

# CHALLENGES

## in Theory & Practice

VOL.11 NO.2 FALL 2012

THE J. A. PANUSKA, S.J., COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 2012-2013 academic year at The University of Scranton. In order to lead the region, the state and the nation in preparing undergraduate and graduate students in the helping professions to educate, counsel, nurse and lead the next generation in rehabilitation services, we focus on six specific priorities in the Panuska College of Professional Studies (PCPS). In PCPS, an education in the Ignatian tradition has meaning. We grow from our experiences, and we value other people's experiences, too. We want to be stretched to grow just like the early Jesuits. Our priorities aim to stretch our skills and imagination, and to sharpen our intellect. We would like to share with you the following priorities and we welcome your input so we can continue to grow.



Debra Pellegrino, Ed.D.

### PRIORITY 1: MISSION

A rigorous academic experience that celebrates and cultivates our University's Catholic and Jesuit intellectual tradition for undergraduate, graduate and non-traditional students and for our faculty.

### PRIORITY 2: CURRICULUM

"Helping professions" that are grounded in the liberal arts, but promote quality education in healthcare professions through quality academic programs with reputations that lead to significant opportunities and distinguished accomplishments of our undergraduate and graduate alumni.

### PRIORITY 3: FACULTY

A superior faculty committed to excellence in the education of our students and their own scholarly development. PCPS faculty will be supported to stay current with trends and best practice concepts in their disciplines.

### PRIORITY 4: STUDENTS

A student body exemplified by high academic quality and a commitment to scholarship and service.

### PRIORITY 5: LEADERSHIP

Academic leadership that promotes excellence and continual improvement in teaching, learning and scholarship.

### PRIORITY 6: ENGAGEMENT

A learning community committed to engaging local, regional and world communities.

*Each priority responds to a specific goal that captures our operational genesis. The progress of the strategic plan is actualized through the various projects, programs and people who are committed to the established outcomes of creating critical-thinking professionals and fostering service and community outreach.*

As you read *Challenges in Theory & Practice*, note how the faculty, staff and students have realized many of our PCPS strategic initiatives, such as the 11th annual Northeastern U.S. Conference on *disABILITY*, where the conference addressed traumatic brain injury; our PCPS freshman development program, T.A.P.E.S.T.R.Y.; and our grant awards, especially the award of a \$431,202 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services grant to address the interdisciplinary approach to providing healthcare for rural populations.

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**SCRANTON**  
A JESUIT UNIVERSITY

Happy reading,

*Debra Pellegrino*  
Dean of the Panuska College  
of Professional Studies

## THE EDWARD R. LEAHY, JR. ENDOWMENT

FOUNDER'S SOCIETY • \$5,000 and more

BENEFACTOR'S CIRCLE • \$2,500-\$4,999

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MESSAGE from the DEAN



## The Edward R. Leahy, Jr. Endowment

was founded in 1995 by Edward and Patricia Leahy to honor the life and memory of their son, Edward R. Leahy, Jr., whose personal disabilities were attended to with compassion and skill by many health professionals over the course of his life. The Leahy Endowment provides financial resources to support theoretical and applied research, faculty development and support for programs that advance the cause of disabled persons who need long-term assistance. The endowment supports the work of persons practicing in physical and occupational therapy, nursing science and related health care areas, with particular interest in individuals and groups that approach their practice as scholars, teachers and practitioners. Primary recipients are University of Scranton faculty from the Panuska College of Professional Studies, consisting of the Departments of Counseling and Human Services, Education, Exercise Science and Sport, Health Administration and Human Resources, Nursing, Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy.

Each fall the endowment publishes a Call for Proposals to identify faculty candidates for next year's grant awards. Awards are granted in May for the following year. The selection committee is comprised of members of the University's allied health faculty and the dean of the Panuska College of Professional Studies.

The endowment was established and is supported, in part, by the Leahy family and is enriched annually by gifts from corporations and individuals who wish to support the work of the Edward R. Leahy, Jr. Endowment.

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## PCPS Implements

# T.A.P.E.S.T.R.Y. PROGRAM

## for Freshman Class

Beginning with the class of 2016, the Panuska College of Professional Studies is implementing a four-year professional development plan called T.A.P.E.S.T.R.Y. The plan is designed to provide information about services throughout the University, to promote student engagement in the college, University and local communities, and to cultivate the professional behaviors that will be expected of graduates in the helping professions. Rooted in the Jesuit principles of the magis, discernment, contemplatio ad amorem, and cura personalis, each year of the plan aims to develop new dimensions of the student and prepare him or her for a life of professional service. College-wide

