Dr. Mary Lou Galantino, professor of Physical Therapy, will be working on global health as a Fulbright specialist in South Africa starting in May.

Dr. Galantino will be facilitating curriculum review and development with colleagues and students at the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg for six weeks. A focus is bridging interprofessional education (IPE) across their health professional programs. In addition, she will continue to foster HIV collaborative research with students and faculty.

She was chosen as a Fulbright specialist for her expertise in HIV-AIDS rehabilitation, cancer rehabilitation and integrative medicine. Dr. Galantino is also a yoga instructor and certified American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) wellness coach.

More than 5 million people are living with HIV-AIDS in South Africa, the most of any country in the world.

“Through evidence-based research, I take a holistic approach with integrative medicine, using my expertise in HIV and cancer rehabilitation,” she said. “Yoga, Tai-Chi and meditation are a few of the holistic approaches in my work with graduate students, patients in the clinic and through my research.”

As the coordinator of the Holistic Health Minor, Dr. Galantino supports undergraduate students in clinical experiences in Beijing, China, where Nursing students learned Traditional Chinese Medicine practices for a month last summer. She also volunteered in Haiti in July-August 2013, along with her daughter and a Stockton Physical Therapy student. They helped patients at two clinics, aiding individuals still affected by the 2010 earthquake and others with chronic illnesses.

While in Haiti, she worked with physical and occupational therapists, doctors and nurses from various regions of the world, studying traditional healing practices and doing research.

This IPE research was presented at Stockton’s Day of Scholarship in March and was accepted for presentation in June at the 7th International Conference on Interprofessional Practice and Education.

Dr. Galantino said she and her students studied “the art of interprofessional practice with a cadre of healthcare practitioners from various backgrounds – handling conflicts, navigating cultural and language challenges and realizing the impact on humanity.”

Continued on next page
Dr. Galantino to Work on Global Health in South Africa  
Continued

Those experiences will inform her work in South Africa.

“What I am facilitating curriculum and research development in areas of my expertise, I too learn much about the culture of students, faculty and patients in South Africa,” Dr. Galantino said. “For example, a mainstay of health delivery is community-based rehabilitation, a model that works well when elders are taught and respected as they assist the healing of others in their communities.”

“I am particularly honored to be part of a reciprocal learning process in the context of a different culture with the same focused intent: to serve others through optimizing function to live vibrantly amidst health challenges,” she continued. “Research shows that interprofessional healthcare training fosters these goals and I intend to work with everyone to maximize this engagement of IPE.

Dr. Galantino noted that Stockton’s 2020 strategic planning program includes global initiatives.

“As an advisory board member of Stockton’s Center for Community Engagement and the Global Initiatives Team, I am excited to impact opportunities for collaborative research, curriculum development and potential sites for clinical experiences for our Doctor of Physical Therapy students across the globe,” she said of her motivation in seeking the Fulbright.

The Fulbright Program is sponsored by the United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. It was founded by the late U.S. Sen. J. William Fulbright in 1946 and now operates in 155 countries. Fulbrights provide funding for students, scholars, teachers, and professionals for graduate study, advanced research, university teaching, and teaching in elementary and secondary schools.

Dr. Victoria Schindler Quoted in CNN Health Article

Dr. Victoria Schindler, associate professor of Occupational Therapy, was recently quoted in the CNN Health article, “This is Your Brain on Knitting.”

The article highlights Dr. Schindler’s work on the effects of flow, meditation and the parasympathetic nervous system.

“Our bodies are in a constant state of stress because our brain can’t tell the difference between an upcoming meeting with the boss and an upcoming bear attack,” Dr. Schindler said in the article. “The repetitive motions of knitting, for example, activate the parasympathetic nervous system, which quiets that ‘fight or flight’ response.”

To read the CNN Health article in its entirety, click here.
Stockton Hosts Veterans Resource and Employment Fair

Stockton hosted a Veterans Resource and Employment Opportunity Fair, co-sponsored by the American Legion, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (LWD), and the New Jersey State Parole Board, on April 4.

Patrick Shields, coordinator of Veteran Affairs, and Tom O’Donnell, assistant dean of Students/Veteran Affairs worked with the co-sponsors to organize the event.

O’Donnell welcomed veterans and employer participants with opening remarks. “We are lacking as a nation and we need veterans in the job force,” he said. “We need their talents to be utilized in the community in order to strengthen the community.”

Employers and veteran service providers who assist veterans and homeless veterans with employment, education, counseling, veteran benefits, medical and legal issues participated in the event.

The event was the first of four South Jersey Regional Veterans Resource and Employment Opportunity Fairs to be held in South Jersey.

