

The SHNS COLLABORATIVE

A Semi-Annual Newsletter

Fall, 2012

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The Mission and Vision of Our School

The School of the Health and Natural Sciences prepares students for careers in diverse fields, for personal and intellectual growth, and for life in an ever-changing technologically advanced world. Our vision is to continue to enhance the quality of our programs by attaining and maintaining optimal enrollment, offering engaged learning opportunities, improving student performance on graduate and licensing exams, increasing faculty scholarship, acquiring new equipment and technology, and expanding community and international partnerships and support.

Dean's Corner

Dear Readers,

As Dean of the School of Health and Natural Sciences at Dominican University of California, I am delighted to introduce to you the first volume of our School Newsletter, the *SHNS Collaborative*. This is to be published each semester and we welcome your ideas and comments.

Throughout this Newsletter, you will learn about what is happening within our school, including the people who have joined our school recently, the news stories, the teaching, scholarly, and service activities of faculty, the students' achievements, and upcoming events. Our mission of preparing students for careers in diverse fields, for personal and intellectual growth, and for life in an ever-changing technologically advanced world is exemplified by our excellent academic programs in natural sciences, nursing, occupational therapy, and health science. The graduates from these programs have acquired lifelong skills to strengthen their capability for career advancement and professional development. We are confident that these graduates will become tomorrow's ethical leaders in the health and natural science workforce.

On behalf of the School, I hope you enjoy reading this volume of the newsletter and thank you for your support to our school and university!

Sincerely yours,
Ching-Hua Wang, MD., PhD.
Dean of Health and Natural Sciences



Students and Alumni

Featured Students

Before we get into the heart of the newsletter, it seems appropriate to answer this question . . . are we doing a good job? One thankful community members sends a resounding message –yes we are doing a GREAT job! Please read the letter from a grateful parent (forwarded by Dr. Hunter on September 12, 2012).

To whom it may concern.

*My name is Anne... I wanted to share my story with you because one of your nursing students has saved my sons life. I know all about college confidentiality, but I would like someone to thank her for me. Last weekend I went to the zoo with my husband and my son. We were coming back from the zoo to the parking lot. I was alone with my son while my husband went to the zoo store to get a surprise for my six year old son. My son started choking on a peanut. It all happened so fast and before I knew it he was unconscious and on the ground. One of your nursing students immediately ran over and cleared his airway. She did CPR until the medics arrived. I was a complete mess. I went into hysteria while all of this was happening. She introduced herself to me and told me she was a nursing student from Dominican University. She explained to me what was happening and what she was doing the whole time. When the paramedics came she explained the situation to me because I was still unable to fully get a grasp on the situation. The medics told me that she saved his life because no one was around us and it only takes a few minutes before real damage can occur to such a small child for being unconscious with an obstructed airway. I want to thank you all in the Nursing Department for teaching these young adults to act so quickly. She could have simply turned the other way like so many people who walked by us did. Her name is **Larisa Santi** (emphasis added). I would greatly appreciate it if someone thanked her for me and let her know that I appreciated her help. I do not know how large the school is or if you will even be able to contact her, but I am so grateful for all she did for me and my son that day.*

*CONGRATULATIONS on such a great program.
Forever grateful,
Anne.*

Letters like this make us very proud of our students and reinforce the meaning in what we do. Dr. Anita Hunter, Chair of the Nursing Department, said, “. . . we talked with Larisa about this incident . . . Larisa saw the child collapse and hit his head hard on the concrete; she ran to help the child and to intervene so Mom would not pick the child up (concerned about a neck injury and head trauma). She was able to do the CPR as she had been trained; removed the peanut from the child’s mouth, got the child breathing again, then turned him on his side when he started to vomit. She helped to clam the mother down while she was working with the child and then calmed the father down when he arrived on the scene. She stayed with the family until the paramedics arrived, reported what had happened, and the family was then transported to the hospital. I asked her where she learned all these skills and she said in her nursing program – she is currently a second semester sophomore. Talk about critical analysis skills and crisis intervention – she was amazing!”



Another fine student is exemplified by Occupational Therapy student, Charissa Kelly, class of 2014. Charissa was a guest on the Ellen DeGeneres Show May 2012 and was honored by the talk-show host. To hear Charissa’s story and see an array of photos, please go to http://ellen.warnerbros.com/videos/index.php?mediaKey=0_3pd1a5mw.

Join us in celebrating our outstanding students!

