnus of the Year Award; Robert D. Ligorsky, DO, MACOI, FACP, FAHA, Living Tribute Award; and Peggy Mikel, Kathy Stephenson, and Thomas "Tim" Tucker II, MSPH, Distinguished Service Award. Honorary KOAA memberships are awarded to Norman Gevitz, PhD; Barbara Grogg, APRN, C-NP; James and Carolyn Harding; and William J. "Bill" Wobken.

UPCOMING 2017 alumni events

Visit atsu.edu/alumni/events for current event information, or contact alumni@atsu.edu to learn more.
Registration for conferences is not required to attend ATSU alumni events.

FEB 13 **DHSc Alumni and Students Reception**
Gilbert, Arizona

FEB 16 **PT Alumni and Students Reception (APTA CSM)**
San Antonio, Texas

FEB 17-18 **ATSU-ASDOH Alumni Weekend**
Arizona campus

MAR 3 **PA Alumni and Students Reception (ASAPA)**
Sedona, Arizona

MAR 16 **DO Alumni and Students Reception (ACOFPP)**
Kissimmee, Florida

MAR 24 **DO Alumni and Students Reception (AAO)**
Colorado Springs, Colorado

MAR 31 **OT Alumni and Students Reception (AOTA)**
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

APR 5 **Audiology Alumni and Students Reception (AAA AudiologyNOW!)**
Indianapolis, Indiana

APR 20 **DO Alumni and Students Reception (AOMA)**
Scottsdale, Arizona

APR 22 **Orthodontics Alumni and Residents Reception**
San Diego, California

APR 27 **DO Alumni and Friends Reception (MAOPS)**
St. Charles, Missouri

MAY 13 **DO Alumni and Students Reception (MOA)**
Dearborn, Michigan

MAY 16 **PA Alumni and Students Reception (AAPA)**
Las Vegas, Nevada

JUN 28 **AT Alumni and Students Reception (NATA)**
Houston, Texas

1950s

Robert B. Vance, DO, '58, Las Vegas, Nevada, recalls many changes at ATSU in the past 60 years.

"In our junior year, we (Atlas Quartet) sang 'The Battle Hymn of the Republic.' I'm the only one left of our four (**Joseph Buder, DO, '58; Thomas Swope, DO, '58; and Richard Chaplin, DO, '58**)," he says. "Years later, I sang with the Tabernacle Choir."

Dr. Vance sang with the choir for 13 years, and his wife, Marian, sang with the choir for 20 years. They also sang and traveled with Gladys Knight for seven years.

1960s

Scott R. Swope, DO, '62, was honored as a Master Faculty by the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Swope is a clinical associate professor with the college's Department of Family Medicine and practices with Warren County Health Department in Springboro, Ohio.

Lester McDonald, DO, '67, Cameron, Missouri, was honored with the Memorial Designation at the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons 2016 Missouri Osteopathic Annual Convention in April.

Larry Wickless, DO, '67, was named the 2016 board president for the American Osteopathic Foundation (AOF). Dr. Wickless, who is program director of internal medicine at

Manatee Memorial Hospital in Bradenton, Florida, has served on the AOF Board of Directors since 2011.

1970s

Larry McIntire, DO, FOCOO, '71, Joplin, Missouri, received the Physician of the Year award at the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons 2016 Missouri Osteopathic Annual Convention in April.

M. Terrance Simon, DO, '78, was honored as a Master Faculty by the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Simon is a clinical associate professor with the college's Department of Family Medicine and practices with Family Practice Associates Inc. in Massillon, Ohio.

1980s

William T. DeRosa, DO, FACP, '80, was named as the first chief of oncology services for Summit Medical Group MD Anderson Cancer Center in Berkeley Heights, New Jersey.

Jeffrey Dryden, DO, FACOI, CPE, '82, West Plains, Missouri, received the Medallion Award at the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons 2016 Missouri Osteopathic Annual Convention in April.

Kenneth Jones, DO, FAOCR, '83, Clinton, Missouri, received the 5-Year D.O.c.-A-Day Award at the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians

and Surgeons 2016 Missouri Osteopathic Annual Convention in April.

Richard Minter, DO, '83, Macomb, Illinois, joined McDonough Medical Group as a board-certified family practice physician in January. Dr. Minter previously spent 31 years practicing with Northeast Missouri Associates Inc. in Lancaster, Missouri.

Anthony D'Angelo, DO, FACOO, '84, St. Louis, Missouri, received the District Leadership Award at the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons 2016 Missouri Osteopathic Annual Convention in April.



Janise T. Denton, DO, '84, physician and associate medical director at Blessing Hospice and Palliative Care in Quincy, Illinois, retired in February. She is a former assistant professor for ATSU-KCOM.

Cynthia Paulis, DO, '84, was selected as the honoree in medicine during the 18th annual Woman of Distinction Awards Ceremony on March 22 in Oyster Bay, New York. Dr. Paulis was the first female class president in the history of ATSU-KCOM. She is board certified in emergency medicine and family practice, served four years as a lieutenant commander in the U.S. Public Health Service, and was a medical director. She was involved in volunteer emergency medical service during Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy.

Dr. Paulis retired from active medicine and became an award-winning journalist. She was a medical reporter for CBS in Texas. In 2012 she wrote an essay on Hurricane Sandy, which was included in Grammy award-winner Gloria Gaynor's book, "We Will Survive." Dr. Paulis has also received awards from both Nassau County and New York state as a Woman of Distinction and is a frequent lecturer for ATSU-KCOM and medical conferences.

Michael R. Jaff, DO, '85, was elected to the Board of Trustees for Martha's Vineyard Hospital in Edgartown, Massachusetts, in May.

Dwight Wagenknecht, DO, FACOS, '86, Nevada, Missouri, was honored with the Memorial Designation at the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons 2016 Missouri Osteopathic Annual Convention in April.

Milton A. Padgett, DO, '87, is a new member of the International Association of HealthCare Professionals with his upcoming publication in "The Leading Physicians of the World." Dr. Padgett serves as an internist at Kairos Health Solutions in Madison, Alabama.

David Picone, DO, '87, Harbor Beach, Michigan, joined Senior Life Solutions and will provide psychiatric services.

Timothy Jennings, DO, '89, Chesterfield, Missouri, received the District Leadership Award at the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons 2016 Missouri Osteopathic Annual Convention in April.

Benji Kitagawa, DO, '89, joined Sanford Emergency & Trauma Center in Bismarck, North Dakota.

1990s

John Bailey, DO, '90, joined the medical staff at Scotland County Hospital in Memphis, Missouri. He is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon and will work at the hospital's Surgery Center alongside the surgery team to treat orthopedic conditions.

At the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons (MAOPS) 2016 Missouri Osteopathic Annual Convention in April, Dr. Bailey was installed as MAOPS president-elect for 2016-17.

Veryl D. Hodges, DO, '91, an internal medicine physician at Clopton Clinic in Jonesboro, Arkansas, was recognized for his dedication, leadership, and excellence in osteopathic medicine. He has served at the clinic for 12 years.

Patrick Kelly, DO, '93, an orthopedic surgeon, opened a new practice in November 2015 in Andalusia, Alabama.

Michael J. Sassman, DO, '94, Duluth, Minnesota, a vascular/interventional radiologist, joined the Essentia Health-Duluth Clinic.

Capt. Raymond R. Batz, DO, '96, Cedar Point, North Carolina, accepted the position of director of branch clinics for Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune on July 1, 2015, following the promotion to captain on April 1, 2015. As director of branch clinics, he oversees the primary care and medical readiness support of more than 30,000 marines onboard the largest Marine Corps base in the world through eight medical branch clinics.

