Ballroom dancing student offers lessons

SOMA student Jeffrey Neitzel has been a ballroom dancer for nearly 14 years. He has competed at state, national, and international levels, winning numerous championships while earning his ballroom dancing teaching certificate and coaching dance teams. Neitzel is now providing dance lessons to Arizona Campus students, faculty, and staff at the Arthur Murray Dance Studio. Neitzel will teach cha-cha, rumba, mambo, waltz, foxtrot, and various styles of swing for $3 per lesson for a single and $5 for a couple. Beginner dance classes for ATSU will be held at 4:30 p.m. every Saturday. Contact Jeffrey Neitzel at jeff@subrisi.com to sign up.

Employee Excellence Awards

In 2006, Elaine Pipes joined the University family and has since greeted visitors at the Still National Osteopathic Museum front desk. The Museum staff nominated Pipes for the 2007 2nd Quarter Employee Excellence Award, declaring that her energy and attitude are truly infectious.

Rita Clem has loyally served the University for more than 20 years as a printing technician in the Communications & Marketing Department. The Communications & Marketing staff nominated Clem for the 2007 3rd Quarter Employee Excellence Award for her friendly dedication, initiative, and cheerful attitude. “Rita is professional and steady to the core; a good woman who does a good job and is a pleasure to be with,” said Communications & Marketing Vice President Ade Anast.

Dental Care West now open

ATSU-ASDOH opened Dental Care West, a state-of-the-art, six-chair dental facility in Glendale, Ariz., on January 17. Dental Care West offers real-world instructional opportunities for fourth-year dental students who provide dental and oral healthcare to underserved seniors and adults with physical or behavioral special needs in the West Valley. Patient costs for services at Dental Care West are approximately 50 percent of private dental care fees. “A.T. Still University’s mission is to educate caring dentists and other health professionals who will give back to the community,” said ASDOH Dean Jack Dillenberg, D.D.S., M.P.H. “We are excited to offer excellent dental care at a reduced cost to underserved patients while providing our students an opportunity to serve the community.” Dental Care West joins the East Valley Clinic, located on ATSU’s Arizona Campus.

ATSU-KCOM’s Connell Information Technology Center opened for business on January 14. The $12.5 million, 55,748-square-foot Connell Center is a high-tech medical education facility boasting an osteopathic manipulative medicine laboratory with 100 patient tables, six human patient simulator rooms, a wireless library with video-audio center, and a student study complex of 14 rooms. Since its opening, faculty members have scheduled OMM labs and have used the new breakout rooms.

Employee Excellence Awards

Elaine Pipes, President McGovern, and Rita Clem.

Your news is StillNews. Students, if you have news to pass along, email lcashatt@atsu.edu.

Our Mission

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 health care 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 constituents to become leaders in improving community health and wellness with a comprehensive appreciation of the interaction of body, mind, and spirit.
D.H.Ed. student improves online curriculum

The School of Health Management will graduate its first class of Doctorate of Health Education students in February. Deanna Hunsaker says she gained practical learning experiences through the program and found the applied dissertation process especially rewarding. “It’s nice having a project that’s work-focused, finding a solution, and implementing it – instead of a hypothetical study,” she said.

Hunsaker’s dissertation, “Improving Online Curriculum Design Through Professional Instructional Designer and Subject Matter Expert Collaboration,” examines best practices of curriculum development and training requirements of instructional design staff. Hunsaker developed a three-week instructional designer training program, evaluation tools to measure effectiveness, and a standard operating procedures manual to support ongoing training.

She also attended the Sloan-C Conference where she learned about emerging asynchronous learning technologies. In addition, she attended the 5th Annual Slate Conference sponsored by Midwest Blackboard Users, attending sessions on topics from best practices to faculty and technical support. Attendance at both conferences supplied Hunsaker with hands-on research material for her dissertation.

Kettel Society cooks up sales

To date, the Dr. Louis J. Kettel Society at ASHS has raised approximately $320 through cookbook sales. The Kettel Society collected recipes from students and faculty on the Arizona Campus to compile the unique cookbooks. “Since we come from many places there are a big variety of dishes,” Kettel Society President and P.A. student Kristen Owens said.

The majority of the cookbook’s profits will benefit The Melonhead Foundation, which the Kettel Society has committed to support for the rest of the year. The Society presented The Melonhead Foundation with a check for $289.20 on January 20. A portion of the cookbook proceeds will help fund the Society’s trip to the National American Academy of Physician Assistants Conference in San Antonio, Texas.

The Kettel Society will continue to sell cookbooks throughout the year. To support the Kettel Society and The Melonhead Foundation, make a purchase by emailing kettel@atsu.edu.

