

# Conte and Engelbrecht earn Carol Funk Award

SECOND-YEAR students Michael Conte and Marc Engelbrecht each received the Carol Funk Memorial Endowment for the Professional Advancement of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine (OMM) Students at KCOM, allowing them to attend The Cranial Academy Conference this summer. The award was established in 1997 by Robert Funk, a former Kirksville mayor, in memory of his late wife, Carol Funk.



Second-year students Michael Conte and Marc Engelbrecht perform a technique they learned at the conference on 1980 KCOM graduate and son of Robert and Carol Funk, Steven Funk, D.O., while Robert Funk observes.

## Public Notice

A.T. STILL University of Health Sciences is seeking comments from the public about the University in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. The University will undergo a comprehensive evaluation visit February 16-18, 2009, by a team representing The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. A.T. Still University of Health Sciences has been accredited by the Commission since 1994. The team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet the Commission's Criteria for Accreditation.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the University:

Public Comment on A.T. Still University of Health Sciences  
The Higher Learning Commission  
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400  
Chicago, IL 60602

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing and signed; comments cannot be treated as confidential. **All comments must be received by January 10, 2009.**

### October Events

- October 9-11** "Still—the Best" Reunion Events
- October 10** KCOM Founder's Day, Still-A-Bration, & Day of Compassion
- October 11** Audiology Pinning Ceremony
- October 24** ASDOH Golf Tournament

**Lee Cashatt, Editor** | [lcashatt@atsu.edu](mailto:lcashatt@atsu.edu)  
**Hector Contreras, Designer** | [hcontreras@atsu.edu](mailto:hcontreras@atsu.edu)

#### Contributing Writers

Kathryn Stroppel | [kstroppel@atsu.edu](mailto:kstroppel@atsu.edu)  
Robyn Siroky | [rsiroky@atsu.edu](mailto:rsiroky@atsu.edu)  
Ashley Laskowski | [alaskowski@atsu.edu](mailto:alaskowski@atsu.edu)  
Michele Fiore | [mfiore@atsu.edu](mailto:mfiore@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 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

October 2008

A.T. STILL UNIVERSITY | ATSU

## Rising above the flood



Hundreds of books lay damaged on the A.T. Still Memorial Library floor.

THE torrential rains and flooding in the Midwest this year were devastating, and KCOM suffered along with thousands of others. ATSU's \$12.5 million Connell Information Technologies Center and A.T. Still Memorial Library received the most damage. Carpet, furniture, computers, equipment, and nearly 12,000 books were damaged or destroyed. "We just moved into this building within the last few months," said Library Director Doug Blansit, M.P.S., MLIS. "Having a new building and to have this happen is extremely disheartening."

Maintenance and housekeeping crews worked 36 hours straight to save as much as possible, but losses will likely surpass \$2 million. To view security camera footage of the flood, visit [www.atsu.edu/library/flood.htm](http://www.atsu.edu/library/flood.htm).



Standing water in the CITC basement.



# snapshots



The Thunderbirds Charities Special Care Unit at Dental Care West is equipped with a motorized wheelchair lift, making dental care more comfortable and accessible for patients.

## Thunderbirds Suite now open

ASDOH celebrated its grand opening of the Thunderbirds Charities Special Care Unit at Dental Care West in Glendale, Ariz., on September 25. The suite was made possible by a \$150,000 grant from Thunderbirds Charities and provides comprehensive special care dentistry for patients with intellectual, physical, and emotional disabilities, as well as other special healthcare needs.

