Chicago Students Delve Into the Allied Health Professions

Rush University’s Office of Community Engagement, in collaboration with the College of Health Sciences, or CHS, recently held a Health Careers Fair at Richard T. Crane Medical Preparatory High School on Chicago’s West Side. CHS faculty, staff and students were in attendance, interacting with and introducing more than 300 students to some of the many allied health professions.

The Clinical Nutrition, Health Sciences, Health Systems Management, Medical Laboratory Science, Occupational Therapy, Physician Assistant Studies, Respiratory Care and Speech-Language Pathology programs, as well as the Crane’s school-based health center, were represented at the fair. Students were given the opportunity to work directly with program representatives and operate specialized equipment that allied health professionals use to diagnose and treat patients.

Crane students were energetic, intrigued and excited to learn; they asked questions, and many discovered new possibilities for what their futures after high school can be. “Before today I had absolutely no idea what I wanted to do,” said one Crane student.

This event was one of the many community engagement events sponsored by the Office of Community Engagement to work toward the goal of providing youths with the tools they need to make well-informed decisions about their futures. CHS looks forward to continuing to work with Community Engagement to further its outreach efforts.
Kathryn S. Keim, PhD, RD, LDN, recently accepted the position of chairperson of the Department of Clinical Nutrition. She has served as the acting chairperson for the past year.

Keim has been with Rush since 2005, serving as a professor and coordinator for the master’s degree program for the Department of Clinical Nutrition. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree from University of Minnesota, a Master of Science in Food and Nutrition degree from University of Nebraska and a Doctor of Philosophy from Texas Tech University with a major in nutrition and a minor in physiology.

“We are so happy to have Kathy as chairperson of clinical nutrition. Her expertise and experience will continue to ensure that clinical nutrition graduates are the future nutrition experts at the forefront of innovative patient care, education, research and service,” said Mary Jo Guglielmo, MPH, assistant dean of the College of Health Sciences and instructor for the BS in Health Sciences program.

Keim also serves on the College of Health Sciences Faculty Council, Faculty Development of Teaching Skills Committee and the Steering Committee for Seminars. On top of her University responsibilities, she also serves on the Clinical Nutrition Admissions, Curriculum, Recruitment and Research Committees.

“We are so happy to have such an accomplished clinician scientist lead us through the critical challenges our profession now faces. Kathy knows how to motivate her faculty to accomplish more and still feel appreciated for our efforts,” said Christy C. Tangney, PhD, FACN, CNS, professor in the Department of Clinical Nutrition and associate dean for research in the College of Health Sciences.

**Kudos**

Keim Appointed New Clinical Nutrition Chairperson

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**Society for Vascular Ultrasound Awards**

The Society for Vascular Ultrasound, the professional organization dedicated to the advancement of noninvasive vascular technology, presented several awards to individuals who have demonstrated exemplary service to the organization and to the vascular ultrasound profession at its 2015 Annual Conference.

The D.E. Strandness, MD, Scientific Award for Excellence in Vascular Research was presented to **Eileen French-Sherry**, MA, RVT, FSVU, for her paper on “Combination of Duplex Ultrasound Data Improves Positive Predictive Value for Carotid Stenosis > 70%.” This annual award is in honor of the “Father of Noninvasive Diagnosis,” D.E. Strandness, MD, who died in 2002. French-Sherry is the program director of the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Vascular Ultrasound program and an associate chairperson in the Department of Medical Physics and Advanced Imaging at Rush.

Graduate of the BS in Vascular Ultrasound program **Besnike Ramadani**, BS, RVT, received the Excellence in Clinical Case Study Poster Presentation Award for her poster on “Decreasing the Angle of Insonation from 60° to 50° Decreases Inter-Tech Variance in Carotid Artery Ultrasound Exam Velocity Measurements.”

A current student of the BS in Vascular Ultrasound program, **Emily Walder**, received the Student Oral Presenter Award for her paper on “Tumor Thrombus Arising from Osteosarcoma.”
Rush Mentoring Programs Inaugural Symposium

The Rush University Mentoring Programs recently held its inaugural symposium. The keynote address, “The Future of Research at Rush,” was given by Joshua Jacobs, MD, associate provost for research of Rush University, the 2014 Cohn Fellows presented their research, and awards were presented to recognize individuals’ excellent contributions to research. The College of Health Sciences presented posters at the symposium for the following research projects:

**Bathje, M. et. al.** *The Relationship of Undergraduate GPA and Graduate Record Examination Scores With Occupational Therapy Clinical Performance*

**Biswal, N. et. al.** *Skin Temperature Recovery Rate and Thermal Effusivity as Predictors for Radiation-induced Skin Reactions*

**Cameron, J. et. al.** *A Retrospective Chart Review of Asthma Guideline Adherence within a Medical Home Network in a Pediatric Population*

**Kiourkas, R. et. al.** *Comparison of the Alveolar Volume Taken from the DLCO and TLC Obtained From Body Plethysmography in Different Patient Populations*

**Kuperman, D. et. al.** *The Role of Intelectin-1 in Asthma*

**Redler, G. et. al.** *Imaging of Scattered Radiation for Real-time Tracking of Tumor Motion During Lung Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy*

**Shafiro, V. et. al.** *Toward an Environmental Sound Test of Auditory Cognition*

**Stoykov, M. et. al.** *Bilateral Motor Priming for Upper Extremity Hemiparesis in Older Adults: A Feasibility Study*

**Tangney, C. et. al.** *Dietary Inflammatory Index Scores and C-reactive Protein Among Older Adults*

**Vines, D. et. al.** *Effect of Nebulizer Position on Aerosolized Epoprostenol Delivery in an Adult Lung Model*

**Zhen, H. et. al.** *Dosimetric Benefit of Implanted Marker-based CBCT Setup for Definitive Prostatic Radiotherapy*

The Rush Research Mentoring Program was established in 2006 to help prepare junior faculty members to be independent researchers and to lead funded translational research programs. Mentees have access to many research resources and are paired with experienced mentors who work very closely with mentees on their respective research projects.
The College of Health Sciences Student Government Association (SGA) recently hosted its annual De-Stress Fest. Students from all four Rush colleges were invited to take a break, grab a slice of pizza, do a craft and pet a therapy dog. More than 200 students participated and enjoyed a mini-break before getting back to their studies. Below are some fun photos from the stress-relieving event.