



# SHRP

2015

School of Health Related Professions

Dr. Lawson Parker, left, advanced general dentistry resident, and Molly Ramsay, dental hygiene student, carefully transfer Morgan Moran, occupational therapy student, from a wheelchair to a dental exam chair while Dr. Amy Sullivan, associate professor of dental hygiene, looks on.

## UNIFYING SHRP

Activities enhance school's interdepartmental identity

By Ruth I. Cummins

When the School of Health Related Professions fires up its grills for a student cookout, Caroline Campbell gets much more out of it than free hot dogs and chips.

She gets to chat with students who aren't in her occupational therapy classes. If not for the hot dog line, she might never even greet them in a SHRP hallway.

"You might be standing with someone you don't know, and you get to talking," said Campbell, an OT student. "I know some students in physical therapy, but radiologic and laboratory sciences - we don't know them as much. I'd enjoy getting to

know others, especially out-of-town people who don't live here.

"You make friends in your own classes, but you might have a potential roommate who might be in another field. The cookouts are a great way to network."

Bringing SHRP's students and faculty together for social and learning activities is the goal of the school's dean, Dr. Jessica Bailey (B.S., Health Informatics and Information Management '80). She and other administrators want to unify academic departments, creating one central identity under the SHRP umbrella.

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# School embraces diverse curricula, disparate learning experiences

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They're addressing a challenge that's existed for years: Students and teachers in different academic disciplines often don't know each other because their fields usually don't intersect.

"Their curricula are just completely different paths," said Dr. Steve Watson, associate dean for student services who's taking a lead role in spearheading student cookouts and other fun activities geared to attract all departments. "The students are all focused on being the best health-care providers they can be, but their theories are different, and they don't find themselves in class together.

"We're not like a traditional institution where a lot of people begin together with English 101. But they see each other in our building, and their curiosity is raised."

SHRP offers bachelor's degrees in medical laboratory science, cytotechnology, dental hygiene, health sciences, health informatics and information management, radiologic sciences and a post-baccalaureate program in nuclear medicine and magnetic resonance imaging. SHRP also offers a master's of health sciences, master's of occupational therapy, master's of health informatics and information management, a doctor of physical therapy and a doctor of health administration.

It's easy to see why students in radiologic sciences, for example, wouldn't share a classroom with cytotechnology majors. But they could still rub shoulders in a classroom hallway and meet others outside their fields – if opportunities are made available.

"One of the interesting things about SHRP that is amazing and a challenge is that there are so many programs," said Eric Holland, a recent physical therapy graduate and current PT resident.

"If you take dental hygiene, a first-year student doesn't generally interact with a second-year, or a first-year PT student with the second-year. Compound that challenge with all the different programs under the SHRP umbrella," Holland said.

Bailey, professor of clinical health sciences, vowed when she became dean in May 2013 to bring the school's disciplines together.

"It is very near and dear to my heart," she said. "When I speak at orientation, I tell them that when I was a student here, it was that same way. I didn't know who the dental hygiene students were. I didn't know the PT students.

"We all had our own little class. Everyone was doing their own thing." Students and faculty need to intermingle, Bailey said.

"The key buzzword in education today is interprofessional," she said. "We're being asked to create teams. When students graduate, they don't work alone. They're part of a health-care team.

"I'm trying to create the mindset that we learn together, and we learn how that integrates into what other people are doing."

"This is really desperately needed," said Dr. Hamed Benghuzzi, professor and chair of diagnostic and clinical health sciences. "Sometimes, the disciplines vary tremendously, and you don't see in the curriculum something to bring them together.

"Dr. Bailey is trying to make a more interactive environment for students. They may end up at the same hospital, but they need to network now and help each other to effectively care for patients."

Gabrielle Campo, a dental hygiene graduate, agreed it can be hard to interact with students outside a given major.

She was in student government, "so that's how I've gotten to know other departments," said Campo, who served as vice president.

"The effort has to be there to meet people.

You do so much with your individual department that it's almost like a safety blanket."

Campo, Holland and Campbell said they have definitely noticed and appreciated the efforts of Bailey and the administration to unify departments, students and faculty. Among them:

- Soon after she became dean, Bailey placed OT and PT faculty on the same hall, and arranged radiologic sciences next to medical laboratory science.

"When I came into this position, there was no structure so far as faculty offices," she said. "People were located in a hit-or-miss way.

"It's useful for the faculty to get to know each other. They can collaborate. They can know what each discipline is all about."

- Faculty recently added a new wrinkle to a decades-old exercise that brings together OT and dental hygiene.

OT students teach their dental hygiene counterparts how to safely transfer a disabled or elderly patient from a wheelchair to a dental chair using a special board that allows them to slide from one chair into another.

"This is the second year that the OT and dental hygiene students have



SHRP's Collaboratory is a popular gathering place for interactions among students and faculty.