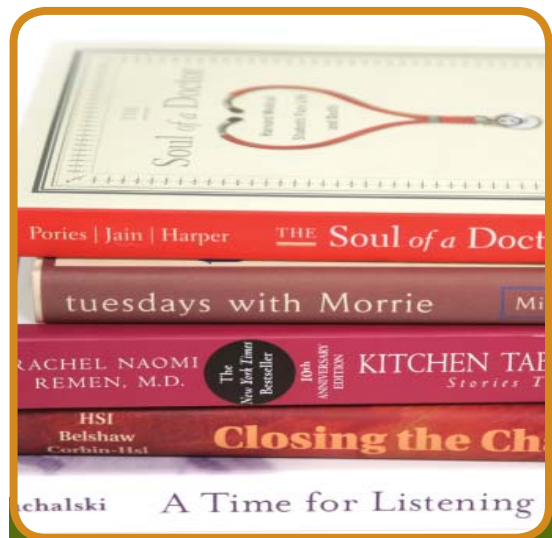
“We are thrilled to create a dental home for patients with special needs who live in the West Valley,” said Maureen Romer, D.D.S., M.P.A., director of Special Care Dentistry at ASDOH. “We look forward to continuing to provide compassionate care to this vastly underserved population.”

## Students get spiritual

KCOM students are taking advantage of an elective course that explores spirituality in medicine and spiritually/culturally competent care. Topics include patient values, belief systems, cultural and psychosocial factors in health practices, the nature of suffering, and self-care concepts.

Course director Patricia Sexton, D.H.Ed., M.S., assistant professor of family medicine, said student physicians are trained to identify symptoms and treat disease but receive little formal training on addressing patient spirituality. “The spiritual side of the patient plays a major role in his or her perception of well-being and the response to medical treatment. Increasing our students’ understanding of spirituality adds one more component to whole person healthcare.”

The George Washington Institute for Spirituality and Health grants fund curriculum development in medical schools and in primary care and psychiatry residency programs. GWISH is funded by the John Templeton Foundation.



The spirituality in medicine elective addresses areas of the ATSU mission statement such as commitment to society’s healthcare needs, enhancement of compassion and competence, and comprehensive appreciation of mind-body-spirit interactions.



# Spirituality in Medicine Conference draws a crowd

MORE than 130 professionals and students attended KCOM's Cultural Competency and Spirituality in Medicine Conference held September 12-13. The conference explored spirituality in medicine and spiritually/culturally competent care and featured keynote speaker Pauline W. Chen, M.D., a liver transplant and liver cancer surgeon.

"The tremendous response in both attendance and feedback shows the overwhelming interest and concern regarding these topics," said Family/Community Medicine Chair Margaret Wilson, D.O., who was project director on both grants that funded the conference. "The speakers were of outstanding quality, particularly the keynote speaker, Dr. Chen, who was truly inspirational."

Dr. Chen presented "The Tyranny of Diagnosis: One Surgeon's Search for What Really Matters," receiving a standing ovation from the crowd. "The people I met, the stories I heard, and the interactions I witnessed were among the most inspiring I have come across," Dr. Chen said. "They have given me great hope for the future of our profession and for patients from all cultures and spiritual backgrounds everywhere."

*This conference was sponsored in part by The George Washington Institute for Spirituality in Health Spirituality and Medicine Curricular and Residency Training Program Award funded by the John Templeton Foundation and ATSU's Pre-doctoral Training in Primary Care, Grant Number D56HP08338 funded by the Division of Medicine, Bureau of Health Professions, Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services. GWISH is funded by the John Templeton Foundation.*



Pauline W. Chen, M.D., author of the New York Times bestseller "Final Exam: A Surgeon's Reflections on Mortality" (2007), signs a copy of her book for physiology professor Bill Sexton, Ph.D.

## TCC summer racquetball final standings (League-2)

### Advanced Division

1st place: Pat Rigby (Town)

### High Intermediate Division

1st place: Michael Syring (Biomedical Sciences)

2nd place: Brian Flanagan (Class of 2011)

3rd place, tie: Joe Whitman (Biomedical Sciences),  
Neil Sargentini (Faculty)

### Intermediate Division

1st place: Drew Zimmer (Hospital Staff)

2nd place: Kuldeep Singh (Biomedical Sciences)

### Low Intermediate Division

1st place, tie: Rickie Mui (Class of 2011), Christine  
Wilson (Biomedical Sciences)

### Beginners Division

1st place: Deshala Castille (Biomedical Sciences)

2nd place, tie: Valerie Nguyen (Biomedical Sciences),  
Nastassia Richardson (Biomedical Sciences)



The occupational therapy class of 2009.

