

Issue 1 : October 2018

## Dean Allen's Message

Welcome to the recently founded and newly named College of Health Science and Human Services (CHSHS) at Clarion University. The College offers a variety of high quality programs that provide students exceptional opportunities for applied learning including, clinical practice, internships and practicums outside of the classroom. Students benefit in numerous ways from the pedagogical and clinical synergy that accompanies learning within a truly interprofessional community. The College is the integrative home to the Department of Nursing, Department of Communication Science & Disorders, Department of Psychology and the Department of Human Services, Rehabilitation, Health and Sport Sciences. As we start this academic year, we welcome the Department of Psychology as the newest addition to CHSHS and celebrate the College's first international excursion with a faculty/student trip to Oujda, Morocco where we explored cultural and health care with our colleagues at Mohammed 1st University. This fall also marks an additional first with the establishment the CHSHS Living Learning Community (LLC). Activities within the LLC will provide student residents with opportunities to develop critical communication and leadership skills that we know elevates there personal career trajectories as well as the outcomes of the clients and patients that they serve.

## Morocco, Medicine, & More

The College of Health Sciences and Human Services and the Office of International Programs offered students, faculty, and staff an opportunity to journey to Morocco in August. Twelve people from Clarion University took advantage of this fantastic opportunity; Six students, two faculty members (Dr. Lepore and Dr. Foster), and two staff members (Dean Allen and Dr. Naugle), and Dr. Allen's and Dr. Lepore's spouses attended.

During this trip, the participants spent most of their time in Oujda, which is the northeastern part of Morocco. This city is situated just 12 miles away from the Algerian border, which has been closed since 1994. They also traveled to the Mediterranean seaside. All throughout their trip they were able to view various landmarks, the desert, the mountains of the Middle Atlas region, and much more.

When they were not sight-seeing, students attended a course at the University of Mohammed I' School of Medicine. This school is a medical school, along with being a School of Letters and Sciences (similar to Clarion's College of Arts, Education, and Sciences). The course that students participated in was based around the North African health care practices, educational systems, and cultures. The six students who went on this trip were all in the Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling program.

If you missed this opportunity, stay tuned for the next educational trip.



Photos taken by Dr. Ellen Foster

# Department of Communication Science & Disorders

## Faculty Features

- Assistant Professor, **Dr. Melissa Brydon**, presented at five different state and national conferences. She has recently become a co-author on a manuscript that is currently under review.
- Mr. Kenneth Staub**, assistant professor, presented at five state conferences within Maryland, New York, and Pennsylvania.
- Department Chair, **Dr. Janis Jarecki-Lui**, received the 2017/2018 Advisor of the Year award.

## Club Smile

Club Smile is a student-based organization that advocates for individuals with cleft palate. The majority of the money that is raised through fundraisers go to Operation Smile. Operation Smile performs cleft lip and cleft palate repair for individuals in third world and developing countries. Club Smile holds a few fundraisers during each semester. Their big event/fundraiser occurs during the spring semester. This event is called “Small Walk for Big Smiles”. If you are interested in joining this organization or have questions, please contact Mr. Kenneth Staub, who is the advisor.

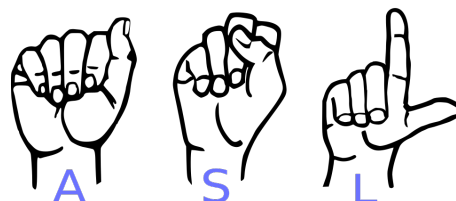


## NSSLHA

Clarion's Chapter of the National Student Speech-Language and Hearing Association (NSSLHA) is a student-based organization that is for pre-professionals studying communication sciences and disorders (CSD). This organization is recognized by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). During the 2017-2018 school year, this organization received national Gold Honors status. Their goal for the 2018-2019 year is to maintain this prestigious status. If you are interested in joining this organization or have questions, please contact Dr. Janis Jarecki-Lui or Dr. Kristina Dworek, advisors of NSSLHA.

