

# Higher Learning Accreditation

ONCE every 10 years, colleges and universities accredited by the Higher Learning Commission undertake a comprehensive self-study in preparation for site visits conducted by the HLC. ATSU's Self-Study Steering Committee, co-chaired by Dean Randy Danielsen and Tracey Lantz, assistant to President Magruder, has been meeting for more than a year and is on its way to a first draft of ATSU's Self-Study.

## What does the self-study study?

The self-study evaluates an institution's effectiveness in meeting its stated mission. The self-study covers five specific criteria:

1. The organization operates with integrity to ensure the fulfillment of its mission through structures and processes that involve the board, administration, faculty, staff, and students.
2. The organization's allocation of resources and its processes for evaluation and planning demonstrate its capacity to fulfill its mission, improve the quality of its education, and respond to future challenges and opportunities.
3. The organization provides evidence of student learning and teaching effectiveness that demonstrates it is fulfilling its educational mission.
4. The organization promotes a life of learning for its faculty, administration, staff, and students by fostering and supporting inquiry, creativity, practice, and social responsibility in ways consistent with its mission.
5. As called for by its mission, the organization identifies its constituencies and services them in ways both value.

Each criterion is being studied by an individual task force composed of administration, faculty, staff, and students. Each task force must gather evidence that demonstrates that ATSU is meeting the requirements of the criterion.

## Are the self-study results shared across the University?

Yes! An important part of the entire self-study process is having the broad University community read and comment on the self-study draft. This fall, a special website will be created, and the self-study report will be available online. Students, faculty, staff, and community members will be encouraged to review the report and provide feedback to the steering committee.

## What else does accreditation involve?

In addition to the comprehensive written self-study, peer reviewers assigned by the HLC will visit both ATSU campuses to review evidence and talk with faculty, staff, and students.

For more information about the Higher Learning Commission and accreditation visit [www.ncahlc.org](http://www.ncahlc.org).

Between now and the HLC's visit in February 2009, StillNews will carry information about the accreditation process every month.

## June Events

- June 4-5** PA Class of 2010 Orientation
- June 6** ASHS Alumni Chapter Board Meeting
- June 7** SHM Graduation
- June 12** ASDOH Class of 2008 Graduation Awards Brunch
- June 12** ASDOH Founder's Ball
- June 13** ASDOH Alumni Chapter Board Meeting
- June 13** ASDOH Class of 2007 & 2008 Graduation Social
- June 14** ASDOH Graduation
- June 23** ASDOH Orthodontics Class of 2010 Orientation
- June 27** PT White Coat Ceremony

## 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 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 body, mind, and spirit.

# stillnews

May 2008

A.T. STILL UNIVERSITY | ATSU

## ATSU welcomes 10th president

ATSU's Board of Trustees named Jack Magruder the 10th president of the University at its meeting April 26.

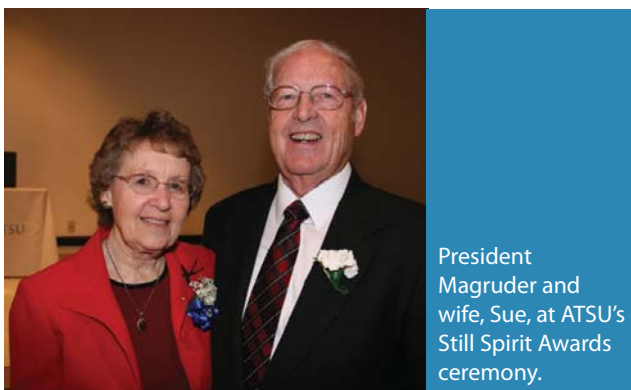
According to Stephen Kardos, D.O., chair of ATSU's Board of Trustees, "Dr. Jack Magruder is absolutely the right man and the right educator for ATSU. The Board was unanimous in its decision to ask Jack to take on this leadership position."

President Magruder will focus on streamlining and strengthening the University's governance structure, with a special emphasis on bringing faculty and students into the process. "We have such terrific faculty and students; we need to solicit their input and opinions. I want us all to communicate well," said President Magruder.