Student Scholarships

In the 2011-2012 academic years, the following students received scholarships from the Lillian L. Y. Wang Yin Scholarship endowment:

Miguel Alfonso Regidor
Sheena Enerio
Michael Mitsumori
Denis Ortiz
Rubi Garcia
Ariana Rodriguez
Mark Gutierrez
Alex LuMetta

Michelle Pogozeleski
Ana Salabasheva
See Yang
Natalie Aquino
Kristyn Perry
Stephanie Rasmussen
Denzell Sabado
Cory Tiller

Tanya Jimenez
Monica Buselli
Jessica-Michelle A. Corbin
Roxanne Bartolome
Arianna Anies
Kyle Arzaga
Tam Nguyen

Eight Dominican graduate students, class of 2012, were recipients of the *California Foundation for Occupational Therapy 2011 Student Research Award* including Adriana Garcia, Dagmara Marciniak, Lauren McCune, Erica Smith, Amy Lee, Brooke Cappa, Miranda Dabbs, and Elizabeth Murray.

Three Dominican students, class of 2014, were awarded a *California Foundation for Occupational Therapy 2012 Student Scholarship*: Jonathan Alonso, Nisha Chadha, and Jovita Vazquez.

Congratulations, everyone!

Outstanding Alumna (fall 2012)

Emmy Alexander, occupational therapy class of 2011, enlisted as an officer in the U.S. Navy and is serving in Japan, at the US Naval Hospital in Yokosuka. Emmy works as an occupational therapist in the Educational and Developmental Intervention Service providing occupational therapy support for our service men, women, and their families. Emmy has a Master of Science in Occupational Therapy from Dominican University of California.

(image provided by the Occupational Therapy Department).



New Employees (2012-2013 Academic Year)

Dominican School of Health and Natural Science has been very fortunate this year in hiring full time and part time employees who will bring excellent teaching, service, scholarship, and support for our departments and our school. In addition to those we welcome to our departments, we would be remiss without welcoming our new Dean, Dr. Ching-Hua Wang, and our new SHNS Dean's Executive Assistant, Ms. Annabelle Fritz (pictured here).

Our new employees are listed below.



Health and Natural Science 2011-2012 New Employees

Natural Science & Math

Lakisha Barrett
Anthony Baxter
Alec Brozell
David Casso
Jennifer Frederick
Randall Hall +*
Robert Huotari
Ekaterina Kalashnikova
Christopher Lieu

Nursing

Deborah Aguilar
Darlene Brady
Lynda Byer
Karen Garrett-Wells
Mary McGory**
Jennifer Pangelinan
Jennifer Pascual
Margaret Soffian**
Dennis Smith
Cindy Wong*

Occupational Therapy

Sarah Field
Diane Griffeath**
Susan Morris
Emily Sheridan
Gina Stires
Julia Wilbarger*

+ Lillian L.Y. Wang Yin, Ph.D. Endowed Professor of Chemistry

*Full time faculty

**Full time staff

**Dr. Randal Hall, Lillian L.Y. Wang Yin Ph.D. Endowed Professor of
Chemistry**

Lillian L. Y. Wang Yin, Ph.D. Endowed Professor in Chemistry

Thanks to a \$2M endowment from H.B. Yin and Lillian L. Y. Wang Yin, Dominican has been able to create an endowed chemistry professor position, to hire Dr. Randal Hall as the our Endowed Chemistry Professor, and to provide Scholarships for our Chemistry students. Dr. Hall is co-PI of a National Science Foundation EPSCoR grant, EPS-1003897, "Louisiana Alliance for Simulation-Guided Materials Applications", 2010-2015, \$20,000,000, website lasigma.loni.org. He is co-PI on an NIEHS Superfund Center, P42 ES013648-04, "LSU Superfund Research Center - Environmentally Persistent Free Radicals", 2011-2016, \$13,969,825, website www.srp.lsu.edu. He is co-PI on an industry-academia NSF grant, CHE-0910937, "Dynamic Tomography and Materials Simulations for Polymer Blends and H₂ Storage Materials", 2009-2012, \$449,500. He is also a senior investigator on two recently awarded NSF grants, "Acquisition of Cascabel – A Heterogeneous Computing Environment to Enable Transformation of Computational Research and Education in the State of Louisiana", 2012, amount TBD and CNS-1126739, "MRI: Development of Melete: an interaction-oriented, software-rich compute cluster with tangible interface support for collaborative research and the classroom", 2011-2015, \$900,000. He is the author of 49 publications and has received several LSU awards including the 2001 LSU Alumni Association Faculty Excellence Award, Recognition from Alpha Lambda Delta Freshman Honor Society for Superior Instruction of Freshman Students, numerous times from 1995-present, the Peter A. Soderberg Award for Outstanding Presentation, THE Forum, Louisiana State University, 1998, and a Faculty Research Award, Louisiana State University, 1992.