T.A.P.E.S.T.R.Y. requirements for the fall semester include attendance at several lectures and participation in health and wellness activities, group advising sessions, orientation at the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence, and the college's Blessing of the Books service project. In addition to college-wide requirements, individual departments will have activities tailored toward their programs of study. The overall goal of the T.A.P.E.S.T.R.Y. program is to ensure that Scranton graduates leave prepared not only in theory and clinical practice, but also ready to be individuals who go beyond the norm, go beyond expectations, and go into the world as men and women for others. ☺

*Scranton graduates leave ... ready to be individuals who go beyond the norm, go beyond expectations, and go into the world as men and women for others.*



**LEFT:** Vice President for University Mission and Ministry Rick Malloy, S.J., addresses freshmen on the topic of "Jesuit Education and Leadership in the Helping Professions." **RIGHT:** Debra Pellegrino, Ed.D., Panuska College of Professional Studies dean, and Victoria Castellanos, Ph.D., associate dean, spoke to students about the T.A.P.E.S.T.R.Y. program during Freshman Orientation.

## *Students Reach College Aspirations Thanks to* **UNIVERSITY of SUCCESS**

Justin Davis is a sophomore at Wilkes University pursuing a career in pharmacy. If not for the help of The University of Scranton's University of Success, Davis said he might not be on such a promising path. "I owe my career up to this point to the University of Success," Davis said. "I don't think I'd be where I am today without the program."

Margaret Loughney, director of the University of Success at The University of Scranton, said the program is designed to prepare high school students who are typically unrepresented on college campuses, such as first-generation students and students from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds, for higher education.

"These are students who are targeted by their guidance counselors as bright students who have the potential for college, but need a helping hand," Loughney said.

Loughney said the program, which has run for 17 years, begins during the summer before the participants' freshman year in high school. The 20 chosen applicants go through a two-week summer "academy" at The University of Scranton. The program then continues one Saturday a month for the rest of the students' high-school careers. The program, offered free of charge to participants, is funded almost entirely by corporate and foundation grants. Sponsors are the Prudential Foundation, the William G. McGowan Charitable Fund, Met Life Foundation, Wells Fargo, the Charles Frueauff Foundation and Overlook Estate Foundation.

Loughney said the University of Success focuses on improving skills necessary to gain admission to and succeed in college, including study skills, public speaking, SAT



Twenty students participated in The University of Scranton's University of Success Summer Institute. Students attending the Summer Institute participated in hands on projects, presentations and field trips to develop skills needed to successfully finish high school and gain acceptance to college. Pictured (front, from left) are, representing The University of Scranton, Maria Vital, bilingual administrative assistant at the Leahy Community Health and Family Center, and Andrea Mantione, director of the Leahy Community Health and Family Center; Henry Dominguez, Scranton; Jamil K. Islam, Scranton; Jamary Gil, Scranton; Zachary Acosta, East Stroudsburg; Xavier Harris, Scranton; and Margaret Loughney, precollege program director. Second row (from left) are Daniel Aguirre, Scranton; Mecca Hunt, Scranton; Austin Burke, Mehoopany; and Isabel Alejandro, Tannersville. Third row (from left) are Lorrán Rodrigues, Clarks Summit; Alexandria Pollock, Kingsley; Coral Delosantos, Carbondale; and Aliyah Lynn Ware, Dickson City. Fourth row (from left) are Mariah Berry, Tunkhannock; Jacquelyn Gillott, Weatherly; and Cassidy Potter, Susquehanna. Fifth row (from left) are Anthony Gigliotti, Carbondale; Tyler Brady, Dickson City; Sean Westawski, Hanover Township; and Blake Reed, Kingsley. Sixth row (from left) are Robert Cermignano, camp counselor; Kendrick Monastine, camp counselor; Erin Harrington, assistant teacher; Donna Novicki, lead teacher; Kelly Judge, camp counselor; Justin Davis, camp counselor; and Amanda Wark, head counselor.



*Wells Fargo contributed \$25,000 to the University of Success,* a multi-year, pre-college program for high school students designed to develop the skills needed to successfully gain entrance to college. Pictured (from left) are, representing The University of Scranton, Meg Hambrose, director of corporate and foundation relations, and Debra Pellegrino, Ed.D., dean of the Panuska College of Professional Studies; representing Wells Fargo, Greg Collins, area president of Northeastern Pennsylvania; Andrea Mantione, director of the Leahy Community Health and Family Center at The University of Scranton; and Patricia Blahnik, Wells Fargo district manager of the Scranton/Pike markets.

prep and math and science enrichment courses. Loughney explained the program also reveals to students potential career paths and volunteer opportunities. Students in the summer academy volunteered at St. Francis of Assisi Kitchen and the Leahy Clinic for the Uninsured.

Loughney said the program also informs parents on financial aid and other related topics they need to know about college.

“Parents are at a big disadvantage if they don’t know the system,” Loughney said. “There are parents who say, ‘I can’t afford to send my kid to college,’ and I say, ‘You can’t afford not to send them’.”