Tammy Gleeson, DO, '96, joined the thoracic surgery team at Southcoast Health in Fall River and Fairhaven, Massachusetts.

Christopher Nyte, DO, '96, joined Providence Seaside Hospital in Seaside, Oregon, as an otolaryngologist.



Matthew Cormier, DO, '97, joined Blessing Physician Services Palmyra Clinic in Palmyra, Missouri. Dr. Cormier previously served in Kahoka, Missouri, where he practiced primary care since completion of his residency program in 2000.

Victoria Damba, DO, '97, Farmington, Missouri, received the Medallion Award and District Leadership Award at the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons 2016 Missouri Osteopathic Annual Convention in April.

John Dubois, DO, FACOI, '99, Eureka, Missouri, received the District Leadership Award at the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons 2016 Missouri Osteopathic Annual Convention in April.

Mark Pelikan, DO, '99, St. Louis, Missouri, received the District Leadership Award at the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons (MAOPS) 2016 Missouri Osteopathic Annual Convention in April. Dr. Pelikan is the immediate past president of MAOPS.

Jill Stocker, DO, '99, Yuba City, California, is a new member on the board of directors for Fit 4 the Cause, a Conejo Valley-based nonprofit that provides fitness training and nutrition education for special populations that cannot afford to attend traditional gyms under usual circumstances.

2000s

Jeffrey Davis, DO, '00, Memphis, Missouri, received the Advocate of the Year award and the 5-Year D.O.C.-A-Day Award at the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons (MAOPS) 2016 Missouri Osteopathic Annual Convention in April. In addition, Dr. Davis was named MAOPS president for 2016-17.

Lance Fisher, MS, PA-C, '00, Crosby, Minnesota, joined the emergency department at Essentia Health-St. Joseph's Medical Center as a certified physician assistant.

Eric Hagberg, AuD, '00, Phoenix, Arizona, received the David P. Goldstein Outstanding Audiologist Award from the Academy of Doctors of Audiology. The award recognizes an individual for promoting audiology's transformation to a doctoral degree with the AuD as its distinctive designator. Dr. Hagberg is a board member of the Audiology Foundation of America and is one of the founders of the 18x18 movement.

Pedram Ilbeigi, DO, '00, a board-certified urologist at Urological Institute of High Desert, was named a 2016 Top Doctor in Apple Valley, Colorado. Top Doctor awards are given to healthcare practitioners who demonstrate clinical excellence while delivering the highest standards of patient care.

Colleen S. Myers, DO, '00, Coraopolis, Pennsylvania, released her second novel, "Can't Forget," in June. The book is a sequel to her first novel, "Must Remember."

Todd D. Seamons, MS, PA-C, '00, Provo, Utah, is a new member of the International Association of HealthCare Professionals with his upcoming publication in "The Leading Physicians of the World." Seamons is a certified physician assistant at Revere Health.

Kristin A. Severson-Solberg, DO, '00, New Richmond, Wisconsin, was honored by the American College of Osteopathic Internists as a fellow in October 2015. Dr. Severson-Solberg serves as the medical director for Christian Community Homes and for Adoray

Hospice, and she has an internal medicine and geriatric specialty practice at Hudson Physicians.

Laura Tinning-Griffeth, DO, '00, Grand Rapids, Michigan, was featured in the winter 2016 issue of *Communique*, a publication from Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, for her work in providing OMM to pregnant women and newborns.

Jeremy Baird, DO, '02, Jackson, Missouri, accepted the position of emergency services medical director at Southeast-HEALTH.



Katheryn Cordero Norris, DO, '02, received the Washington Osteopathic Medical Association's Physician of the Year award. Dr. Norris is a physician at Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic, Grandview Medical-Dental Clinic, and serves as the residency director for Sollus Northwest Family Medicine Residency Program.

Eric Bass, DO, '03, Camas, Washington, joined Vancouver Radiologists as a board-certified radiologist specializing in neuroradiology.

Nina Hsieh, MS, '03, Phoenix, Arizona, was promoted to assistant athletic trainer for the Los Angeles Lakers.

Hans F. Laursen, DO, '03, became a partner at the Southern California Permanente Medical Group in Urgent Care at the Kaiser South Bay Medical Center in Harbor City, California, in February. Dr. Laursen

completed his residency at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles and is board certified in family medicine.

Peter Tran, DO, '03, joined Kauai Medical Clinic in Lihue, Hawaii, as a board-certified urologist.

Thomas Albert, DPT, '04, joined the Los Angeles Dodgers baseball organization as an assistant athletic trainer, following four seasons with the Cleveland Indians as rehab coordinator.

Keenan Robinson, MS, '04, was named as the U.S. National Team high performance director by USA Swimming.

David Tannehill, DO, '05, St. Louis, Missouri, received the 5-Year D.O.c.-A-Day Award at the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons 2016 Missouri Osteopathic Annual Convention in April.

Larnie Boquiren, MS, '06, Culver City, California, served as sports medicine manager and head athletic trainer for USA Water Polo during the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. She earned her master's degree in sports health care.

Mathew Miller, MS, '06, was featured on NBC's reality series "Strong." He was one of 10 trainers on the fitness show and competed with teammate Nicole Bentley to win \$500,000. Read more on p. 15.

Rebecca Rodriguez-Regner, DO, '06, San Diego, California, was selected for the Rio 2016 Olympics USA medical team.

Annette Schnabel, DPT, MBA, '06, Princeton, Illinois, is the new president/CEO of Perry Memorial Hospital, effective May 1. She joined the hospital executive team in December 2014 as vice president/chief operating officer.



Kathleen Kelly, AuD, '07, opened a new audiology clinic in Petoskey, Michigan. Her practice is affiliated with Hearing Health USA, a nationwide network of hearing centers and audiology clinics.

Dana Rice, MHA, RN, '07, was named senior vice president and chief quality officer of Capella Healthcare in Franklin, Tennessee.

Mathew Severidt, DO, '07, joined Deer Creek Health Center in Toledo, Iowa, as a general surgeon.

Judy Huch, AuD, '08, Oro Valley, Arizona, was appointed as a commissioner to the board of the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing.

Andi Selby, DO, '08, MS, '07, Joplin, Missouri, joined Mercy Clinic as a family medicine physician in March.

Ashley Albers, DO, '09, Flat Rock, North Carolina, was promoted to hospice medical director of Four Seasons Compassion for Life in March 2016.

“During my residency in internal care, I observed a lot of interventions within the intensive care unit that made me wonder what people really wanted for their time at end of life.”

– **Dr. Ashley Albers on serving patient needs**



Mathew J. Bateman, PhD, DHEd, '09, was appointed interim dean of Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine School of Dental Medicine, effective July 1. Prior to his appointment, he served as the director of institutional planning, assessment, and accreditation and as research professor of anatomy.

Brenden Davis, DMD, MPH, '09, Ellensburg, Washington, opened a private dental practice, Northwest Oral Health Outreach. Through his new practice, Dr. Davis treats patients at 12 nursing homes and assisted-living centers around the region.

Heather Martin, DO, '09, joined Scotland County Hospital at Memphis Medical Services in Memphis, Missouri, as a family practice physician.

2010s

Michael Brown, DO, '10, Smithville, Missouri, received the District Leadership Award at the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons 2016 Missouri Osteopathic Annual Convention in April.