UMMC SHRP is produced by the Division of Public Affairs at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

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## A Message from the Dean

As we review the academic year 2014-15, we have much to be thankful for at the School of Health Related Professions.

During this past year, we had very successful accreditation site visits in the areas of nuclear medicine, occupational therapy and radiologic sciences. Our programs continue to provide a quality education for all of the disciplines in our building.

We had approximately 650 students enrolled in programs at SHRP, and about 250 of those students have learned through online

instruction. We graduated about 240 students at commencement last May and sent out highly competent health-care providers throughout the state of Mississippi.

Our faculty and students are devoted to the mission of the university by improving the lives of all Mississippians.

Recognizing that health care is provided to patients by a team of professionals, we continue to find ways to incorporate interprofessional education opportunities between and among our disciplines within SHRP. We look forward to hosting social events for the students to get to know other students who are outside of their specific disciplines.

worked with dentists and dental residents to educate them on the process," Watson said.

- Administrators created SHRP Focus, a quarterly event where faculty and staff enjoy a meal and give brief reports on what's going on in their academic areas, along with an e-learning update and often a guest speaker.

"I've tried to include something fun for everyone," Bailey said. "We have had SHRP Jeopardy, with questions about the faculty members and administrators.

"I found an old VHS tape created by the faculty before the new part of our building was added on in 1999. At that particular meeting, we focused on SHRP then and SHRP now."

- A classroom space has been designated the "Collaboratory," a gathering place useful for interactive learning and collaboration between students and faculty.

"It's also become a popular gathering place for students and is available after 3 p.m.," Bailey said. "For faculty in our building and across campus, the space may be reserved between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m.

"People my age walk into the room and say, 'This is like being on the bridge of the Starship Enterprise.' The students think it's like being in the Apple Store. There's a lot that goes on there that isn't discipline-specific."

- Graduating students were treated to an informal party, complete with a DJ, last year – an event that will take place every spring.

We also continue to look for opportunities to share our specific skills learned in allied health professions with the School of Medicine, School of Nursing, School of Dentistry and School of Pharmacy.

As the "Taste of the U" had its final competition last spring, our students were recognized for their creativity and culinary skills, bringing home first-prize and second-prize honors. Our SHRP students are involved in many community-service endeavors and take an active role in the student-led Jackson Free Clinic.

We are very pleased to announce that we will be the first in the state to have a designation of recognition of our online programs by Quality Matters, an entity that has developed rigorous standards for assessing quality in online courses.

Recently, SHRP was awarded a grant from the Hearin Foundation in support of a Mississippi Rural Allied Health Professionals Scholarship. The scholarship awards will be offered to SHRP eligible students in the fall 2015 semester.

Our administration, faculty and staff are all committed to making each student's experience at the School of Health Related Professions the best that it can be.

Professor of Clinical Health Sciences and  
Dean, School of Health Related Professions

"It was truly our very first alumni reunion, even though they hadn't graduated yet," Watson said. "It was a lot of fun to see them interact. They just wanted to be with each other and talk."

That was followed 1st fall with a first-ever function to welcome all students back to school.

"It's an opportunity for some of our online students to interact at a different level," Watson said. "They're coming here to learn, but this gives them the opportunity to put names with faces."

- New OT and PT students enjoy a summer cookout at the SHRP picnic area before fall classes begin.

"It's hot dogs, chips and different kinds of ice cream," Bailey said. "We want them from the time they get here to be in the mindset of not just knowing their own class, but other disciplines, too."

Establishing a single SHRP identity "is not something that's going to happen overnight, but already, I see positive cultural changes," Bailey said. "I see the students interacting more, and I see positive interaction with the faculty."

Last November, Bailey said, Watson came to her office after all classes had ended.

"I've got to show you something," he said.

"He took me to the computer lab and opened the door," Bailey recalled. "There wasn't an empty seat. It was packed with students, all working together in groups on projects or studying, and it wasn't just one discipline. Almost every discipline was represented.

"I can't tell you how special that was. It makes everything worth it."



# Cytotechnology

## Innovating learning through technology

Cytotechnology faculty use several innovative teaching strategies and tools to facilitate student mastery of large volumes of didactic and clinical materials for initial learning and testing, and ultimately for board exam preparation.



CT students are well acquainted with these board exam review books.

Several of these technologies include Panopto lecture taping, TurningPoint and Clicker Technologies for clinical diagnosis entry and immediate feedback of performances on daily quizzes, Quizlet study questions, and board exam reviews.

Student response to these innovations has been largely positive. Here is a sampling of their comments:

"Panopto (is) very useful for review . . . (I) can return to lectures over and over."

"Quizlet (is) great in preparing for our tests."

"Quizlet is an awesome study tool for students in getting ready for quizzes and exams."

"ASCP practice tests are great . . . (They are) quite helpful in knowing what the registry exam will be like." **SH RP**



CT faculty use clicker technology for daily quizzes.



