Dean’s Message

What a busy and productive fall semester this has been for the College of Education. We are so proud to announce that Dr. Jeremy Patterson, associate professor in Human Performance Studies and colleague, Kim Cluff, assistant professor in Biomedical Engineering, have received the John A. See Research Award in the amount of $25,000 for their project titled, “Disposable Heart Screening Patch.”

This project aims to develop a small, disposable and non-invasive patch that would make electrocardiogram screenings for athletes easy and inexpensive. About 3,000 athletes in the United States die each year from unexpected heart rhythm disturbances so this innovation will be well-received by athletic programs everywhere.

The Kansas Mentoring and Induction Center, is up and running, providing exceptional support to new and experienced teachers throughout the state.
Welcome new advising staff

Sheri Barnes is the new advisor for Human Performance Studies students. Sheri earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology with a minor in women’s studies, and master’s degrees in sociology and in exercise science, all from Wichita State. Sheri also has been a graduate teaching assistant, adjunct instructor and lecturer at WSU, as well as a program coordinator in undergraduate admissions and for the Office of Cooperative Education and Work-based Learning. Her education and experience will be of great value to the students she advises. Sheri and her husband, Kenny have a ten-year-old son Logan and live in Andale. They are cyclists and participate in “Biking Across Kansas” each year.

Kayla Jasso comes to us from the WSU Office of Admissions where she was a program coordinator, planning recruitment events and assisting students with the admissions process. Prior to her position with Admissions, Kayla was Sports Director for Greater Wichita YMCA, where she administered youth and adult sports program, planned special events and managed sports department budgets. She earned a bachelor’s degree in sport management with a minor in sociology. Kayla will be advising Sport Management students and will be office manager in the Department of Sport Management. Kayla thoroughly enjoys sports and working with young people. She manages the YMCA’s summer youth track team, coaches volleyball at Wichita Volleyball Academy and mentors at Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Rick Pappas receives KAHPERD award

Rick Pappas, P.E. Educator in Human Performance Studies was presented with the Vicki Worrell Service Award at the Kansas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (KAHPERD) State Conference on October 31. Rick was recognized for his spirit of devoted service and contributions to the profession of physical education.
Faculty News

♦ Dr. Donna Sayman published Sayman, D., & Lusk, M. (2014). Envisioning success: Results from an exceptionailties awareness campaign at an urban serving Midwest University. Selected Papers from the 25th International Conference on College Teaching and Learning. 179-213.

♦ Dr. Aaron Rife was a guest speaker at The Urban Experience/Place, Race & Space Seminar: "Not in My Backyard: Race, Integration, and Opposition to Demographic Change in a Working-Class Kansas City Suburb, 1961-2000." He also made this presentation at the History of Education Society conference in Indianapolis, Indiana.


♦ Drs. Nancy McKellar and Susan Unruh made presentations at the Kansas Association of School Psychologists’ Annual Conference. Dr. McKellar’s presentation was titled, “Strengthening Your Intervention Services” and Dr. Unruh’s presentation was titled “The Reading Brain.”

♦ Drs. Janice Ewing and Sharon Iorio and the delegation from USD259 attended the Council of Great City Schools meeting in Milwaukee, WI. The WTQP was named a finalist for the Shirley Schwartz Award presented to the outstanding District/University Partnership of the year. This is the second year -- WTQP was also named finalist in 2011. Drs. Janice Ewing and Tiffinie Irving of Wichita Public Schools presented, “Wichita Teacher Quality Partnership: The five year impact of Teacher Preparation Changes on New Teachers and PreK-12 Students.” Dr. Sharon Iorio facilitated the panel, ”Adding it up: Preparing Urban Educators and Students.”

♦ Rick Pappas, P.E. Educator in Human Performance Studies was presented with the Vicki Worrell Service Award at the Kansas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (KAHPERD) State Conference.

♦ Dr. Rich Bomgardner and Rick Pappas, from the Department of Human Performance Studies, made presentations at the KAHPERD State Conference. Dr. Bomgardner presented, ”Perceptions of Children Toward Physical Fitness” and Mr. Pappas presented, “College Career Ready Standards in Elementary Physical Education.”


♦ Dr. Fuchang Liu presented “Dealing with the magnitude of fractions effectively: Using benchmark numbers” at the 2014 School Science and Mathematics Association Conference in Jacksonville, FL.

In October, Human Performance Studies students, especially those in the Athletic Training program, were thrilled to receive a visit from Gene Gieselmann ’68. Mr. Gieselmann enjoyed working with elite athletes over the course of an exciting 29-year career with the St. Louis Cardinals organization beginning in 1968. He was made assistant trainer in 1969 and was named head trainer in 1971, in which capacity he served until his retirement in 1997.

Mr. Gieselmann also served as athletic trainer for events such as All-Star games, athletic competitions and television programs featuring athletic competition. Since that time, Mr. Gieselmann has been involved in promoting the athletic training profession as well as in programs that aim