## OT students gear up for graduation

ON SEPTEMBER 9, 14 residential occupational therapy students celebrated in preparation for their upcoming graduation from the 28-month program with a pinning and awards ceremony.

It was a full day of events, beginning with student research project presentations. Following a luncheon, students were presented with pins and awards. Regina Buban received the Spirit of OT Award, Rachel Hoppe received the Leadership Award, and Sharon Baugh received the Paula Tadano Memorial Scholarship Award. The day also included an occupational therapy/physical therapy job fair in the learning resource center.

"It's all about being in the home stretch," said Program Chair Bernadette Mineo, Ph.D., OTR/L. "They have made it through most of the major milestones."

Dr. Mineo said the day's events are a tradition done in the spirit of fun. "It's a look back on the fun times and experiences they've had together while in the program, and a congratulations for having just about finished."

The students, who walked in ASHS' graduation ceremony August 5, have an additional three-month clinical rotation to complete before officially graduating from the program in January.



Rachel Hoppe and Regina Buban enjoy their lunch at the OT pinning and award ceremony September 9.

## SHM construction is complete

ATSU's School of Health Management completed construction on its \$350,000 administrative building in July. SHM broke ground on its new facility in March, which is more than double the size of its previous facility. The new building includes extended office space and a full basement. "I am privileged to work in a beautiful, functional building that allows for staff growth," said Executive Assistant to the Dean Judy Booth. "Several years ago we planned an expansion, and to now see it complete is a blessing."



# snapshots

## Mesa Mayor partners with ATSU

MESA Mayor Scott Smith, City Manager Chris Brady, and Economic Development Director Bill Jabjiniak visited the Arizona Campus on September 3 to meet with Provost Craig M. Phelps, D.O., '84, and Associate Provost O.T. Wendel, Ph.D., about a potential partnership to benefit both the City of Mesa and ATSU.

Smith, who was elected in May, released his plan for the city entitled "Building a Better Mesa," which includes an initiative to partner with schools, colleges, and universities to provide high-quality education and opportunities for all citizens. By providing resources for the continued growth of educational organizations, the City of Mesa is committed to making the community a strong and vibrant place to work and live.

"Our relationship with the City of Mesa is an important one," said Dr. Wendel. "We originally selected Mesa as the location for our Arizona Campus based on the strong growth in the area and the opportunity to work with the city on projects that will help strengthen both organizations. We are excited about the possibilities a partnership will present."



Left to right: Provost Craig M. Phelps, D.O., '84; Mayor Scott Smith; Associate Provost O.T. Wendel, Ph.D.; City Manager Chris Brady; and Economic Development Director Bill Jabjiniak.

## Students taste Kirksville

KCOM hosted its annual Mini Taste of Kirksville event August 21 to introduce its newest class to area restaurants and caterers. Nineteen local vendors, the Kirksville Area Chamber of Commerce, and several downtown businesses joined in on the culinary experience.

A student organization fair was held in conjunction with the Mini Taste event to introduce students to a variety of campus clubs, professional organizations, and leadership opportunities. "Involvement in these organizations allows students to learn about medical specialties, develop skills important to the practice of medicine, contribute to school policy, and serve both the community and the school," said Matt Guymon, OMS II.



Event attendees enjoy an Italian dish courtesy of the Wooden Nickel.



# snapshots

## HRSA administrator visits ATSU

FEDERAL Health Resources and Services Administration administrator Elizabeth M. Duke, Ph.D., visited the Arizona Campus on July 23 to learn more about ASDOH and SOMA's unique programs in which students extend their education in community health campuses.

"The visit went great," said L. James Bell, D.D.S., ASDOH vice dean. "Dr. Duke has played a large role in organizing health community clinics, and she realizes that more community health centers need dental clinics. I think she left with a real sense of appreciation of a dental school that is educating students as we do."



Carol Grant presents ATSU's American Indian initiatives with HRSA Administrator Elizabeth Duke, Ph.D., and a contingency from Washington, D.C. HRSA awarded a Pre-Doctoral Training in Primary Care grant to ATSU that funds SOMA with \$723,210 through 2011.