Aneesh Garg, DO, '11, completed his fellowship at Andrews Sports Medicine and Orthopaedic Center and American Sports Medicine Institute and serves as a physician for Chicago Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine in Chicago, Illinois. Dr. Garg served as a team physician for the USA Men's National Soccer Team during a two-week tournament in Guadalajara, Mexico, in May and will serve as a U.S. National Team physician for USA Soccer in 2017.

Cheryl Holden, DHSc, RN, '11, and **Kathleen Mathieson, PhD, CIP**, associate professor, doctor of health sciences, ATSU-CGHS, co-authored "The electronic health record system and hospital length of stay in patients admitted with hip fracture," which was published in the June 2015 issue of *American Research Journal of Nursing*.

Joshua Horowitz, DO, '11, Ironton, Minnesota, joined Cuyuna Regional Medical Center's Pain Management Center in September.



Jonathan Parker, DO, '11, a physician at Avalon Medical Center in Muscle Shoals, Alabama, is certified as a diplomate by the American Board of Obesity Medicine. This designation represents the highest level of achievement in the medical specialty of obesity medicine.

Matthew Tate, MS, PA-C, '11, Bakersfield, California, joined Adventist Health/Community Care – Taft as a certified physician assistant.

Christopher H. Topel, DO, '11, completed his neurology residency in Austin, Texas, and vascular neurology fellowship in San Antonio. He will serve as an assistant professor at the University of Texas Health Sciences in San Antonio.



Jared Engles, DO, '12, is a new anesthesiologist for Bothwell Regional Health Center in Sedalia, Missouri.

Javair Gillet, MS, '12; Derek Bunker, DPT, '14, MS, '08; and Matthew Rhea, PhD, professor, kinesiology, ATSU-CGHS, had their study, "A Description and Comparison of Cardiorespiratory Fitness Measures in Relation to Pitching Performance Among Professional Baseball Pitchers," accepted for publication in *Sport*.

Andrea Heller, DO, '12, joined the internal medicine team at Cole Memorial Medical Group and Cole Memorial Hospital in Coudersport, Pennsylvania. She also specializes in hospice services.

Judy Hsu, DO, '12, Worcester, Massachusetts, joined UMass Memorial Medical Group and specializes in family medicine with obstetrics at Barre Family Health Center.

Robin Hunter-Buskey, DHSc, CDE, PA-C, CCHP, '12; Kathleen Mathieson, PhD, CIP, associate professor, doctor of health sciences, ATSU-CGHS, and **Joan Leafman, PhD**, associate professor, doctor of health sciences, ATSU-CGHS, co-authored "The effect of self-monitoring blood glucose among inmates with diabetes," which was published in the October 2015 issue of *Journal of Correctional Healthcare*.



Tanesha Tutt, DHed, MS, CHES, '12, was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps in May. As a lieutenant senior assistant scientist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Dr. Tutt serves as a health educator and education subject matter expert for CDC's Informatics Fellowship Program and Population Health Workforce Development Initiative.



Carrisann Woods, DO, '12, Branson, Missouri, joined the Women's Center at Cox Medical Center Branson, specializing in obstetrics and gynecology care.

Debra A. Bierwas, DHSc, DPT, '13, and **Joan Leafman, PhD**, associate professor, doctor of health sciences, ATSU-CGHS, co-authored "The evidence-based practice beliefs and knowledge of physical therapy clinical instructors," which was

published in the July 2016 issue of *The Internet Journal of Allied Health Sciences and Practice*.

Ashley Broce, DO, '13, Joplin, Missouri, joined Freeman Primary Care at Webb City Neighborhood Care specializing in internal medicine.



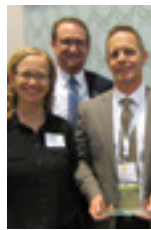
Abraham Caroci, DMD, MS, '13, was selected by the Association of University Centers on Disabilities to be profiled for his work during his Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) fellowship in pediatric dentistry at the University of Rochester LEND program. Dr. Caroci is completing a pediatric dentistry residency at University of Rochester-Eastman Institute for Oral Health.

Maria A. Chang, PT, DPT, MHA, '13, presented "A Literature Review of Possible Adverse Effects of Repeated Botulinum Toxin A Injections to Decrease Spasticity in Adults affected by Stroke" at the American Physical Therapy Association: NEXT Conference and Exposition in June 2014 and at the California Physical Therapy Annual Conference in September 2015. She also presented "Reversing Abnormal Hypertonia in Post-Stroke Patients using the Neuro-IFRAH/AI-Oboudi Approach" at the European Stroke Conference held in Venice, Italy, in April 2016.

Jonna Laslovich, DMD, '13, MPH, '11, started her own practice, Laslovich Orthodontics, in Butte, Montana.

Marco Nuñez, MS, '13, Anaheim, California, is the new head athletic trainer for the Los Angeles Lakers.

Sara A. Warren, DO, '13, Jefferson City, Missouri, received the President's Award at the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons 2016 Missouri Osteopathic Annual Convention in April.



Erik Salley, PT, DPT, MA, OCS, MDT, '14, received the 2015-16 Humanitarian of the Year Award during the American Physical Therapy Association's Combined Sections Meeting held in Anaheim, California. Since 2009, Dr. Salley has served as project coordinator with International Development & Relief Board, based in Africa.

A.J. Seeliger, MS, '14, is the new strength and conditioning coach for Nashville Sounds, a Triple-A affiliate of the Oakland Athletics baseball team. This is his fourth season with the A's organization.

Justin Silverstein, DHSc, '14, presented "Causal Factors for Upper Extremity Positional Nerve Injuries as Seen by Somatosensory Evoked Potentials in Patients Undergoing Thoracolumbar and Lumbosacral Spine Surgery" at the April 2016 International Society for the Advancement of Spine Surgery conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. **Eric Mathews, PhD**, associate professor, doctor of health sciences, ATSU-CGHS, was the second author on the study and served as Dr. Silverstein's project facilitator.

In addition, Dr. Silverstein was recognized by Marquis Who's Who for excellence in neurophysiology.

Joseph Weber, DHSc, MS, MBA, '14, Simpsonville, South Carolina, was named founding director for a new Physician Assistant Studies program at Presbyterian College. Dr. Weber began his service July 1, and the college anticipates launching the program in summer 2018.

"Dr. Weber brings an outstanding combination of academic, medical, and business acumen that demonstrates his commitment to developing rigorous academic programs in physician assistant studies."

– Dr. Don Raber, provost, Presbyterian College

'14

Lynn Anidi, DHSc, MBA, '15, presented "Effect of performing WARM-up and cool-DOWN exercises on the flexibility of the calf and hamstring PRIOR to a 50 minute workout" at the 143rd annual meeting of the American Public Health Association in Chicago, Illinois, on Nov. 2, 2015.

Rabi Gautam, DHSc, '15, and **Eric Mathews, PhD**, associate professor, doctor of health sciences, ATSU-CGHS, had their article, "Knowledge and beliefs about cancer in the African-American population," accepted for publication in *Journal of Health Disparities Research*.

Bonni Kinne, DHSc, '15, co-authored "Using the Wii to improve balance in older adults: A systematic review," which was published in the October 2015 issue of *Physical & Occupational Therapy in Geriatrics*.

Darren Krein, MS, '15, is the new strength and conditioning coach for the Indianapolis Colts. Krein, who earned his master's in kinesiology from ATSU, organizes continuing education efforts for other coaches while at the NFL Combine.

Jessica Markbreiter, MS, '15, Half Moon Bay, California, is the athletic trainer for Half Moon Bay High School.