Dominican is, indeed, very fortunate to have Dr. Hall joining our ranks, enhancing our esteemed research agenda. Welcome, Dr. Hall.

Faculty and Staff

- BIG congratulations to our NSM Chair's Assistant, Amy Gladstone. Her last day at work was the 14th of September. Her baby is due any day now. Don't you just love that smile!?
- Dr. Olivia Catolico received tenure and promotion to full professor of nursing this year.
- Dr. Barbara Ganley is our new Associate Dean of the School of Health and Natural Sciences and Director of Academic Assessment.
- To our department of Natural Science and Math for successfully completing their five-year self-assessment and external review process. They will be submitting their final response to the report late October 2012.
- All three of our esteemed departments completed their annual program reviews and plans for continued quality improvement in providing excellent learning activities and environments for our students.
- Strategic Grant Awardees: Alicia Bright, Vania Coelho, Roland Cooper, Jim Cunningham, Mohammel El Majdoubi, Stacy Frauwirth, Margaret Fink, Sibdas Ghosh, Kitsum Li, Anita Hunter, Ruth Ramsey, and Diara Spain.



Scholarship

Highlights of Research Activities

This section highlights works in progress by our esteemed colleagues.

Dr. Kiowa Bower has been working with unnatural amino acid mutagenesis and computational modeling to investigate the binding site of the 5-HT₃ receptor. This is a serotonin receptor which is the target of anti-nausea drugs used in chemotherapy, and is a useful model for understanding other cys-loop receptors, such as GABA_A, Nicotinic Acetylcholine, and glycine receptors.

Dr. Janis Davis and occupational therapy graduate students Martha Welderufael and Emily Dodge spent four weeks in Port Elizabeth, South Africa in summer 2012 working in township high schools to study career choice in high school students. Over 530 ninth graders were assessed, and the results of the assessments will be used by the teachers in SA to help students choose academic courses for their 10th, 11th and 12th grade years. Data were collected using a variety of standardized career assessment instruments, and final results will be presented at the 2013 Graduate SHNS Academic Showcase.

Professor Toby Embry is working on his dissertation titled, "Evaluating the effectiveness of Multitrait multimethod teaching/learning modalities to prepare BSN students for success in their last semester of study."

Dr. Barbara Ganley, in conjunction with the Dominican Librarians, is conducting research to determine if there is a significant difference between freshmen and senior students' knowledge and best practices related to information literacy. Quantitative data will be triangulated with analyses of a random sample of student theses. Also analyzed are any differences between what the students and faculty perceive as the students' challenges related to information literacy and research. This research is part of Ganley's work related to the WASC Assessment Leadership Academy (2012).

Dr. Kitsum Li, occupational therapy, is conducting a study titled: *A randomized clinical controlled study comparing the effects of contrast baths to cryotherapy in patients with a wrist fracture*, working with graduate OT students Elizabeth Brown, and Brittany Phipps. The study is designed to examine the effectiveness of two commonly used therapeutic interventions for wrist fracture, specifically comparing the effectiveness of cryotherapy and contrast baths in reducing edema, pain and increasing range of motion in the fingers and wrist of the affected hand. Data are being collected at Mills-Peninsula Health Services Outpatient Occupational Therapy Department, and the study is ongoing for the next three months.

Dr. Ruth Ramsey is conducting research on student perceptions of peer mentoring between first and third year students in health professions programs. The program was developed and implemented in the occupational therapy department at Dominican University of California in the fall of 2011, and is being offered again in fall 2012. Preliminary results show that both mentors and mentees appreciate the mentorship process and benefit through an increased sense of professional identity, increased confidence in their knowledge and skills, and improved interpersonal communication skills.

Collaboration – Natural Sciences and Math and the Green MBA

Dominican has been awarded a competitive grant by the National Collegiate Inventors & Innovators Alliance (NCIIA) that will enable biology, chemistry, and graduate business students to collaborate on research, development, and commercialization of “green chemistry” products. The grant will provide a structured platform for chemistry majors and students in Dominican’s MBA in Sustainable Enterprise (Green MBA) program to develop and market projects focused on providing sustainable solutions to environmental issues. Students will draw on the resources of Dominican’s Venture Greenhouse, a business accelerator and incubator program, as they work on taking their projects from laboratory and into the marketplace. The inspiration for the project grew from a partnership between Stig Westling, MBA ’11 and current MBA student Ryan Brown. Together they worked with the Venture Greenhouse to launch Urban Algae, a company that is both a provider of algal-based products as well as a supplier of the systems that can provide these products. Dominican faculty involved with developing the project are Sibdas Ghosh, chair of the Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics; Kenneth Frost, professor in the Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics; and John Stayton, assistant professor in the School of Business and Leadership and director of the Venture Greenhouse.

