ATSU sponsors Governor’s Conference on Aging

For the second time, the Arizona Campus Geriatric Initiative was a Gold track sponsor for the Governor’s Conference on Aging, held every two years in Arizona. ATSU sponsored the Falls Prevention track, and faculty member Jeff Alexander, Ph.D., presented on exercise and fall prevention. D.O. and P.T. students provided health screens.

Chavez receives AOMA Student Distinguished Service Award

Tomas Chavez, OMS I, was honored April 18 with the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association’s (AOMA) Student Distinguished Service Award. The award, which honors a current osteopathic medical student who has made significant contributions to their school and/or the AOMA, was presented during the Presidential Reception and Gala, part of the AOMA’s Annual Convention, at the Hilton Scottsdale Resort and Villas in Scottsdale, Ariz.

KCOM ranks 9th largest Missouri Research University

ATSU-KCOM ranks as the 9th largest Missouri Research University in June’s St. Louis Business Journal list. The list includes colleges and universities located in Missouri receiving funding specifically for research. KCOM received $3,178,000 in research funding in 2007. “Recognition by the Journal is indicative of the increased level of osteopathic clinical research that the University develops and supports,” said John Heard, Ph.D., vice president of research, grants, and information systems. “Not only are we generating new research results, but some of these results are being incorporated into the medical curriculum to benefit our students and their future patients.”

Consistent with the University’s heritage as the founding school of osteopathic medicine, the mission of A.T. Still University is to educate students to become competent healthcare professionals who continuously develop and demonstrate compassion, integrity, and ability while advancing osteopathic principles and philosophy. The institution is committed to scholarly inquiry that anticipates and addresses society’s healthcare needs. The University encourages its constituencies to become leaders in improving community health and wellness with a comprehensive appreciation of the interaction of the body, mind, and spirit.
ATSU-Arizona recognizes leaders at Crystal Awards

ATSU’s Arizona Campus held its 6th Annual Crystal Awards on March 28. Individuals from across Arizona were honored for their commitment and dedication to improving the lives of others through creative and innovative problem solving. The award ceremony, hosted by Provost Craig Phelps, D.O., ’84, and Associate Provost O.T. Wendel, Ph.D., featured a keynote address from internationally acclaimed health policy and ethics analyst Emily Friedman.

“The Crystal Award’s event is a wonderful opportunity for ATSU to recognize community and healthcare champions within the state of Arizona,” said Gretchen Buhlig, associate vice president, Institutional Advancement. “These individuals and organizations exemplify compassion, integrity, and ability in both their personal and professional lives.”

Awards included:

- **Individual Achievement** - Gerald Wissink, BHHS Legacy Foundation
- **Business** - Shamrock Foods Company
- **Non-Profit** - Catholic Healthcare West – Arizona
- **Public Agency** - Governor’s Advisory Council on Aging
- **Civic Organization** - Thunderbirds Charities
- **Media** - Angela Gonzalez, Phoenix Business Journal
- **Medicine** - Arthur Martinez, M.D., El Rio Community Health Care
- **Dentistry and Oral Health** – Arizona State Rep. Linda Lopez Clark-Wright, Au.D.; and Tracy Jones, PA-C

Integrating mental health in primary care topic of 4th Annual Lecture on Aging

The 4th Annual Lecture on Aging was held Friday, April 4, on the Missouri Campus and was broadcasted simultaneously to the Arizona Campus.

Dr. Sue Levkoff, associate professor of psychiatry and social medicine at Harvard Medical School, spoke on the integration of mental health in primary care. Dr. Levkoff serves as director for the Harvard Upper New England Geriatric Education Center and was principal investigator and project director for a SAMHSA-funded multi-site randomized trial on Primary Care Research in Substance Abuse and Mental Health for the Elderly (PRISM-E). She is the editor for *Aging International* and author of more than 100 peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters, monographs, and books, including “Evidence-Based Behavioral Health Practices for Older Adults: A Guide to Implementation” (2006), “Aging Well: The Complete Guide to Physical and Emotional Health” (2001), and “Aging in Good Health” (2002).