Greetings from the College of Health Sciences (COHS)!

It is a busy and exciting fall here in the College of Health Sciences. As you’ll see from the stories in this newsletter, we have a wealth of activities, awards and scholarship taking place in the college. Our students are being recognized by international and national groups for both their research and their service. Our faculty are also being recognized nationally for their teaching, research and service.

These awards represent the excellence in teaching, research and service in the college. For every award our faculty, staff and students earn, there is more excellent work being done that is not yet recognized by an award.

Enjoy these highlights in this newsletter, and please contact me if you have any comments, suggestions or questions.

Sincerely,
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Respiratory Care Students Receive International Research Fellowship

In addition to four research posters being accepted for presentation at the upcoming American Association for Respiratory Care International Conference, one project will

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Kari Armstrong and Sabina Gervais recently received an international award from the American Respiratory Care Foundation for their research "Idaho Pharmacy Practices as Related to Metered Dose Inhalers and Spacers." Lonny Ashworth, faculty in the School of Allied Health Sciences Department of Respiratory Care, is the students' faculty advisor.

The 2014 Monaghan/Trudell Fellowship for Aerosol Technique Development is intended to support projects dealing with aerosol delivery issues, with a focus on developing cost-effective approaches to aerosol delivery. This fellowship was begun in 1993 with a grant from Trudell Medical, Monaghan Medical in the United States, a major international manufacturer and distributor of aerosol related equipment. The students will receive a crystal sculpture from Monaghan/Trudell. Read more about all the projects to be presented in December.

School of Social Work Receives Grant to Help Idaho's Mental Health Crisis

Boise State's School of Social Work has received a new federally funded research project, "Training & Education Access Model (TEAM) for Social Work." The principal investigator for this grant is Roy Rodenhiser, director of the School of Social Work.

The objective of this project is to increase the number of clinically trained Masters of Social Work (MSW) graduates who are committed to working with children, adolescents, and at-risk transitional-age youth in order to fill the high need and demand for services throughout the State of Idaho.

"TEAM for Social Work" provides support for thirty-six additional field placements across four areas where graduate students in social work will focus on these target populations: Boise, Coeur d'Alene, Lewiston, and Twin Falls. While in the field, students will engage with primary care integrated health care teams while working in primary care clinics, hospitals and select non-profit agencies.

"There is a mental health crisis in Idaho," states Rodenhiser. "There are not enough mental health providers, particularly in rural areas to meet the health needs of Idahoans. Social workers and other human service providers are needed to work..."
A student demonstrates the new ultrasound equipment to a St.
in integrated clinics and care facilities serving a multitude of mental health challenges facing today's youth. Social workers can provide both direct mental health services to clients as well as follow-up case management to insure continuity of care. Read more.

All funding for this project is provided by the Health Resources and Services Administration's Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training for Professionals and Paraprofessionals program grant #G02HP27927 for a three-year total of $483,417.

Director of School of Nursing Named Transcultural Nursing Scholar

Ann Hubbert, director of Boise State's School of Nursing, has been named a Transcultural Nursing Scholar by the Transcultural Nursing Society. Hubbert was recognized during the society's annual conference, held Oct. 22-25 in Charleston, S.C.

Hubbert's career focus in nursing administration and education has been working with populations and cultural health issues. She has been a Certified Transcultural Nurse since 1999, and her expertise has been aimed at education, services, and research for underserved cultural populations to reduce health disparities and improve health status and access to care.

Transcultural nursing is a theory based humanistic discipline, designed to serve individuals, organizations, communities, and societies. The Transcultural Nursing Society seeks to provide nurses and other health care professionals with the knowledge base necessary to ensure cultural competence in practice, education, research, and administration. Read more about Hubbert and transcultural nursing.

St. Luke's Ultrasound Donation Benefits Radiology Students

Boise State staff, faculty and students and St. Luke's executives and staff members celebrated a generous donation from St. Luke's to the School of Allied Health Sciences Department of Radiologic Sciences at a reception on Oct. 16.

Health Tip

"An apple a day keeps the doctors away."

Isn't illness what you really want to keep away? You want to remain healthy as much as possible. Eating apples is not a sure-fire way to stay healthy, but regularly seeing your doctor will help you prevent illness.

Boise State joined a number of universities, corporations and nonprofits in celebrating National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. However, screening for breast cancer is not the only screening test you should discuss with your primary care provider. Other common screenings may test for colorectal cancer, HIV, and diabetes, along with many other diseases and conditions.