HNS Publications

The following are examples of SHNS scholarship recently published or accepted and pending publication. Note that papers in review are not included among those listed below.

Aquino, N. B., Sevigny, M. B., Sabangan, J., & Louie, M. C. (2012). The role of cadmium and nickel in estrogen receptor signaling and breast cancer: Metalloestrogens or not? *Journal of Environmental Science and health*,3(2), 1-36.

Davis, J. L., Asuncion, M., Rabello, J., Silangcruz. C., & van Dyk, E. (In Press). A Qualitative Review of Occupational Therapists’ Listening Behaviors and Experiences when Caring for Patients in Palliative or Hospice Care. *Occupational Therapy Journal of Research*.

Davis, J. L. (2011). Anxiety Disorders. In C. Brown and V.C. Stoffel (Eds). *Occupational therapy in mental health: A vision for participation* (pp. 167-177). Philadelphia, PA: F.A. Davis

Davis, J. L., White, G., Meredith, E., Rama, R., & Ebert, T. (2010). *Students’ Conceptualizations of Listening and Detection of Non-Verbal Emotional States*. *Listening Education Journal*, 2, 3-19.

M.Fink, M. (March, 2012 in press). Remediation Plus – Nursing Program Solutions for Elsevier Textbooks.

Ganley, B., & Rosario, D. (2013). The smoking attitudes, knowledge, intent, and behaviors of adolescents and young adults: Implications for nursing practice. *Journal of Nursing Education and Practice*, 3 (1)...(Publication date January 2013).

Garcia, A., Marciniak, D., McCune, L., & **Ramsey, R.** (2011). Promoting fall self-efficacy and fall risk awareness in older adults. *Physical and Occupational Therapy in Geriatrics*, 30(2), 165-175.

Griffin, C. E., Hoke, J. M., Samarakoon, U., Duan, J., Mu, J, Ferdig, M. T., Warhurst, D. C. & **Cooper, R.** (2012, August), Mutation in the Plasmodium falciparum CRT protein determines the stereospecific activity of the antimalarial Cinchona alkaloids.

Hunter, A., Wilson, L., Stanhope, M., Messias, D., Hattar, M., & Powell, D. (Nov, 2012) Global health diplomacy. *Nursing Outlook*.

Hunter, A. (2012). Ugandan Americans. In Giger & Davidhizar, *Transcultural Nursing: Assessment and Intervention* (6th Edition).

Hunter, A. (2012). Perspectives in global health care. In Stanhope & Lancaster (Ed.) *Public Health Nursing* (Ed).

Hunter, A. , & Crabtree, K. (2011). Advanced practice nursing & global health in Stanley (Ed) *Advanced Practice Nursing: Emphasizing Common Roles*.

Linnard-Palmer, L. (2012). Use of simulation in pediatric oncology safety principles. *Journal of Pediatric Nursing*.

Miles, T., **Bower, K. S.**, Lester, H. a., Dougherty, D. A. (2012). A coupled array of noncovalent interactions impacts the function of the 5-HTR_{3A} serotonin receptor in an agonist-specific way. *ACS Chemical Neuroscience*.

Riker, M., Stires, G., & **Ramsey, R.** (2012). Computer-Assisted Cognitive Remediation. *Advance for Occupational Therapy Practitioners*, 28(3), 26.

Ramsey, R. (2011). Voices of community-practicing occupational therapists: an exploratory study. *Occupational Therapy in Healthcare*, 25, (2/3), 140-149.

Ramsey, R. (in press). Community-based mental health services. In Scaffa, M.(Ed.), *Occupational therapy in community-based practice settings*, 2nd ed. (pp xx-xx). Philadelphia, F.A.Davis.

Ramsey, R., & Swarbrick, M. (in press). Occupational therapy for people with serious mental illness, In B. Schell (Ed.), *Willard and Spackman's Occupational Therapy*, 12th ed.

Sharma, S. (2012). The globalization of Northern California's biotechnology industry. *Journal of International Business Research* (accepted).