## Sign Language Club

Clarion University also offers Sign Language Club, which is a part of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. This student-based organization is to anyone who is interested in learning and practicing American Sign Language. Students do not have to be apart of this department to join this organization. If you are interested in joining this organization or have questions, please contact Dr. MaryPat McCarthy, who is the faculty advisor.



# Department of Communication Science & Disorders

## CSD Journal Club

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders recently established a student-based organization that promotes the exploration of professional research. The CSD Journal Club is a faculty-guided extracurricular learning experience. A rotating cast of faculty members will host each club meeting. This allows different faculty to lead a session about a specific research article or piece that he/she has picked. Students within this organization will read and critically analyze the faculty-selected article. They will then complete a rubric to guide a review of the article, which will then allow discussion about the piece within the session. This organization has some degree of academic rigor, which challenges its membership to meet specific standards. This may be different from other student-based organizations. If you are interested in joining this new organization or have questions, please contact Mr. Kenneth Staub or Dr. Melissa Brydon, who are the faculty advisors.



# Department of Human Services, Rehabilitation, Health & Sport Science

## Faculty Features

- Assistant Professor, **Ms. Kimberly Schwabenbauer**, recently attended an event where she gained knowledge about veal production and processing, which was funded by the PA Beef Checkoff Program. At this event, she was able to speak one on one with other attendees about related topics. This event was hosted for bloggers, writers, dieticians, and others.
- Mr. Jim Thornton**, head athletic trainer, was recently elected into the NATA Hall of Fame that was presented in New Orleans.

## Student Attends Hero Event

CPL Kyle Stuart, a Sport Management student recently attended a special event at Heinz Field. This event was hosted by the Steelers. Hero's at Heinz Field was established to honor men and women who have fought for our country. This veteran event has been held ever since the tragedy of 9/11. Kyle Stuart is a veteran and decided to take advantage of this opportunity. Kyle goes on to say that his favorite memory from the event was talking one on one to Alejandro Villanueva, a veteran and a Steelers player. Kyle also states how the Hero's at Heinz Field event was great and there was nothing but class from the Steelers organization.



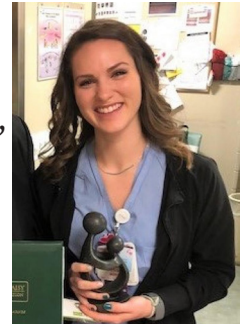
# Department of Nursing

## Faculty Features

- The first class of **BSN 4-year students** graduated in Spring 2018. 100% of the students received job offers, many of the offers were where they completed their internships.
- Three faculty members recently received Tenure-Track positions at Clarion. These faculty include **Ms. Christina Weidle, Ms. Deb Flaherty, and Ms. Robin Fenstermaker.**

## Former Student Receives Daisy Award

ASN graduate, Alaina Smith recently received the Daisy Award for care and compassion in the Labor and Delivery Department at UPMC Magee. The Daisy Award was established to recognize outstanding and extraordinary nurses throughout the United States. Hospitals and other people can nominate nurses, who went out of their way, to receive this award. Alaina not only went out of her way to make families and mothers feel comfortable; she also personalized a card for every expecting mother that she had cared for.



## BSN Clinical Preceptorship

Every year, BSN students must complete a clinical preceptorship in the last few weeks of the program. This allows students to transition into a practice as a graduate nurse, allowing the transition period to be reduced. Students also able become familiar with a healthcare facility. As for the healthcare facility, they are able to save costs by training students who have almost completed their BSN degree. The clinical preceptorship enables the healthcare facility to “test out” the student to see if they would want to potentially hire them after graduation. On another positive note, all of the 2018 BSN graduates received job offers from the healthcare facility where they completed their clinical preceptorship.

## Upcoming Event

Are you interested in participating in a 5k for a great cause? The ASN 5th Annual Breast Cancer 5k is occurring on October 11th at 4:30pm. This 5k is taking place in Oil City, PA at the Samuel Justice Trail. For more information please contact Ms. Christina Weidle at [cweidle@clarion.edu](mailto:cweidle@clarion.edu).

Questions? Concerns? Would like something feature next month?  
Contact Sara Smerkar at [s.k.smerkar@eagle.clarion.edu](mailto:s.k.smerkar@eagle.clarion.edu)