## Presenting and presiding at MAS

- Members of the Department of Diagnostic and Clinical Health Sciences and the Cytotechnology Program were extremely proud that Dr. Zelma Cason (B.S., Cytotechnology '66; M.S., Cytotechnology '02; Ph.D., Cytotechnology '12), professor of cytotechnology, was selected to serve as the 79th president of the Mississippi Academy of Science (MAS). All cytotechnology students presented their research projects at the organization's 79th annual meeting.

- Dr. Elgenaid Hamadain, professor of clinical health sciences, Ken Heard, assistant professor of cytotechnology, and Dr. Hamed Benghuzzi, professor of clinical health sciences, are among the leadership team for the MAS, the Southern Biomedical Engineering Conference, the Rocky Mountain Bioengineering Symposium and the American Institute of Medical and Biological Engineering.

- Seven students were selected by the Health Sciences Division to present research at the Millsaps-HHMI symposium Feb. 27 in the Thad Cochran Convention Center at the University of Southern Mississippi.

- Cason and Heard are active in the gynecological cytology training of pathology residents and cytopathology fellows. They also serve as managing organizers and proctors during the proficiency testing of the cytotechnologists and staff pathologists in the cytopathology laboratory at UMMC, which is required annually by the ASCP. **SH RP**

# Dental Hygiene

From the capitol to the classroom, DH students, faculty stay involved



1. Dental hygiene students attend the board review course.
2. Dental hygiene students practice their CPR skills.
3. Dental hygiene faculty and staff enjoy socializing during the holidays.
4. Dental hygiene students visit with state senators Debbie Dawkins, left, and Tommy Gollott, center, during a tour of the Mississippi Capitol Jan. 13.
5. A dental hygiene student practices taking radiographs of “Dexter” in the School of Dentistry lab.
6. Dental hygiene students strike a pose before embracing the challenges of a rigorous academic schedule.

## About the program

The Dental Hygiene Program offers a traditional dental hygiene Bachelor’s of Science Degree program and an online advanced standing program. The traditional program prepares students for initial licensure.

The advanced standing Baccalaureate Degree Program in Dental Hygiene enhances the quality and education of dental hygienists. It enables practicing licensed dental hygienists to update their educational backgrounds, enhance

their didactic skills, improve their clinical decision-making skills and receive the Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene.

The Dental Hygiene Program is accredited by the American Dental Association, Commission on Dental Accreditation, a specialized accrediting body recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation and the United States Department of Education. For more information about the program, visit [umc.edu/shrp/](http://umc.edu/shrp/) and select “Dental Hygiene.” **SHRP**

# Health Sciences



## H.S. Program ranks among nation's finest

In May 2014, the Bachelor's in Health Sciences Program in the School of Health Related Professions at the University of Mississippi Medical Center ranked No. 18 nationally in an article published by TheBestSchools.org, "The 25 Best Bachelor's in Health Science Degree Programs."

TheBestSchools.org selected programs based on several weighted factors, including academic excellence, course offerings, accomplishment of faculty and reputation, including the school's reputation for providing online degrees.

TheBestSchools.org is a leading resource for prospective students seeking a college or university degree.

## From health sciences to health-care advocacy

By Belinda Johnson

Upon graduating from the School of Health Related Professions' Health Sciences Bachelor's Program in May 2013, I continued my education by entering a graduate program in public health while also working as an adjunct instructor in the Business Office Technology (BOT) Department at Hinds Community College.



Johnson

My career aspiration is to become a health-care advocate. A health-care advocate is the voice for the indigent community. Another role of an advocate is to educate and, thereby, empower individuals who are often overlooked when making healthier lifestyle choices.

## Radiation therapist values M.H.S. opportunity



Otts

By Jeremy Otts

After 15 years working as a radiation therapist, the passion to impact patients' lives and provide compassionate care continues to grow.

Currently, I serve as the chief radiation therapist in radiation oncology at UMMC. During the past several years, numerous colleagues in this organization have

encouraged me to pursue the M.H.S. degree and grow as a leader at this institution.

Thus far, the program has enlightened me more on the need for self-awareness in health care, and especially as leaders.

## Health Sciences scholars and engagements

• In Dec. 2014, Dr. Juanyce Taylor, chair and assistant professor of health sciences, attended the 2014 Minority Health and Health Disparities Grantees' Conference in National Harbor, Maryland, which included her published abstract, "Barriers and Facilitators for Young Males of Color: In Their Own Voice." Taylor also was invited to submit a critical analysis to the DREAM Collection of MedEd PORTAL Publications, "Critical Analysis of the Interprofessional Collaborative Organization Map and Preparedness Assessment Tool (IP-COMPASS)."

• The Population Health Journal Club featured Dr. Warren May, professor of biostatistics for the Center of Biostatistics and Informatics and professor of health sciences in SHRP, as lead discussant on the article, "Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Chronic Diseases of Youths and Access to Health Care in the United States" (Price, Khubchandani, McKinney, & Braun, 2013).