Sheets, I., & Ganley, B. (2012). The "Geri Sim Fiar": Integrating high to low levels of simulation in a foundational gerontological nursing course. *Journal of Nursing Education* (50), 689-692.

Faculty Presentations

Drs. Olivia Catolico, Luanne Linnard-Palmer, and Jayati Ghosh presented two papers at the European Association of Communication in Healthcare at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland, UK, September 4 -0 7, 2012. To learn more about the conference, go to <http://www.each-conference.com/>. Papers were titled

- *Negotiating with cultural sensitivity: Reduction of medical and medication errors through meaningful cross-cultural communication.*
- *Cultural sensitivity, communication, and negotiation: Transcending differences and barriers toward better healthcare outcomes.*

Dr. Janis Davis and M. Asuncion, J. Rabello, C. Silancruz, and E. Van Dyke (2012, presented a poster at the International Listening Association's 33rd Annual Convention, March 22-23 in Bremerton, Washington. The poster was titled - *A qualitative review of occupational therapists' listening experiences in end of life care.*

Dr. Janis Davis and G. Tuazon and J. Bueby (2012), presented at the International Listening Association's 33rd Annual Convention, March 22-23 in Bremerton, Washington. The talk was titled – *Caregivers and young adults with mental illness: perspectives on listening and quality of life.*

Dr. Anita Hunter spoke at the XIII Pan American Nursing Research Colloquium in Miami, Florida on September 2 – 7, 2012 on *Malaria, Malnutrition, and Development: A Retrospective Study of Children in Uganda.* This paper comes from Dr. Hunter's work with orphans in Uganda.

Dr. Kitsum Li spoke at the April 2012 California Occupational Therapy Symposium presenting her paper titled, *The Integration of Evidences and the Practice Framework in a Home-Based Fall Prevention Program.*

Dr Barbara Ganley

- Invited speaker and facilitator at all day workshop at Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital: Institutionalizing Evidence-based Practice (January 17, 2012).
- Invited speaker and facilitator all day workshop at Marin General Hospital: Research and Evidence Based Practice: Practical Applications to Nursing Practice (April 7 and 9th, 2012).
- May 8, 2012 – Invited speaker at the Research Conference in Santa Rosa California. Presentation title - *My Pet Rock's Name is Statistics.*

Dr. Eira Klich-Heartt.

- Poster presentation: Evaluating the Entry Level Clinical Nurse Leader in Practice. 12th European Doctoral Conference in Nursing Science; Maastricht, the Netherlands, Sept 2011.
- Workshop presentation on Ginger Compresses: Holistic Pain Modalities at the International Post-Graduate Medical Conference in Sacramento, CA May 2012.
- Invited speaker and facilitator all day workshop at Marin General Hospital: Research and Evidence Based Practice: Practical Applications to Nursing Practice (April 7 and 9th, 2012)

Dr. Randall Hall delivered a paper titled *Update on LA-SiGMA Diversity Efforts* on July 17, 2012 at the Louisiana EPSCoR RIILA-SiGMA 2012 Symposium in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Additionally, Dr. Hall reported on Kiruri, L.W., Bae, G. T., Dellinger, B., & **Hall, R. W.** (2012). A DFT study of the reaction of chlorinated phenols with copper oxide clusters.

- McFerrin, A., Dellinger, B., **Hall, R. W.**, Ramachandran, R., & Wick, C. (2012). *Ab Initio* study of iron oxide clusters and their reactions with phenol, 2-chlorophenol and 4-chlorophenol and force field development for copper oxide systems.
- Borill, B, **Hall, R. W.**, Soto, F., & Mainardi, D. (2012). Study of the hydrogen storage capability of KMgH₃.

2011-2012 Major Grants and Additional Supported Research

Department	Agency	Principal Investigator	Amount of Grant
NSM	National Institute of Health (Breast Cancer Research)	Maggie Louie	\$350,810 \$116,730
NSM	KECK Foundation	Science	\$250,000
NSM	National Institutes of Health (Malaria Research)	Roland Cooper	\$216,093
NSM	Bio Marin (therapeutic science scholarships)	Sibdas Ghosh	\$60,000
NSM	National Institutes of Health (minority student supplement scholarship)	Maggie Louie	\$53,102
NSM	Buck Institute Scholarships (5)	Sibdas Ghosh	\$44,000
NSM	Marin Community Foundation	Sibdas Ghosh	\$40,000
NSM	National Collegiate Inventors & Innovators Alliance (NCIIA)	Sibdas Ghosh	\$29,050
NSM	Marin Math Circle (Elementary, Middle, and High School Math Programs)	Linda Greene	\$6,000
NSM	National Science Foundation (Aquatic Ecosystems in SF Bay Area)	Diara Spain	\$3,956

Teaching

What's new in the nursing skill labs?