Jerry Dickey, D.O., FAAO, '75, demonstrates HVLA, ME, and IND techniques.

## Community campus facilitators visit SOMA

AS SOMA's inaugural class prepared for its second year of study on community campuses around the country, community campus facilitators visited Mesa for a weekend of osteopathic practice and principles July 24-27.

Eight facilitators representing Alabama, Arizona, California, Oregon, and Ohio attended an orientation to learn more about SOMA's curricular model and clinical presentation model. They also attended presentations by Jerry Dickey, D.O., FAAO, '75, and SOMA faculty members Jonathon Kirsch, D.O., and Deborah Heath, D.O., to learn HVLA, ME, and IND techniques.

# awards & honors



Provost Craig M. Phelps, D.O., '84, and his wife, Stacy, hold the 2008 Health Care Heroes award. "It is humbling to be considered for this award, and I believe the quality of the finalists and winners is something our healthcare community can be proud of," said Dr. Phelps.

## ATSU applauds our Health Care Heroes

TWO members of the ATSU family were recognized at the *Phoenix Business Journal's* 2008 Health Care Heroes awards August 21 at the Arizona Biltmore Resort. ASDOH Dean Jack Dillenberg, D.D.S., M.P.H., was a finalist in the dental category, and Provost Craig M. Phelps, D.O., '84, was a finalist in the education category. Health Care Heroes recognizes unsung heroes in the healthcare community.

The nearly 600 attendees were encouraged to cheer out loud by Don Henninger, publisher of the *Phoenix Business Journal*, who welcomed award finalists and guests. "These are the people making the Valley's healthcare industry work," said Henninger. "These are the people who donate their time, talents, and compassion to support both those in need and those who are caring for those in need."

## Waddington receives Vick Memorial Award

SUZANNE Vick and OMM Chair Michael Lockwood, D.O., '81, presented the Vick Family Memorial Financial Award to Erica Waddington, OMS IV, on June 16. This award was established in 2006 in honor of the late David Vick, D.O., FAAO, '63, and Paul David Vick, D.O., '87. "The money from this scholarship will go directly to furthering the education for my osteopathic hands," Waddington said.



Left to right: Mrs. Suzanne Vick, Erica Waddington, OMS IV, and Michael Lockwood, D.O., '81.



## John Curtin's triumphant finish

Meet the man who completed 100 triathlons in 100 days

WHEN Lake Saint Louis chiropractor John Curtin, D.C., announced in May that he would complete 100 triathlons in 100 days, most were quick to write him off. But Dr. Curtin remained focused and completed his final race at ATSU's 24th annual NEMO Triathlon, running his way into the Guinness Book of World Records for the most consecutive triathlons in a year.

More importantly, however, was Dr. Curtin's pledge to contribute all proceeds from his triathlon tour to Missouri KidsFirst, a child advocacy group that helps families traumatized by abuse and violence. "His effort has made people realize that child abuse is not somebody else's problem, it's a community problem, and everybody has a role in making it end," said Rebecca Gordon of Missouri KidsFirst.



John Curtin, D.C., crosses his final finish line with his two young daughters in his arms at the NEMO Triathlon on September 7.



## Hospital Day prepares students

Exhibitors packed the Thompson Campus Center during KCOM's annual Hospital Day on September 11. Hospitals offering rotations, internships, and residencies visited KCOM from across the country to introduce their programs to first- and second-year students. "Hospital Day is a great opportunity to help students think about their future in medicine and help them succeed in their goals as physicians," said Clinical Educational Affairs Project Coordinator Stacy Becker.

# snapshots

## Au.D.s sharpen their skills

ASHS' audiology program and the National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management jointly sponsored the Diagnostics and Amplification for Infants and Toddlers workshop August 5-8. The workshop combined online meetings and hands-on training to enhance knowledge and skills in the assessment and proper amplification of hearing loss in infants and toddlers. Nine babies, ranging in age from six days to eight months, received diagnostic evaluations using auditory brainstem responses, otoacoustic emissions, and tympanometry. Methods for fitting hearing aids were also demonstrated.