• Dr. Dana West, assistant professor of health sciences, submitted a paper to the National Association for Student Personnel Administrators, "Perceptions of Sexual Minority Administrators Concerning the Impact of Their Sexual Orientation on Their Professional Careers in Higher Education."

• Taylor and West have also submitted an abstract for the 2016 American Educational Research Journal Centennial Issue, "Andragogy in Online Education: Its Impact on Career Advancement among Graduate Students in Health Sciences."

• Dr. John Hodnett, assistant professor of health sciences, recently had an article published. The citation: Lauterbach, S.S. & Hodnett, J. (2016). Psychiatric care and mental health in the community. In K.S. Lundy and S. Janes (Eds.). Community health nursing: Caring for the public's health (3rd Ed.). Burlington, MA: Jones and Bartlett Learning.

• Dr. Jessylen Age represents the School of Health Related Professions on the UMMC Institutional Teaching for Quality (Te4Q) Committee and is the lead on its Te4Q Faculty (Instructional) Team. Recently, she and members of the committee submitted an abstract, "Integrating Quality Improvement in Health Professions Curricula: Interprofessional Faculty Engagement," for the 2015 Integrating Quality Meeting sponsored by the Association of American Medical Colleges, scheduled for June.

## Soul-searching and self-examination

In February, the Department of Health Sciences began an extensive self-study to assess departmental effectiveness, student learning and


achievement, and how well its academic programs fulfill its stated mission and meet desired standards.

**Core areas for health sciences include:**

- Administration and leadership,
- Ethics, law and policy,
- Health education,
- Organizational development,
- Program and strategic planning, and
- Critical thinking.

The external review is being led by Dr. Lori A. Wolff, professor and director of the Dr. Maxine Harper Center for Educational Research and Evaluation, and Dr. Marie Barnard, visiting assistant professor of educational research at the University of Mississippi.

**A new scope of teaching and learning**

The Department of Health Sciences will integrate health education in its curriculum beginning in the summer. Students enrolled in related courses may gain eligibility to become a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) through the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing (NCHEC). 

**About the program**

The Health Sciences Program and the Master of Health Sciences Program are each accredited through the University of Mississippi Medical Center's accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

For more information about the program, visit [umc.edu/shrp/](http://umc.edu/shrp/) and select "Health Sciences" or "Master of Health Sciences."

# Health Administration

**Doctoral program preps premier graduate class**

The Department of Health Administration faculty are exceedingly proud of the initial cohort of students in the D.H.A. program who will complete their requirements for graduation this year. Each brought his or her unique strengths and expertise to the group projects required in the rigorous program.


As the students completed the final phase of the program, they formed a resilient interdisciplinary powerhouse that provided a positive impact to the future of health administration.

These students are defending their doctoral projects this summer. Among their presentations are:

- Primary care physicians' perceptions of care transitions,
- Examining organizational strategies distinguishing heart failure readmission rates,
- Barriers to understanding the health insurance marketplace in rural Mississippi,
- Developing partnerships for a pediatric hospitalist service, and
- Financial competencies of middle managers.

The D.H.A. faculty are excited about the variety and quality of health-care professionals represented in the class that entered this summer. As the application pool continues to increase, the program is becoming even more competitive and the student diversity and the incoming students' qualifications are exemplary.

The faculty are committed to assuring the D.H.A. program will help prepare graduates to become the innovative leaders and problem-solvers needed to combat the dilemmas facing America's health-care infrastructure.

Those interested in becoming part of a program that offers an advanced educational opportunity in health care leadership may call our student recruiter, Farrah Banks, at (601) 984-6332 or our program coordinator, Angela Burrell, at (601) 984-6304. 

**About the program**

The online/blended Doctor of Health Administration Degree Program develops inter-professional leaders who will shape the direction of health care. The program offers courses ranging from epidemiology to health policy and strategic change management, so graduates will be prepared to assume leadership roles in academia, health-care practice or health-care administration.

Offered across nine semesters, the program is designed for, but not limited to, part-time, nontraditional students. Online coursework is the primary method of content delivery, with minimal face-to-face mandatory on-campus sessions.

For more information about the program, visit [umc.edu/shrp/](http://umc.edu/shrp/) and select "Health Administration."

# Health Informatics and Information Management

## Coding, CDI manager opens up about HIIM opportunities

By Greg Davis

Coding and CDI manager, Health Information Services,  
North Mississippi Medical Center, Tupelo

In 1995, I received an associate's degree in computer science and then transferred to a local university to finish my undergraduate degree.

I worked as a PC technician in the assistive technology department at that university. While assisting individuals to realize a greater level of independence with technology, I made the decision to go to nursing school.



Davis

In 1997, while attending nursing school, I started working as a nursing assistant at North Mississippi Medical Center (NMMC) in Tupelo. I obtained my nursing degree in 2000 and then worked as a staff R.N. in orthopedics and pediatric specialties.

