

Still News

March 2006

A.T. STILL UNIVERSITY | ATSU

University exceeds goal for funding Connell Center

More than \$10 million raised to construct state-of-the-art facility



At the quarterly meeting of the ATSU Board of Trustees, James McGovern, Ph.D., ATSU president, announced the successful completion of fundraising to support the construction of the Connell Information Technologies Center on the ATSU Kirksville Campus. Construction began last October.

Approximately \$10.25 million was raised to complete the project, with more than \$4.5 million raised in 2005. The Connell Center was also recognized by the prestigious Kresge Foundation, which awarded ATSU a challenge grant to complete the building's funding. ATSU needed to raise \$780,000, which the foundation would then match with a \$225,000 grant.

Dr. McGovern noted at the meeting that ATSU exceeded the amount challenged by The Kresge Foundation and that the Connell Center would serve the future needs of all the degree programs at ATSU's Kirksville Campus, as well as the university's alumni.

"The Connell Center will position this institution to take advantage of the emerging informational technologies developed during the next several decades," Dr. McGovern said.

The Connell Center is a state-of-the-art facility designed to attract and retain exemplary students and faculty and provide the latest scientific information and teaching facilities. The 55,748 square foot educational facility will create an enhanced learning environment that

will take students out of the classroom and place them directly into active learning scenarios. A new library will contain the latest in computer technology. A new osteopathic manipulative medicine laboratory, multimedia center, and student study complex are also featured. Computer classrooms will set the stage for implementation of the latest in learning technology, and a patient simulation center with the capacity for six human patient simulators will accent ATSU's active learning and compassionate care emphasis.

Robert Baer, Ph.D., associate professor of physiology at ATSU-KCOM, has been involved in integrating technology into all four years of the college's curriculum.

"Technology is not a substitute for a dedicated faculty and the very brightest students," Dr. Baer said. "However, technology can help us attract both the best faculty and the brightest students." ATSU-KCOM Dean Phil Slocum, D.O., FACOI, FCCM, FCCP, said, "We need compassion as well as clinical and technical knowledge in our graduates."

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SGA hosts annual auction

Event will honor Flight 5966 victims, support student travel

The Student Government Association (SGA) at ATSU-KCOM hosted its annual auction in February to raise money for two worthy causes.

The auction began online with bidders placing their offerings on ATSU's website. On Valentine's Day, online bidding ended and SGA hosted a live/silent auction in Centennial Commons. The 159 items up for bid ranged from varieties of cakes, pies, and steaks to babysitting, oil paintings, and even a football autographed by several former and current players for the St. Louis Rams.

SGA was successful in raising more than \$4,000. Proceeds from the auction went to build a new endowment in honor of the members of the ATSU and Kirksville communities who were lost in the crash of Flight 5966 in October 2004. The endowment will provide opportunities to recognize and assist students and groups involved in compassionate activities during their matriculation to ATSU.

The remaining funds will be used to provide travel awards for students participating in D.O. Day on The Hill. D.O. Day is organized by the American Osteopathic Association and Student Osteopathic Medical Association to provide medical students with the opportunity to increase political awareness and participation in legislative affairs.



Above: Auctioneer Tex Findling conducted the live bidding portion of the SGA live/silent auction.



Right: ATSU-KCOM Associate Dean Stephen Laird, D.O., left, and Susan Coon, administrative assistant for educational development & services, were among the large crowd of bidders at the SGA live/silent auction.

Registration begins for 2006 ATSU-ASHS golf tournament

Proceeds from annual event to fund student scholarships

The 2006 ATSU-ASHS Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, April 8, at the Western Skies Golf Course in Gilbert, Arizona. The foursome, best ball tournament will shotgun start at 8 a.m. followed by a tournament awards luncheon. Proceeds from the tournament go toward building ATSU-ASHS scholarship funds for new and existing students.

This year's tournament will offer a variety of awards, and prizes will be awarded for shortest drive, wildest outfit, most balls lost during play, and many others. In

addition, programs will be assigned holes for students to chat with players about their individual programs.

The event will also feature an Un-Golf contest for those who do not play or for alumni who cannot attend. This year's prizes are an X-Box game system, an IPOD, and a handheld color television.