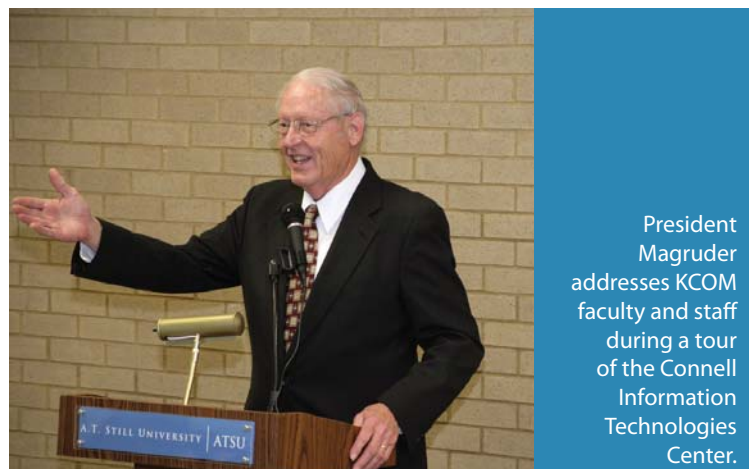
When asked the top three reasons he agreed to become ATSU's president, Magruder said, "That's an easy one - the top three reasons are: students, faculty, and staff. This is a great institution full of great people, and I am proud to be a part of ATSU."



Board Chair Stephen Kardos, D.O., and President Jack Magruder at the community dinner and discussion in Kirksville on April 17.



President Magruder and wife, Sue, at ATSU's Still Spirit Awards ceremony.



President Magruder addresses KCOM faculty and staff during a tour of the Connell Information Technologies Center.

## ASDOH Gives Kids a Smile®

ASDOH students partnered with Apache Junction elementary schools, the Mesa City School District, and local dentists to provide free dental services to approximately 311 underserved children at the Give Kids a Smile® event April 18. Services ranged from simple cleanings and fillings to more complex dental care and were valued at more than \$100,000.

Sponsored jointly by ASDOH and the Arizona Dental Association, GKAS highlighted the need for dental services to children in Arizona. "We feel as though we are laying the foundation for this program at ASDOH," said Jared Mayer, D2, GKAS spokesperson. "As a dental school graduating its second class of doctors, we look to programs such as this to solidify ASDOH's reputation as a public health oriented institution, caring for the needs of surrounding communities."

Returning to this year's event, ASDOH alumnus Steven Richardson, D.M.D., identified the real value of providing needed dental care. "At ASDOH, we learned the importance of giving back to the community. It is exciting now to come back as a member of the first graduating class and join with countless other dentists throughout Arizona to Give Kids a Smile®."



Owen Lonergan, D2, poses with GKAS patients.

“We learned the importance of giving back to the community.”

Orthodontic resident Matthew Nondorf, D.D.S., and Shannon McGrane, D2, clean patient Jada's teeth.



## Paddock wins election



Mike Paddock, MS, OMS II, ATSU-Missouri SGA president, was elected to the executive board as national parliamentarian for the Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents for the 2008-09 academic year on April 12. His duties include acting as chair of the Legislative Committee, serving as the official interpreter of the COSGP Constitution and Bylaws, and coordinating the National Osteopathic Student Caucus to coincide with the AOA House of Delegates July 15-20.

# awards & honors

## AOMA's Distinguished Service Award

TOMAS Chavez, OMS I, was honored with the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association's Student Distinguished Service Award, which recognizes students making significant contributions to their school and AOMA. Chavez received the award at the Presidential Reception and Gala, part of AOMA's annual convention, at the Hilton Scottsdale Resort and Villas in Scottsdale, Ariz., on April 18.



Tomas Chavez, OMS I



Toyo Trenou, OMS I

## Paul Ambrose Scholar Program

TOYO Trenou, OMS I, was accepted to the 2008 Paul Ambrose Scholar Program in April and will join 49 other health professions students from across the country for a leadership symposium in Washington, D.C., to be held June 26-29.

