M.S. in Rehabilitation and Addiction Counseling Awarded $1 Million Grant

The Rehabilitation and Addiction Counseling program has earned a five-year $1 million federal Rehabilitation Long-Term Training grant for training rehabilitation and addiction counselors. “The Graduate Program in Rehabilitation and Addiction Counselor Education at St. Cloud State University” grant is charged with training more skilled personnel to serve consumers with disabilities and addictions. Students receiving the scholarships will work at a public vocational-rehabilitation agency or non-profit community rehabilitation program that operates under contract with the federal-state rehabilitation system after completing the program or pay back the funds at a later date.

This new and innovative program is charting the future by creating a specialized area of rehabilitation counseling. The grant was written by Amy Hebert Knopf (PI) along with Barbara Vesely (Co-PI), Rachel Briant (Grant Coordinator), Peter Eischens (Graduate Student), Brad Kuhlman (Co-PI), and Mary Tacker (Co-PI). This grant will provide tuition and stipends for eight graduate-level students enrolled in the Rehabilitation and Addiction Counseling program.

This is the second $1 million grant the Department of Community Psychology, Counseling and Family Therapy has earned in as many years.
Hello everyone,

Fall semester 2015 has been a significant semester for our school. Our commitment to supporting student success at SCSU is demonstrated by our extensive community partnerships, experiential/active learning across our curricula, international partnerships, and our graduation rates. During the 2014-2015 academic year, 402 Bachelor’s degrees and 146 Master’s degrees were conferred to students in SHHS programs.

We are blessed to have dedicated faculty and staff; strong academic programs; state of the art facilities such as the Nursing simulation lab, the Speech-Language and Hearing Clinic and the hopefully soon-to-be repurposed Eastman Hall. Our student enrollment is stable at the undergraduate level and increasing at the graduate level. Currently, over 1/3 of all graduate students at SCSU are housed in SHHS programs.

This semester, we launched a new Master’s degree program in Rehabilitation and Addiction Counseling. We are in the midst of reviewing applications for our second cohort into the RN-BS online degree program. Several new certificates are in the works and we are actively engaged in developing and enhancing our partnerships with our 2-year community colleges.

Research and scholarly activity in the School is increasing and becoming more interdisciplinary. I am pleased to report that our faculty are partnering with our students (undergraduate and graduate) in these research efforts, and disseminating their work to peers and colleagues nationwide and internationally.

Thank you to all of our friends who made donations to the scholarships in our school. It is critical to support our students in their education and these gifts make a significant impact on supporting their success.

As many of you may know, the renowned neurologist and author, Oliver Sacks, died in November. One of my favorite quotes of his is this: “In examining disease, we gain wisdom about anatomy and physiology and biology. In examining the person with the disease, we gain wisdom about life.” It reminds me of our mission to prepare our students to work with the whole person and in so doing supporting and promoting the health and wellbeing of all members of our community.

With best wishes,
Monica Devers
Dean

SHHS Colloquium: Rethinking Homelessness in Central Minnesota

More than 200 students, faculty, and community members gathered on October 13 from 9:00a.m.-5:00p.m. to attend the Fall Colloquium: Rethinking Homelessness in Central Minnesota, sponsored by the Department of Social Work. The goal of the colloquium was to educate the campus and community on homelessness, as well as prepare for Project Homeless Connect, which took place on October 21, 2015.

Speakers at the colloquium included Ed Murphy from Open Your Hearts to the Hungry and Homeless, Dr. Greg Own, Chief Consulting Scientist for the Wilder Foundation, and Cathy ten Broeke, Statewide Director on Ending Homelessness. Speakers presented on topics such as social policies that have impacted homelessness, trends in homelessness, and challenges ahead for ending homelessness in Minnesota.

Attendees participated in seven breakout sessions throughout the day to examine more specific issues related to homelessness.

A silent auction also took place, in which nearly $4,000 was raised. The money collected was put towards creating 313 basic needs bags for homeless individuals. Approximately 1,000 diapers and 81 feminine care product bags were collected as well. Nearly 80 SHHS students participated in assisting homeless individuals at Project Homeless Connect.
GSDC Innovation Summit 2015

The Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation (GSDC) 2015 Innovation Summit was held in October. The objectives of the summit were to recognize innovation taking place in our region, to educate leaders about creating a culture of innovation in the workplace and to provide networking opportunities across business sectors.