Dr. Zucconi Invited for Two Visiting Fellowships at Cambridge U

Dr. Laura Zucconi was recently invited to be a Visiting Fellow at the McDonald Institute of Archaeology at Cambridge University. Dr. Zucconi, associate professor of History in the School of Arts and Humanities, will travel to Cambridge to begin the next phase of her sabbatical on April 13. She will work through the Easter term and part of the summer, returning in July.

“I’m already a Visiting Fellow at Wolfson College, University of Cambridge,” said Dr. Zucconi. “Someone from Wolfson informed Graeme Barker, the director of the McDonald Institute, that I will be at Cambridge, so he extended the invitation for me to also be a Visiting Fellow of the institute.”

Dr. Zucconi’s project began as an article on the use of gender in the Biblical genealogies to express the political-economic control of the copper mines in Timna, Israel. The article, “Transgendered Copper Mining in the Levant,” is being published by Tel Aviv University.

After working on the excavation at Timna this past winter, Dr. Zucconi’s study is expanding to a book manuscript that looks at not only how Canaanites and Egyptians controlled the Timna copper mines, but how the Canaanites of southern Israel and Jordan created an economic entity, Seir, that predates the kingdom of Edom.

“Barker worked on the excavation of copper mines in Wadi Feinan in Jordan. I worked in Wadi Feinan but left that excavation before Barker joined. So it will be nice to finally work with him,” Dr. Zucconi said.
‘Sandy Stories Project’ Research Extends Beyond Screening Event

The Stockton@Peace lecture series recently hosted a screening of the “Sandy Stories Project” documentary in Stockton’s Campus Center Theatre, which will provide further research on community disaster management.

The full-length documentary movie, which was produced with the Atlantic County Library System, chronicles the events and aftermath of Hurricane Sandy from the residents of Brigantine, NJ.

Dr. Jess Bonnan-White, assistant professor of Criminal Justice, and Beth Bliss, principal librarian and branch manager of the Atlantic County Library System in Brigantine, discussed the history of the project and the impact that New Jersey communities such as Brigantine are still facing as they recover from Hurricane Sandy.

The impact of the film extends beyond the screening. Dr. Bonnan-White is actively collaborating with the Brigantine staff of the Atlantic County Library System to collect the raw footage and use it in ethnographic studies of community disaster response. “I hope to include Stockton students so they can see first-hand how community service, academic research and scholarship, and public education work hand-in-hand to promote community safety and preparedness,” she said.

The Stockton Center for Community Engagement and Atlantic County Library System sponsored the event.

Four Stockton ASE Members Present at NJEDge Faculty Showcase

Four faculty and staff members representing the Stockton Academic Support for E-Learning (ASE) program attended the NJEDge Faculty Showcase on March 28.

Dr. Shelly Meyers, associate professor of Education and ASE eMentor, and Dr. Linda Feeney, director of E-Learning and coordinator of the ASE program, co-presented a breakout session titled, “Collaborate and the Flipped Classroom: Perfect Together.”

Dr. Elaine Bukowski, professor of Physical Therapy, presented a poster session titled, “Creating Video Clips for Study Aids.”

Marilyn Vito, associate professor of Business Studies and ASE participant, presented the poster session, “Unique Interactive Learning and Assessment Exercises Using Excel,” which was voted Best Poster Presentation by colleagues at the conference.

Stockton’s ASE program has excelled in the Faculty Showcase poster presentation in recent years. Previous winners include Dr. Diane Holtzman, assistant professor of Business Studies Marketing and ASE eMentor, in 2010 and 2011, and Dr. Susan Cydis, assistant professor of Education and ASE participant, in 2012.

Professional-Grade Tennis Courts Open in North Athletic Complex

The new tennis courts, located at the North Athletic Complex, are now open for use. The project was a part of Stockton’s capital improvement projects. Benjamin Risley of Facilities Development was project manager and oversaw design construction. Planning started about one year ago, with construction beginning last June and ending in September.

“The tennis courts were part of a two-phase project, with the removal of four old courts and the addition of Lakeside Lot, located behind I-Wing gym, and the construction of the new professional-grade courts,” said Charles “Skip” West, director of Facility Planning.

The tournament-style, hard surface asphalt courts are open Monday-Friday 10:30 a.m.-dusk, Saturday 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., and Sunday 12-dusk. Intercollegiate practices supersede open recreational use and the courts will remain closed when it rains.

Send Us Your News!

We want to know about things going on in the Stockton community. Do you have an unusual hobby? Did one of your coworkers win an award or perform outstanding public service? Births, weddings, graduations and the like are all good things to submit to the Stockton Times. Contact the editor at (609) 652-4593 or e-mail StocktonTimes@stockton.edu

News about distinguished students can now be found at Distinctive Stockton Students. To contribute a news item for the blog, please contact the editor at distinctive@stockton.edu.