Please mark your calendar and plan on attending. Player fees and sponsorship information are now available. Call Edward Phillips at 480.219.6014 or email to ephillips@atsu.edu.

ATSU to host second annual Still Spirit Awards

ATSU is once again recognizing individuals in the Kirksville community who have demonstrated a spirit of giving and who have contributed to the growth and continued success of the city and the region.

Still Spirit Awards will be presented to area leaders who demonstrate the same spirit of community giving as ATSU founder Andrew Taylor Still, M.D., D.O. As the newly founded practice of osteopathic medicine grew in popularity, it became necessary for Dr. Still to construct a proper facility for educating students. Solicitations to build his school in several surrounding communities in Missouri and Iowa were received by Dr. Still, and the Kirksville community became so concerned that he might leave that they published a petition pleading with him to stay. Additionally, community members pledged \$40,000 in cash, supplies, equipment, and labor to ensure Dr. Still's school would be constructed in Kirksville. That amount is roughly equal to \$900,000 in 2004. Dr. Still returned the money raised, advising the city to build a hotel, which was desperately needed, and promised to build his school in Kirksville.

STILL SPIRIT awards

James McGovern, Ph.D., president of ATSU, said the legacy of cooperation between ATSU and the Kirksville community is an important and valuable model for the university's students.

"We try to teach our students about addressing the body, mind, and spirit of their patients," explained ATSU President James J. McGovern, Ph.D. "I want to give them some examples of using that spirit for others in the community."

Nominations will be accepted for the following four categories: Community Volunteer of the Year, Community Business Leader of the Year, Community Not-For-Profit Leader of the Year, and Community Governmental Leader of the Year.

Those wishing to nominate a candidate need to complete a

nomination form and a brief written statement of support for each candidate. Forms are available for completion and submission online at: www.atsu.edu/spirit, by telephoning the ATSU development office at 660.626.2180, or via email at development@atsu.edu. The deadline for submitting a nomination is 5 p.m., March 17, 2006.

ATSU will host the 2006 Still Spirit Awards Ceremony & Dessert Reception from 5:30-7:30 p.m., April 18, 2006, in the ballroom of Patterson's Restaurant in Kirksville.

Cowan honored with Hashemian Award of Excellence Second annual award given to top performer on dental exam

Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health (ASDOH) second-year student Christina Cowan, class of 2008, recently received recognition for achieving the highest score on part one of the National Board of Dental Examination given this past July. She is the second recipient of the Dr. Tony Hashemian Award of Excellence given by local practitioner Tony Hashemian, D.D.S.

The award is given to the ASDOH student who obtains the highest score on part one and also part two of the national examination.

"It is my intention in establishing and providing the awards to build enthusiasm and encourage ASDOH stu-

dents to excel on the dental board examinations," said Hashemian, the president of Classic Dental, located in Mesa, Scottsdale, Sun City, and Phoenix, Ariz. "The dental board examination is a challenge for ASDOH students because they take their part one examination a year before all other dental students."

Attaining the highest score was not a personal goal for Cowan; however, she did want to achieve a score that would open residency and research opportunities.

"Achieving my personal goals for part one has further motivated me to apply and participate in extracurricular programs and externships," Cowan said. "Through these adjunctive programs, I hope to continue developing into a well-rounded clinician. My continued desire for excellence and personal development has been strengthened with this achievement as well."

Cowan received the award, which included a commemorative plaque and a \$2,000 scholarship, at a ceremony at the Mesa Campus during an ATSU-ASDOH Grand Rounds session held for first- and second-year students.

"When I see other dentists in the community giving back, it inspires me to follow their lead," Cowan said. "I look to these dentists as role models to learn from and emulate."



ATSU-ASDOH second-year dental student Christina Cowan, right, receives the Hashemian Award from Dean Jack Dillenberg, left, and Dr. Tony Hashemian.

ATSU Mesa campus to host 2006 Crystal Awards

ATSU-Mesa will host the 2006 Crystal Awards Ceremony on April 21, 2006. The Crystal Awards event is an hors d'oeuvres and dessert reception honoring individuals and organizations committed to improving our community by making a difference through creative and innovative problem solving.

The event features a variety of mouthwatering hors d'oeuvres, dessert selections, from finger desserts to luscious cakes and pastries, as well as international cocoa/coffee/tea stations and chocolate fountain.