Within a few years, an opportunity came along to work in the management information department as a liaison between the IT staff and the medical staff. With my IT and nursing background, I jumped at the opportunity.

I worked in our inpatient and ambulatory electronic medical records, trained physicians and clinic staff on the computer systems along with custom programming and HL7 interface development for third-party vendors for 12 years. During my time in the department, I was given the opportunity to continue my professional education.

I obtained my Bachelor of Business Administration degree in management information systems from the University of Mississippi in 2010. I then was encouraged to obtain my master's degree, so I enrolled in the Master of Health Informatics and Information Management program in the School of

Health Related Professions at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

Although my goal was to stay in the IT field and focus on informatics, I felt the opportunity to obtain my Registered Health Information Administrator (R.H.I.A.) degree and expand my knowledge in information management would be very beneficial to my career. Through the coursework, I was given more opportunities to work with our H.I.M. department, and I felt this was the best path for my future.

A month before graduation, I was offered the coding and clinical documentation improvement (CDI) manager position in the H.I.M. department here at NMMC. In November 2013, I accepted the position. Within two weeks, I obtained my R.H.I.A. and graduated from UMMC in December 2013.

Since graduation, I volunteered as the northern liaison with the Mississippi Health Information Management Association a component state association of the American Health Information Management Association. In November 2014, I also sat for and passed my Certified Coding Specialist (CCS) certification.

My future plans are to continue to volunteer with MSHIMA and obtain my Certified Documentation Improvement Practitioner (C.D.I.P.) certification. The Master of Health Informatics and Information Management (M.H.I.I.M.) degree was an excellent educational opportunity and really opened up new avenues for my future. **SH RP**

### About the program

For more information about the program, visit [umc.edu/shrp/](http://umc.edu/shrp/) and select "Health Informatics and Information Management."

## Analyst explains how an HIIM degree can lead to an Epic career

By Janie Free

Associate Epic application coordinator/analyst, Information Systems

When I graduated from Mississippi College in 2011, I would've never imagined that in three years I'd be working at UMMC as an Epic analyst. In fact, I was in the process of submitting graduate applications to marriage and family counseling programs.

Following graduation, I was not successful in gaining employment in my field of study. However, I feel fortunate that during school, I had been working part-time at UMMC as a student researcher. Upon graduation, I was offered a full-time position as an administrative assistant in the Division of Digestive Diseases.



Free

It wasn't long before I had my first exposure to Epic, the Electronic Health Record system used at the Medical Center. My formal training of Epic was limited, but I found myself fascinated with the system.

Across campus, departments were preparing for the big transition from paper charts to Epic. Hallway conversations were filled with tones of excitement and angst over the topic.

I watched firsthand as some of my coworkers and physicians and nurses

whom I admired for their excellence in patient care struggled navigating through the system. I wanted to help.

It was during this time that I realized how valuable the knowledge of health information management is to the clinical component of the health-care delivery system.

When I learned that UMMC's School of Health Related Professions was one of a very select number of programs across the country that offered an M.H.I.I.M. degree, I felt it was the right career path for me.

During the course of my studies, one of my professors suggested that I should consider applying for an Epic analyst position. I figured I had nothing to lose, as the worse they could say was 'no.'

This was the best piece of advice and encouragement that any professor has ever offered to me. I became Epic Ambulatory Certified in December of 2014.

I continue to learn something new each day and I feel as though I've found my niche in health care. During the course of my career, I hope to contribute to the delivery of improved patient care by optimizing the system and making clinician workflows more efficient so real efforts can be focused on providing the highest quality of care to patients. **SH RP**



# Medical Laboratory Science

## MLS faculty rub elbows with Clinical Laboratory Science professionals

MLS faculty are always eager to participate in UMMC's annual commencement and in the annual state society meetings hosted by Mississippi and Louisiana.

The annual conference of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science for Mississippi took place in Shreveport, Louisiana, in February.

Most of the MLS faculty have prestigious roles for the ASCLS-MS: Dr. Felicia Tardy (B.S., Clinical Laboratory Science, Medical Laboratory Science '97; M.S., Clinical Health Sciences '01; Ph.D., Clinical Health Sciences '10), assistant professor of MLS, serves as ASCLS-MS chairman of the Student Forum; Dr. Renee Wilkins (B.S., Clinical Laboratory Science, Medical Laboratory Science '99; M.S., Clinical Health Sciences '07; Ph.D., Clinical Health Sciences '10), assistant professor of MLS, serves as ASCLS-MS president; Dr. Stacy Vance (B.S., Clinical Laboratory Science, Medical Laboratory Science '99; Ph.D., Clinical Health Sciences '08), associate professor of MLS, serves as ASCLS-MS chairman of professional/economic affairs; Dr. LaToya Richards Moore (B.S., Clinical Labora-

tory Science, Medical Laboratory Science '96; M.S., Clinical Health Sciences '02; Ph.D., Clinical Health Sciences '06), associate professor of MLS, serves on the ASCLS-MS Board of Directors and acts as past president; and Jana Bagwell (B.S., Clinical Laboratory Science, Medical Laboratory Science, Molecular Diagnostics '05) instructor in MLS, serves as ASCLS-MS student bowl judge and coordinator.