Anne Marie McCauley, DHEd, RN, '15, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, was named director of the allied health/healthcare management programs for Immaculata University.

Janelle Mostad, AuD, '15, joined Essentia Health-Duluth Clinic in Duluth, Minnesota.

Cristina Tipei, MS, PA-C, '15, Visalia, California, joined Family HealthCare Network's Woodlake Health Center as a physician assistant.

Kelly Boyce, MS, '16, is the first female head athletic trainer for the Arizona Diamondbacks baseball team. She was a certified athletic training intern with the D-backs from 2012-15.

Renee Dufault, DHEd, MAT, '16, spoke at the Autism Awareness Conference on April 23 in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. She is the founding director for the Food Ingredient and Health Research Institute. Read more on p. 13.

Angie Harrell, DHSc, '16, and **Eric Matthews, PhD**, associate professor, doctor of health sciences, ATSU-CGHS, had their article, "Relationship between Number of Clinical Sites and Job Placement Rates of Graduates," accepted for publication by *Radiologic Technology*.

Michael Kates, DO, '16, joined Marquette Family Medicine Residency program in Marquette, Michigan, in July.

Submit class notes to stillmagazine@atsu.edu.

Grateful patients

By Katie Hubbard

Sometimes doctors are more than healthcare providers. Sometimes they become our friends. For Jirina and Dennis Polivka, their physician, Stephen D. Blood, DO, '68, became their friend.

Dr. Jirina Polivka was a dedicated academician and believer in the discipline of social work. She was a graduate of Bryn Mawr College with a doctorate from Catholic University. She served as chair of the School of Social Work at George Mason University and enjoyed a faculty position with Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic, for many years.

Jirina's husband, Dennis, was born in Prague in 1917. He retired from a successful career with the U.S Department of Commerce in 1988. He then served as an adjunct professor and director of the Charles University Department of Public Affairs' internship program.

The two were married for 55 years before Jirina passed away in 2009. As patients and close friends of Dr. Blood, they made contributions to ATSU through Dr. Blood's grateful patient program. When Dennis passed away in 2013, the Polivkas left an estate gift of \$50,000 to ATSU-KCOM.

Their estate gift established the Jirina and Dennis Polivka Scholarship Endowment. The endowment fund will provide ATSU-KCOM students with scholarships for years to come. Through those scholarships, more students will reach their goals of becoming doctors, and possibly, befriend their patients.

Honoring Dan Martin

Since its creation in 1982, the Thompson Campus Center (TCC) has known only one director – Dan Martin, MA. In those 34 years, he has established a legacy by focusing on health and wellness through the body, mind, and spirit of all those with whom he comes into contact. While his full influence could never be measured, he has impacted the lives of thousands of current and future health professionals.

ATSU President Craig Phelps, DO, '84, recently announced his vision to highlight the TCC renovations with a new wood basketball court named in honor of Martin, and has commissioned the launch of a campaign for this purpose. Since his own time as a student, Dr. Phelps has enjoyed a personal connection with Martin and knows many others have been impacted in similar ways. Please join other ATSU alumni, friends, faculty, and staff in honoring and commemorating Martin's contributions to the University. Major gift donors to this effort will be permanently recognized on a prominent, courtside plaque. Levels of major gift recognition include a Platinum level at \$50,000+, Gold level at \$25,000-\$49,999, and Silver level at \$10,000-\$24,999. Pledge payments may be arranged for up to three years as needed.

For more information about the Dan Martin Court, please contact Alexandra Reel, associate director of development, at 660.626.2180 or amreel@atsu.edu.

Dan Martin Court Recognition levels

Platinum - \$50,000

Gold - \$25,000-\$49,999

Silver - \$10,000-\$24,999

Other - \$ _____



IN HONOR OF
DAN MARTIN

ATSU

A.T. STILL
UNIVERSITY

THOMPSON CAMPUS CENTER
KIRKSVILLE, MISSOURI CAMPUS

Dan Martin Court



Anabel Burgara is the employment coordinator for Human Resources on the Arizona campus. She began her duties in February.



Dr. Cannon

James D. Cannon, DHA, PA-C, MS, '97, trustee, retired from the military after 31 years of service in the U.S. Coast Guard. Dr. Cannon currently serves as associate professor for ATSU-ASHS and as a primary care and psychiatric certified physician assistant.

Sonya Clark, student account collections specialist, controller's office, completed the Boston Marathon in April.

Ashlea Costello is the new executive assistant for Rick Rieder, MBA, MM, vice president for finance and administration/CFO, and Bob Ehrlich, director of facilities/plant operations.

Melanie Davis, DHEd, '13, acting director, assessment and accreditation, was inducted into the National Association of Professional Women VIP Woman of the Year Circle for 2016-17. She was recognized with this prestigious distinction for leadership in education.

G. Scott Drew, DO, FAOCD, '87, trustee, received the Holy Cross Award from Bishop McNamara High School in June 2016. The award was one of several Caritas Awards given to individuals who perform selfless acts of service and stewardship.

Kyle Eitel is ATSU's new assistant director of facilities. He began his role in March.



French

Michael French, co-director, Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) program, received the Red Koelling Award for Service to AHEC at the 2016 biennial conference of the National Area Health Education Centers Organization, held in Washington, D.C., in June. The Koelling Award is presented to an individual who has provided exemplary service and support to both the national AHEC network

and a state or local AHEC network over an extended period of time.

Dana Funderburk, CPA, is associate vice president for finance, effective July 1. Prior to joining ATSU, she served at Greenville College as controller from 2000-08 and vice president for finance since 2008.

Larry Glaspie, service worker, environmental services, received the Missouri campus Employee Excellence Award for the first quarter of 2016.

Merle Glaspie, service worker, environmental services, received the Missouri campus Employee Excellence Award for the third quarter of 2015.

Deborah Goggin, MA, ELS, scientific writer, research support, received the Missouri campus Employee Excellence Award for the second quarter of 2016.

Jason Haxton, MA, director, Museum of Osteopathic Medicine, published a new children's book, "Andrew Taylor Still: Father of Osteopathic Medicine," which is included in the "Notable Missourians" book series.



Hutman

Ryan Hutman, lead multimedia specialist, academic technologies, received the Arizona campus Employee Excellence Award for the third quarter of 2015.

Mike Kronenfeld, MBA, MLS, university librarian, was selected as a fellow of the Medical Library Association for his outstanding contributions to the field of health sciences librarianship. In addition, Kronenfeld was selected by the National Library of Medicine and the Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries to serve as a mentor in the 2016-17 Leadership Fellows Program. He will serve as a mentor for William Olmstadt, associate director for Health Sciences Library at LSU Health in Shreveport, Louisiana.

Rob Long, technician, curriculum, completed technical services training at Laerdal Medical Corp. in New York and is a certified technician for ATSU's Laerdal simulators.

Jack Magruder, EdD, president emeritus, was nominated for re-appointment to the Missouri State Fair Commission for 2016.

faculty & staff news

ASDOH

J. Michael Menke, DC, PhD, MA, is the new associate director for A.T. Still Research Institute and is based on the Arizona campus. Dr. Menke earned a master's degree in applied behavioral science from Wright State University and DC degree from Palmer College West. He earned his MA and PhD in psychology, program evaluation and research methodology, and pharmacoeconomics from University of Arizona.

Paulina Vazquez Morris, JD, MBA, MHSA, trustee, was honored as Valle del Sol's Mom of the Year for 2016. The award celebrates women for their service to community and their roles as mothers.

Clinton Normore, MBA, became associate vice president for diversity and inclusion in May. He served as ATSU-CGHS' commencement speaker on June 3.