Registration and silent auction and reception begin at 6:30 p.m. The awards ceremony will begin at 8 p.m. honoring the best and brightest in our community in the following categories: Individual; Business; Non-profit/non-religious; Non-profit/religious; Public Agency; and Outstanding Achievement. This year ATSU will also honor individuals who have had a profound impact in athletic training, audiology, dentistry and oral health, occupational therapy, physician assistants, and physical therapy.

Proceeds derived as a result of the Crystal Awards Ceremony are designated to enhance scholarship programs of ATSU. For information about sponsorships and the ceremony, please contact Rodric Bradford at 480.219.6015 or rbradford@atsu.edu.

Four new degrees programs coming to ATSU Board of Trustees approves programs, reconfirms new D.O. program

The A.T. Still University Board of Trustees recently approved four new degree programs during their quarterly meetings in Mesa, Ariz. The new programs include two new doctoral degrees and two new master's degrees, and all four will be online courses.

In addition to approving the new programs, the Board also voted to reconfirm support for the D.O. program proposed for ATSU's Mesa campus.

The Department of Interdisciplinary Health Sciences (DIHS) at ATSU's Arizona School of Health Sciences received approval from the Board for an online **Doctor of Health Sciences (D.H.Sc.) degree**. The newly formed DIHS coordinates the core health science program offerings for all students on the Mesa campus including anatomy, pathology, and research methods & statistics. Currently, only Nova Southeastern University and Rush University offer the D.H.Sc. degree in the United States.

Additionally, ATSU-ASHS has entered into a partnership program with the National Academy of Sports Medicine (NASM), which recently moved its global headquarters to the Mesa campus. The partnership has developed a **Master of Human Movement (M.S.) degree** program. This program will deliver online education in human movement, performance enhancement, and corrective exercise. Graduates will be able to achieve excellence in the provision of human movement services, including personal training that incorporates enhancement and/or corrective exercise assessments, exercise techniques, and program design, based upon a foundation of human movement science and evidence-based practice.

In addition to having one of the nation's top physician assistant

programs (*U.S. News & World Report* 2006 Graduate School rankings), the new D.H.Sc. and Human Movement degrees will help further the ATSU-ASHS mission to develop and implement nationally recognized core health sciences programs and post-professional healthcare degree programs that teach and exemplify the principles of evidence-based practice, healthcare outcomes, health informatics, technology, patient-centered healthcare, and inter-professional teamwork.

ATSU's School of Health Management (ATSU-SHM) was approved for two new online programs. The **Master of Health Education (M.H.Ed.) degree** program is designed to prepare those involved in health professions education, such as physicians, physician assistants, nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, and those who work academically or administratively in healthcare education for educational leadership roles.

The **Doctor of Health Education (D.H.Ed.) degree** program is a further progression of the master of health education program. It enhances the master's degree and brings students to a level where they may aspire to higher level positions within a educational system.

Both degrees are in response to a national review indicating that although clinicians are experts in their specialized fields, they are not equipped with the knowledge of educational concepts needed to be good teachers or administrators. Likewise, most college teachers in the health professions are not prepared as educators. As health professions programs seek faculty and administrators with educational courses or degrees, ATSU will be able to play a major role in this development.

New osteopathic medical school receives pre-accreditation

College planned for ATSU Mesa Campus moves one step closer

At the quarterly meeting of the ATSU Board of Trustees, Doug Wood, D.O., Ph.D., dean of ATSU's proposed osteopathic medical school, announced that pre-accreditation status was awarded by the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) to the proposed school in December 2005. Pre-accreditation status is awarded after the commission confirms the feasibility study and conformity to portions of the standards required for full accreditation.



Dr. Richard 'Buz' Cooper of the University of Pennsylvania addresses ATSU Board members during his presentation about healthcare workforce policy. Dr. Cooper has projected a shortage of 200,000 physicians by the year 2020.

Dean Wood indicated that ATSU is one step closer to realizing its goal.

"By implementing an innovative educational model and precise evaluation techniques, the medical school of the future is now," Dean Wood said.