### New patch IDs MLS members

In 2014, UMMC administrators and officials approved a patch signifying the Medical Laboratory Science program in the School of Health Related Professions. Designed by the MLS Department, along with MLS students, the patch now adorns the laboratory gear and apparel of MLS faculty and students.



This colorful patch adorns the uniforms and lab coats of MLS students and faculty at UMMC.



MLS faculty who have significant roles in the ASCLS-MS include, from left, Dr. Felicia Tardy, Dr. Renee Wilkins, Dr. Stacy Vance, Dr. LaToya Richards Moore and Jana Bagwell.

### ASAHP honors MLS alum with Rodenberg Award

Last October, Iliane Miranda Fonseca, a 2014 MLS graduate, received the National Sidney D. Rodenberg Memorial Scholastic Award during the Annual Conference of the Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions (ASAHP) at the Bally's Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Fonseca also was SHRP's "Trailblazer in MLS" and the first MLS student to serve as SHRP's class marshal. The native of Puerto Rico ended her last year in the MLS program with a 4.0 grade-point average. **SH RP**

### About the program

For more information about the program, visit [umc.edu/shrp/](http://umc.edu/shrp/) and select "Medical Laboratory Science."

## Juniors raise cane, funds to attend annual state CLS meeting

Last year's MLS junior class partnered with a local restaurant chain, to raise funds to attend the annual state meeting hosted by the Mississippi and Louisiana Societies for Clinical Laboratory Science.

This successful collaboration helped form a "bridge" of community service with other organizations, such as the Mississippi Kidney Foundation and the World Aids Day Society. Members of the MLS program said they look forward to future fund-raising opportunities. **SH RP**

MLS students band with a local restaurant chain to raise funds to attend a statewide meeting.



# Occupational Therapy

## MOT program receives full reaccreditation

On April 28-30, 2014, the Master of Occupational Therapy Program participated in a reaccreditation site visit by three evaluators from the Accreditation Council on Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA).

The visit was very successful - the site team found the program in full compliance with all of the required ACOTE educational standards, and the program received a full 10-year reaccreditation.

## OT students train M1s in health advocacy



OT student Ashley Harlan, right, teaches medical student Alex Hampton how to read a BMI.

In early January, 10 third-year OT students assisted with UMMC's Community Health Advocacy Training check-offs.

OT students trained the first-year medical students on how to obtain a blood glucose sample, how to read blood glucose levels and how to establish an individual's body mass index (BMI), which can help the participant understand the impact of diabetes and

obesity in the state. In all, 125 medical students were checked off.

A third-year community practice course requires OT students to be trained as community health advocates, which led to this interprofessional opportunity between OT and the medical school.

OT faculty said they were thrilled that their students, under the direction of Penny Rogers (B.S., Occupational Therapy '95), assistant professor of OT, have had the opportunity to train first-year medical students.



OT student Sydney Sisson, right, gauges the height of medical student Haley Houghton at the BMI station.

## OT helps provide free rehab services at JFC



Every weekend, under the direction of licensed therapists, OT students partner with physical therapy students to provide rehabilitation services at the Jackson Free Clinic.

OT faculty consider the arrangement an exciting opportunity for students to have engaging learning experiences in a real-world setting.

OT volunteers from the community are needed. For more information about volunteer-

ing OT services at the Jackson Free Clinic, email Carol Tubbs at ctubbs@umc.edu or Robin Parish at rparish@umc.edu.

## Alumni SpOTlight: benevolent models

Glenda Hux, OT Class of 2001 - As MSOTA president-elect, Hux is a role model for giving through service to her profession.

Undrea Nash, OT Class of 1999 - As a financial donor to UMMC's OT Alumni Fund, Nash is a role model for giving funds to allow the purchase of needed equipment for OT teaching labs. **SHRP**

## Faculty Accomplishments



Rogers

Penny Rogers, assistant professor of occupational therapy, was recognized by the Mississippi Legislature during its annual Higher Education Appreciation Day.

One faculty honoree is selected from each of the 34 public- and private-member institutions of the Mississippi Association of Colleges to participate in the activities.

Tonia Taylor, assistant professor of occupational therapy, was selected as the 2013-14 Teacher of the Year for the School of Health Related Professions.

The Teacher of the Year Award is given annually to the SHRP faculty member who is judged by the students of the school to be the most outstanding teacher.



Taylor



Morgan

Christy Morgan, B.S., Occupational Therapy '96; Ph.D., Clinical Health Sciences '09) associate professor of occupational therapy, was recently recognized as a 2014 Mississippi College Distinguished Alumna for outstanding achievement in her chosen field.

