

CHHS February 2011 Newsletter

Dr. Lynn Austin Appointed as a Commissioner to CODA

Dr. Lynn Austin, Department Head for Allied Health, has been appointed as a Commissioner to CODA by the American Dental Hygienists' Association President. The appointment was effective October, 2010, and she will serve for 5 years. The Commission on Dental Accreditation establishes, maintains, and applies standards that ensure the quality and continuous improvement of dental and dental-related education and reflect the evolving practice of dentistry. Responsibilities of CODA Commissioners include formulating and approving accreditation standards by which programs are evaluated, establishing policies and procedures for conducting the accreditation program, determining and publicizing program accreditation status, and appointing consultants and site visitors to assist in accreditation activities.



Dr. Lynn Austin

Recent Publications in CHHS

Dr. Chris Nagy, Associate Professor in Public Health and Assistant Dean for Research, has recently published an article in the American Journal of Public Health. "Targeted Intervention Strategies to Increase and Maintain Mammography Utilization Among African American Women" assesses the impact of a theory-based, culturally relevant intervention designed to increase mammography screening among African American women in 8 underserved counties in Alabama. To read Dr. Chris Nagy's article, please click [here](#).



Dr. Chris Nagy

Two Nursing Students Published Articles in *The Kentucky Nurse*

Dr. Cathy Abell, Coordinator of the RN to BSN Program, is pleased to announce that two students in the program recently had articles published in *The Kentucky Nurse*. Gary Spradlin's article was titled "Reflections on Nursing in a Juvenile Detention Center." Gary is employed by the Medical Center of Bowling Green. He works in Nursing Administration as an Evening House Supervisor. Matthew Peech works at Owensboro Medical Health Systems as a staff nurse in the Emergency Department. His article, "Reflections on Haiti and Its Resilient People," tells his personal experience helping in Haiti after the earthquake. Dr. Deborah Williams, Nursing faculty member, worked with both students to facilitate these publications.

To read the articles that were published, please click [here](#). Articles are on pages 5 & 6.

Congratulations

Dr. Sharon Whitlock received the Kentucky Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (KAHPERD) Distinguished Service Award. Each year KAHPERD honors individuals for meritorious service in the field of HPERD.



Dr. Sharon Whitlock & Jenny Dearden, President of KAHPERD

Dr. Willie Hey, department head for Kinesiology, Recreation and Sport, was selected to receive the 2011 Southern District American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD) Scholar Award. This award is given to an outstanding professional scholar in the Southern District AAHPERD that has made outstanding contributions in his or her professional career.



Dr. Willie Hey

Andrea Moore, a Physical Education major, was also selected to receive an award from the Southern District AAHPERD. Ms. Moore was selected to received the 2011 Southern District AAHPERD Outstanding Future Professional Award. This award is given only to an exceptional student who shows promise to be a leader in the Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance professions. Ms. Moore also received the KAHPERD Outstanding Physical Education Student Award at the recent KAHPERD Conference.

Both Dr. Hey & Ms. Moore are invited to attend the Awards Luncheon for AAHPERD award recipients in February, 2011 to receive their awards. Congratulations to both Dr. Willie Hey and Ms. Andrea Moore.

Office of Research Recognizes South Central AHEC

The **South Central Area Health Education Center (AHEC)** was recognized by the Office of Research for the largest dollar amount in a single award in the College of Health and Human Services for the second year in a row.

The South Central AHEC is totally grant funded from both federal and state funds. AHEC started on October 1st, 1986 and has been hosted by Western Kentucky University since its inception. The Department of Public Health served as the host agency for the first 19 years. When the College of Health and Human Services was created, AHEC was moved under the Dean's office. The mission of AHEC is to promote healthy communities through innovative **partnerships**. This is accomplished by providing educational support services to health professions students and health care providers, community health education, and programs that encourage health professions as a career choice. **Partnerships** are integral to the AHEC mission. The AHEC is also very involved in student engagement activities related to health careers.

HOSA Pre-Conference Competition Held at WKU

South Central Area Health Education Center (AHEC) & WKU/AHEC Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) hosted the HOSA Pre-Conference Competition here at the Downing University Center on November 19, 2010. Approximately 375 students and advisors participated in the event representing 15 high schools.

This event provides high school HOSA students the opportunity to compete in 13 competitions and receive feedback from the judges to improve their performance in March at the KY HOSA Conference in Louisville. In addition to the competitions, students could participate in campus tours with WKU/CHHS Ambassadors, and attend educational programs, "Presenting Your Best Side to the Judges", presented by Dr. Carl Kell, and "What Not to Wear" presented by DeAnn Wright and Kathleen Smith.

This event was conducted similar to the state HOSA competition in March. First, second, and third place winners in each competition received a gold, silver, or bronze medal.