The proposed school was initiated in response to a request from the National Association of Community Health Centers. Studies predict an estimated shortfall of up to 200,000 physicians by 2020, a shortage that will exacerbate efforts of the Health Center safety-net to improve the health status of underserved communities. Community Health Centers anticipate a need to hire an additional 14,000 physicians by 2020 and are partnering with ATSU to identify, educate, and train high quality, community-minded physicians. In addition to COCA's approval, the Arizona Commission for Post-Secondary Education issued its own approval for provisional accreditation on February 23. The ATSU Board also reconfirmed its support for the program at the Board meeting.

"ATSU is in a great position to build a medical school to address the many needs of students, patients, and the community simply not being addressed by existing models of education and care," said Craig Phelps, D.O., provost, ATSU-Mesa. "It will be an exciting, purposeful, and relevant project, and most importantly, it will benefit students and patients across the country."

The author of the projected physician shortage study was Richard "Buz" Cooper, M.D., professor of medicine, division of general internal medicine, University of Pennsylvania Health System. Dr. Cooper shared his insights concerning solutions to the problem of physician shortages with the ATSU Board. He indicated that ATSU's Mesa Campus was ahead of the curve in anticipating the nation's future health needs and finding solutions.

"It won't be long before ATSU-Mesa will be synonymous with the future of medical education," Dr. Cooper said.

Dr. John Morley headlines annual lecture on aging

The second annual ATSU Lecture on Aging will be held at 2 p.m., April 7, at the ATSU Campus in Kirksville, Mo., and will be simultaneously broadcast at the ATSU campus in Mesa, Arizona, and made available online as well. Dr. John E. Morley, M.B., B.Ch., will present the lecture on health promotion and healthy aging.

Dr. Morley is Dammert Professor of Gerontology at Saint Louis University Medical School and director of the Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Center at the St. Louis V.A. Medical Center. Dr. Morley was educated at the University of Witwatersrand in his native South Africa. He received

postgraduate training at UCLA and is board certified in endocrinology and geriatrics.

Dr. Morley is the author of numerous papers and 14 texts, including "Geriatric Nutrition," Second Edition (1995), "Memory Function and Aging Related Disorders" (1992), "Medical Care in the Nursing Home," Second Edition (1996), "Frailty in Older Individuals" (1993), and "As We Age" (1996). In 1990, he was included among the 100 Most-Cited Scientists in the World from 1981-1988. Dr. Morley's current research topics include memory function, nutrition, and endocrinology of the elderly.

The lecture will be open to ATSU faculty, staff, students and alumni, as well as other interested community professionals. It is anticipated that CME credit will be available.

The lecture is sponsored by the ATSU Committee on Aging. For more information, please call 660.626.2182 or rlukefahr@atsu.edu.



MORLEY

“Red Flag” lecture

Budd Memorial lecturer brings unique experience to ATSU-KCOM

The annual Budd Memorial Lecture took place at ATSU-KCOM in February with featured speaker Linda F. Gruenberg, D.O., assistant professor in the department of psychiatry at Rush Medical College and staff member at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago. Dr. Gruenberg characterized her lecture, titled “Domestic Violence – Myths and Reality,” as one for students and physicians to “file away” for the day when “a little light goes off in your head.”

Indeed, Dr. Gruenberg offered a unique perspective as an osteopathic physician who has to pay special attention to the whole person, watching for signals, clues, and symptoms of violence and abuse that manifest themselves in many other, often secondary, conditions.

“It could be physical injuries that draw your attention, it could be something kind of squirrely in a story that you’re hearing, or it could be a spouse hovering over a spouse so that it looks like there is just something wrong,” Dr. Gruenberg said in her introduction.

Dr. Gruenberg’s career began as a police officer with a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice from Loyola University in Chicago. She graduated in 1990 from Midwestern University’s Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed a residency in psychiatry and a fellowship in psychiatry and the law at Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke’s Medical Center in Chicago.

Her lecture focused on two female victims of domestic violence who killed their husbands. In both instances, Dr. Gruenberg said, the women exhibited signs and behaviors that could have indicated to a medical professional that something more was wrong.

“You’re going to have someone come in with a lot of injuries and they’re going to say ‘Oh, he really didn’t mean it’ or ‘he’s so sorry and he bought me flowers’ or ‘he took me out to dinner’ and that’s the cycle of violence called the loving contrition state,” Dr. Gruenberg said, referring to the condition that emphasizes that physical abuse is most often accompanied by psychological abuse.