SOMA student sounds off

Native Arizonian Brandon Abbott, OMS I, displays a wide range of talents and interests. Before discovering his passion for osteopathic medicine, Abbott gave ear to the music industry. Learning any instrument he could get his hands on, Abbott played in several bands in genres from ska and punk to rock and power pop. Not only does he write songs and occasionally tour, but Abbott is also the mastermind behind Uncle Abbott Records, his own not-for-profit production label. Abbott has produced several albums, two of which he completed in the month prior to matriculating to SOMA. The label’s profits are donated to organizations such as LifeStraw and Mr. Holland’s Opus Foundation.

As a history major at Arizona State University, Abbott studied the history of osteopathic medicine, compelling him to enter medical school. “Having studied the history of osteopathic medicine and been incredibly impressed with the unique curriculum at SOMA, it was a no-brainer for me to attend the Old Doctor’s newest school,” Abbott said. “It is an opportunity for me to actually be part of the history I love.” Abbott is involved in many Campus activities as president of the Student Government Association and vice president of the Family Practice Interest Group. “I try to get involved as much as I can with all of the student interest groups at our school,” he said.

KCOM Still Scholars

Krista Willingham, Bryan Campbell, Brian Geren, and Brian Snyders are KCOM Class of 2011 Still Scholars. The Still Scholars Pre-Osteopathic Program provides early admission to outstanding sophomore-level students whose goal is to become doctors of osteopathic medicine. KCOM collaborates with undergraduate institutions across the nation, seeking students who meet the program’s requirements. Still Scholars earn a reserved seat in KCOM’s entering class and an academic scholarship.

“The unique opportunities were incredibly encouraging and proved that this campus would be my school of choice,” Willingham said. KCOM anticipates five Still Scholars in the KCOM Class of 2012.
TCC Fall League
Raquetball final standings

Advanced Division
1st place: Nathan Nielson (Class of 2010)
2nd place: Brian Peavey (Student spouse)
3rd place: Royce Cook (Town)

High Intermediate Division
1st place: W. Scott Cragun (Class of 2011)
2nd place: Jim Palmisano (NERMC)
3rd place: Jason Crellin (Class of 2011)

Intermediate Division (Monday)
1st place: Clint Lauridson (Class of 2011)
2nd place: Greg Millman (Biomedical Sciences Program)
3rd place: Brian Flanagan (Class of 2011)

Intermediate Division (Thursday)
1st place: Emily Olson (Class of 2010)
2nd place: Adam Waterman (Class of 2010)
3rd place, tie: Tu Cao (Class of 2011), Vineet Singh, Ph.D. (Faculty)

Low Intermediate Division
1st place: Chris Finley (Class of 2011)
2nd place, tie: Chris Rages (Truman State University), Dan Smith (Class of 2010)
3rd place, tie: Michael Brown (Class of 2010), Dinesh Sharma (Class of 2010)

The men of ATSU strike a pose
Twenty-one men from the Arizona Campus put their best faces forward as models for the 2008 Men of ATSU calendar. The calendar fundraiser was organized by ASDOH’s Class of 2010. Each month’s spread was shot on the Arizona Campus and includes students from ASDOH, SOMA, and ASHS.

ASHS tests auditory processing skills
Each Monday in January, ASHS faculty, staff, and their families participated in free auditory process testing courtesy of second-year Au.D. students. Students evaluated children and adults, testing how well information was processed once heard. According to Rebekah F. Cunningham, Ph.D., assistant professor of audiology, many children and older adults have significant difficulties with their auditory processing skills.

Washington, D.C., welcomes KCOM students
Abigail Alviar, OMS I, Gregory Millman, second-year M.B.S. student, and Brian Lee, OMS III, represented ATSU-KCOM in research poster presentations at the 47th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Cell Biology held December 1-5 in Washington D.C.

Alviar, a 2007 graduate of KCOM’s Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences Program, presented “Fragmented Forms of Galectin Related Inter-Fiber Protein are Uniquely Associated with the Water Insoluble Membrane Fraction of Normal Rat Lens” with co-authors C. Rick Fleschner, Ph.D., biochemistry professor, and Melissa K. Stuart, Ph.D., microbiology/immunology associate professor.

Millman presented “The NF-kappaB Pathway in Dystrophic (mdx) Skeletal Muscle Produces Elevated Active p65 in the Nuclear Compartment without Altering the Subcellular Distribution of the Transcription Factor” with Truman State University student co-author E.C. Turin and faculty co-authors Abbas Samadi, Ph.D., biochemistry assistant professor, and C. George Carlson, Ph.D., physiology associate professor.