## Denslow Research Award

JABON Ellis, M.S., class of 2010, received the J.S. Denslow Student Osteopathic Research Award Endowment March 14, presented by Michael Paddock, M.S., OMS II. The annual award financially supports students who conduct osteopathic research independently or with faculty. Ellis' proposal examines the use of OMM in a model for high altitude pulmonary edema.



Jabon Ellis, M.S., class of 2010, and Michael Paddock, M.S., OMS II.

## food for feedback!



### StillNews Readership Survey

Enter for a chance to win a free large pizza and drinks. Survey closes June 15, 2008.

@ [www.atsu.edu/stillnews](http://www.atsu.edu/stillnews)

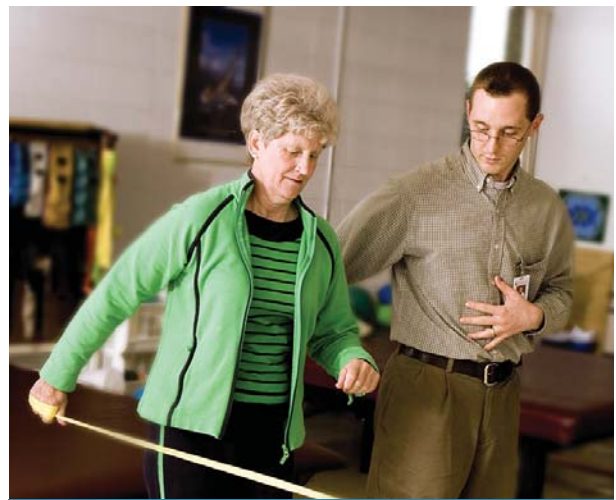
## \$5,000 support fund available to students and faculty

“THE United States is facing an immediate and growing crisis in providing care for our aging population,” said Shivi Agrawal, medical student coordinator of the American Medical Student Association’s Geriatrics Interest Group, which increases and fosters student interest and participation in geriatrics research. “This age group is projected to almost double from 37 million today to nearly 72 million by 2030. Moreover, the number of geriatricians today - about 7,000 - is expected to remain constant or even decline, and not expand to the projected 36,000 needed to meet the needs of this population.”

Understanding the need to increase interest in geriatrics research, ATSU’s Gerontology Program Bi-Campus Committee established a \$5,000 fund offering support for participation in conferences and symposia on aging issues by faculty members and students.

**Contact Geriatric Administrative Coordinator Amanda Sparacino and Campus Chair of Aging Rene McGovern, Ph.D., on the Missouri Campus, and Campus Chair of Aging Elton Bordenave, M.Ed., on the Arizona Campus for applications.**

“This age group is projected to almost double from 37 million today to nearly 72 million by 2030.”



Submit your application for review by the Program Executive Committee. Priority for support is given to those presenting papers at conferences.



## Arizona Disabled Sports

The Arizona Campus was recognized as Volunteer Group of the Year by Arizona Disabled Sports with the support of ATSU students, faculty, and staff volunteers. ATSU was honored at the organization’s annual End of Season Awards Celebration held May 17 at the Red Mountain Adobe Multigenerational Center in Mesa.

Most recently, 45 volunteers helped with the Desert Challenge Games, an Olympic-style competition for athletes with physical disabilities.

# snapshots

## KCOM graduation

KCOM's 172nd graduating class crossed the Baldwin Hall Auditorium stage for its commencement ceremony May 17 at Truman State University. One-hundred-seventy grads representing 39 states received doctor of osteopathic medicine degrees, while nine grads earned master of science degrees in biomedical science, three of whom earned dual D.O./M.S. degrees.

AOA President Peter B. Ajluni, D.O., delivered the keynote address, focusing on "care." He asked students to care about their patients, themselves, and the larger world in which they serve. "Being a D.O. is more than a profession. It's a calling - a calling to care," he said.



Recently married KCOM grad Tammy Dann.



Forty local and nationwide recruiters attended the fair on May 8.

## ASHS Spring Recruitment Fair

STUDENT & Alumni Services hosted the annual ASHS Spring Recruitment Fair on May 8. Students networked with 40 local and nationwide recruiters, including ASHS alumni employers. The fair offered social networking opportunities and resume review services by Jobing.com.