Brent Perrin is the new director of facilities on the Arizona campus, effective July 1. Prior to joining ATSU, he served as senior project manager at CBRE/Phoenix Children's Hospital.

Kim Butler Perry, DDS, MS, is the University's new associate vice president of strategic partnerships, and she will serve as president of the National Dental Association in 2017.

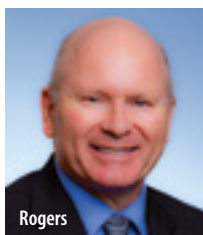
Randy Rogers, CFP®, associate vice president, university advancement, retired in September.

Greg Rubenstein, MA, became director of marketing in July.

Jessica Vaughan is the new development coordinator on the Arizona campus. She most recently worked at ATSU-SOMA as a clinical education coordinator.

Anna Villareal, MA, researcher-conservator B, Museum of Osteopathic Medicine, received the Missouri campus Employee Excellence Award for the fourth quarter of 2015.

O.T. "Ted" Wendel, PhD, senior vice president, university strategic initiatives, served as a photojournalist for Project HOPE, an international healthcare organization. For two weeks, he photographed Syrian refugees migrating through Macedonia.



Angelica Buono-Kevane, RDH, joined the non-surgical periodontal team as an instructor. She received her bachelor's in dental hygiene from Northern Arizona University.

Gary Brigham, DDS, MSD, adjunct professor, orthodontics, was named a Top Dental Pro™ in Phoenix and received the Five Star Achievement Award for his extraordinary professional performance as an Invisalign system provider.

Jack Dillenberg, DDS, MPH, dean, was selected by George Washington University (GWU) to participate on an advisory committee during a study aimed at developing social mission metrics for health professions schools. The one-year study, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, will be led by GWU researchers.

Sandra Dominguez is the School's new CCU4 dental assistant. She has been with ATSU-ASDOH since 2007 and most recently served as a float dental assistant in the main clinic.

Tamer El-Gendy, DMD, MS, BDS, director, prosthodontics, completed the 2015 ADEA/AAL Institute for Teaching and Learning program, an intense professional development program for early- and mid-career faculty and private practice dentists who are interested in academia.

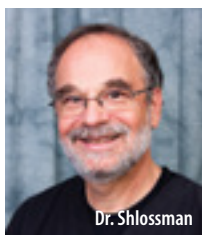
R. Todd Erickson, DDS, MS, associate professor, director of radiology, successfully completed the oral and maxillofacial radiology board certification exam and attained the status of diplomate of the American Board of Oral & Maxillofacial Radiology, one of the highest recognitions for an oral and maxillofacial radiologist.

Marcia Jasper, RDH, is a new radiology instructor. She is a graduate of the Mesa Community College Dental Hygiene Program and received her bachelor's in dental hygiene from Northern Arizona University.

Tim Lukavsky, DDS, assistant director, was named as a fellow in special care dentistry at the Special Care Dentistry Association Annual Session in April. Additionally, **Karen Fallone, RDH**, instructor, and **Ann Spolarich, PhD, RDH**, director, research, were among the first of four dental hygienists in the nation named as fellows in special care dental hygiene.

Jae Park, DMD, PhD, MSD, MS, chair, postgraduate orthodontic program, and **Ann Spolarich, PhD, RDH**, director, research, served as competition judges for the American Dental Association Foundation-sponsored Special Award category at the 2016 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair for high school students.

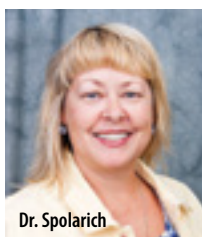
In addition, Dr. Park was named as a regular member of the Northern California Edward H. Angle Society of Orthodontists during a meeting in Oakland, California.



Dr. Shlossman

Marc Shlossman, DDS, MS, was appointed interim director of periodontics. Dr. Shlossman has been with the School since January 2005 and contributed to development of the Periodontics program in both the undergraduate and graduate clinics.

Randy Snyder, DMD, FACD, FICD, FAGD, joined the periodontal faculty as an adjunct professor in August. He earned his DMD degree at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, and his periodontal specialty certificate from Ohio State University.



Dr. Spolarich

Ann Spolarich, PhD, RDH, director, research, co-authored a research paper that tied for first place in the research category of the Sunstar World Dental Hygienist Award. The award was presented at the International Federation of Dental Hygienists International Symposium on Dental Hygiene in June in Basel, Switzerland.

Dr. Spolarich was recognized by Penn Dental Medicine Alumni Society with the Alumni Award of Merit in May. A 1982 alumna of Penn Dental Medicine, she is the first dental hygiene graduate to receive the award since it was first presented in 1944.

In addition, Dr. Spolarich was appointed as a member of the Executive Committee of the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine Alumni Society. Her three-year appointment began July 1.

Lisa Valech joined the School in February as the new executive assistant to the dean.

Kellie Bliven, PhD, ATC, associate professor, interdisciplinary health sciences, was appointed as the new director of the Interdisciplinary Research Lab.

Ann Lee Burch, PT, EdD, MS, MPH, vice dean, was accepted to Harvard's Graduate School of Professional Education Program where she will complete a 12-week course.

Randy Danielsen, PhD, PA, DFAAPA, dean, and **Gerry Keenan, MMS, PA-C**, associate professor, physician assistant studies, were honored on Jan. 30 by ASO Karate Arizona for their contributions of providing first aid and medical coverage at karate tournaments and other events over the past three years. Dr. Danielsen is the medical director for ASO Karate Arizona, and Keenan is the tournament medical director.

Sue Falsone, PT, MS, joined the faculty as an associate professor of athletic training. Falsone was the first female head athletic trainer in any major American professional sports league. She served as the head of athletic training and sport performance for the U.S. men's national soccer team. Additionally, she is known internationally for her expertise in sport rehabilitation and performance enhancement and bridging the gap between physical therapy and return to sport.

Tamara Valovich McLeod, PhD, ATC, FNATA, professor and director, athletic training, received the National Athletic Trainers' Association's (NATA) Most Distinguished Athletic Trainer Award for 2016, which recognizes NATA members who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to leadership, volunteer service, and advocacy and distinguished professional activities as an athletic trainer, and who have been involved in service and leadership activities at the national and district level.

Dr. Valovich McLeod served as a panelist at NATA's national press conference for "Reducing Your Risk in Work, Life, and Sport" in Baltimore, Maryland, on June 23.



Dr. Roush

Jim Roush, PT, PhD, ATC, ATL, professor, physical therapy, received the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) Lucy Blair Service Award for 2016. He was presented with his award at the APTA Annual Conference and Expo in June.

Eric Sauers, PhD, ATC, FNATA, professor and chair, interdisciplinary health sciences, received the National Athletic Trainers' Association's (NATA) Most Distinguished Athletic Trainer Award for 2016, which recognizes NATA members who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to leadership, volunteer service, and advocacy and distinguished professional activities as an athletic trainer, and who have been involved in service and leadership activities at the national and district level.

Les Schmeltz, AuD, CCC-A, '01, associate professor, audiology, was appointed editor-in-chief of the new online *Journal of Early Hearing Detection and Intervention*.