Morgan was formally honored at an awards ceremony during Mississippi College's homecoming festivities. Morgan was also recognized as the 2014 SHRP Alumni of the Year.

## About the program

The occupational therapy master's degree program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA).

For more information about the program, visit [umc.edu/shrp/](http://umc.edu/shrp/) and select "Occupational Therapy."

# Radiologic Sciences

## Program receives JRCERT accreditation

The Radiologic Sciences Program completed a site visit in October 2014 and was granted full reaccreditation status until 2022 from the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT).

The RS faculty is proud of the program's low attrition rate and 100-percent pass rate on the first attempt of the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) examination. The students enrolled in this program score above the national scaled mean on all sections of this examination.

## RS students excel in competitions

At the 2014 Annual Conference of the Mississippi Society of Radiologic Technologists (MSRT) in Biloxi, radiologic sciences students achieved first place in the student prep bowl competition, first and third place in the student manuscript competition and first and third place in the student exhibit competition.

Two UMMC student delegates were voted by their peers to serve as the voice of all students within the state.

## Radiologic Sciences faculty roundup

- The Radiologic Sciences faculty are extremely active in the MSRT.

Shazwee Edgerton, assistant professor of radiologic sciences, serves as president; Lee Brown, instructor in radiologic sciences, serves as vice president; Mike Ketchum, assistant professor of radiologic sciences, is a board member; and Dr. Kristi Moore, associate professor of radiologic sciences, serves as executive secretary/website administrator, editor of the BEAM and ASRT affiliate delegate.

- In April 2015, all RS faculty participated in a board exam review for students from Mississippi and surrounding states. The faculty shared their expertise in presentations to the students.

- The Radiologic Sciences faculty are proponents of continued education.

Dr. Mark Gray, assistant professor of radiologic sciences and department chair, and Dr. Kristi Moore, program director, completed their Ph.D.s in Clinical Health Sciences.

Shazwee Edgerton, Mike Ketchum and Sherry West, assistant professor of radiologic sciences, are scheduled to graduate in the first cohort of SHRP's Doctor of Health Administration Program in August.

Asher Street, clinical coordinator of the Radiology Tech Program, is enrolled in the Doctor of Health Administration Program.

Lee Brown, instructor in radiologic sciences, is enrolled in SHRP's Master of Health Informatics and Information Management Program.

## NMT students earn national distinction

The Nuclear Medicine Technology (NMT) Program has received national recognition for the performance of recent graduates on national registry examinations.

The NMT Class of 2014 received the top scores in the nation on the American Registry of Radiologic Sciences nuclear medicine registry examination (ARRT)(N). The program had the fourth-highest scores in the nation on the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB) registry exam.

These extraordinary accomplishments focus a positive spotlight on the excellent educational opportunities provided to allied health students at SHRP.



Members of the NMT Class of 2014 include O. Lee Brown Jr., right, Chelsea Palmer Stevens, second from right, and Jennifer Cohen Tucker, left. The program director is Sherry J. West.

The program, accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology, recently completed a successful self-study process and was granted full reaccreditation status until 2020.

One class is admitted each summer and application to the program must be received by the preceding April 1.

## MRI program graduates first student cohort

The Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Program is the newest addition to the Department of Radiologic Sciences and graduated its first cohort of students in May. An immediate goal of this program is to attain programmatic accreditation through the JRCERT.

The MRI students participated in the 2014 Annual Conference of the MSRT in Biloxi. They excelled in all competitions by achieving first-, second- and third-place awards in the technologist manuscript competition and first- and third-place awards in the technologist exhibit competition.

All four students in this cohort have been fortunate to work part-time as student MRI technologists while enrolled in school.

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## About the program

For more information about the Department of Radiologic Sciences, visit [umc.edu/shrp/](http://umc.edu/shrp/) and select "Radiologic Sciences."

# Physical Therapy

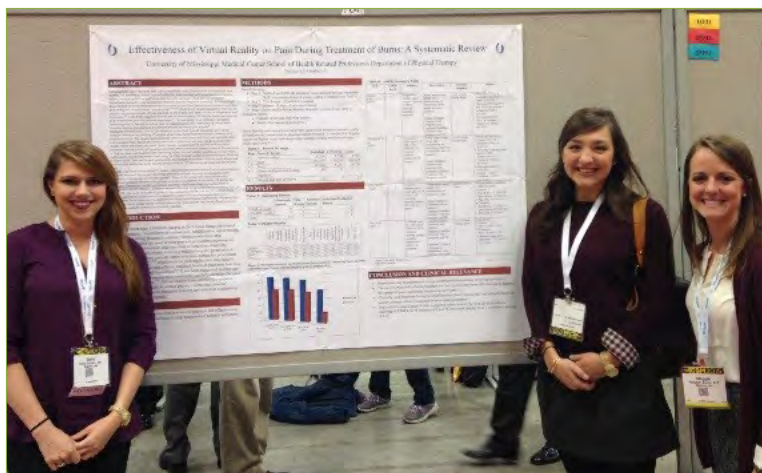
## Students experience legislative action during capitol celebration

D.P.T. students attended Legislative Day at the Mississippi State Capitol in February.