Screening tests check for diseases before you develop symptoms. By finding diseases earlier, the diseases are usually easier to treat. For instance, more than 18,000 lives could be saved each year just with the recommended screenings for colorectal cancer.*

What screenings do you need? The CDC issues research-based recommendations about what screening each sex should have during different periods in their life and recommendations on how often a person should receive screenings. Ask your provider for their recommendations. Or use myHealthFinder to get a list of recommendations. Other factors such as family
The new Siemens Medical Solutions USA Inc. ACUSON S2000 ultrasound system, which has 3D and 4D capabilities, is valued at about $185,000. A full suite of probes, each valued at about $30,000, accompanies the gift. The new ultrasound system replaces older equipment in the Department and ensures that Boise State students can practice and train on technology currently in use at several St. Luke's locations and across the region and the country. That is good for students, the university and for St. Luke's Health System which has hired hundreds of Boise State alumni for clinical and non-clinical positions. Boise State alumni work for St. Luke's in computerized tomography, ultrasound, MRI, radiology and other imaging services and functions. The one of a kind gift underscores the reciprocal relationship between the two organizations. Read more about the appreciation event and the sonography program.

#### Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner Program Receives Accreditation

The Master of Nursing Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (AGNP) degree program at Boise State University received extended accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) in August. The Boise State University Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Master of Science programs are also accredited by ACEN.

An AGNP is an advanced practice nurse who specializes in the care and treatment of individuals from adolescence to death, excluding the care of pregnant women. Once licensed, an AGNP can, among other things, perform comprehensive and focused physical examinations, diagnose and treat common acute illnesses and injuries, and manage chronic health problems.

Boise State's AGNP program has been accredited because it reflects ACEN's core values: learning, community, responsibility, integrity, value, quality, and continuous improvement through reflection and analysis. With this accreditation, the AGNP program aids in student recruitment and retention, assists employers seeking graduates who are competent nurses, and promotes professional and educational mobility of program graduates. Read More.

#### Theta Psi Social Work Chapter Receives Distinguished Award for Five Consecutive Years

Information courtesy of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention unless otherwise marked.
Theta Psi, Boise State's chapter of Phi Alpha Social Work Honor Society for Social Work, has been awarded a Chapter Service Award for the fifth year in a row.

"I am proud of the hard work and dedication of the members of Phi Alpha," said Robin Allen, associate professor in the School of Social Work and faculty advisor for the Theta Psi chapter. "This is the fifth year in a row that they have won this national service award. They are an impressive group of students who are always willing to do more for their classmates, the university and the community."

Allen explained what it takes for an organization to earn a Chapter Service Award: "One of the main values of the social work profession is to be of service - to help people in need and to address social problems." 

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Boise State Partners with Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center to Improve Patient Care

Boise State School of Nursing has partnered with Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise to provide a unique opportunity to nurses working for Saint Alphonsus.

Seven Registered Nurses with associate degrees who work for Saint Alphonsus are receiving a new scholarship to complete their bachelors degree in Boise State School of Nursing's RN-BS Online/Distance Completion Track. The scholarship will cover tuition, electronic fees, and books for nursing courses for up to two years.

The RN-BS Online/Distance Completion Track was started in 2008 to help nurses with their associate degree earn their bachelor's degree. The track currently has more than 700 students enrolled and has graduated more than 375 students.

Saint Alphonsus is the first healthcare organization in Idaho to develop a scholarship designed for registered nurses with associate degrees to pursue their baccalaureate degrees. In 2008, the Institute of Medicine and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation released a report, "The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health," that advocated for eighty percent of nurses to hold a bachelor's degree by 2020. Baccalaureate nursing programs provide additional competencies in community and public health, gerontology, care coordination, and more that associate degree and diploma nursing programs do not include. These skills, as well as experience with technology, policy development, and organizational systems, are necessary as the healthcare environment becomes more and
Nursing Faculty and Students Advocate for Peruvian Shepherders' Health

Surrounded by more than 2,000 sheep and a few dogs, two men, originally from Peru, alternate between caring for the sheep and tending to their base camp in the foothills and mountains of southwest Idaho. The sheep graze miles from civilization and the men have no form of transportation other than their own feet. If either man were to need urgent medical care, it would take hours for him to get to a hospital or urgent care clinic as the men also have no access to a phone.

Betzi Quiroz, clinical assistant professor in the School of Nursing, has been working with Peruvian shepherders in Idaho for more than 20 years. She has seen how the nomadic lifestyle impacts their health and has found ways to assist and educate them in her career as a nurse and a nursing faculty member.

"As a faculty member, I began to share this cultural immersion opportunity with my nursing students when I began to teach community and public health nursing. I have been able to see the transformation in my students as they learn first-hand how one person can make such a huge difference among a population that is not only vulnerable but also under-served," said Quiroz.

Last spring twelve students in Quiroz’s Community and Population Health Nursing Lab, discovered that in the Peruvian shepherders' cases, the impact can be huge. Read more about how Quiroz and Boise State students are assisting the Peruvian Shepherders.