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PA Patriots

Recently, physician assistant, or PA, faculty members Regina Chen, PhD (c), MS, PA-C, LAc, DiplCH, and Jessica Vlaming, MS, PA-C, received the Patriot Award. The award recognizes individuals for their support of National Guard or Reserve members through measures including flexible schedules, time off prior to and after deployment, caring for families, and granting leaves of absence if needed. They were nominated by PA student and citizen warrior Jeff Bohlman.

Advisory Committee Selection

Congratulations to Laurie Gillard, MS, MT(ASCP)CM SBBCM, assistant professor and specialist in blood bank program director, for being selected to serve on the Advisory Committee for the American Society for Clinical Pathology Board of Certification. The board is the gold standard in global certification for medical laboratory professionals and has certified more than 525,000 individuals. Gillard will be representing specialist in blood banking program directors.
Practitioner of the Year

Ellen A. Becker, PhD, RRT, RRT-NPS, RPFT, AE-C, FAARC, was named a 2018 Specialty Practitioner of the Year, or SPOTY, by the American Association for Respiratory Care, or AARC, in recognition of her work in education at the 2018 AARC Congress in Las Vegas. The SPOTY recognizes a respiratory care practitioner who works in a specialty practice and has earned special recognition through professional service, leadership and scholarship.

Becker is a well-respected mentor and professor and has served in a variety of roles, including as a past chair of the AARC Education Specialty Section. She is devoted to encouraging respiratory therapists and advancing the profession. She continues to demonstrate her commitment to the profession through a sustained record of volunteerism, scholarship and research funding.

When asked about what earning this award means to her, Becker highlighted the power of being involved with your professional society. “This honor is an opportunity for me to celebrate the many friendships I developed across my career,” said Becker. “I could not have been successful without collaboration with those around me.”

Lectureship Award

The Society for the Study of Occupation: USA Board of Directors has selected Charlotte Royeen, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, dean of the College of Health Sciences, to give the 2019 Ruth Zemke Lecture in Occupational Science. This is an honorary lecture dedicated to the spirit of intellectual curiosity expressed by Dr. Ruth Zemke in her work within occupational science. The intent of the lecture is to offer select individuals a unique opportunity to challenge the thinking of occupational scientists at the research conferences of the Society for the Study of Occupation. The honoree meets criteria that include significant contributions to occupational science and a demonstrated commitment to building a community of scholars in the discipline.

The board and the Zemke Lecture Selection Committee recognize Royeen’s contributions to the study of occupation through record of publication, presentation, teaching, service and leadership, specifically her contributions in the area of neuro-occupation, occupation as chaotic, morning routines and eudemonia.
CDS Happenings

The Rush University Student Academy of Audiology traveled to Guatemala to work with the Fundación Sonrisas que Escuchan (Smiles that Listen Foundation). They were able to screen roughly 800 people in the cities of Totonicapán and Guatemala City. With the help of the fundraising chairs, they were able to donate over $650 to the foundation.

Eight faculty members and nine students represented the Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences, or CDS, at the 2018 American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, or ASHA, Convention in Boston.

SLP ASHA Presenters – Back row (L to R): Richard Peach, Emily Wang and Rebecca Zerivitz; Front row (L to R): Kerry Ebert, Morgan Corich, Alyssa Godek and Anne Hoffmann

AuD ASHA Presenters – (L to R): Madeline McNamee, Veronica Whitnell, Megan Hebb, Kathleen Dunckley, Patricia McCarthy, Kelly Casper and Amy Winston; Not pictured: Emily Trittschuh, Rose Buchbinder and Ayelet Hamburger

Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences held their 2018 SLP Advisory Board Meeting. Standing (L to R): Anjali Pal, Nancy Chen, Allison Albers, Lisa LaGorio, Brenda Koverman, Doreen Izaguirre, Kerry Ebert, Richard Peach; Sitting (L to R): Patrick Doyle, Jean Blosser, Joseph Duffy, Emily Wang, Judith LeDuc, Paul Rao, Nancy Swigert, John Consalvi; Not Pictured: Dr. Anne Hoffmann

Emily Trittschuh was selected to receive the Student Research Travel Award to attend the ASHA Convention in Boston, MA, in November. She was selected for this award because she is the first author on SSW: Half List Scores Predict Total Score Among School-age Children, which was the highest-rated, student-authored paper in its convention topic area.

Jenna Lesser (SLP 2nd year student, not pictured) received the 2018 ASHA Foundation Scholarship Award. The award recognizes master’s and doctoral students in communication sciences and disorders who demonstrate academic achievement and promise.

Mentorship Selection

Congratulations to Bethelhem (Beth) Markos on being selected to participate in the House of Delegates mentorship program at the American Association for Respiratory Care Congress in Las Vegas this year.

To read more about Markos’s journey in the respiratory care program, visit rushu.rush.edu/news/stepping-back-move-forward.
Faculty Excellence Awards

Congratulations to the following College of Health Sciences Faculty Excellence Award recipients:

George Fitchett, DMin, PhD – Excellence in Research and Scholarship
Lisa LaGorio, PhD, MPH – Excellence in Mentoring
Steven Wightkin, MA, MS – Excellence in Education

MGMA Scholarship Winners

Two health systems management students were recently awarded Medical Group Management Association, or MGMA, scholarships. Jordan Wirtz won the Leaders Scholarship and Katherine Koo won the Richard L. Davis, FACMPE – Managers Scholarship.

The Leaders Scholarship is sponsored by the Academic Practice Assembly, the Anesthesia Administration Assembly and the Integrated Physician Services Executives Assembly in recognition of Ernest S. Moscatello, Edgar J. Saux, FACMPE, Robert W. “Win” Baker, Charles Wallace, MD, and past presidents of the American College of Medical Practice Executives.

The Richard L. Davis, FACMPE – Managers Scholarship is sponsored by the North Carolina Medical Group Managers.

Santa’s Reach

Our cardiovascular perfusion students came together to cut wrapping paper and to categorize, sort and label presents. More than two hours and a lot of fun later, 60 toys were ready to be dropped off at Santa’s Closet.