Welcome back to another promising academic year at Truman State University and in the School of Health Sciences and Education. I hope faculty and staff enjoyed their summer and feel rejuvenated and ready for the 2011-2012 academic year. We have much to look forward to and I am glad to be serving as Dean of the School. In the upcoming year I hope to focus on how our School and programs will contribute to the University Strategic Plan and the conversations that will occur on campus on the topic of “Why a public liberal arts and sciences university in the 21st century?”. In Truman’s 25th anniversary of the mission change, it is an important time to be reflecting on what we do and how we can improve. I welcome your ideas and thoughts and encourage you to share them with me through whatever means you find most convenient. As the new, academic year began, I reflected on what an enormous privilege it is to be among people who live and work in the world of ideas, for me and for our students. Welcome back, faculty and staff!

**Faculty and Staff**

Congratulations to faculty in the SHSE whose promotion and tenure are effective this fall:

**Promoted from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor**
Melissa Holcomb — *Nursing*
Jennifer Hurst — *Exercise Science*
Paul Yoder — *English Education*

**Promoted from Associate Professor to Professor**
Peter Kelly — *Special Education*
Julie Lochbaum — *Education*
Carol Marshall — *Spanish Education*

**Granted Academic Tenure**
Sheila Garlock — *Communication Disorders*
Melissa Holcomb — *Nursing*
Jennifer Hurst — *Exercise Science*
New Faculty

Welcome to new faculty in the SHSE:

Communication Disorders
Ms. Sara Hines
Ms. Kelli Maeder

Education
Dr. Gary Drummond
Mr. Matt Copeland
Ms. Suzann Copeland

Health & Exercise Sciences
Mr. Doug Cooper
Ms. Naomi Rice
Dr. Brian Snyder

Nursing
Ms. Tami Blecha
Ms. Susan Lambert

Faculty Sabbaticals

Faculty Sabbaticals will be reinstated for the 2012-2013 academic year. SHSE faculty members applying for sabbaticals should turn in proposals to the Dean’s office (Violette Hall, room 2300) before noon on Monday, September 19, 2011. For information on applying for a sabbatical, please see this link: http://provost.truman.edu/sabbaticals/index.asp

Why a Public Liberal Arts and Sciences University in the 21st Century?

At the opening meeting of the Strategic Planning and Assessment Workshop, Dr. Paino announced his intent to hold conversations addressing “Why a Public Liberal Arts & Sciences University in the 21st Century?” Dr. Paino expressed that these conversations seemed particularly pertinent given that this year marks the 25th anniversary of the Truman mission change. Each school is responsible for sponsoring one speaker. Our school might focus on the question of how professional programs fit, how they contribute to the mission, and what they gain by being on our campus. If you are interested in serving as our school’s speaker, please let Dr. Gooch know by Friday, September 2. You might also suggest others in the school who you feel would make a good speaker. If we have multiple volunteers we will take the issue to vote. Please consider volunteering to facilitate these important conversations.
**Communication Disorders**

The National Student Speech - Language - Hearing Association (NSSHLA) has awarded the Truman NSSHLA chapter 2011 NSSHLA Bronze Chapter Recognition. Chapter honors are awarded to NSSHLA chapters that demonstrate an awareness of student issues and concerns, outreach to the community, educational opportunities, and social and fund-raising activities promoting both the professions and the national association. This is the first such national recognition on record achieved by Truman's Communication Disorders Association (CoDA).

Communication Disorders welcomes five part-time temporary instructors this fall. All well-respected local professionals, they include: Mr. Jay Ballanger, Ms. Samantha Bishop, Ms. Susan Drew, Ms. Sara Hines, and Ms. Kelli Maeder.

**Education**

Dr. Tom Trimborn presented an original portrait of Harry S Truman entitled “The Maestro” which was mounted outside the Ophelia Parrish performance hall.

**Health and Exercise Sciences**

The HES Department has received a $10,000.00 contribution in support of the Mr. Jack Bowen Memorial Garden. The garden will be situated immediately in front of the east doors of Pershing and will feature a brick walkway, benches, flowering trees, and a commemorative plaque.

As part of a special topics course, Dr. Jennifer Hurst took eight students on an 11-day field excursion trip to Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks in Wyoming from July 16 - 26. While in the parks the class hiked, whitewater rafted, and completed a one-day rock climbing instruction course. Other activities included a tour of the National Museum of Wildlife Art, wildlife watching at dawn, and learning about Leave No Trace Principles while in nature. The group tent camped while in the parks and enjoyed getting to know each other around the campfire. The focus of the course was on using physical activity to explore the students’ relationships with nature and learning about the National Parks from a multidisciplinary perspective. Each student developed a creative project that represented his/her relationship with nature, using pictures, videos, and journal writings collected during the field excursion. It was a tremendous learning experience and thanks goes out to HES Department Chair Dr. Chris Lantz and the Dean for their support of the course.