Students and faculty get CPR training
Arizona Campus faculty and students participated in 3½-hour CPR training courses on November 13 and December 10. Participants performed cardiopulmonary resuscitation techniques on mannequins. Upon successful completion of the course, participants received a two-year American Heart Association CPR certificate. A CPR class is also scheduled in February.

Above & Beyond
Cathy Ruf, OMS I, was nominated for the Above & Beyond Award by Marietta Squire, OMS II, for “coaching, mentoring, and inspiring other students toward physical excellence.”
StillNews

Randy D. Danielsen, Ph.D., PA-C, dean of the Arizona School of Health Sciences, was recognized as a Distinguished Fellow of the American Academy of Physician Assistants. Danielsen joins a select number of outstanding P.A.s who have distinguished themselves among their colleagues and communities through service to the profession, commitment to advancing healthcare for all people, and exemplary personal and professional development.

ASHS dean recognized

Randy D. Danielsen, Ph.D., PA-C, dean of the Arizona School of Health Sciences, was recognized as a Distinguished Fellow of the American Academy of Physician Assistants. Danielsen joins a select number of outstanding P.A.s who have distinguished themselves among their colleagues and communities through service to the profession, commitment to advancing healthcare for all people, and exemplary personal and professional development.

HSDA hosts inaugural tamale fest

By David Martinez and Elizabeth Magallanes

The Hispanic Student Dental Association at ASDOH held its first annual tamale fundraiser in December, raising funds for upcoming projects and community events. After more than a month of planning, HSDA student and faculty members gathered together for a weekend-long tamale-making fest where more than 600 tamales were made. Nearly $600 was raised to improve the oral health of Hispanics throughout Arizona. HSDA thanks all who supported the sale and helped make it a success. HSDA welcomes and encourages all ASDOH students to be involved with the association, regardless of background. Many more fundraisers and community events are planned as the group prepares for the 2008 Annual Hispanic Dental Association Conference in Carefree, Ariz., in November.

OT students travel to Egypt

Three occupational therapy students joined Professor Cindy Hahn, M.O.T., O.T.R./L., FAOTA, on an expedition to Cairo, Egypt, in August 2007. Regina Buban, Vanessa McCarthy-Singleton, and Rachel Hoppe, with the support of the Students of Occupational Therapy Association, raised money to fund their trip as well as more than $500 of additional funds to purchase supplies to donate to Cairo facilities in need. S&S Arts and Crafts of Colchester, Conn., an OT supplies and equipment distributor, matched the money the students raised. In all, the students were able to donate more than $1,200 of supplies to two children’s treatment centers and two psychiatric hospitals in Cairo. The students joined Hahn in presenting the benefits and type of care provided by occupational therapists to professionals at both a prestigious Egyptian university and a mental health facility. Little OT service is available in Egypt, and the government has actively worked with the World Federation of Occupational Therapy to bring OT education to its universities. Following their presentation at Ain-Shams University in Cairo, the government announced that they would open their first OT education program in 2008. The students celebrated the news on a Nile cruise before returning to the United States. Once home, the students presented at ATSU and the State OT Association Fall Conference about their experience in Egypt and how the knowledge gained has helped them become better future clinicians. Their presentations emphasized the importance of learning cultural competence and encouraged future students to take advantage of unique learning opportunities. S&S Arts and Crafts continues to support their efforts and has committed to match any money the students raise for future trips to Egypt.

Med Club hosts internist

The KCOM Internal Medicine Club hosted American College of Osteopathic Internist visiting professor Robert G. Good, D.O., FACOI, on January 10, in the Mehegan classroom. Dr. Good presented “Feeding Tubes in Dementia” and “Your Career in Osteopathic Internal Medicine” to internal medicine students. A discussion of the pros and cons of the profession followed Dr. Good’s presentation. A Chinese food lunch was served, and a PDA software raffle was held.

Arizona Campus Faculty & Staff Annual Campaign is a success

The 2008 Arizona Campus Faculty & Staff Annual Campaign raised $105,800.16, surpassing its $100,000 goal. Fundraising activities included bidding for a VIP parking spot, monthly carwashes, and a gourmet Cajun dinner for four served at the home of Associate Provost Ted Wendel, Ph.D., prepared by Assistant Professor Henry Trahan, Au.D. Money raised through the annual campaign will support University scholarships, technology, and programs.

Arizona Campus Provost Craig Phelps, D.O., ’84, took breakfast and lunch orders to raise money for the 2008 Campus Faculty & Staff Annual Campaign.