By Margaret Fink, EdD, RN, Associate Professor

(image from <http://www.dominican.edu/academics/hns/nursing/about-the-department/faculty>)



New way to teach students! This semester when you step into the simulation, assessment, or nursing skills lab, you might think that you are in a medical center complete with patients, with names, charts, histories, and symptoms (these are our simulation manikins). Nursing students are now reading orders, physical exam findings, and diagnostic test results on electronic health records (EHRs). The skills lab has been rearranged to include a central supply cart and a medication preparation area. Students dressed in navy blue scrubs are talking to their patients as they review their EHRs and provide care. In the labs, everyone has a name badge and a title from RN for every student, resource nurse for teaching assistants, and charge nurse for instructors. **Miriam Edelman, RN**, skills lab manager, has been dubbed nurse manager of the unit.

By the year 2015, most facilities in the United States will be using some kind of EHR. Dominican students use EHRs at Kaiser Hospitals and facilities such as the VA and Marin General. In order to prepare Dominican students, **Margaret Fink Ed.D, RN**, applied for a Strategic Initiative Grant to pay for the start up fee and educating faculty. Simchart, created by Elsevier, mimics a typical EHR that students will encounter on most nursing care hospital units. Simchart prepares students to read, interpret, and chart patient findings using EHRs, and will help students put together an entire clinical picture every time they log in.

New Public Health Program coming in 2013!

“Education in public health is becoming increasingly important as a foundation for the promotion and protection of health - locally, nationally, and globally. Until recently, most public health programs were offered at a graduate level. However there is a growing undergraduate public health movement which focuses on the preparation of educated citizens with the knowledge and skills to enter a variety of health-related fields or pursue graduate education in public health, specific health professions, or other disciplines such as business, law, or public policy. The Dominican curriculum leading to a Bachelor of Science in Public Health is designed, implemented and assessed in accordance with national guidelines developed by the ASPH, the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U), the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research (APTR) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)” (Dominican University of California, <http://www.dominican.edu/academics/hns/dph>). Lynne LoPresto is Interim Director of the Program, working hard to ensure that the program is off to a good start. Lynne has been with Dominican for almost 8 years and teaches chemistry and nutrition courses. (image from <http://www.dominican.edu/academics/service/faculty>.)



Big History

Many of our faculty participate in Big History, our freshmen’s first year experience. Here are a three of their stories.

Kiowa Bower - My experience of Big History has been truly inspiring, as I’ve always had a deep curiosity about the universe and have sought a comprehensive understanding of the world around me. Big History provides a framework that unifies diverse disciplines into one narrative, full of meaning and grounded in evidence. Its themes of emergence and complexity point to the significance of human cultural evolution and the responsibility we hold as our power and influence on the planet continue to grow. Humanity faces many challenges in the near future; however there is a real opportunity for our species to both prosper and be in harmony with the biosphere. I believe that human consciousness, combined with our capacity for collective learning, gives us the ability to effectively address the issues confronting us.



(image from g-mail account, source: Dr. S. Ghosh)

Debbie Daunt - At the welcome reception for our new dean, Dr. Ching-Hua Wang, she stated that if we are simply preparing our students for the workforce then we are doing them a disservice. I completely agree. With expanding our students’ vision in mind, I have ventured into Big History – where no nursing professor has gone before. I hope to be a model of a well rounded, educated nurse, and offer courses grounded in the goals of second semester Big History and colloquia that appeal to any student interested in healthcare as a profession. *Health and Healing through the Lens of Big History* will be offered spring 2013. I am working with colleagues to develop two new colloquium courses for future semesters. I am very excited to be a pioneer in integrating healthcare and Big History and I invite you to join the adventure. Debbie Daunt, MSN, RN, Nursing



(image from <http://www.dominican.edu/academics/hns/nursing/about-the-department/faculty>)



Dr. James Cunningham, Natural Science and Math, is also a fan of Big History and has been teaching Big History for the past three years. He supports teachers of Big History by teaching in the Summer Big History Institute. In his teaching, Dr. Cunningham presents theories of how life may have begun on earth, the process of evolution and natural selection, and the geology of plate tectonics.