Albert Simon, DHSc, MEd, PA-C, program chair and director, physician assistant studies, and **Bob McMullen, EdD, MS, PA-C**, director of assessment, technology, and research, physician assistant studies, co-authored the seventh edition (2016) of "Lange Q&A Physician Assistant Examination," with chapters contributed by ATSU-ASHS Dean **Randy Danielsen, PhD, PA, DFAAPA**; **W. Cody Black, MHS, PA-C**; **Linda MacConnell, MSPA, MAEd**; **Ian McLeod, MEd, PA-C**; **Phil Merrill, MEd, PA-C**; **Ray Pavlick, PhD**; **James Cawley, MPH, PA-C**; **Daniel Cerwonka, DHS, MEM, PA**; **C.J. Chun, MS, PA-C, '10**; and **Scott Lightfoot, MPAS, PA-C**.

Katherine Adler, DHA, FACHE, associate dean of academics and assessment, became Quality Matters certified in the following courses: Applying the QM Rubric, Peer Reviewer Course, Improving Your Online Course, QM Coordinator Training, Gauging Your Technology Skills, Creating Presence in Your Online Course, and Assessing your Learners.



Dr. Daniels

Tanya Armistead is an academic adviser for the Doctor of Health Sciences program. Prior to joining ATSU, she was a senior enrollment representative at University of Phoenix.

Lee Bonnel is operations manager, effective Sept. 1.

Marvin Cartagena is the College's new lead enrollment adviser.

Trisha Cartagena is a new enrollment representative.

Jeffrey Chaffin, DDS, MPH, MBA, MHA, assistant professor, is the immediate past president of the American Board of Dental Public Health and president-elect of the American Association of Public Health Dentistry.

Jack Daniels, PhD, MEd, associate professor, kinesiology, published the third edition of his book, "Daniels Running Formula," in English. The book has been translated into Polish, Spanish, German, and Japanese and is being translated into French, Russian, and Chinese. A new edition of his autobiography, "Luck of the Draw," has also been printed.

Lihua Dishman, DBA, MBA, assistant professor, completed her doctorate in business administration studies at Lawrence Technological University in Southfield, Michigan.

Stephanie Elsea joined the College as enrollment support. She earned her bachelor's degree from Truman State University.

Christopher Ferguson is the new data manager and career services coordinator for ATSU-CGHS. He earned his bachelor's degree at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois, and mostly recently, served as the departmental coordinator for the Accounting and Business Administration programs at Truman State University.

Jaana Gold, DDS, PhD, MPH, associate professor, public health, passed the CPH exam to become certified in public health. She was selected as a program chair for the American Public Health Association Oral Health section for 2016-18 and was elected to serve as section councilor. In addition, she was recognized by the American Dental Association and was invited to attend the Evidence-based Dentistry Workshop in Chicago, Illinois, from Aug. 11-13.



Dr. Halupa

Tara Griggs, MBA, is a new academic adviser. She earned two bachelor's degrees and her MBA degree from Southeast Missouri State University.

Colleen Halupa, EdD, associate professor, doctor of health education, published a chapter, "Reaching 'Creating' in Bloom's Taxonomy: The Merging of Heutagogy and Technology in Learning," in the "Handbook of Research on Creative Problem-Solving Skill Development in Higher Education." She also has written a chapter, "Mentoring Dissertation Students in Online Doctoral Programs," for the book titled "Fostering Effective Student Communication in Online Graduate Courses," which will be published by IGI Global.

Rebecca Holt, MHA/ED, EdS, adjunct professor, completed all six Centers for Disease Control and Prevention courses in the Public Health 101 Series.

Lynda Konecny, DHed, MS, CHES, '08, associate professor, doctor of health education, was accepted to be a faculty member for the 2016 National Association of Student Personnel Administrators IV-West Mid-Level Professionals Institute in St. Louis, Missouri, in November.

Andy Kottwiz; Sue McDaniel; Elsie Rudd, MA; and Beth Thompson, MEd, MS, completed Quality Matters training in Applying the QM Rubric, which is the first step in becoming continuing and professional education reviewers.

Ashley Love, DrPH, MPH, MS, associate professor, was appointed public health voting member of the Faculty Council Scholarship and Research Committee. In addition, she became a certified online instructor in June.

Presley Melvin joined the College's academic advising team. She earned her bachelor's degree from Truman State University.

Larry Olsen, DrPH, professor, doctor of health education, was asked to serve as a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of *Global Health Promotion*, an international journal published by the International Union for Health Promotion and Education. Additionally, Dr. Olsen was elected vice president for scientific meetings and conferences for the North American region of the International Union for Health Promotion and Education.

Patrick Palmieri, DHSc, EdS, MBA, MSc, MSN, adjunct professor, doctor of health sciences, was the American Academy of Nursing's Fellow in the Spotlight for April.

Tracie Rogers, PhD, chair, kinesiology, completed the Boston Marathon in April.

S.D. Shanti, DDS, PhD, MPH, associate professor, ATSU-ASDOH, was appointed chair of the Master in Public Health Research Committee.

Mary Katherine Smith, DrPH, chair, public health, joined the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health's Education and Diversity committees.

Jaime Sparling is a new enrollment representative. She earned her bachelor's degree from Michigan State University.

Dillon Thurman joined the College as a student account coordinator. He earned his bachelor's degree from Adams State University.

Aesha Turner, MS, executive assistant, received the Arizona campus Employee Excellence Award for the fourth quarter of 2015.

Neal Chamberlain, PhD, professor; **Patricia Sexton, DHEd, MS, '08**, associate dean; **Matthew Hardee, DO, '07**, assistant professor; and **Robert Baer, PhD**, professor, received the Society of Osteopathic Medical Educators Innovation in Medical Education Award for "Utilizing Patient Morning Rounds to Observe Preclinical Medical Students' Clinical Reasoning" at the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Annual Conference, held April 6-9 in Washington, D.C.

KCOM



Drs. Phelps and Cleaver

Lloyd Cleaver, DO, '76, assistant vice president, internal medicine, celebrated 30 years of dermatology practice in September.

Sondra Sanford, MSW, is executive director of

Still OPTI, effective Feb. 1. Still OPTI is a consortium of teaching hospitals, colleges/universities, and physicians working together to provide osteopathic graduate medical education.

Tabitha Sawyer, clinical technology coordinator, academic and clinical educational affairs, received her bachelor of science in business administration from AIB College of Business on May 22.

Margaret Wilson, DO, '82, dean, received the Medallion Award at the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons 2016 Missouri Osteopathic Annual Convention in April.

Susan Adams, DMD, MS, joined the School's St. Louis Dental Center as an assistant professor for endodontics.

Matt Bonnel is the new simulation clinic coordinator.

Ashley Gunnels, education coordinator, received the Missouri campus fitness award for the first quarter of 2016.

Christopher G. Halliday, DDS, MPH, inaugural dean, retired from ATSU-MOSDOH on June 30. Dr. Halliday served as dean since the School's inception in spring 2012.

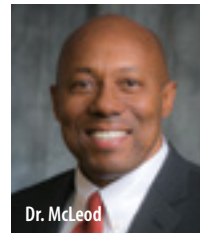


Dr. Halliday

Laura Johnson is the senior administrative assistant for clinical operations at the St. Louis Dental Center.

Mandy Ledford is the new administrative assistant for student success.

Dwight E. McLeod, DDS, MS, was named dean for ATSU-MOSDOH, effective July 18. Dr. McLeod will be based in St. Louis with frequent travel to Kirksville.



Dr. McLeod

Prior to joining the School, he served as a professor at Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine. He also served as head of the Section of Periodontology and as chair of the Department of Applied Dental Medicine. For the American Dental Education Association, Dr. McLeod served as chair of the Section of Periodontics and as a councilor. In 2000, he founded the Jamaica Dental Mission, which annually operates three clinics in western Jamaica.