## Barbecue at 1000 Hills

THE Student Government Association and Still-Well Social and Emotional teams co-sponsored the second annual Barbecue at 1000 Hills State Park in Kirksville on May 2. Students and guests enjoyed pontoon boat and kayak rides in addition to barbecued hamburgers and brats.



Matt Guy, OMS II, paddles a kayak at 1000 Hills.

## Konecny studies online wellness behaviors

LYNDA Konecny completed her doctorate in health education from the School of Health Management in May. Like all D.H.Ed. students, Konecny's applied dissertation required her to identify, explore, and create a solution for a work related problem. Konecny's dissertation examines whether or not a facilitated course is effective in increasing wellness behaviors of online graduate-level students.

"I found there is quite a bit in place to address residential student wellness, but relatively little for the online student," Konecny said. "I decided to develop a program that online students could participate in that would provide tools, education, and resources that they can use to help achieve a balance in the different dimensions of wellness."

Konecny designed an eight-week volunteer course for SHM students composed of a pre-test through the National Wellness Institute and a post-test to determine changes in student wellness behaviors as a result of course participation.



"Getting my doctorate has been a dream of mine for years," Lynda Konecny said.



Gary Cloud, Ph.D., together with a group of American Indian students.

## Inaugural NCAIHP Advisory Council meets

THE inaugural meeting of the Advisory Council for the National Center for American Indian Health Professions was held April 3. A \$300,000 grant from the Gila River Indian Community helped make the dream of forming NCAIHP a reality. The funds will bridge the financial gap for American Indian students. Following the meeting, a group of American Indian students joined council members Gary Cloud, Ph.D., assistant provost and director of development; George BlueSpruce, D.D.S., M.P.H., ASDOH assistant dean; Carol Grant, NCAIHP director; and Council Chair Ken Poocha, executive director of the Arizona Commission on Indian Affairs, for a meet and greet.

## ADEA vice president for students

Rishi Popat, D4, was elected vice president for students of the American Dental Education Association at the 85th ADEA Annual Session and Exhibition in Dallas. Popat, who previously served as ADEA council of students chair, will serve a one-year term as vice president. In fall 2008, he will begin a General Residency Program at the Cambridge Health Alliance/Harvard School of Dental Medicine. Popat is pictured in the back left.



# faculty & staff

## Service Awards presentation

MORE than 75 faculty and staff attended the 2008 Service Awards presentation April 1. Provost Craig Phelps, D.O., '84, presented awards to Arizona faculty and staff who reached significant service milestones.

Gary Cloud, Ph.D., assistant provost and director of development, received a 10-year service award, while five-year awards were presented to Sheree Fiske, clinical education manager, physician assistant program; Melanie Kropp, assistant to the chair, audiology; Tamara Valovich-McLeod, Ph.D., ATC, associate professor, interdisciplinary health sciences; Mike Kronenfeld, M.B.A., M.L.S., director, Learning Resource Center; and Thomas Rigo, Ph.D., associate professor of audiology.



Sheree Fiske, Melanie Kropp, Tamara Valovich-McLeod, Ph.D., ATC; Mike Kronenfeld, M.B.A., M.L.S.; and Thomas Rigo, Ph.D, receive five-year service awards.

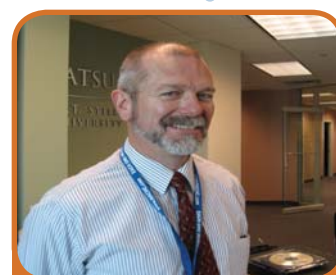
## Employee Recognition reception

KCOM's annual Employee Recognition reception was held April 22, honoring faculty and staff reaching career milestones with the University. President Jack Magruder and Human Resources Director Donna Brown recognized service award recipients, while KCOM Dean Philip C. Slocum, D.O., '76, announced Still Staff Award recipients.

Barbara Kimberly, education & development services, and Nancy Parrish, institutional advancement, received 35-year service awards. Twenty-five-year awards went to Robert Baer, Ph.D., physiology; Monnie Harrison, treasurer's office; Michael Lockwood, D.O., OMM; and Dan Martin, M.A., Thompson Campus Center. Twenty-year awards were presented to Toni Smith, D.O., surgery; Ruth Chronister, pharmacology; and Gaylah Sublette, M.B.A., grants/program development.