Dr. Jeremy J. Houser and Dr. Michael Bird have been awarded a two-year, $100,000.00 grant from the American Osteopathic Association. The research was developed and is being conducted in association with a research team lead by Dr. Brian Degenhardt at the Still Research
Institute and a group of researchers at A.T. Still University, Mesa, AZ. The research project is titled, “Investigating objective functional characteristics to differentiate subgroups in chronic low back pain patients.”

Dr. Carolyn Cox and Dr. Janice Clark Young received Master Certified Health Education Specialist (MCHES) credentials from the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc., (NCHEC).

HES welcomes Dr. Brian Snyder to our faculty. Dr. Snyder is an Assistant Professor coming to us from Kansas State. He fills the position recently vacated by Dr. Alex Koch who accepted a position at Lenoir Rhyne University. Dr. Snyder’s specialty is exercise physiology and nutrition.

HES welcomes Mr. Doug Cooper as a member of our Athletic Training staff. Mr. Cooper joins us from the University of Nebraska at Kearny.

**Nursing**

Ms. Brenda Wheeler continues work toward the Ph.D. in Nursing Education from Nova Southeastern University.

Ms. Pam Melvin attended the “10th Annual International Nursing Simulation/Learning Resources Centers Conference” June 15-18, at Walt Disney World Resort, FL. She presented “Using simulation to increase students’ self confidence in home health nursing.”

**Advanced Placement**

The SHSE was pleased to again team with the College Board to offer CB endorsed Advanced Placement Summer Institutes during July, 2011; seven on the campus of Truman State University, Kirksville, Missouri and one on the campus of McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. The institutes held on the Truman campus were biology, calculus AB/BC, chemistry, English language and composition, English literature and composition, physics, and United States history. The institute held on the McGill campus was French language and culture. This institute was Truman’s first international AP institute. Of the 107 teacher-participants, 93 were from Missouri. Additional participants were from Colorado, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Canada. Forty teacher-participants had previous Advanced Placement classroom teaching experience and sixty-seven were pre-AP high school. Truman State University values its association with the College Board and looks forward to future cooperative ventures. Truman faculty teaching summer 2011 AP classes include Dr. Tim Farley, Dr. Maria DiStefano, Dr. Jeff Gall, Dr. Todd Hammond, Dr. Anne Moody, and Dr. Barbara Price.
**Professional Development**

The SHSE continues to offer a modest number of professional development courses for teachers in the St. Louis area. This summer 124 students were enrolled in classes in the Parkway and Pattonville school districts.

**Regional Professional Development Center**

Ms. Myra Collins and Ms. Stacey Craigmyle, a teacher from North Shelby Schools, recently traveled to Indianapolis, IN to present at the 2011 Summer Conference for Learning Forward (formerly National Staff Development Council). The workshop, “Determining levels of rigor in common core state standards,” was designed to help workshop participants apply the four levels of Depth of Knowledge to the Common Core State Standards for use in instruction and assessment development.

**Health Sciences Building**

A traditional Masonic cornerstone ceremony on Saturday, August 6, 2011 officially marked the opening of the new Health Sciences Building. Three of the four academic departments within the School of Health Sciences and Education are housed in the building. The Nursing Department moved during May interim and the Communication Disorders Department moved during August interim. The Health and Exercise Sciences Department has occupied renovated space in Pershing Building since the spring of this year. The ceremony included the checking of the building’s dimensions and specifications, ensuring it was level and square. Masons then gave a gift of corn, wine, and oil, symbolizing the, the Corn of Nourishment, the Wine of Refreshment, and the Oil of Joy. The original construction groundbreaking was held during the winter of 2009. The project entailed renovating 30,000 square feet of the original Pershing Building, including a new mechanical room for the natatorium. New construction included the new 35,000 square foot Health Sciences Building, connected to the original Pershing by a tunnel and a sky bridge.
**Calendar**

Friday, September 2 – names of “Why a Public LAS University?” speaker volunteers due to Dr. Gooch
Friday, September 2 – names of Faculty Forum Committee volunteers due to Mona
Friday, September 2 – equipment requests due from Chairs to Dr. Gooch
Monday, September 5 – Labor Day, University closed
Friday, September 9 – names of Sabbatical Review Committee nominees due to Dr. Gooch
Friday, September 9 – names of IT governance volunteers due to Dr. Gooch
Monday, September 12 – SHSE Department Chairs’ Meeting, 10:30 a.m., VH 2351
September 16 – Clifton Truman Daniel, grandson of Harry S. Truman, 7:30 p.m., BH Auditorium
Saturday, September 17 – Family Day/Red Barn Arts and Crafts Festival
Monday, September 19 – Sabbatical applications due, noon, VH 2351
September 19 – names of Tenure Committee nominees due from Representatives to Faculty Senate
Wednesday, September 21 – Submissions due for SHSE October newsletter
Saturday, September 24 – Admissions September Showcase high school campus visit day
Sunday – Wednesday, September 25 – 27 – NCATE/DESE accreditation site visit to the
   Department of Education

Check the master calendar for additional events:
http://calendar.truman.edu/calendar.php?op=cal&month=4&year=2010&catview=0