Dr. McLeod received his DDS from Howard University College of Dentistry; certificate in general practice dentistry from the Veteran Administration Health Center, Washington, D.C.; and MS degree and certificate in periodontics from University of Iowa School of Dentistry. He is the author of several peer-reviewed publications and received numerous internal grant awards.

Romana Muller, RDH, joined the School's St. Louis Dental Center as an assistant professor.

MOSDOH



Dr. Nurrohman

Hamid Nurrohman, DDS, PhD, joined the School as an assistant professor in the simulation clinic.

Melissa Parman, MHEA, executive assistant, received her master of higher education administration degree from North Park University, School of Business and Nonprofit Management, in Chicago, Illinois, in December 2015.

Herbert Silva, DMD, is a comprehensive care unit director at the St. Louis Dental Center.

Kneka Smith, MPH, is the School's new associate dean for education and assessment. She received her MPH degree from the University of North Carolina.

Jordan Weichert is the new multimedia specialist.

Aaron Allgood, DO, became an associate professor in the Clinical Medicine and Public Health department, effective July 1.

Stanley Brysacz, DO, assistant professor, family and community medicine, received the 2016 Lifetime Achievement award from the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association.

Verna Burkett, clinical education coordinator, received the Arizona campus Employee Excellence Award for the first quarter of 2016.

Anna Campbell, PhD, became an associate professor in the Anatomy department, effective July 1.

Deborah Heath, DO, assistant dean of curriculum integration, received the 2016 Excellence in Osteopathic Medical Education award from the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association.

SOMA

Samuel Ikonne, PhD, assistant professor; **Anna Campbell, PhD**, associate professor; **Kate Whelihan, MPH**, specialist; and **Joy Lewis, DO, PhD, FACP**, chair, public health, received the Outstanding Medical Education Research Poster and Presentation Award for their poster presentation titled "Lecture capture technology, student attendance, and academic performance" at the April 2016 American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine meeting in Washington, D.C.

Brenae Maddix, clinical education coordinator, received the Arizona campus fitness award for the second quarter of 2016.



Dr. McWilliams

Thomas McWilliams, DO, FACOFP, senior adviser to the dean on graduate medical education, was appointed by U.S. Health and Human Services to serve on the Health Resources and Services Administration's Advisory Committee on Training in Primary Care Medicine and Dentistry. Dr. McWilliams was nominated by the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine for his demonstrated commitment to advancing innovation in medical education, primary care, and rural health.

Sharon Obadia, DO, '97, chair of clinical science education, director of faculty development and medical skills courses, was named a 2016 National Academy of Osteopathic Medical Educators fellow by the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine.

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Dr. Drew's 5 tips on mentorship

By Karen Scott

When ATSU Board of Trustees member G. Scott Drew, DO, FAOCD, '87, decided to make the move to Missouri for medical school, it was through the guidance of an inspirational mentor, Stephen Blood, DO, '68, who convinced him ATSU-KCOM was the right choice. In school, he gained a second mentor, Alex Macaione, DO, who frequently included Dr. Drew in family functions giving him a unique opportunity to observe a doctor at home. Then, when he was deciding the next step of his career, it was David Walker, DO, '63, who guided him into dermatology.

To Dr. Drew, mentorship signifies a lifelong journey of self-discovery and gratification. He credits his own mentors, whom he still confides in, for helping shape who he is as a healthcare provider, father, husband, friend, and mentor to medical students. As a mentor, he guided roughly 20 young doctors into dermatology and dozens of students into osteopathic medicine.

Mentorship is a commitment. It requires time, patience, and camaraderie. Here, Dr. Drew provides some tips he learned through his experiences that have helped him become a successful and well-respected mentor.

1 **Becoming a mentor**

Be available. If a student expresses an interest in shadowing you for a day, welcome this experience. I have found most students are looking for guidance and are eager to help. The benefit of extending yourself can mean a commitment of a week, month, year, or in some cases, career.

2 **Makings of a mentor**

Being a mentor keeps you on your toes. These students are very bright, so you have to practice at a high level. They ask me questions not just about medicine, but all types of daily life. And they teach me things, too, like Instagram! Mentees truly have an enthusiasm about them – the carbonation to your beverage, for example.

3 **Be there as often as you can**

Be there as often as you can, but don't smother. Mentees should feel empowered. I'm not suggesting they perform heart surgery on their own, but incrementally increase their level of responsibility and give them positive feedback, and gradually they'll be conditioned to be more independent.

4 **Establishing goals**

It's important to keep your mentee on track and ensure you've established a productive path. My approach is different with each of my mentees. One constant, though, is mentoring from a global perspective. In other words, I aim to teach them how to be a physician in and out of the office.

5 **Giving feedback**

In my experience, private, constructive, and goal-oriented feedback have been well received. It's important to build a level of trust so your mentee is receptive to the conversation. It's important to remember your own shortcomings when giving advice or feedback, too.

Dr. Drew loves sharing important milestones with students, such as the annual white coat ceremonies.



Thank you for serving

Board of Trustees members complete terms of service



Daniel L. Biery, DO, FACOI, FACG, FASGE, '72

City: Phelps, New York

“The unique governance methodology is the glue that makes ATSU bind together! It was truly an honor to have served my alma mater, ATSU-KCOM, and help lead it into what it is today.”



Robert W. Uhl

City: Paradise Valley, Arizona

Having served on the board for nine years, Uhl played an integral part in establishing the University’s mission and vision statements. Uhl says working with the board is phenomenal, as it operates only by consensus, which is unlike any he’s ever worked with before.



Robert L. King, JD

City: Frankfort, Kentucky

“For me, seeing the depth of our programs, the commitment of our faculty and staff, and the passion of our students made every task and meeting worth the effort. My service on the board will be among the most treasured experiences in my life.”

Thank you

Welcome to ATSU

New members named to Board of Trustees



Drs. Sells, Morgan, and McClure visit the Missouri campus during ATSU's fall board meeting.

Michelle L. McClure, PhD, MA

City: St. Louis, Missouri

Education: Truman State University and Indiana University

Background: Dr. McClure serves as associate provost for academic affairs/dean of graduate and professional studies at Harris-Stowe University, where she has also served as assistant vice president for academic affairs since 2006. She is a peer reviewer for the Higher Learning Commission and a member of the NCATE/CAEP Board of Examiners. Her professional associations include the Association for the Study of Higher Education and American College Personnel Association. In 2010, she received the St. Louis American Salute to Excellence in Education award.

Joseph A. "Jay" Morgan, PhD

City: Frankfort, Kentucky

Education: Murray State University and Oklahoma State University

Background: Dr. Morgan serves as chief academic officer and vice president of academic affairs/student success for the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education. In addition to ATSU's board, he serves on the Board of Trustees for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges and the Kentucky Teachers Retirement System. He formerly served as provost for Murray State University.