Tyler Brady, a student at Mid Valley High School, is one of the incoming freshmen for the program’s newest group. Brady, who is considering studying law in college, said he already feels he has learned a lot, “not just academically but socially,” and is excited for what lies ahead.

“It taught me a lot about myself,” Brady said. “The counselors were a big part of the experience... It opens up a lot of doors.”

Jamary Gil, a student at Scranton High School and another member of the University of Success’ incoming class, said she is grateful for this opportunity.

“It’s a huge honor being at The University of Scranton,”

Gil said. “It’s an honor for the program counselors to help prepare me for college.”

Gil, who wants to study to become a physical therapist, said so far her most enjoyable experience with the University of Success is the rope course at the Pocono Environmental Education Center.

“It was built around the philosophy of life,” Gil said. “It taught me how to keep your head up and work together with a team and be like a family.” Gil said this sense of teamwork and family reflects what the University of Success teaches.

“We’re all striving for the same thing here,” Gil added.

Davis felt his experience with the University of Success was so impactful that he decided to come back as a camp counselor for the two-week summer academy. Davis said he loved watching the group become closer and bond over the weeks.

“To see them now from where they started – they’re like a family,” Davis said.

Davis said he hopes the participants make the most of the resources and opportunities available to them.

“I enjoy being a counselor because I get to tell [the students] this does have a huge impact on your life,” Davis said. “I don’t think these opportunities would have been available to me had I not been in this program.” ☺

## BLUE CROSS SUPPORT *will Help* *Clinic Serve the Uninsured*



Pictured at the check presentation in the University's McGurrin Hall are (from left) Meg Hambrose, director of corporate and foundation relations at Scranton; Cynthia A. Yevich, executive director, The Blue Ribbon Foundation of Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania; and Andrea Mantione, director of the Leahy Community Health and Family Center at Scranton.

The University's Edward R. Leahy, Jr. Center Clinic for the Uninsured recently received a \$10,000 grant from The Blue Ribbon Foundation of Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Established in November 2007, the Leahy Community Health and Family Center's Clinic offers free primary healthcare services – screenings, evaluations and recommended treatment – to uninsured patients of all ages. The clinic will use Blue Ribbon Foundation support to increase its inventory of pharmaceuticals and supplies, and to expand the hours of an on-site pharmacist. An estimated 1,000 un- or underinsured individuals are expected to visit the clinic in the coming year.

“Thanks to the support of The Blue Ribbon Foundation, we will be able to provide medications, immunizations and education to individuals who otherwise do not have the means or the access to receive them,” said Andrea Mantione, director of the Leahy Community Health and Family Center at Scranton.

“We are pleased to be in a position to help the Leahy Center Clinic continue to serve Lackawanna County residents who are in need of basic medical services,” said Cynthia A. Yevich, executive director of The Blue Ribbon Foundation.

For additional information, contact the Leahy Center Clinic at (570) 941-6112. ☎

## *Free Clinic for Uninsured Extends Hours*

The Edward R. Leahy, Jr. Center Clinic for the Uninsured has extended hours for serving patients from Lackawanna County. The clinic was open additional days during September, October and November.

The clinic is also open every Thursday from 2 to 6 p.m. Services on Thursdays are provided on a walk-in basis.

The Leahy Clinic, which offers primary care services to the uninsured residents of Lackawanna County free of charge, treated 1,200 patients, dispensed 500 prescriptions and administered 180 immunizations in the 2010-2011 academic year alone.

The clinic, operated in the Panuska College of Professional Studies at the Leahy Community Health and Family Center, provides opportunities for teaching, research, learning and service to University students and faculty, with the support of volunteer physicians and licensed health care providers from the community.

The clinic also provides physical therapy and counseling services on Wednesdays by appointment.



The Leahy Clinic is sponsored by the University, Sanofi Pasteur, Blue Ribbon Foundation, Covenant Presbyterian Church, St. John Neumann Regional Academy, One Point Inc., Willary Foundation, DPW state grants for free clinic and personal generous gifts from the community.

The clinic is located at 240 Kessler Court. ☎

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- Oreshkina, M., & Lester, J. (in press). Discourse of segregation and inclusion: A discourse analysis of a Russian newspaper for teachers. *Disability and Society*.

