DEAN’S CORNER

It is difficult to believe that the winter break is just around the corner. We embarked this school year with great excitement in August, celebrated our Dragon Pride during President Blackhurst’s inauguration in September, and worked hard all along to fulfill our promise to transform lives. To conclude this wonderful semester on a positive note, I am sending out this newsletter to everyone who is associated with the College of Education and Human Services (CEHS) including current students, graduates, and faculty and staff. I am planning on sending out this newsletter at least once a month to help us feel connected.

I am inspired everyday by devoted faculty, staff, and students within CEHS and want to share their excellent work with everyone in a small way through this newsletter. I would like to hear from our alumni so that their news can appear in this newsletter as well. So please send me news items you want to share with your former professors, staff, and classmates during your time at MSUM at okheelee@mnstate.edu and stay connected with everyone.

Thank you very much everyone for your hard work throughout this semester and I wish you all happy holidays and a wonderful new year!

Sincerely,

Ok-Hee Lee, Ph.D.
Interim Dean of Education and Human Services

FEATURED DEPARTMENT
Speech Language Hearing Sciences

- Graduate students in the MSUM Speech-Language and Hearing Clinic provide speech/language services to students in the Minnewaska, Minnesota School District two mornings a week via Telepractice using the latest, state-of-the-art technology.

- The Transgender Voice Clinic at MSUM’s Speech and Hearing Clinic in Murray Hall continues to be the primary facility for voice and communication therapy in the Fargo-Moorhead area and the region.

- In early October, the MSUM SLHS Department, CCRI, Inc. and the Hjemkomst Museum collaborated for an all-inclusive, free night at the museum. Approximately 43 hours of time were volunteered by four SLHS students and Professor Rachel Stotts, in adapting areas of the Hjemkomst Museum to allow individuals of all abilities to participate and enjoy the museum exhibits.
The speech language pathology graduate class of 2014 has 100% job placement in various medical and educational fields in the state of Minnesota and North Dakota.

The National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA)/Collegiate Sertoma student group, led by SLHS undergraduate students, has volunteered for the following service projects this semester: Dorothy Day Food Pantry, Highway Clean-up, Fargo-Moorhead Sertoma Holiday Lights in Lindenwood Park, and Signing Santa for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired Children and Adults in the Community at Trollwood.

Graduate students in the major along with Dr. Nancy Paul and Dr. Richard Adler presented their research at the National conference for American Speech Language Hearing Sciences held in Florida in November.

The Speech Language Pathology graduate program professors and students participated in a four way collaboration for National Memory Screening Day. They hosted the National Memory Screening event in collaboration with the Alzheimer’s Foundation of America’s national event. Graduate students also provided prevention materials and demonstrated brain training tools that older individuals could use to promote optimal aging of memory and thinking skills. Hearing screenings were also offered. Eventide Fairmont, cohosted the event with the department by providing the facilities and providing tours of the facility and refreshments. SERTOMA (Service to Mankind) service organization provided a grant for some of the materials used.

**RECOGNITIONS**

**School of teaching and learning**

**Dr. Steve Grineski** published an article entitled, “At the Crossroads of Policy and Poverty: A Critical Look at Homelessness, Youth, and Education”.

In collaboration with **Dr. Dan Gatrell, Dr. Layna Cole** co-authored a column entitled, “Matters: Guidance with Girls,” in the November issue of Young Children. She also had a study guide related to the column published in the November issue of “NEXT for Young Children” with the same co-author and the title.

**Drs. Dave Tack and Sheila Marquardt** along with three students presented at the National Association of Multicultural Educators Conference in Tucson, AZ.

**Three education students** were appointed to national and state committees through Education Minnesota Student Program.

**Alumna Michelle Sailer**, Art teacher at S.G. Reinertsen Elementary was named as Minnesota’s 2014 Elementary Art Educator of the Year.

**Social Work**

**Dr. Jeremy Carney** presented on “Professional Ethics and Social Media” at the Minnesota Social Services Association Conference on September 24th.

**Dr. Shawn Damon Ginther** was recruited to the position of Associate Editor of the online peer-reviewed journal Contemporary Rural Social Work. Dr. Ginther is responsible for all facets of journal production and publication of this scholarly resource used by social work academics and practitioners across the country.

**Drs. Nandita Bezbaruah and Shawn Ginther** of the School of Social Work, and Sue Humphers-Ginther of the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, along with Janet Hollander of Eugene, Oregon, are collaborating on an evaluation of the effectiveness of Nia 52 Moves in enhancing aspects of physical performance and subjective well-being among older adults, culminating in an evidence-based best practices manual for use by Nia instructors internationally.

**Counseling and Student Affairs**

**Graduate students** from the CNSA program attended The National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) national convention in October. Over 3,000 academic advisors from across the country and globe visited the Minneapolis Convention Center to discuss recent research, program models, advisor hot topics, and techniques in academic advising.

**Fifteen CNSA students** were inducted into the Chi Sigma Alpha Honor Society this November at their 5th Annual initiation ceremony.

There were many more excellent academic, teaching, and service activities that deserve recognition throughout this semester. We regret that we cannot individually recognize all the great work done by our students, staff, and faculty due to the confines of space available here.