Melissa Stuart, Ph.D., microbiology/immunology; Gary Mosier, boiler plant; and David Patterson, education development & services, earned 15-year awards while Tammy Weidenbenner, information technology & services; Lois Epperson, education development & services; Kim Watson, clinic business office; Robert Clement, Still National Osteopathic Museum; G. Barry Robbins, D.O., neurobehavioral sciences; and Anita Franklin, research, grants & information systems, earned 10-year service awards.

Five-year service awards were presented to Eric Snider, D.O., OMM; Wendy Pinkerton, student/alumni services; and Randy Rogers, CFP, institutional advancement. Larry Evans, director of development, received the 2007 Distinguished Service Award, chosen for his dedication, leadership, work ethic, and willingness to serve. Robert Baer, Ph.D., and Ralph Boling, D.O., surgery, each received the A.T. Still Staff Award.



Gary Cloud, Ph.D., receives a 10-year service award.



Surrounded by friends and co-workers, Larry Evans receives the Distinguished Service Award, presented by President Jack Magruder.



## KCOM professor named Fulbright scholar

BIOCHEMISTRY professor Richard Cenedella, Ph.D., will teach and conduct research in Bahrain from January to June 2009 as a Fulbright scholar sponsored by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the United States Department of State.

One of approximately 800 professionals and scholars selected each year, Dr. Cenedella will teach and continue research into statins and the formation of cataracts during his six-month tenure as a biology faculty member at the University of Bahrain.

As a representative to Bahrain, he will fulfill the principal purpose of the Fulbright Program, which is to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and those in the more than 155 countries that currently participate in the program.

“These are critical times for our country and its world position, and it’s an honor to represent the country in a positive way and build relationships,” he said. “It’s an exciting and humbling undertaking. I’m looking forward to it.”

Dr. Cenedella was notified of his selection as a Fulbright scholar by the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, a presidentially appointed 12-member board responsible for establishing worldwide policies for the program and the selection of recipients. The grant is made possible through funds appropriated annually by Congress and contributions from partner countries and the private sector.



Richard Cenedella, Ph.D., joins the ranks of distinguished Fulbright alumni. Since its inception more than 60 years ago, more than 286,500 Fulbrighters – chosen for their academic merit and leadership potential – have participated in the program.

“These are critical times for our country and its world position, and it’s an honor to represent the country in a positive way.”

### Skit Night Live!

KCOM’s Skit Night Live was held April 17 at the TCC. Students and faculty performed in comedic segments, including “Stupid Human Tricks.”

“This was one of the best SNLs I have ever seen in the more than 30 years of attending these events on several campuses,” said KCOM Dean Philip C. Slocum, D.O., ’76.



# compassion



Cara Benning, OMS III, supports CASA by participating in the 5K run/walk April 19.

## Friends of CASA 5K Run/Walk

THE Friends of CASA 5K run/walk was held April 19 at the Bruce Normile Juvenile Justice Center in Kirksville. All proceeds supported the children and volunteers of the Adair County Court Appointed Special Advocate program.

## NATA Foundation BU/SHU Challenge

ASHS' Athletic Training Student Association used cupcakes, bike helmets, and dueling pianos to finish second place out of 23 colleges and universities nationwide in the annual BU/SHU Challenge, a fundraiser developed by Boston University and Sacred Heart University to get AT students involved in raising money for the National Athletic Trainers' Association Research and Education Foundation.

ATSA more than tripled its fundraising goal, bringing in more than \$1,600 through bake sales and an event called Helmet Your Head, which focused on bike helmet safety and brain injury. ATSA also partnered with Big Bang Dueling Piano Bar in Tempe, Ariz., where all cover charge proceeds for one evening were added to ATSA's fund-raising total.



ATSA officers Tamara McLeod, Ph.D., ATC, associate advisor; Sarah Piebes, president; and Jessica Martinez, treasurer; with members Stephanie Thomas and Meganne Gourley, hold a check made out to NATA.