## PRESENTATIONS

- Datti, P.A. (2012, April). *GLBT? Rehabilitation counselor support may be key*. Lecture presentation at the National Council on Rehabilitation Education National Conference, San Francisco, Calif.
- De Marzio, D.M. (2012, March). *Modern Art, Cynicism, and the Ethics of Teaching*. General Session Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society, Pittsburgh, Pa.
- Feeney, A., Sprague, L., Rhodes-Keefe, J., Collier, R., Gildea, K. & Britton, G. (2012, March). *The involvement of pregnant smokers and their health care providers in the design of an educational video and a prenatal smoking status assessment tool: Comparative qualitative analysis*. Poster session presented at the annual international meeting of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco, Houston, Texas.
- Mbugua, T., Frelin, A. & Rice, J. (2012, May). *Awareness, Appreciation and Attitude Change: Teaching Global Citizenship and Intercultural Competence*. Presented at the Lilly Conference on College & University Teaching: Brain-Based Teaching & Learning Conference, Washington, D.C.
- Nastasi, J. (2012, June). *Current topics and trends in MS rehab care — part I: Low vision rehabilitation*. Workshop presented at the Fourth Cooperative Meeting of the Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers and Americas Committee for Treatment and Research in Multiple Sclerosis, San Diego, Calif.
- Oreshkina, M., & Lester, J. (2012, April). *Constructions of the education of people with disabilities in Russia: A discourse analysis of newspaper talk*. Paper presentation at American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting, Vancouver, Canada.

## 2012 NEW FACULTY in the Panuska College of Professional Studies



**Scott Breloff, Ph.D. cand.**, joins the Department of Exercise Science and Sport as an assistant professor. Breloff is completing his Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Oregon, Eugene, Ore., in human physiology with a biomechanics concentration. In addition to his biomechanics training, he has taught human anatomy cadaver laboratory courses.



**Clancy Harrison** joins the Department of Exercise Science and Sport as a lecturer. Harrison received her master's degree from the College of Saint Elizabeth, Morristown, N.J. She is the proprietor and registered dietitian at Healthy Living Lifestyles, LLC and is an adjunct instructor at Penn State University, Wilkes-Barre campus.



**Mary Justis** joins the Department of Exercise Science and Sport as a lecturer. Justis received a master's degree in kinesiology from Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas. Her teaching background includes a wide array of health education courses for undergraduate students at Marywood University and several Penn State University campuses.



**Michael D. Ross, D.H.S.c.**, joins the Department of Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy as an assistant professor. Dr. Ross recently retired from the U.S. Air Force where he served as a physical therapist. He received his doctorate in health science in physical therapy from the University of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, Ind. He has published several papers/abstracts and is currently involved in several research projects. Dr. Ross is an associate editor for the Journal of Orthopedic and Sports Physical Therapy.



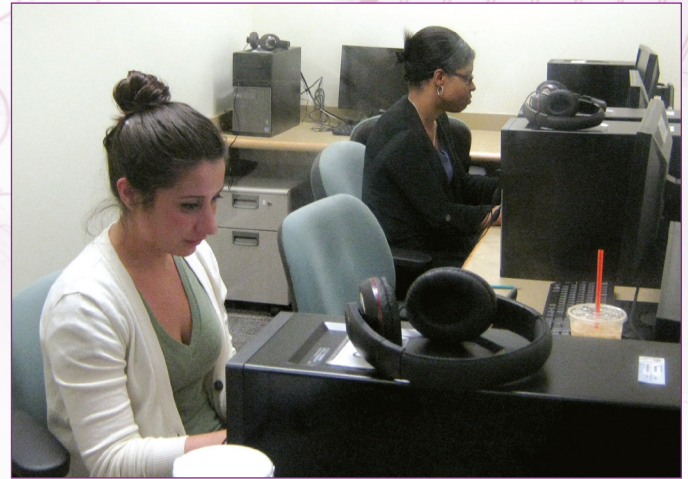
**Patricia Wisniewski** joins the Department of Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy as a lecturer. Wisniewski served as an adjunct faculty member at Misericordia University, Dallas. She has worked as the acting director of occupational therapy at Clarks Summit State Hospital, Clarks Summit. She also worked as an occupational therapist for AllCare Home Health Services, Taylor. Wisniewski received bachelor's and master's degrees in occupational therapy from Misericordia University. She resides in Throop.

# Counseling Training Center Undergoes Renovations

The Department of Counseling and Human Services has recently renovated and updated the David W. Hall Counseling Training Center (CTC). The CTC is comprised of individual and group counseling rooms, the Practicum Workroom, and a control center. Counseling and Human Services students use the center to gain experiential learning, where they can record sessions with clients and receive supervision to develop professionally. The CTC is used for approximately 30 classes each academic year.

The majority of the center's renovations occurred in the Practicum Workroom, a crucial area utilized by graduate counseling students. Graduate counseling students participate in practicum, an educational experience where students gain hands-on training. In this training, practicum students complete a minimum of 100 hours working with clients and receive supervision from licensed/certified counselors. The Practicum Workroom is an area where practicum students keep confidential information about their clientele, write case reports, and review their taped counseling sessions to facilitate professional growth.

