



Western Michigan University
ScholarWorks at WMU

College of Health and Human Services
Newsletter

College of Health and Human Services

1-2019

Connections, 01/2019

College of Health and Human Services

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/hhs_news

WMU ScholarWorks Citation

College of Health and Human Services, "Connections, 01/2019" (2019). *College of Health and Human Services Newsletter*. 51.

https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/hhs_news/51

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the College of Health and Human Services at ScholarWorks at WMU. It has been accepted for inclusion in College of Health and Human Services Newsletter by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at WMU. For more information, please contact wmu-scholarworks@wmich.edu.



Connections

A monthly newsletter from the College of
Health and Human Services



Audiology assistant professor receives research award

Dr. Jing Shen, an assistant professor in the Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences, was recently awarded the National Institute of Deafness and Other Communication Disorders Early Career Research Award. The prestigious award will provide Dr. Shen with the ability to expand her research on speech perceptions and dynamic pitch.



[Read More »](#)

Biennial Diversity and Inclusion Conference set for February



Registration is now open for the [2019 conference](#), taking place Feb. 22 at the College of Health and Human Services. Keynote speaker is **Dr. Mark Nepo**.

[Register Today »](#)

“The time is always right to do what is right.”
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Specialty Program in Alcohol and Drug Abuse program names new director

Associate professor **Dr. Tiffany Lee** has been named the director of the specialty program in alcohol and drug abuse. Dr. Lee has taught in the SPADA program since 2008, when she began as a part-time instructor. She was promoted to associate professor in 2017 and named director of SPADA in January 2019.



[Read More »](#)

Three CHHS students receive OVPR research awards

Three CHHS students - **Anika Johns** and **Rachel Wilgenhof** from the Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences; and **Megan Berichon** from the Bronson School of Nursing - have received the Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship Excellence Award from the Office of the Vice President for Research.



[Read More »](#)

Study abroad application deadlines approach

Deadlines are rapidly approaching for students to apply for [Study Abroad](#) courses this summer and fall. Summer I trips include Senegal, South Africa and Spain. Summer II features Japan and Ireland. Deadlines for all of these trips are in January and February.



[Read More »](#)

In other news:

- [Funds available to help small businesses hire summer interns](#)
- [Agreement awards college credit for career and technical education](#)
- [WMU Study Abroad offers 12 new faculty-led programs](#)

CHHS in social media:

OT Student **Rachael Underwood** named MAC Gymnast of the Week! Congrats, Rachael!



From the [Department of Occupational Therapy](#) via [Facebook](#)

Audiology assistant professor receives research award



Dr. Jing Shen

Dr. Jing Shen, assistant professor in the [Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences](#), was recently awarded the [National Institute of Deafness and Other Communication Disorders](#) (NIDCD) [Early Career Research Award](#). The prestigious award, worth \$300,000, will allow Dr. Shen to expand her research on speech perceptions and dynamic pitch.

Her research is guided by three aims:

- Establish the contribution of spectral perception to individual variability in dynamic pitch benefit among other individuals with hearing loss
- Determine the role of dynamic pitch glimpsing ability in dynamic pitch benefit for speech perception in noise among older individuals with hearing loss
- Identify the relationship between older individuals' ability to utilize pitch cues for stream segregation and dynamic pitch benefit in speech maskers

Dr. Shen looks forward to both the challenge and opportunity that her research will bring.

“I am truly grateful for this support to my career development as a researcher – I owe it to my mentors, family and friends who have always been there for me,” Dr. Shen says. “I will take it as my responsibility to always challenge myself in becoming wiser and stronger in what I do – there is just so much work ahead.”

Biennial Diversity and Inclusion Conference

The conference on diversity and inclusion brings WMU faculty, staff, administrators and students together with professionals from a variety of disciplines and community members to learn from each other and to identify strategies that will facilitate improved health outcomes for diverse members of our local and global communities. The conference includes a lecture and keynote, one-hour workshops and poster sessions developed by students and faculty.

2019 DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION CONFERENCE



Health Care: The Power of a Community Who Cares

February 22, 2019 | 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. | CHHS room 4010

The 2019 conference will feature keynote speaker **Dr. Mark Nepo**. The conference will also include workshops and posters from WMU faculty and students representing a number of academic disciplines.