As an event sponsor, SCSU hosted a booth with representation from all schools and colleges at the University. The School of Health and Human Services put together a presentation that showcased innovation through collaboration by highlighting various community partnerships, events and initiatives. Among what was showcased included Eastman Hall Renovation, “Embracing the Difference: the ABILITY Event,” SCRUBS Camp, various simulation labs, Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, Project Homeless Connect, 2015 Workplace Well-Being Summit, Traveling Health and Screening Fair, and the Community Health Fair.

New Student Orientation

On August 21, 2015, the School of Health and Human Services hosted an academic session to welcome new students as part of the Huskies First Four. The Huskies First Four is the new, four day Orientation for incoming students, meant to assist in their transition to SCSU. Dr. Devers and Kim Scardino Bock, Student Relations Coordinator, welcomed new students and gave them an overview of the School of Health and Human Services, including its mission, values, and academic programs.

Students broke into small groups and had the opportunity to participate in different simulations, including a showcase of the Ability Event. Students also attended sessions in which they participated in conversation and simulations about cerebral palsy and spinal cord injuries.

In addition, there were breakout sessions for students interested in particular majors. Students interested in Nursing toured the Nursing Simulation Lab, attended a student panel, and participated in a blood pressure/vital sign check, while students interested in Communication Sciences and Disorders met with faculty to learn more about the program and tour the Speech-Language and Hearing Clinic. Faculty from our academic programs also participated in a SHHS Academic Fair, where they connected with students interested in pursuing majors in their disciplines. The day was a great success and kick off to the academic year!

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

On October 17, an estimated 1,000 participants walked together in the 7th annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk to raise funds for the American Cancer Society and to honor and celebrate breast cancer survivors. Initial numbers collected indicated that 91 teams, 703 registered walkers, and approximately 300 non-registered walkers attended the event.

Projections estimate that money raised will reach approximately $92,000, which is $6,000 greater than the previous year’s Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk Fundraiser. The American Cancer Society uses donations to fund breast cancer research, provide free comprehensive information and support, and educate communities on how to take steps to reduce the risk of breast cancer as well as identify breast cancer in the early stages when it is most treatable. Donations will be accepted through December 31, 2015 and can be made online at http://makingstrides.acsevents.org.

Many SCSU students, faculty, and community members played important roles in the success of the event. Thank you to Dr. Teresa Heck and her Community Health students for their support and involvement in the event.
The School of Health and Human Services, in collaboration with St. Cloud Technical and Community College (SCTCC), HealthForce Minnesota, and CentraCare are hosting a Scrubs Camp on June 20 – 22, 2016. SCSU is hosting a High School Camp and SCTCC is hosting a Middle School Camp. Scrubs Camp offers students an opportunity to explore health science professions through engaging, hands-on activities. As students begin considering their future, Scrubs Camp offers a unique way for middle and high school students to explore a variety of health science careers.

We are currently in the planning phase of the camp, but we do have a number of commitments that we are excited to share. On the first day of the camp students will receive a strong welcome to SCSU by our admissions team. Students will also experience an interactive Social Work and Nursing combined simulation, along with additional sessions on careers in Medical Laboratory Science and Communication Sciences and Disorders. The day will end with a Health and Wellness Bootcamp sponsored by Rejuv Medical.

The second day of the camp students will participate in field trips at both the CentraCare Plaza and the Good Shepherd Community. On the last day of camp students will participate in a mini Hack-A-Thon where they will collaborate to develop innovative solutions for healthcare-related problems. We will combine the High School and Middle School camps to allow students to engage with one another, community partners, and SCSU students, faculty, and staff.

Why should students attend?
- Field trips, hands-on educational activities and mentoring by industry professionals
- Their very own set of scrubs
- Health and Wellness Fitness Bootcamp
- Fun and challenging team building activities
- Activities Sponsored by: CentraCare Health, The Good Shepherd Community, and Rejuv Medical Orthopedic and Sports Medicine
- Breakfast, Lunch, and Snacks provided

A special thank you is extended to the Scrubs Camp committee members: Laura Hartog, Rochelle Ament, Roxanne Wilson and Sara DeVos.

We would also like to thank the departments that have volunteered to host sessions throughout the camp: Social Work, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Nursing, and Medical Laboratory Science.

If you have any questions or would like to be involved, please contact: Leah Meredith, Experiential Learning and Outreach Coordinator at lameredith1@stcloudstate.edu.