Melicien Tettambel, D.O., clinical division chair of maternal child health and professor of OMM at ATSU-KCOM, said the lecture was especially relevant to osteopathic students and physicians today.

“Dr. Gruenberg is an osteopathic psychiatrist who recognizes the inter-relationship of women’s physical, mental and emotional health. Domestic violence continues to be a problem for our society that is challenging to deal with



Dr. Linda Gruenberg, left, accepts a plaque from Dr. Melicien Tettambel commemorating her selection as the speaker for the 14th annual L. Linton Budd, D.O., Memorial Lecture.

for physicians and patients,” Dr. Tettambel said. “At this time, males and females who are returning home from serving our country are having to re-integrate themselves into ‘being home again.’ Some left pregnant partners and returned to a family and have to quickly learn parenting skills, as well as cope with previous mental, physical, psychological stresses of war and violence. Others may not ever have had the opportunity to learn coping skills to deal with unfortunate relationships – school, job or no job, home – some combined with chemical dependency, poverty, or ignorance. In 2006, we have yet to effectively support victims and their families who suffer from domestic abuse and violence. Perhaps with continued education and awareness, someone who heard this lecture can think about making a positive impact while caring for women and their families.”

Budd Memorial lectures are presented to the ATSU-KCOM community to honor the memory of ATSU-KCOM alumnus and former professor and department chair Linton Budd, D.O., and to promote women’s health and osteopathic philosophy. A variety of thought-provoking lectures covering many female health perspectives are presented to present and future healthcare providers as well as consumers to explore issues and controversy in caring for female patients in the changing world of medicine.

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If you have news to report, please call 660.626.2272 or email jvincent@atsu.edu by March 16, 2006.
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ATSU-Kirksville hosts Aging in Place summit

Three designated sites collaborate on progress, challenges

Representatives from four Missouri "Aging in Place" sites recently met in Kirksville at ATSU's Senior Living Campus to discuss progress in the development of the program, as well as challenges they currently are facing.

In March 2002, the Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services designated sites in Springfield, Cape Girardeau, Columbia, and Kirksville as pilot locations of "Aging in Place" models for the state of Missouri. The Aging in Place model of care for the elderly offers care coordination and healthcare services to older adults so they will not have to move from one level of care delivery to another as their healthcare needs increase.

Discussion among the more than 20 representatives who attended the meeting included: strategies to develop health and wellness resource programs at senior wellness and community centers; federal and state health programs, including Medicare, prescription drug programs, and tax credit availability; and coordinated community services, including services and collaboration with partnered health clinics and health science institutions.

"What makes Kirksville's Aging in Place model work is the engagement and contributions of the community," said Elsie Gaber, Ph.D., associate vice president for university relations at ATSU. "Whether it is RSVP volunteers with the leadership of Pat Selby, or Senior Circle program with the enthusiasm of Laura Gruber, or Dr. Rene McGovern and Janet Head with the integration of our students into the community, partnerships are a key to the successful programs in our community, and the Aging in Place program is one more example of how people working together make the difference."



Representatives from Missouri's Health and Senior Services (H&SS) department and model "Aging in Place" sites met to discuss successes and challenges since the project's designation in 2002. Left to right: Sue Heisler, H&SS; Debra Cheshier, H&SS; and Bob Jefferson, Elfendale in Springfield.



The "Aging in Place" site representatives took a break from their meetings to have lunch with residents of St. Andrews Apartments, an independent living facility at ATSU that is part of the Senior Living Campus. Pictured is Marilyn Rantz, Tiger Place in Columbia and Nick S, resident of St. Andrews apartments.

Raising the faculty “coolness” factor



Jon Persavich, Ph.D., dean of ATSU's School of Health Management, presented a workshop on how to use durable, reusable objects in course development at a faculty development seminar in February. The title of Dr. Persavich's presentation was "A cool way to design courses and curriculum."

Lights, camera, action!

2006 has already been a popular year for photography and video sessions on the ATSU Mesa campus.



On January 27, a production company for the Discovery Channel visited the Mesa Campus for a follow-up story on ATSU-Mesa Provost Dr. Craig Phelps and his longtime patient Dave Alexander.