CHS Grads Receive Diversity and Multicultural Leadership Awards

Each year Rush University presents the Diversity and Multicultural Leadership Award to students, residents and faculty for their exceptional understanding of diversity and inclusiveness at Rush.

This year College of Health Sciences graduates Bria Hyde, BS ‘16, and Nicole E. Powell, HSM ‘16, pictured on the bottom left, were recognized for their sustained commitment to improving opportunities for diverse students, faculty, staff and beyond. Their contributions have enhanced the Rush community’s understanding of the significance and need for diversity and inclusion.

PA Fundraiser

Rush physician assistant, or PA, students hosted a silent auction that raised more than $4,000 to benefit Franciscan House, which provides meals, shelter and other services for hundreds of homeless individuals in Chicago. The proceeds will be used for much-needed renovations of the shelter’s free clinic, which is staffed by Rush volunteer health care providers and students every week.

Pictured on the right with Franciscan House staff are Rush Senior Director of Community Engagement Sharon Gates and PA student coordinators Hyee Jin Ahn and Ashley Dominique. For more information about Franciscan House, visit www.franoutreach.org.
Kudos

Royeen Named Presidential Professor

Charlotte Royeen, PhD, dean of the College of Health Sciences, has been named the A. Watson Armour III and Sarah Armour Presidential Professor. This honor recognizes Royeen as an academic leader in biomedical sciences.

The trustees of Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke’s Medical Center established this endowed professorship to pay special tribute Armour and to his wife, Sarah Wood Armour.

A. Watson Armour III, who, with foresight and generosity through his estate and the A. Watson Armour III Charitable Lead Trust, made Rush the recipient of an endowment to provide philanthropy for professorships, fellowships, scholarships and research.

Royeen also recently spoke at a Rush Women’s Mentoring Program about advancement and leadership roles while describing the impact mentors have had on her throughout her career.

ASCLS-IL Educator of the Year

Demetra “Toula” Castillo, MAdEd, MLS(ASCP)CM, assistant professor in the Department of Medical Laboratory Science, or MLS, was awarded the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science - Illinois, or ASCLS-IL, 2016 Educator of the Year for her outstanding achievements in her field.

Castillo has been an active ASCLS-IL member since she was an MLS student at Rush University. She has also been active at local, state and regional levels, taking on leadership roles in many elected and committee positions. Castillo is a past president of ASCLS-IL, previous Member of the Year awardee and an Omicron Sigma recipient. She has been an educator for 11 years in the MLS department and is a dedicated mentor to undergraduate and graduate students. This past year, Castillo was asked to serve on an interprofessional team that consisted of a medical laboratory scientist, a physician, a nurse, a physiotherapist and a social worker to develop a global hemophilia education program for physicians caring for hemophilia patients in China.

Educational Leadership

Peter Butler, MHSA, chair of the health systems management program, has received this year’s Gary L. Filerman Prize for Educational Leadership. The prize was established to honor Gary L. Filerman, PhD, the first president of the Association of University Programs in Health Administration, or AUPHA, for his many years of service to the association and to the field of health care management education. The prize recognizes individuals from AUPHA member programs who have made outstanding contributions to the field of health administration education, exhibited leadership in the field and have enriched their institutions, their students and health administration education through their work.
Tea Talk

Students, faculty and staff once again came together to relax, enjoy one another’s company and have a bite to eat at the Student, Faculty and Staff Tea at Sessions House. Each month, a member of the faculty shares a few lessons learned and provides career tips. Diane Howard, PhD, FACHE, director of student development and associate professor in the Department of Health Systems Management, recently gave a talk entitled “Traveling With a Posse.”

Research Recap

Within the last six months, CHS faculty have produced more than 35 papers and have been awarded 45 grants. They have also participated in numerous presentations and webinars, held committee commitments and engaged in community service work. Well done, CHS faculty!

Setting the Bar

Congratulations to the first two PhD in Health Sciences graduates — Nicholas M. Moore, whose dissertation is entitled “Epidemiology and Characterization of Carbapenem Resistant Enterobacteriaceae in Chicago Long-Term Acute Care Hospitals,” and Brian K. Walsh, whose dissertation is entitled “Computer-Aided Mechanical Ventilation.”

SAVE-THE-DATE

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality funded an R13 grant to support a nationally invited conference named “Improving Acute, Primary and Transitional Healthcare with Individuals with Disabilities.” Sarah Ailey, PhD, RN, professor in the College of Nursing at Rush University, is the principle investigator; Molly Bathje, PhD(e), MS, OTR/L, assistant professor in the College of Health Sciences at Rush, and Distinguished Professor Tamar Heller, PhD, head of the Department of Disability and Human Development at the University of Illinois, are co-investigators.

The conference will be held March 23-24, 2017, at Rush University.

To sign up for the conference or for additional information, please contact PATH-PWD@rush.edu.
The American Occupational Therapy Foundation, or AOTF, St. Catherine Challenge is a student-led fundraising event to increase research awareness in the occupational therapy, or OT, profession. The challenge began in 2013 when students from St. Catherine University challenged other universities across the country to a friendly competition to raise funds for the AOTF Intervention Research Grants, or IRG, program after learning of the significant impact research has on treatment methods. Last year, more than eight IRGs were awarded, totaling more than $347,000.

The Rush University Student Occupational Therapy Association, or SOTA, not only participated in the St. Catherine Challenge for the first time this year, but also won the challenge with its contribution of $8,600. In addition to winning the challenge, Rush SOTA was also recognized as the Rookie of the Year. When asked why SOTA got involved in this challenge, second year student Andrea Cure said she and her peers have become increasingly aware of the importance of research within the profession and wanted to support the cause. They also cited the fact that OT faculty member Mary Ellen Stoykov, PhD, received one of the inaugural AOTF grants.