Through a collaborative effort with University architects and Information Technology Services, space has been reallocated to increase efficiency of the CTC. Before the renovations, there were two computers and one phone line in the Practicum Workroom, which is utilized by 20 to 30 graduate students per semester. By changing the location of the video control room and the computer lab, the counseling department now has a larger conference room, a new individual counseling room, as well as the creation of a video analysis room in the Practicum Workroom. The extra space for the video analysis room allows for increased access to review tapes, further secures the privacy of clientele, in addition to facilitating opportunities for increased supervision. After the renovations, the Practicum Workroom now has two phone lines and six computers, which enables practicum students to record counseling sessions solely onto DVDs.



With its technological improvements, the recently renovated David W. Hall Counseling Training Center will help provide students the knowledge and skills to be leaders in the 21st century of the counseling field.

These changes situate the CTC to eventually be able to use a lecture/video capture system instead of DVD recorders. In the future, students will record their counseling sessions to a secure, encrypted flash drive, which will be able to be plugged directly into a computer. Ultimately, the goal is that students will be able to record directly onto a secure server and bypass any complications that coincide with working with DVDs and flash drives.

These CTC improvements are a necessity to keep up with technological advancement and provide students the knowledge and skills to be leaders in the 21st century of the counseling field. Experiential learning is a critical part of counselor education and the enhancements to the CTC assist in bringing to life the mission of the counseling program by training counselors and human service professionals who are self-reflective practitioners, competent caregivers, and community leaders. The Department of Counseling and Human Services would like to send out a special thanks to Mark Murphy, Dave Wilson, Jason Wimmer, Jason Oaky, Rob Kennedy, Jim Franceschelli, JoAnn Stavisky, and Ann Keeler for making these improvements possible. ☺



## *MHA Students Implement a Marketing Plan for Healthy Northeast*

In fall 2011, a group of students in the Master of Health Administration (MHA) healthcare marketing and planning class developed a marketing plan for Healthy Northeast. The organization admired the students' work and expressed a desire to implement the plan. This year a group of MHA students – Salwa Harbi, Helen Julia, Eddie Kloniecke, Melissa Maguire and Jamie Mariani – will take on this challenge as they work with Healthy Northeast to improve their marketing efforts.

The implementation of this plan will be accomplished by identifying stakeholders and communicating with them, contacting the project manager of Healthy Northeast, updating grant applications, and improving advertisements that describe the services offered by the organization. Throughout

this process, students will receive advice from experienced professionals in the healthcare field.

The marketing plan has four target markets: board of directors, medical community, medical education community, and general community. The main objective of the plan with respect to these four target markets is to increase awareness of Healthy Northeast by providing education and improving access to healthcare.

As Healthy Northeast struggles to gain a larger market share, the organization looks forward to working with these students to enhance their marketing efforts. The organization hopes that through this process the community will become more aware of its mission and goals.

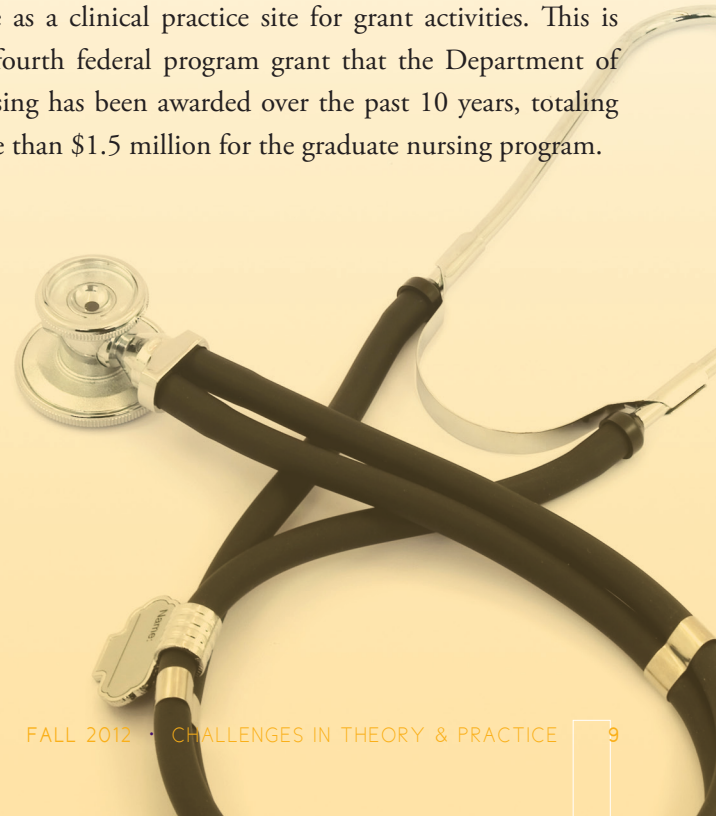
## *Nursing Department Awarded Federal Grant*

