

## SHRP represents at Boston Marathon



Occupational Therapy faculty member Dr. Dona Lee Andrew (from left), Physical Therapy alumna Amy Macon and PT student Bethany Barker show off their Boston Marathon medals.

## PT faculty, alums boost professional activities

The Physical Therapy program had 65 students graduate for the 2009-2010 academic year. Currently, 149 students are enrolled in the three-year program, plus an additional 29 students in the transitional DPT program (a track that allows licensed PTs who hold a B.S. or M.S. to advance to the doctorate).

### DID YOU KNOW?

Physical Therapy alumna Amy Macon and Aaron Ford, third-year PT student Bethany Barker, and Occupational Therapy faculty member Dr. Dona Lee Andrew completed in this year's Boston Marathon. Runners must qualify for the marathon which was held on April 19. This year, more than 23,000 runners finished the world's oldest annual marathon.

### AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Paul Kosko, the first graduate to complete the sports physical therapy residency, passed his American Board of Physical Therapy Specialists exam. Alum Sylvia McCandles, DPT, was certified by ABPTS in women's health.

Professor of physical therapy Dr. Mark Weber has been appointed to the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties, American Physical Therapy Association (ABPTS); Dr. William (Dolph) Woodall, professor of physical therapy, has been appointed to the Credentialing Services Council of the American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education and Dr. Kim Curbow Wilcox, professor of physical therapy, has been appointed to the Credentialing Services Committee of the American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education. All three faculty members also serve as site visitors for the council of the American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education.

Corrine Sampson, a physical therapist at University Hospital and a PT alumna, was certified by ABPTS in pediatrics. Physical therapists and PT alums Marcia Kidder and Quionsetta Franklin were just reappointed to the Mississippi State Board of Physical Therapy and serve as secretary and treasurer of the Board respectively.

## Dental Hygiene online program set for next year

For the 2009-2010 academic year, 19 students graduated with a B.S. in Dental Hygiene. The two-year program enrolled 25 new students in June for a total of 48 current students.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Dental Hygiene will offer a new degree-completion program beginning in June 2011. Associate professor and chair of Dental Hygiene Beckie Barry says the program will be completely online and geared toward working students who previously earned a certificate or associate degree at a community college in the state. The U.S. Department of Labor Statistics predicts Dental Hygiene jobs to increase 36 percent by 2018. Barry said it's that kind of demand that led to the development of the online program.

In March, the program received full accreditation from the ADA after its site visit with no recommendations.

In October, instructor Elizabeth Carr led the third annual MDHA Statewide Community Oral Health Project. Every year, students and dental hygiene instructors as well as dental hygienists visit nursing homes statewide and teach basic oral health care. Last year, about 500 Certified Nursing Assistants were trained in proper oral care techniques. After analyzing last year's results, Carr said this year's training focused on teaching CNAs how to deliver oral health care to difficult or combative patients.

### AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Dr. Amy Sullivan, associate professor, was appointed to the ADHA test construction committee for the Dental Hygiene National Board exam. Instructor Elizabeth Carr won an ADA Scholarship, and student Rebekah Wright won the SHRP dean's scholarship. Longtime faculty members Kit Stille, Dr. Peggy Coleman and Dr. Bob Deville retired this year.

## DIAGNOSTIC AND CLINICAL HEALTH SCIENCES CLS program offers dual degrees

For the 2009-2010 academic year, the Clinical Laboratory Science program graduated 31 students. Led by program director Dr. LaToya Richards, CLS currently has 34 traditional students and 31 Advanced Standing students.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Diagnostic and Clinical Health Sciences now offers a dual-track program that allows students to earn two degrees in three years. While CLS and Cytotechnology are both two-year B.S. programs, they share many core courses. The dual track allows students to finish the two-year CLS program, graduate, then complete Cytotechnology in one year. Dr. Hamed Benghuzzi, professor and chair of Diagnostic and Clinical Health Sciences, said having both degrees will make the graduate more marketable; laboratories, in effect, will be able to hire two techs for the price of one. He said the program should help address the shortage of clinical laboratory techs and medical techs in underserved areas of the state.