(image from <http://dominican.edu/academics/big-history/faculty>)

Service

SHNS faculty are very involved in community and campus service. The following are examples of our service this year. Please note that the community service examples are not all inclusive of the outreach and work done in the community by our faculty and staff. We will continue to report on these activities each semester. Thank you everyone for your hard work and dedication.

The University Committees We Serve On

- Dr. Kathy Beebe, new member of PREC.
- Dr. Kiowa Bower, SHNS Representative on Campus Sustainability/Utilization Committee (2012-2014).
- Dr. Olivia Catolico, Diversity Action Committee.
- Dr. Roland Cooper, SHNS Representative on Campus Sustainability/Utilization Committee (2013).
- Dr. James Cunningham, GE Board Member.
- Dr. Janis Davis, Chair Curriculum, Education and Policy Committee.
- Dr. Mohammed El Majdoubi, 2012-2013 Chair Elect of the Faculty Forum.
- Dr. Margaret Fink, Honor's Board Committee.
- Dr. Kenneth Frost, Adjunct Representative on Faculty Affairs.
- Dr. Barbara Ganley, non-voting guest GE Board; Assessment Committee Chair; continuing member of PREC.
- Dr. Sibdas Ghosh, Academic Executive Council (rep from Faculty Affairs); Faculty Affairs Rep.; Member, Grants/Contracts Advisory Committee.
- Dr. Anita Hunter, Grants/Contracts Advisory Committee.
- Dr. Luanne Linnard-Palmer as Chair of the Faculty Forum 2012-2013.
- Dr. Diara Spain, Honors Program Director, Honors Board Committee Chair; GE Board Member, Council of Academic Deans.
- Dr. June Wilson, Faculty Development Committee; IT Committee.
- Ms. Erin Aradi, GE Board Member
- Ms. Anne Baechler (Nursing), Adjunct Faculty Rep – Faculty Forum.

The new SHNS Space Planning Task Force

Membership: Kitsum Li, Ruth Ramsey, Susan Morris, Anita Hunter, Kathy Beebe, Olivia Catolico, Diara Spain, Mani Subramanian, Lynne LoPresto, and Barbara Ganley. The goals:

- Maximize effective utilization of existing space for the Science Center.
- Maximize effective utilization of existing space for Nursing, OT and Public Health.
- Develop a space plan for a new Health Science Bldg that will support the functions of the health science programs.

The Dean's new Advisory Council

With representation from all departments - full time and part time faculty and staff. Those who will sit on this council for 2012-2013 include the Associate Dean, Chairs, and representing

- Natural Science and Math – James Cunningham , Linda Greene, and Christopher Endicott.
- Nursing – June Wilson, Margaret Levine, and Erin Aradi
- Occupational Therapy – Kitsum Li, Alison Virzi, Dianne Griffeath

Community Service

Despite ongoing efforts to increase awareness of autism and the need for services, many children still experience delays in diagnosis and receipt of services. Families may be "underserved" due to factors related to SES, geography, culture, and language. The Marin Autism Collaborative (MAC) is interested in better meeting the needs of underserved Hispanic families in Marin County. To help support this goal DUC occupational therapy students Tiffany Chi, Monica Guzman, and Issac Stahlhut, under the supervision of faculty member **Professor Stacy Frauwirth**, have created a "fotonovela", a culturally-relevant, photo-based health education resource guide on autism. The fotonovela tells the story of "Pablo" and his family, and their process of recognizing Pablo's challenges and receiving a diagnosis of autism. MAC will distribute the fotonovela this fall to families and providers.

OT Adjunct Instructor **Susan Schwartz** is also active in the community, working on breast cancer prevention. As Education Director for Zero Breast Cancer, she presented the *Breast Biologues* educational toolkit, a biology dialogue about discovery research on breast cancer and the environment, at the July 23-24, 2012 National Latino Cancer Summit at UCSF Mission Bay in San Francisco.

Upcoming Events and Other Good News

FLU SHOTS – 12:00 to 2:00 pm (bring \$20 or your Kaiser card)

- Tuesday – October 2, Creekside
- Tuesday – October 23, Nursing Skills Lab
- Tuesday – November 13, Nursing Skills lab



Come join the fun!
(photo from Google Images)

September 27, 2012

Dr. Mohammed El Majdoubi has been selected speaker in the 2012 TEDxMarin Designing Tomorrow event to be held on September 27th at the Kanbar Center for the Performing Arts in San Rafael (<http://tedxmarin.org/2012-speakers/dr-mohammed-el-majdoubi/>). Dr. El Majdoubi, will focus on . . . the impact of digital technologies on the brains and behaviors of the millennial generation and is entitled "The Brain of the Homo Digitalis".