They visited with state legislators and learned about the legislative process. **SHRP**



D.P.T. students take a break on the stairs at the state capitol.



Giving presentations in Indianapolis are, from left, Graham, Fletcher and Burns.

## PT alums give Indy proposals

D.P.T. students Currie Fletcher and Maggie Burns traveled to Indianapolis, Indiana to present their research on the "Effect of Multifactorial Interventions on Fall Risk in Community Dwelling Adults: A Systematic Review" at the APTA's national Combined Sections Conference in February.

SHRP Physical Therapy alumnus Emily Graham (P.T. '14) also traveled to Indianapolis for a poster presentation on the "Effectiveness of Virtual Reality on Pain during Treatment of Burns: A Systematic Review." **SHRP**

## Experienced faculty join PT Program

The Physical Therapy Department welcomed two new faculty members in the 2014-15 academic year.

Sherry Colson, P.T., D.P.T., joined the faculty in June 2014 and is teaching in areas related to practice management and legal/ethical issues in physical therapy practice.

Kimberly Willis, P.T., D.P.T., joined the faculty in November 2014 and is teaching content related to progressive neurological disorders and pelvic health.

Each of these faculty bring years of clinical experience, professionalism and a passion for teaching the next generation of physical therapists to the department.



Coulson



Willis

## D.P.T.s cop top Taste of the U prize



D.P.T. students celebrate their victory with Dr. Fine Swine, Taste of the U mascot.

D.P.T. students took first prize at the 25th annual Taste of the U competition in February.

The class worked diligently to prepare delicious food and present a fun-filled atmosphere for the fund-raiser. **SHRP**

## D.P.T. Class of 2016 earn white coats

D.P.T. students were recognized for completing their first full year of academic work at the annual White Coat ceremony in July 2014.

The students are now prepared for clinical education assignments. **SHRP**



### About the program

For more information about the Physical Therapy program, visit [umc.edu/shrp/](http://umc.edu/shrp/) and select "Physical Therapy."

## PT faculty, students network on coast

Faculty and students traveled to Biloxi in October to attend the annual MPTA Fall Conference at the Beau Rivage.

Attendees had the opportunity to network with peers, gain new knowledge in areas related to orthopedic and neurologic physical therapy and hear a special presentation from the CEO of the American Physical Therapy Associate, Michael Bowers.

## Students support Jackson Free Clinic

Students in the Physical Therapy Department continue to be actively involved in the Jackson Free Clinic, where they work alongside other UMMC students to provide professionally supervised care to the underserved community.

## PT offers nationally accredited residencies

The Physical Therapy Department continues to offer two ABPTRFE-accredited residency programs.

The Neurologic Physical Therapy Residency Program will welcome Eric Holland (D.P.T. '15) to begin the residency program this summer. Holland was extremely active during his time as a student in the Physical Therapy Program, serving as SHRP student body president and vice president of the D.P.T. class of 2015.

The Sports Physical Therapy Residency Program will welcome Asha Anand to begin its residency this summer as well. Anand is a 2015 graduate of Emory University.

# Health Equity Leadership Initiative

## Supporting underrepresented males in health care

Research demonstrates males of color are significantly underrepresented in most health professional programs.



The purpose of this project is to support underrepresented males ages 17-25, helping them to become leaders in the health-care workforce

while increasing access to health professional education, training and career options.

Hosted by UMMC with funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the program reinforces the institution's commitment to promote racial healing, eradicate health disparities and improve health equity for Mississippians and citizens of our nation.

Underrepresented males enrolled in two-year community colleges in Mississippi are invited to apply and participate in HELI. The program director is Dr. Juanyce Taylor, assistant dean of research and innovation and chair, Department of Health Sciences. **SHRP**

## In their own words . . . Participants laud HELI

"(The program) has given me the background of what I want to do and the expectations of what I need to do, as far as grades and requirements, to join a program in the School of Health Related Professions. It actually encourages me to keep doing what I want to do in the dental field. It makes me want to work even harder."

— Andre Funches Jr., a biology pre-dental major at Meridian Community College



Funches

"I found myself more interested in the patients than in the job I was doing at that time. The program has given me insight into the steps I need to take to become a student here and insight into how to make it as a student here."

— Joseph Robinson, a pre-nursing major at Hinds Community College-Jackson Campus



Robinson

## About the program

For more information about HELI, visit [umc.edu/shrp/](http://umc.edu/shrp/) and select "Health Equity and Leadership Initiative."



Visit us online at:  
[www.umc.edu/shrp](http://www.umc.edu/shrp)