Averaging five students per year, the second



Dr. Renee Wilkins, Clinical Laboratory Science assistant professor, talks with students touring the school on July 14. The students spent the week learning about the academic programs offered at the school as part of a summer outreach project.

groups of dual track students graduated in May.

### AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

In June, Benghuzzi attended the International Congress of Biomedical Devices in Rome. The conference, which is by invitation only, hosts representatives from 70 countries around the world. This was the first year for Mississippi to be represented.

## Cason lends expertise in Nigeria

The Cytotechnology program graduated 5 students for the 2009-2010 academic year. The program currently has five juniors and 6 seniors enrolled.

### DID YOU KNOW?

In May, program director Zelma Cason spent two weeks in Nigeria as a volunteer training pathologists and scientists from across the country in how to screen for cervical cancer. Cason said the country does not have cytotechnology specialists, and the health-care providers who attended her seminars hope to

sit for the American Society for Clinical Pathology certification exam.

### AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

In May the program reached a milestone when one of its graduates for the first time completed medical school at UMMC. Dr. Nourelhoda Ibrahim Farah earned her B.S. in Cytotechnology in 2005. She's now undergoing residency training in Pediatrics at UMMC. "Our students are motivated to continue their education," Benghuzzi said.



Fall  
2010

THE SCHOOL OF

# HEALTH RELATED PROFESSIONS



Master of Health Sciences students listen as Dr. Steve Watson, associate dean for student services in the School of Health Related Professions, discusses leadership qualities during an orientation session last spring at the Norman C. Nelson Student Union.

## Furthering education

### Student interest helps drive new Master of Health Sciences program

In 2004, the School of Health Related Professions enrolled the first students in Health Sciences, a baccalaureate program designed to promote career advancement for health-care workers and administrative personnel by equipping them with a professional degree.

Six years later, the success of that program has led the way for the Master of Health Sciences Program, which launched its first semester in May.

"It's for working adults," said Dr. Clyde Deschamp, associate professor and chair of General Health Professions. "It's designed to prepare upper-level health-care managers. It picks up where the bachelor's degree leaves off."

"It's also designed to prepare faculty members for health-related academic programs, especially at community colleges."

The program is 36 hours beyond the B.S., and students are encouraged to take two courses or six hours per semester but no more than nine hours. The program now has a total of 29 students enrolled.

Deschamp serves as director of the program, but as many as 11 faculty members share in the teaching workload.

Like Health Sciences, the Master of Health Sciences Program is comprised of two separate tracks: a leadership track and a track that focuses on health informatics. In effect, the new program will represent the advanced degree for both Health Sciences and Health Informatics and Information Management (HIIM), also a baccalaureate program.

"Any student who has earned a bachelor's degree and



holds a license or a certificate in an appropriate health-care discipline is our target student," Deschamp said.

The program already is seeing heavy interest, with a pool of applicants that includes health-care professionals practicing in respiratory therapy, radiologic sciences, HIIM, and other health-care disciplines. Roughly 30-35 percent of applicants have been from outside the Medical Center campus.

Deschamp said the move toward a master's program was fueled largely by the interest expressed by students.

"The bachelor's program has been such a tremendous success, and in every graduating class we've had students asking about a master's program. We just decided, if there's that much demand, we're the ones who should offer it," he said.

Many of the incoming master's students are graduates of the Health Sciences program. Aimed at part-time or non-traditional students, all of the program's classes are

## Inside

Take a look at what's new in each program within the School of Health Related Professions:

- Clinical Laboratory Science
- Cytotechnology
- Dental Hygiene
- Health Informatics and Information Management
- Health Sciences
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Radiologic Sciences

offered online, with the exception of a weekend orientation session and possibly the capstone presentation, Deschamp said.

The new cohort of students visited campus for orientation in May for two days of activities including presentations on leadership and communication skills.

Dr. Mitzi Norris, who teaches the first-semester Leadership course, gave the new students a crash course in business etiquette. She explained that for health-care professionals to be effective leaders, they have to be able to communicate well with a variety of people.

"It's a whole different skill set clinicians have as opposed to administrative skills and communication skills. For them to be effective leaders, they need to have the whole package," said Norris, director of accreditation in the Office of Academic Affairs.