The Department of Nursing has been awarded a highly competitive federal grant for \$431,202 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources & Services Administration. Mary Jane Hanson, Ph.D., professor of nursing and director of the graduate nursing program, is the project director of the grant, entitled "Promoting an Interdisciplinary Approach to Caring for Underserved Rural Populations." The grant was written by Dr. Hanson and Trish Wright, Ph.D., associate professor of nursing. Collaborators on the interdisciplinary project are Barbara Wagner, D.P.T. (PT); Marlene Morgan, D.Ed. (OT); Jo Ann Nicoteri, Ph.D. (Nursing); Geri Barber, director of

the Counseling Training Center; and Andrea Mantione, director of the Leahy Community Health and Family Center. The purpose of the grant project is to cultivate the use of a team-based approach to healthcare by graduates of our family nurse practitioner, physical therapy, occupational therapy and counseling programs, through the development and implementation of an inter-professional educational model that incorporates technology. The Leahy Center will serve as a clinical practice site for grant activities. This is the fourth federal program grant that the Department of Nursing has been awarded over the past 10 years, totaling more than \$1.5 million for the graduate nursing program.



Mary Jane Hanson, Ph.D., professor of nursing and director of the graduate nursing program, served as the project director of the Department of Nursing's grant, entitled "Promoting an Interdisciplinary Approach to Caring for Underserved Rural Populations."





**1** Pictured (from left) are Kathleen West-Evans, director of business relations for the Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation; Stephen H. Surovec, executive director of the Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation; Oswald "Oz" Mondejar, vice president for human resources and community relations of Partners Continuing Care, Inc.; Patricia Leahy; Timothy J. Moran, executive director of the NEPA Center for Independent Living; Dean Debra Pellegrino; and Edward R. Leahy.

**2** Anthony Aquan-Assee discusses his recovery from a traumatic brain injury during the evening keynote address.

**3** Pictured are University of Scranton counseling students (front, from left) Megan Norsigian, Marcy Blackwell, Corinne Wolff, (back) Lisa Gruszecki, Emily Lang, Alyssa Maslen and Kelly Tiernan.



# 11th Annual Northeastern U.S. Conference on disABILITY TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY: A Meeting of the Minds

**“Traumatic Brain Injury: A Meeting of the Minds”** was the theme of the 11th annual Northeastern U.S. Conference on disAbility held Sept. 27 in the Patrick and Margaret DeNaples Center. The conference was hosted by the University’s Panuska College of Professional Studies with the support of the Edward R. Leahy, Jr. Endowment.

The conference featured an opening keynote by Susan H. Connors, president and CEO of the Brain Injury Association of America, and presentations by state and nationally recognized leaders in the traumatic brain injury (TBI) field.

The Annual Edward R. Leahy, Jr., Awards were presented to Regina Bennett, assistant dean, emerita, online and off-campus programs at The University of Scranton, and Gerald Savitsky, associate director of major gifts/planned giving, Harvard Law School Alumni Center. The luncheon program also included a live videoconference with the Honorable Robert P. Casey Jr., United States Senator for Pennsylvania. The videoconference was moderated by J. Joseph Grady, Esq. ’81.

The evening keynote was delivered by Anthony Aquan-Assee, who acquired a TBI in a motorcycle accident and recovered function against the odds to become a teacher, author and motivational speaker.

Emily Lang ’15, a student in the Counseling and Human Services program at the University, was among a group of students who attended the conference. She offered the following reflection:

“This conference helped to reinforce in me my hopes and dreams of potentially becoming a rehabilitation counselor one day and instilled an even greater respect and admiration for those who withstand these TBI’s as well as any other disability-causing injury. I feel that the first-hand account I gained through hearing Anthony’s story as well as what I learned about the physiology of TBI’s and the work being done in our school systems here in Pennsylvania to benefit those with disabilities, will surely serve me well in the future, whatever population I choose to work for.” ☺



4 The Honorable Robert P. Casey Jr., United States Senator for Pennsylvania, addresses conference attendees via videoconference. J. Joseph Grady, Esq. ’81 (at podium) moderated the event.

5 Susan Connors, president/CEO of the Brain Injury Association of America, delivers the morning keynote address.

6 Anthony Aquan-Assee, who acquired a TBI in a motorcycle accident and recovered function against the odds, speaks to a crowd in the DeNaples Center.

7 Pictured (from left) are Linda Maslen, Counseling and Human Services major Alyssa Maslen ’14 and James Maslen.

8 Pictured at the opening of the 11th annual Northeastern U.S. Conference on disAbility (from left) are Ralph Pacinelli, retired U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Administration Services Regional Commissioner; Lori Bruch, Ed.D., conference co-chair; Debra Pellegrino, Ed.D., dean of the Panuska College of Professional Studies; Kevin P. Quinn, S.J., president of The University of Scranton; Edward and Patricia Leahy, honorary co-chairs of the conference; Sandra Lamanna, conference co-chair; and Rebecca Spirito-Dalgin, Ph.D., conference co-chair.