The conference will be held in various rooms in the [College of Health and Human Services](#), but will begin and end in CHHS room 4010.

Register by Feb. 15.

REGISTER TODAY

PRINTABLE FLIER

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Mark Nepo moved and inspired readers and seekers all over the world with his #1 New York Times bestseller *The Book of Awakening*. Beloved as a poet, teacher, and storyteller, Mark has been called “one of the finest spiritual guides of our time,” “a consummate storyteller,” and “an eloquent spiritual teacher.” His work is widely accessible and used by many and his books have been translated into more than twenty languages. A bestselling author, he has published twenty books and recorded fourteen audio projects. Please visit Mark at MarkNepo.com.

More Together Than Alone - the Power and Spirit of Community 9 to 10:15 a.m.

This talk and conversation is based on the publication of Mark’s new book, *More Together Than Alone*. After twelve years of research, the New York Times bestselling author has gathered stories and lessons of community from across cultures and history, with the aim of affirming that, despite the hardships always present, we are more together than alone.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Morning sessions - 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

- **Culturally Responsive Suicide Prevention in Health Care**
Kathy Lewis-Ginebaugh and Ingrid Rank - Western Michigan University
- **Development and Integration of Occupational Therapy into Community Health and the Primary Care Model: Investing in Community at its core through a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)**
Joel Phillips - Kalamazoo Family Health Center
- **Becoming a Trauma Informed Community: Perspectives from the Kalamazoo Equity Taskforce**
Veronica McKissack, Stephanie Moore, Gwen Lanier, Jen Strebs, Dexter A. Mitchell, Cheryl Dickson, Bridget Weller - Western Michigan University

Afternoon sessions - 1 to 2 p.m.

- **Accessing Health Care: Challenges for the Refugee Population**
Jessica Gladden - Western Michigan University

- **Pingalwara: In Letter and Spirit Documentary**
Manvir Kaur and Japman Kaur - Western Michigan University students
- **Engaging Marginalized Populations in Advance Care Planning**
Hilary Kerr - Western Michigan University
- **Size-Inclusive Health Practice: Promoting Health without Promoting Prejudice**
Virginia Dicken - Western Michigan University

PAST CONFERENCES

- **2017** - [Health and Well-Being within a Diverse Community](#)
- **2015** - [Collaboration for Equity: Building a Community that Supports Health Care for All](#)
- **2013** - [Preparing Ourselves to Advance Health Equity](#)

SPADA program names new director



Dr. Tiffany Lee

Associate professor **Dr. Tiffany Lee** has been named the director of the [specialty program in alcohol and drug abuse](#) (SPADA).

Dr. Lee has experience as an addictions counselor, circuit court advocate and child protective investigator. Her research interests include addiction training in counselor education, diversity issues in treatment and alcohol use by college students.

She was the project director and the principal investigator of a \$526,193 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services grant project entitled [SBIRT Training for Students and Community Organizations in the Health Professions in West Michigan](#). This grant was funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and involved a three-year research study related to screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment (SBIRT).

Dr. Lee is also the author of [Embracing Diversity: Treatment and Care in Addiction Counseling](#) and [vice-chair of the Health Professionals Recovery Committee](#) for the state of Michigan.

Dr. Lee has taught in the SPADA program since 2008, when she began as a part-time instructor. She obtained tenure and was promoted to associate professor in 2017 before being named director of SPADA in January 2019.

Dr. C. Dennis Simpson, the program's previous director, has returned to his faculty role and remains an instructor in the program.

About SPADA

Established in 1973, SPADA was the first program of its kind in Michigan and the first university-based training clinic in Michigan to address substance use disorders. The program's education and field practicum experience assists individuals who choose our program to pursue credentials in the field through undergraduate and graduate studies.

The SPADA graduate certificate is offered on WMU's main campus in Kalamazoo, [online](#) and at WMU locations in [Grand Rapids](#) and [Traverse City](#). The undergraduate minor is offered online and in Kalamazoo. Undergraduate and graduate practicums are available at various training clinics throughout Michigan and at other national and international sites.

