



Western Michigan University
ScholarWorks at WMU

College of Health and Human Services
Newsletter

College of Health and Human Services

5-2019

Connections 05/2019

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 05/2019" (2019). *College of Health and Human Services Newsletter*. 55.

https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/hhs_news/55

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



Doctor of Physical Therapy program reaches important milestone

In May, the Department of Physical Therapy reached another program development milestone as faculty continue preparing to launch the new Doctor of Physical Therapy program later this summer. The program was awarded "Candidate for Accreditation" status from its accrediting body, the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education.

[Read More »](#)



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

**Doctor of
Physical Therapy
Program**

“Different roads sometimes lead to the same castle.”

George R.R. Martin

Title IX training opportunity

The college strongly encourages faculty, staff and students to participate in an online training opportunity to promote a civil, inclusive and healthy environment for the well being of our faculty, staff and students. There are three modules: Workplace Violence Prevention, Bullying in the Workplace, and Harassment & Discrimination Prevention. Faculty, staff and student employees may visit [GoWMU My Self Service](#), and select **EverFi HR Online Awareness and Training Courses**.

[Access Training »](#)

Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences publishes 2019 newsletter

The Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences published its spring 2019 newsletter in May. The annual publication contains information about research and education activities in the department, as well as updates about faculty, students and alumni.



[Read More »](#)

PA student attends national summit in DC

WMU physician assistant student, **Becky Cronin**, was selected to attend the AAPA Annual Leadership and Advocacy Summit in Washington D.C. last March. Becky was one of only four physician assistant students from Michigan selected to attend the event, along with more than 250 PAs and students from around the country.



[Read More »](#)

Art exhibit urges viewers to look beyond stigma

Students #LookBeyond Stigma exhibit is currently on display in the College of Health and Human Services second floor art gallery. The WMU Suicide Prevention Program has partnered with #LookBeyond to help share student stories and to make WMU a stigma-free campus when it comes to mental illness, substance use disorders and developmental disabilities.



[Read More »](#)



In other WMU news for you:

- [Top teacher award goes to another WMU grad](#)
- [WMU expanded aviation center to meet needs of growing industry](#)
- [Sales and business marketing once again earns national top program accolades](#)

CHHS in social media:

On Friday, WMU Grand Rapids OT students volunteered to support students with multiple impairments engage in art at Festival Day.



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

Physical therapy program reaches milestone, prepares for inaugural cohort



In May, the [Department of Physical Therapy](#) reached another program development milestone as faculty continue preparing to launch the new Doctor of Physical Therapy program later this summer.

The program was awarded "Candidate for Accreditation" status from its accrediting body, the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE). Though the "candidate" status does not guarantee program accreditation, it is seen as a significant step for the department.

To reach this point, the department submitted an application for candidacy that documented extensive and detailed plans for implementing the program. In January, two on-site CAPTE reviewers visited WMU to verify the information in the application and determine the program's readiness for implementation. In April, the Commission met to conduct a comprehensive review of the program's application and the reviewers' findings to determine whether we are making satisfactory progress toward compliance with standards and required elements.

"Our faculty and staff are working incredibly hard to develop our curriculum and lay the groundwork for robust research initiatives that will come with a fully implemented program," says **Dr. Stacie Fruth**, founding chair of the Department of Physical Therapy. "Working toward accreditation requires another level of effort on top of it all, but that makes it even more rewarding to receive Candidate for Accreditation status."

The DPT program received over 100 applications from prospective students and, following application review and onsite interviews, 30 of those applicants have been admitted. "We are very excited to welcome our inaugural cohort and formally launch the program beginning in Summer II," says Dr. Fruth.

PA student attends national summit in DC



PA student Becky Cronin in DC

WMU physician assistant student, **Becky Cronin**, was selected by the [Michigan Academy of Physician Assistants](#) to attend the [Annual Leadership and Advocacy Summit](#) in Washington D.C.

The summit featured a full day dedicated to federal advocacy, complete with afternoon visits to legislators on Capitol Hill. The remainder of the sessions were focused on critical issues facing the profession, best practices for constituent organization leaders, and advocacy skill-building.

Becky was one of only four physician assistant students from Michigan selected to attend the event, which was held in March. The summit was sponsored by the American Academy of Physician Assistants which serves as the national organization for physician assistants. It was attended by more than 250 PAs and students from around the country.

"I had the pleasure of attending breakout sessions that focused on sharing insights into leadership development, effective communication and negotiation within the health care system," says Cronin. "It was inspiring to be surrounded by PA leaders from across the nation who came

together for the common goal of advocating for our profession, and more importantly for our patients."

"It's a great opportunity for students to attend this conference," says **Phil Walcott**, master faculty specialist in the PA department. "It's great to see our students selected and I love to see how inspired they are when they return."

Art exhibit urges viewers to look beyond stigma



Sketch featured in exhibit

Students #LookBeyond Stigma exhibit is currently on display in the College of Health and Human Services second floor art gallery.

The [WMU Suicide Prevention Program](#) has partnered with **#LookBeyond** to help share student stories and to make WMU a stigma-free campus when it comes to mental illness, substance use disorders and developmental disabilities. The **#LookBeyond** campaign seeks to increase understanding, support and positive attitudes toward people throughout Kalamazoo County who are living with such conditions.

"The goal of the display is to serve as a reminder that you are valued, worthy and not alone," according to one panel. Other panels share stories of WMU students who have struggled with substance use and mental illness and have overcome the stigma and shame to seek help.



For more information about the WMU Suicide Prevention Program, contact suicidepreventionprogram@wmich.edu. For more information about the #LookBeyond campaign, visit lookbeyondstigma.org.

The exhibit is located on second-floor of the College and Health and Human Services and is open during normal building hours.