## COUNSELING

### CHS Program Offers Pre-graduation Certification Exam Option

Based on its accreditation by the Council for Standards in Human Service Education, the Counseling and Human Services (CHS) undergraduate program has recently been approved to participate in the Center for Credentialing and Education's new student application option for the Human Services-Board Certified Practitioner (HS-BCP) credential. All graduates of the CHS program are eligible to sit for the HS-BCP credential exam; however, with this recent option, students with 15 credits or less to complete may sit for the exam prior to graduation. This allows for a reduced application fee and the potential to become certified within weeks of graduation. The HS-BCP credential allows for independent verification of practical knowledge and educational background. With increased competition in the human services field, becoming board certified in human services shows attainment of high standards and allows graduates to stand out as a part of a distinguished group known for commitment to maintaining excellence in the field. With the number of human services jobs expected to climb rapidly this decade, the HS-BCP credential can help launch a rewarding career in the field. For more information, contact **Paul Datti, Ph.D.**, director of the CHS program, and campus coordinator for the HS-BCP credential.



## EDUCATION

### Visiting Faculty from Trnava University, Slovak Republic

During the spring 2012 semester, the University's Education Department hosted three faculty members from Trnava University, Slovak Republic – Drs. Branislav Pupala, Ondrej Kaščák, and Zuzana Petrová.

The visit, supported by a grant from Slovakia, aimed to explore ways of fostering faculty exchange and collaboration between the education departments at both universities. This ongoing international faculty collaboration benefits faculty and students in both countries by enhancing their understanding of best practices in early childhood education in general and the educational reforms impacting teacher training within the European Union and the United States.

While on campus, the visiting faculty met with administrators and faculty, visited college classrooms, and presented a public lecture. Outside of the University, they visited local PreK-4 classrooms, NEIU 19 and the Pennsylvania Department of Education in Harrisburg.

One tangible outcome of this collaboration has been the individual/co-authorship of peer reviewed articles published in the *Journal of Pedagogy* (SR) and *Childhood Education* (USA).



Pictured (from left) are Dr. Zuzana Petrova, Dr. Ondrej Kaščák and Dr. Branislav Pupala, who are faculty members from Trnava University, Slovak Republic.

## EDUCATION

### Supporting Sustainability in Local Communities

During spring 2012, Jennifer Cutsforth, Ph.D., and Karim Medico Letwinsky, Ed.D., collaborated with Earth Force™, an organization committed to environmental education in K-12 classrooms. This project guided middle level and secondary education students in developing service-learning projects that would support sustainability in local communities. Middle level students filmed a public service announcement about ecological footprints for a local middle school in addition to leading discussions about one's footprint and its corresponding impact on the environment. Secondary education students completed several projects, including conducting research to support The University of Scranton Weinberg Memorial Library's sustainability programs. These students recommended several proposals to conserve paper and plastic bottles at Weinberg Library. Dr. Letwinsky presented ongoing faculty reflections about

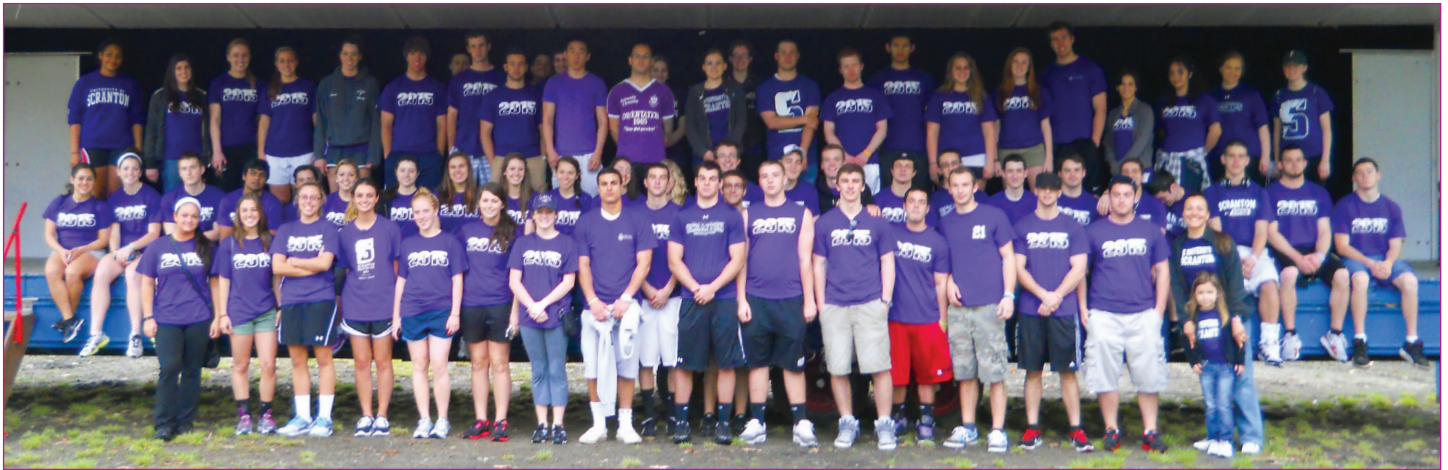
the Earth Force™ projects at the National Service Learning Conference in Minneapolis, Minn., in April 2012. This collaboration encouraged students to thoughtfully consider connections between service, community and civic action.