CHHS students receive undergraduate research awards

Three students from the College of Health and Human Services were recently awarded the Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship Excellence Award from the WMU Office of the Vice President of Research. Rachel Wilgenhof, Megan Berichon and Anika Johns have demonstrated excellence in their respective research fields.

ABOUT THE STUDENTS



Johns

Anika Johns, a senior in the [Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences](#), is studying the effects of aphasia intervention by analyzing conversations between participants with aphasia and clinicians, as well as caregivers. Under the guidance of **Dr. Suma Devanga**, Johns is conducting research for her Lee Honors College Thesis.

Johns is hoping that her research will indicate whether participants can generalize and transfer what they have learned in treatment to their daily conversations with caregivers at home.

Originally from Holland, Michigan, Johns serves as treasurer for the National Student Speech Language & Hearing Association.



Wilgenhof

Rachel Wilgenhof, a senior speech pathology and audiology major, is interested in studying Wernicke's aphasia. Under the guidance of Dr. Suma Devanga, Wilgenhof's study titled, "Collaborative Referencing in Wernicke's Aphasia," aims to determine collaborative learning patterns in a participant with Wernicke's aphasia.

Originally from Plainwell, Michigan, Wilgenhof hopes to explore a career in speech-language pathology. She is heavily active in the Neurogenic Communication Intervention Lab, where she and her colleagues study the effects of conversation-based treatment on adults with aphasia and

other acquired neurogenic communication disorders. She is currently a research assistant as well as a member of the NSSLHA.



Berichon

Megan Berichon, a senior Bronson School of Nursing student from Brooklyn, Michigan, is a navigator in the [Empower Success](#) program.

Under the guidance of **Dr. Mary Ann Stark** and **Taylor Birgy**, she is creating a study for her Lee Honors College Thesis. Her research will examine resilience, self-esteem, sense of belonging and perceived stress in students who are part of the Empower Success program.

Study Abroad Programs





Studying abroad through the College of Health and Human Services at Western Michigan University can raise your geographical and cultural awareness and increase your employability by providing experiences that allow you to function more effectively in our global economy.

CHHS STUDY ABROAD ADVISING

Study abroad offers walk-in advising in the CHHS advising office (room 2125) on these Mondays:

- **November 19** - from 2 to 5 p.m.
- **December 3** - from 2 to 5 p.m.

To schedule an appointment, contact Anastassia Kaml, study abroad specialist, at anastassia.v.kaml@wmich.edu or (269) 387-5890.

2019 CHHS STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

Spring Break

- [Community Health and Permaculture in Guatemala](#)
Faculty director: Dr. Jennifer Harrison
- [International Perspectives on Aging in Ireland](#)
Faculty director: Dr. Maureen Mickus
- [Pura Vida: Health and Healthcare in Costa Rica](#)
Faculty director: Dr. Pamela Wadsworth

Summer I

- [Cultural Connections in Senegal: Causes of Globalization and Consequences on Systems](#)
Faculty directors: CHHS - Dr. Yvette Hyter, A&S - Dr. William F. Santiago-Valles, CEHD - Dr. Sarah Summy
Deadline to apply: January 31, 2019
- [Public Health and Health Care Systems in South Africa](#)
Faculty director: Dr. Robert Bensley
Deadline to apply: January 31, 2019
- [Culture, Diversity, and Social Justice in Spain](#)
Faculty director: Dr. Dee Sherwood
Deadline to apply: January 31, 2019

Summer II

- [Exploration of Health Care and Culture in Japan](#)

Faculty director: Diane Powers

Deadline to apply: February 28, 2019

- [International Perspectives on Aging in Ireland](#)

Faculty director: Dr. Maureen Mickus

Deadline to apply: **EXTENDED to February 17, 2019**

Fall 2019 (status pending)

- [Social Justice in India](#) (Travel in December)

Faculty director: Dr. Jennifer Harrison

Deadline to apply: February 15, 2019

STUDY ABROAD SCHOLARSHIPS

You can help enrich a student's worldview. Your donation can help CHHS students become more globally engaged.

DONATE TODAY