# the Dean's Corner

Greetings from the SHRP faculty, staff and students. It is my pleasure to share some of our good news with you in this fall edition of the alumni newsletter. You helped lay a strong foundation of achievement and professionalism for our current students, and we intend to maintain your legacy.

■ This fall, SHRP enrolled a total of 665 students, up from 590 in fall 2009.

■ In March, Clinical Laboratory Sciences had its site visit for accreditation by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences and in September the program was reaccredited with no recommendations.

■ Cytochemistry also had a site visit in March and gained reaccreditation in July with no recommendations by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs.

■ Dental Hygiene received its reaccreditation by the American Dental Association in August with no recommendations after having its site visit in March.

■ We initiated a new Master of Health Sci-

ences degree program in 2010. This part-time, online program allows credentialed health-care providers who hold bachelor's degrees to earn their master's. Enrollment will be competitive and limited to 25 per cohort, with new cohorts each semester.

■ Our Doctor of Physical Therapy and Master of Occupational Therapy professional graduate programs continue to have strong enrollment and very high pass rates on their licensure exams.

■ Our baccalaureate programs in clinical laboratory sciences, cytotechnology, dental hygiene, health informatics and information management, and health sciences are maintaining or growing in enrollment and doing well on their applicable credentialing exams.

With the economy as it is, we project further reductions in state funding. However, we expect enrollment growth to help us weather any funding cuts. We continue to seek all possible efficiencies in using our funds.

— Ben Mitchell, Ph.D., Dean

## Hands-on learning



Occupational Therapy student Eric Knox demonstrates to Dental Hygiene students how he transfers himself from his wheelchair into a dentist chair during a class at the Dental Hygiene Clinic. Senior Dental Hygiene students (from left), Grady Watt, Janie Prude, Leigh Peterson and Johnna Harvey observe. Senior DH students and 2nd-year OT students gathered to share some of the skills they've learned. The yearly event is coordinated by Dr. Amy Sullivan, associate professor of dental hygiene, and Peter Giroux, associate professor of occupational therapy.

Terry High School student P.J. Stamps, right, practices taking the blood pressure of Richland High School student Alexis Ware while Murrah High graduate LaPortia Daniels looks on during a SHRP summer outreach program. The students were among a group who spent the week at the school learning about the academic opportunities offered there. The event was organized by Faye Johnson, assistant dean for multicultural affairs.



## THE SCHOOL OF HEALTH RELATED PROFESSIONS

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## Radiologic Sciences students gain new simulation lab

Radiologic Sciences students Ryan Bostick and Roxy Bayne practice using imaging equipment, while Russell Sistrunk and Simira Nazir (background) study radiographic images in the newly completed Radiologic Sciences lab. Construction on the lab, located in the School of Health Related Professions, was completed in early March.

The new Radiologic Sciences program has completed its first year in SHRP after enrolling its first group of students last August. Those 22 students are on track to earn the B.S. degree next spring as they complete the five-semester long program.

Program director Mark Gray said 25 new students enrolled this semester, for a total enrollment of 47 students for fall of 2010.

### DID YOU KNOW?

This spring, students began using the newly-completed Radiologic Sciences simulation lab on the second floor of the

SHRP building. The imaging suite is equipped with a lead-lined radiology room, a viewing room, work stations and processing equipment.

Big enough to accommodate up to 30 students, it enables students to practice both direct radiography, computed radiography, and if desired, conventional film-screen images in one location. Although film-screen imaging is used less frequently, Gray said it's important for students to learn because it is still practiced in some areas of the state.

Another advantage to the simulation lab is that it allows students to gain clinical training without having to schedule lab time around patient services, "because the patients come

first," Gray said. Until the lab was completed, students did their classroom work in SHRP and lab work at the hospital.

"Hopefully, it will benefit the state in the long run by producing radiology technologists with advanced degrees and advanced training," said Gray.

### AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

In late October, Radiologic Sciences students will attend the annual conference of the Mississippi Society of Radiologic Technologists in Natchez and will take part in the different student competitions. Of six students statewide chosen to present papers, five are members of the 2nd-year class.