Middle level education students prepare their service-learning project.

## EXERCISE SCIENCE

### Service-Learning Project: AHA Heart Walk



More than 75 University students joined together to help support the fight against heart disease at the annual 2012 Northeast PA American Heart Association three-mile walk, held May 5 at Nay Aug Park in Scranton. This was part of a project-based, service-learning component attached to EXSC 210 – Sports Physiology. Joan Grossman, Ph.D., assistant professor of exercise science and sport, served as the University’s team captain for students. Faculty and staff were invited to join the team through a Scranton portal announcement. In addition, Dr. Grossman created a University team web page. All who joined the Scranton team were encouraged to create their own web page and share the message of the fight against heart disease with family and friends in order to raise money and support. The University team raised approximately \$800.

## EXERCISE SCIENCE

### Honor Society Hosts Installation

The University’s Epsilon Eta Chapter of Eta Sigma Gamma was installed on Sept. 18. Eta Sigma Gamma, the national health education honorary, promotes academic excellence for students who are pursuing a career in health education. Eta Sigma Gamma supports local chapters at more than 100 U.S. colleges and universities.



Pictured (front, from left) are Irene O’Boyle, Ph.D., Eta Sigma Gamma, chapter development officer; Debra L. Fetherman, Ph.D., Epsilon Eta advisor; Carolyn Pandolfo, president; (back) Mac Kinnarney; Elyse Aristide; Sarah Alulis; Stacy Chludzinski; Allison Tait, vice president; Lauren Totaro, CHED alumni; Matthew Delaney, secretary; and Diana Linn, treasurer.

## HEALTH ADMINISTRATION & HUMAN RESOURCES

### Faculty Updates

**Amy Szydowski**, adjunct professor of health administration and human resources, has been named executive director for the Pennsylvania Department of Health Northeast District. She will oversee 10 counties in Northeastern Pennsylvania focusing on improving regional health.

**Steven Szydowski, D.H.A.**, professor in the Department of Health Administration and Human Resources, was recently awarded the American College of Healthcare Executives Service Award for his commitment to service in the field of healthcare management.

**Daniel West, Ph.D.**, professor in the Department of Health Administration and Human Resources, was recently appointed to the cancer research advisory committee at the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute and re-appointed as chair of the Global Healthcare Management Faculty Forum by the Association of University Programs in Health Administration. In addition to these positions, Dr. West was elected to the board of directors and chair of the accreditation council by members of the Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education. In addition, he participated in a seminar on hospital reform in Mexico City, Mexico. The University of Scranton and several other organizations sponsored this event. His presentation discussed the current state of health services available in the United States.

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## PCPS Welcomes New Associate Dean



Please join me in welcoming the new associate dean of the Panuska College of Professional Studies (PCPS), **Victoria Castellanos, Ph.D.** Dr. Castellanos will be responsible for working with the University's undergraduate students in the T.A.P.E.S.T.R.Y. program, a four-year professional development program that creates a series of events, crafted around Jesuit ideals, which help undergraduate students to internalize the concepts of theory, application, professionalism, excellence, social justice, teaching and reflection as the PCPS students go into the world as "men and women for others."

A native of Montana, Dr. Castellanos has been a member of the Department of Dietetics & Nutrition at Florida International University (FIU) since 1996. Her many responsibilities included serving as both director of FIU's accredited dietetics program and its doctoral program, and director of the Long Term Care Institute at the National Resource Center on Nutrition, Physical Activity and Aging. Previously, she served as the associate dean of the University Graduate School at FIU. Dr. Castellanos served on the University Assessment Committee and she was the co-investigator of several federal grant applications for programs to improve the academic success of the underrepresented minority students, particularly in the STEM fields. She holds a Bachelor of Science from Montana State University, Bozeman, in dietetics, and a Master of Science and Ph.D. from the University of California, Davis.

In addition to the T.A.P.E.S.T.R.Y. program, Dr. Castellanos will oversee the PCPS undergraduate and graduate curriculum review process for the college, and chair the Leahy Faculty Research committee, Field Coordinators and Internship committee, and Voluntary Tenured Faculty Development Plan committee. ☺

welcome