"Being able to diagnose hearing loss as early as possible, at least before the six-month mark, is extremely important and the point of this workshop," said Les Schmeltz, Au.D., assistant professor of audiology.



A baby's hearing is tested with otoacoustic emissions at the Diagnostics and Amplification for Infants and Toddlers.



A stone plaque will be placed and a tree planted in the Arizona Campus memorial garden in memory of Michael Serkanic.

## In memoriam

A SCHOLARSHIP fund has been established in memory of the late Michael Serkanic, ASDOH '09. The scholarship will be awarded annually to a fourth-year dental student. According to classmate Aaron Mortensen, D4, the scholarship will "reach forward each year so Mike's legacy will be learned and remembered."

Scholarship donations are being accepted on the Arizona Campus in the student services offices on the 3rd floor of the main building. Ongoing donations to the scholarship fund may be made directly to the development office by contacting Pamela Gralton, director of development, at 480.219.6014 or [pgralton@atsu.edu](mailto:pgralton@atsu.edu).

## To Peru and back

TEN dental students journeyed across the globe this summer to bring needed oral healthcare services to Peru. Second-year students April Goodwin, LaVonne Hammelman, Kari Cwiak, Hannah Schmidt, Meena Tappouni, Shannon McGrane, Owen Lonergan, Israel Armijo, Dave Neal, and Rob Wake, D3, spent 10 days in June in the scenic villages of Oayllabamba, Cusco, Lima, Ollantytambo, Machu Piccu, Puno, and Lake Titicaca, Peru. Working mostly with children, the students performed all types of restorative dentistry and extractions with portable equipment.

At Lake Titicaca, the team was tested to the limits of their skills and confidence. “We were able to take advantage of the skills we learned prior to third world dentistry and apply them without any electrical equipment,” said Wake, who served as the team’s leader. “The team came together to solve challenging situations and at the same time deliver care that was equal to that found in our school clinic.” This was the second year in a row in which Wake and Goodwin traveled to Peru.



A patient smiles after her extraction at Cusco’s walk-in center.



Owen Lonergan treats a girl in Calca, a small village in the Sacred Valley.



## KCOM addresses nursing needs

KCOM opened its doors to the Mother’s Nursing Suite following its open house September 2. The suite is for use by students and employees and their spouses and partners who are nursing mothers and provides privacy, comfort, convenience, and appropriate amenities. The suite is sponsored and administered by Student and Alumni Services in cooperation with Human Resources.



# compassion

## PTs optimize stroke rehab results

FIVE second-year PT students joined Pamela Bosch, Ph.D., PT, for a five-day stroke rehab program in June. The Summer Neuro Clinic, coordinated by Dr. Bosch and a Northern Arizona University faculty member, brought students and professors together at NAU in Flagstaff, Ariz., to learn to administer specific outcome measures used in stroke rehab. Students treated patients under faculty and clinician guidance, giving them a deeper understanding of interventions that optimize function in this population. "Watching students take their classroom knowledge and apply it successfully in this clinical setting was thrilling," said Dr. Bosch. "I am so proud of the students."



Third-year D.P.T. student Lyndsy Tribe helps a stroke patient improve her standing and reaching skills.

## ASDOH screens 166 health fair attendees

SEVEN dental students and two faculty members provided health and dental screenings at the Golden Gate Health and Safety Fair on July 26 in Phoenix. Third-year students Mason Cooper, Andrea Wilson, Jacob Heringer, and Terra Vaughn, and fourth-year students Sarah McKnight, Mary Rose Carlos, and Megan Magruder joined faculty members Maureen Romer, D.D.S., M.P.A., and Karen Fallone, R.D.H., in giving 166 screenings and referrals.

According to Christina Araiza, M.P.H., health program supervisor at Golden Gate Community Center, the Health and Safety Fair is the center's largest of the year, serving an underinsured, low-income population in south and west Phoenix neighborhoods. More than 1,100 people attended the fair.



Terra Vaughn, D3, screens a patient at the Golden Gate Health