## GENERAL HEALTH PROFESSIONS

### 1991 HIIM graduate named alumna of the year

For the 2009-2010 academic year, the Health Informatics and Information Management (HIIM) program graduated 15 students, including two from its progression program, an online track for part-time students.

Dr. Ann Peden, associate professor and program chair, says the Bachelor of Science program has a total of 31 students enrolled, including seven in the progression program.

### DID YOU KNOW?

The School of Health Related Professions' Health Informatics and Information Management program originated as the School for

Medical Records Librarians, a certificate program in the hospital which graduated its first two students in 1960. Peden was among the first students to graduate from the program after it moved to SHRP in 1974.

To reflect advances in the discipline and technology, the Institutes of Higher Learning approved the current title in 2008.



Morton

After earning her B.S. in Health Information Administration at SHRP in 1991, Judy Stump joined University Hospitals and Health System as a Performance Improvement coordinator and two years later became director of Performance Improvement. In January, Stump took on the additional role of Administrative Director of Quality. Board certified as a Registered Health Information Administrator, Stump lives in Brandon with her daughter, Shelby.

### AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Judy Stump, who received her degree in HIIM in 1991, was named the SHRP Alumnus of the Year at the 2009 SHRP Alumni and Friends dinner in November.

In July, Dr. Lisa Morton will present two research projects at the Assembly on Education symposium in New Orleans, one with former faculty member Sonya Beard and Dr.



James Glisson and the other with the Delta Health Alliance. Faculty member Angela Morey was named president-elect of the Mississippi Health Information Management Association.

HIIM graduate Allison Sutterfield received the MSHIMA Rising Star award and Morton received the Research award at the state meeting in June.

## Health Sciences sees demand, enrollment rise

Adding about 40 new students each semester, the Health Sciences program has a total enrollment of 154 this fall.

Designed for part-time and working students, the program had 40 students graduate in May.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Health Sciences holds classes in fall, spring and summer semesters, and new students are accepted each semester. Dr. Javis Knott, assistant professor and program director, said interest in Health Sciences continues to grow, so much so that when the registration period ends for one semester, prospective students are already set to enter the next semester.

Knott said the school's new Master of Health Sciences program actually is helping to drive that interest. In fact, this fall's total enrollment represents an increase of 29 students from a total of 125 students a year ago.

## Morgan named new chair of OT

With 103 students currently enrolled, the Occupational Therapy program continues to prepare the next generation of therapists for the high-demand profession. In May, 30 students graduated from the master's degree program.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Dr. Christy Morgan, associate professor of Occupational Therapy, has been named chair of the department.

A faculty member since 2005, Morgan earned her B.S. in occupational therapy at UMMC in 1996. In 2001, she earned her master's degree from Mississippi College, and last year completed her Ph.D. in Clinical Health Sciences at UMMC. Morgan succeeds founding OT chair Bette Groat.

Both faculty and students have been involved in community service activities recently. In June, faculty members Kayla Abraham, Jeff Foster, and Peter Giroux

along with several second-year students, provided their expertise in a Health Fair for the Hispanic Community in Canton. A number of second-year students have also participated throughout the summer in the RBI (Returning Baseball to the Inner-city) youth program.



Dr. Christy Morgan

### AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Faculty members Dr. Dona Lee Andrew, Peter Giroux, Lorraine Street and Carol Tubbs, along with alumni Nicole Coleman, Beth Crowell and Jessica Stokes presented student/faculty research posters at the national American Occupational Therapy Association Conference in Orlando. Andrew also made contributions from a previous student/faculty research poster on interprofessional education to an article being published in OT Practice Magazine. OT graduate Danielle Whittington was selected as this year's Lee Holder Award recipient, a national award given in recognition of excellence in graduate-level allied health education.

## Coming Events

- **November 12:** SHRP Alumni & Friends Day — including class reunions honoring the classes of 2000 in CLS, CYTO, DH, HIIM, OT and PT. For more information, contact Ginger Daniels at 984-1725 or groby@umc.edu.
- **December 4:** Jingle Bell Jog 5K — for more information, contact Gina Beasley at 601-984-5226 or gbeasley@umc.edu
- **February 2011:** UMMC Alumni Reception - APT meeting, New Orleans.
- **February 19, 2011:** UMMC's annual Taste of the U.

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