New Programs in SHHS
Rehabilitation and Addiction Counseling

The Rehabilitation and Addiction Counselor (RAC) Education program is a new and innovative program that educates on topics related to disability and addiction disorders. The RAC program is one of only two training programs with specialized expertise in Rehabilitation Counseling and Addictions in the United States. The RAC program is a 60-credit program and is completed over 6 semesters at full time status. Students have the option to choose a thesis track or non-thesis track. The coursework in this program allows graduates to be eligible to sit for the Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) certification, Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) and/or Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor (LADC) licenses. More information is available at our program website: http://www.stcloudstate.edu/graduate/rehab-addiction-counseling/default.aspx.

Besides an academic experience, the RAC program offers a wide range of extra opportunities including, but not limited to: small cohort sizes, collaboration with the recovery community on campus, experience with the ABILITY event, attending professional development activities, networking opportunities, and interacting with professionals in the community.

For questions, comments, or further information about the RAC or RCE program, please contact the Grants Office at 320-308-4750, or rce@stcloudstate.edu.
The Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program

The Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program (RN-BS) will welcome a second cohort of students in spring semester. The new cohort is comprised of 17 students with diverse nursing backgrounds and experiences. The RN to BS curriculum is entirely online and designed to serve students who are working while they further their education. Students in the inaugural cohort who were admitted in January 2015 will graduate in May 2016.

Awards

Lindgren Child Care Center Awarded Scholarship

The Lindgren Child Care Center (LCCC) has been awarded $37,500 from a Minnesota Department of Education scholarship program through a highly competitive process in which only 1 in 4 applications are awarded funds. The application for the award included a proposal for extended hours of availability to include childcare during evening courses, as well as funds for graduate student employment ($10,000) to create an interdisciplinary experience/partnership of departments within the School of Health and Human Services. Programs from the award are optimistically scheduled to start in spring of 2016.

Dr. Warner and Jim Knutson-Kolodzne Receive $50,000 Award

Dr. Susan Johnson Warner (Nursing) and Jim Knutson-Kolodzne (American Indian Center) are recipients of a $50,000 sub award from the National Institutes of Health. They will be working with Advanced Medical Electronics Corporation (AME) to solicit feedback regarding a new Exercise Stress Testing Device that is currently under development. They will conduct focus groups of providers and clients on the reservation and provide feedback to AME. Information obtained from the focus groups will inform further development of the device and applicability to rural and underserved areas.

Dr. Rangamani Awarded New Researcher Grant

Dr. G.N. Rangamani (Communication Sciences and Disorders) was awarded a 2016 New Researcher Award to fund the project Undergraduate Research and Inter-Professional Educational Practices for Promoting Health and Wellness in the Aging Population of Central Minnesota.

United Way Early Learning/Early Literacy Grant Awarded to Dr. Theresa Estrem and Elizabeth Valencia-Bogert

Dr. Theresa Estrem (Communication Sciences and Disorders) and Elizabeth Valencia-Bogert were recently awarded a $14,000 United Way Early Learning/Early Literacy grant. Dr. Estrem and Ms. Valencia-Bogert work closely with the Cold Spring and Latino community to provide a Latino parent-child group (El Poder de los Padres). The group meets weekly for 2-hour sessions during fall and spring semesters. Max Backes, an early childhood teacher, and CSD graduate students (supervised by Dr. Estrem) lead the early childhood group. Dr. Estrem and her graduate students provide sessions for 3-5 year old children that focus on Spanish and English vocabulary, language, and literacy development.
Nursing Students Inducted into Sigma Theta Tau

Level 4 and 5 Nursing students were inducted into Sigma Theta Tau - Kappa Phi on October 26, 2015. Sigma Theta Tau is an international Nursing Honor Society that has been active for 90 years. Nursing students selected must achieve academic excellence, rank in the upper 35th percentile of the graduating class, and meet the expectation of academic integrity.

Kappa Phi awarded undergraduate scholarships to Nghi Voung and Alina Amunrud. Nghi was recognized for her commitment to living out her care for others and her desire to serve others. Nghi's academic work and her community volunteerism at St. Cloud Hospital and at the Sexual Assault Center were noted as was her focus on holistic care.

Alina was recognized for her ability to conduct a public health project in both Spanish and English while a student in Chile. Her focus on the mental health needs of her community with her long-term goal to become a psychiatric nurses practitioner was mentioned in her scholarship award.

Applied Behavior Analysis Students Receive Scholarships

Eight graduate students in the SCSU Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) graduate program recently received scholarships from the Autism Recovery Foundation, whose mission is to support families and build the workforce for autism services, especially in rural Minnesota. Awards went to Jacob Apland, Jennifer Bozosi, Marie Erickson, Steffani Falardeaux, Kelsey Klim, Rebecca Knight, Madeleine Steinhauser, and Rebecca Triplett. Scholarship winners were recognized during an Above Average Evening on November 3, 2015 to honor Minnesota’s autism heroes with the Autism Hero of the Year award going to Governor Mark Dayton and with featured speaker, Garrison Keillor.