Linnette Sells, DO, FAOASM, '82

City: Alpharetta, Georgia

Education: Truman State University and ATSU-KCOM

Background: Dr. Sells serves as a staff physician for Piedmont Urgent Care in Alpharetta and as a team physician for Georgia Tech in Atlanta. She is a member of the American Osteopathic Association and American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians and is a past president of the American Osteopathic Academy of Sports Medicine. Through her service in the U.S. Air Force, she is a veteran of Operation Desert Storm. In addition, she is a former associate professor for ATSU-KCOM and former president for the ATSU-KCOM Alumni Board.

board speaks

1930s

George W. Bock, DO, '38
Feb. 15, 2016
Denver, Colorado

Sheila M. Rogers, DO, '39
Jan. 21, 2015
Rockwood, Michigan

1940s

Willis J. "Joe" Bray Jr., DO, '41
Jan. 5, 2016
Abilene, Texas

Julie T. Frisk, DO, '41
Jan. 29, 2016
Toledo, Ohio

John A. Fetzer, DO, '43
Dec. 9, 2015
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

Joseph T. Rogers, DO, '43
Dec. 11, 2015
Rockwood, Michigan

Hugh E. Jones, DO, '44
June 8, 2016
Findlay, Ohio

1950s

William J. Knowles, DO, '50
April 3, 2016
St. Louis, Michigan

Maynard J.O. Amelon, DO, '51
Aug. 5, 2016
Palm Desert, California

Albert J. Rosman, DO, '52
July 1, 2016
North Miami Beach, Florida

Gerald J. Swiacki, DO, '52
May 9, 2016
Farmington Hills, Michigan

Norbert W. Todd, DO, '52
Oct. 28, 2015
Madera, California

Kenneth J. Mahoney, DO, '53
Aug. 7, 2015
Rochester Hills, Michigan

Edward C. Murray, DO, '53
Nov. 25, 2015
Grand Blanc, Michigan

Raymond K. Feldman, DO, '54
March 9, 2015
West Bloomfield, Michigan

Wallace J. Miller, DO, '54
March 26, 2016
Sebring, Ohio

Harmon L. Myers, DO, '54
April 4, 2016
Tucson, Arizona

William G. Castle, DO, '55
March 2, 2016
Longmont, Colorado

Everett W. Gibson, DO, '55
Aug. 7, 2016
Tucson, Arizona

Norman E. Decker, DO, '56
Feb. 3, 2016
Waterford, Michigan

Jerald V. Drost, DO, '56
Feb. 22, 2016
Boise, Idaho

Peter H. Gaggos, DO, '57
Nov. 10, 2012
St. Clair Shores, Michigan

Andrew A. Armato, DO, '58
June 13, 2016
Wailuku, Hawaii

John C. Lesniewski, DO, '58
May 3, 2016
Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

Donald E. Till, DO, '58
Jan. 31, 2016
Tucson, Arizona

Harold W. Kent, DO, '59
Dec. 31, 2013
Bluffton, South Carolina

Jules L. Reinhardt, DO, '59
July 23, 2016
Lapeer, Michigan

1960s

Jon D. Finch, DO, '60
May 5, 2016
Long Beach, Mississippi

John C. Fredericks, DO, '60
Jan. 6, 2016
Schulenburg, Texas

Janet E. Hardie, DO, '60
Aug. 11, 2011
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

William A. Larrick Jr., DO, '60
June 17, 2016
Chesterland, Ohio

Jay Chuck, DO, '61
Nov. 2, 2015
University Park, Florida

Daniel E. Detrick, DO, '61
June 23, 2015
Tremont City, Ohio

Bart E. Maggio, DO, '61
Jan. 16, 2016
West Long Branch, New Jersey

Laurence E. Bouchard, DO, '62
Dec. 11, 2015
Narragansett, Rhode Island

George L. Kelso, DO, '62
Dec. 5, 2015
Arlington, Texas

Donald E. Shoup, DO, '62
July 2, 2016
Wellsville, Missouri

Lewis J. Bamberl Jr., DO, '63
Dec. 8, 2015
Miami, Oklahoma

David E. Maglio Jr., DO, '63
Sept. 29, 2015
Providence, Rhode Island

Nelson E. Mohler, DO, '64
Sept. 21, 2015
Sagamore Hills, Ohio

Richard A. Robin, DO, '64
July 4, 2015
Jamestown, Rhode Island

Harold Thomas, DO, '65
April 13, 2016
Chagrin Falls, Ohio

Randall G. Tharp, DO, '66
July 15, 2012
Warren, Ohio

David P. Bennett, DO, '67
April 28, 2014
Morristown, Tennessee

Victor N. Kassiech, DO, '67
Feb. 9, 2016
Dublin, Ohio

Saverio N. Laudadio, DO, '67
July 10, 2016
Nesquehoning, Pennsylvania

John F. Mannix Jr., DO, '67
Feb. 14, 2016
Tallahassee, Florida

Lester W. McDonald Jr., DO, '67
Jan. 25, 2016
Cameron, Missouri

Lewis C. Perry, DO, '67
April 24, 2016
Tucson, Arizona

Thomas G. Noll, DO, '68
April 29, 2016
Crossville, Tennessee

Patrick E. Walsh, DO, '69
May 5, 2016
Rockford, Michigan

1970s

Frederick K. Lewerenz, DO, '71
March 19, 2016
West Bloomfield, Michigan

Anne Kempf, DO, '73
March 11, 2016
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Steven P. Radjenovich, DO, '74
Jan. 1, 2016
Alexandria, Minnesota

Edward A. Cutler, DO, '76
Oct. 20, 2015
Columbus, Ohio

**Robert W. Graham Jr., DO,
MPH, '77**
Sept. 3, 2016
Ithaca, Michigan

Paula Livingston, DO, '77
Jan. 17, 2016
Towanda, Kansas

James P. Riemer, DO, '77
April 2, 2016
Pawnee, Oklahoma

1980s

Victor A. Francis, DO, '80
Dec. 16, 2015
Amherst, New York

David N. Chapman, DO, '83
Sept. 7, 2015
Park Hills, Missouri

Kurt M. Bracke, DO, '87
Nov. 15, 2015
Festus, Missouri

1990s

James F. Weber, DO, '90
April 21, 2016
Farmington, Missouri

Raymond L. Bedell, DO, '91
March 8, 2014
Logan, Utah

Robert A. Parsonson, DO, '95
Dec. 14, 2015
Brookfield, Missouri

2000s

Coley P. O'Doherty, DO, '00
May 29, 2016
Omaha, Nebraska

Kristen M. Ellers, DPT, '03
March 15, 2016
Eagle River, Alaska

**Retired Lt. Col. Michael H.
Pengelly, AuD, '07**
Feb. 16, 2016
Center Valley, Pennsylvania

2010s

Sally R. Tor, DMD, MPH, MS, '10
Dec. 9, 2015
Tucson, Arizona

Scott A. Norton, MS, PA-C, '15
Feb. 3, 2016
Mesa, Arizona

**Ransom D. Weatherford, DHA,
'16**
April 24, 2016
Lexington, South Carolina

Friends

Terry Der
Dec. 8, 2015
Cave Creek, Arizona

Viola M. Frymann, DO
Jan. 23, 2016
San Diego, California

Robert N. May
July 24, 2016
Kirksville, Missouri

William F. Morris, DO
Nov. 4, 2015
Buies Creek, North Carolina

Annette A. Piper, JD
March 14, 2016
Waterford, Michigan

Martha D. "Marty" Wadlin
June 18, 2016
Springfield, Missouri

Allan K. Willingham, PhD
Sept. 7, 2016
Omaha, Nebraska

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parting shot

Miniature celebrity

Therapy animals have become a big hit on the Arizona campus. In particular, a miniature horse named Tater Tot is a favorite among ATSU students, faculty, and staff. Tater Tot visits campus in the cooler months and always sports a blue ATSU braid in his tail.

“When students pet and feed Tater Tot and the therapy dogs, it’s like a weight is lifted off their shoulders,” said Beth Poppre, MEd, associate vice president, student affairs. “Students who are missing their family pets love the opportunity to hug, pet, and take selfies with all of our therapy animals.”

Tater Tot, a miniature horse, is a local celebrity on the Arizona campus.

ATSU

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