Dr. Barbara Ganley is speaking at Marin General Hospital on September 27th; the title of this workshop is *My Pet Rock's Name is Statistics* and endeavors to help nurses to better understand statistics. This is a follow-up to the workshop held at Marin General Hospital and Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital in fall of 2011 and spring of 2012.

Dr. Ching-Hua Wang will be receiving the McAleer Award for Excellence and Innovation from the California State University System.

September 29, 2012

Dr. Vania Coelho has been invited to act as moderator at the Academic Conference and University Fair promoted by the Brazilian Community Center. The conference will be held on at the Consulate General of Brazil in San Francisco. The main objective of this event is to provide an opportunity for Brazilian students – both national and international alike - to meet representatives from a number of Universities and Colleges to understand the admission process and bridge the cultural divide that can come in the way of students from fully participating in the US higher education system.

October 2012

Occupational Therapy Students are presenting at the California Occupational Therapy Annual Conference in October 2012. Presentations include:

- Richter, K., Mertle, H., Scirica, L., & Li, K. (2012) *FRETT: Fall Risk Evaluation Tool for Traumatic Brain Injuries*.
- Gella, S., Ramos, J., Robertson, J., & Ulloa, L. (2012). *Computer Cognitive Retraining for Acquired Brain Injury*.
- Chi, S., & Murai, N. (2012). *Clinical Reasoning in the Sling Use for Post-Stroke Shoulder Subluxation*.

October 4 – 7, 2012

Occupational Therapy Association of California is hosting their 36th annual conference in Pasadena, California.

October 11, 2012 1:30 to 3:30 Guzman Lecture Hall

Dr. Herb K. Schultz, Regional Director of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will be presenting on some of the strategies for transforming the American Healthcare Delivery System.

October 15, 2012, 5:30 to 7:30

Occupational Therapy (OTAC) Outreach: North Bay Town Hall Meeting, Meadowlands Assembly Hall.

October 16, 2012

Health Reform: A Pathway to Building Community Health Partnerships by **Richard R. Pettingill, LFACHE**. This event is held in Guzman Lecture Hall, 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm. The presentation will include an overview of the economic and quality issues facing the American healthcare system. It will also explore those factors that impact health status and how we invest scarce healthcare resources.

October 18, 2012

At 10:00 am on Tuesday the Marin County Board of Supervisors will hear a “fall prevention resolution”. Dr. Ruth Ramsey will be there supporting this measure.

December 7th, 2012

Fall 2012, nursing pinning ceremony Angelico Hall, preceded by reception in the nursing office from 4:00 to 5:00.

January 7 – 13, 2013

Dr. Jayati Ghosh, **Dr. Janis Davis**, Dr. Rande Webster, and **Dr. Sibdas Ghosh**, will speak on the “Skills gap in South Africa: an integrated approach to transformation of economy and society”. This work has been accepted for presentation at the Academy of Management Africa Conference on January 7 – 10, 2013.

Our Library

Dominican's Alamany Library has secured **Sci Finder Unlimited** – this is an online database that supports Chemistry Research. For more information go to <http://www.cas.org/products/scifinder>

(image from
<http://www.dominican.edu/academics/hns/sciencemath/undergraduate1>)



Additional Occupational Therapy Notes

The OT Department is launching a new chapter of the national occupational therapy honor society, Pi Theta Epsilon. The Dominican chapter will have 16 charter members and will be the Delta Alpha chapter. Dr. Ruth Ramsey will be the faculty sponsor. Students who were admitted to the honor society must have a GPA of 3.5 or above and be in the top 35% of their class.

To see photos of our Peeps at Dr. Wang and Dr. Hall's welcome reception see Attachment.Peeps. (_ :

Dear Readers,

We hope you found this first edition of the SHNS *Collaborative* informative and a pleasure to read. For our next issue in Spring of 2012, please send us

1. Your 2012-2013 academic year accomplishments so that we can make sure they are in the next issue of this semi-annual publication.
2. Any ideas or news worthy information that should be published.
3. Small articles of mutual interest.
4. Commentaries on how things are going: what's working, not working, and ideas for any improvement.
5. Ideas about how to enhance student learning, innovative pedagogical practices, etc.

Our apologies if we missed your news. Send it to us and we will try to get it in next semester. As you can see we have much to report and much to be proud of.

Please send your comments, ideas, etc. to barbara.ganley@dominican.edu

Assembled and edited by:
Barbara Ganley, PhD, MSN, RN
Associate Dean, Director of Academic Assessment

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