Gerontology Student Receives Mark M. Welter World Citizen Award

Preeti Yon Jon of Gerontology was awarded the Mark M. Welter World Citizen Award. This annual award provides tribute to Minnesota State Colleges and Universities students who most exemplify the thoughts, words, and actions demanded by a 21st century world citizen. College/university faculty and staff nominate recipients of this award. This award recognizes students who share views such as:

- All people are of a common species that share a common adventure in a common home
- The world shares common problems (pollution, terrorism, challenges) but views them through differing cultural and religious value perspectives.
- All citizens of planet Earth mutually share an interconnected, fragile biosphere.
College Counseling and Student Development Scholar’s Organization

The Department of Community Psychology, Counseling, and Family Therapy (CPCF) is excited to announce the creation of the College Counseling and Student Development (CCSD) Scholar’s Organization. Many ideas and plans for the CCSD Scholar’s Organization have been proposed. One plan for the organization includes starting a mentorship program that will pair first year CCSD students with second year CCSD students. The mentorship program aims to welcome and provide first year CCSD students with a positive experience to the start of their journey at SCSU. To celebrate the start of the organization, members and students of CCSD came together for a night to socialize and celebrate together (pictured, right).

CPCF Graduate Student Panel

The Community Psychology, Counseling, and Family Therapy Department also recently hosted a Graduate Student Panel on November 9th. The panel provided undergraduate students with the opportunity to ask current graduate students from graduate programs within the CPCF Department questions about being in graduate school.

Nursing Student Completes United Nations Internship

Inga Mumukunde, a Nursing student, received the invaluable experience of being offered a United Nations internship in Cote d’Ivoire, Africa for two months. Mumukunde was one of two students selected for the internship through a competitive process. Throughout the rigorous application process, she was required to demonstrate a professional background, fluency in French and English, prior experience in a developing country, and an ability to work in a multicultural environment and adjust to difficult living conditions.

Mumukunde was able to reflect on her first-hand experience of the impact of war in an orphanage for Congolese refugees in her home country of Burundi. Mumukunde witnessed horrible living conditions, which included unsanitary restrooms, rampant spread of disease, and a shortage of food. Mumukunde’s long-term goal is to work with refugee children in camps or war zones.

As a part of the United Nations health care internship, Mumukunde taught nursing staff proper techniques for giving injections as well as malaria prevention. She was given the opportunity to learn Ebola protocols, care for patients in camps, and assist critically ill patients to be evacuated by helicopter.

Husky P.U.P.S.

The Rehabilitation and Addictions Counseling (RAC) masters program is excited to announce the creation of Husky P.U.P.S. (Promoting University Peer Support), a drop-in center which offers peer-based support from our graduate students in the RAC program. The RAC students serve as mentors to assist in skill development, referrals to university resources and support for students. Husky P.U.P.S. drop-in center is located in A259 Education Building with hours Monday 11-1; Tuesday 11-12 and 1-2, 4-5; Wednesday 5-6; and Thursday 1-2 and 4-5.
End-of-Life Nursing Simulation Research Published

End-of-life simulations were first enacted in December 2012 as part of the second semester Nursing Care of the Older Adult clinical course. Each semester, these simulations have occurred as a part of this clinical course. Approximately 40 students over a two-day period observed or participated by role playing as a nurse or observing. Simulations involve fifteen minutes before and after death for the Christian Caucasian, Native American (American Indian), and Islam Somali cultures. Scenarios were created with the input of individuals from each of these cultures. Accuracy of scenarios was created with the input of hospice nurses as well.

Role players participating in the simulation are composed of individuals from the specific culture. The debriefing reflects on feelings and thoughts, including what went well, what would be changed, and what was learned through the simulation. Data collection has been ongoing in the three phases from students’ perspectives on the simulation day, at graduation, and one year after graduation. Fifth semester capstone/leadership students have assisted with simulations which has provided a leadership experience in the nurse educator role.

A chapter regarding the development, implementation and the Phase I results of these simulations was published in Building the Future of Nursing: Innovation in Nursing Education, Volume 3 by the National League for Nursing in September, 2015. Authors were Victoria Hammer, Susan Herm, and Katherine Koepke.

Linda Caputi, Certified Nurse Educator, Susan Herm, Katherine Koepke, and Victoria Hammer at the National League for Nursing Summit in Las Vegas, NV on October 2, 2015.