

# CHALLENGES

## *in Theory & Practice*

VOL.14 NO.2 FALL 2015

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



### EMBRACING THE CALL TO CARE

THE PANUSKA COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**SCRANTON**  
A JESUIT UNIVERSITY





## 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.

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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Debra Pellegrino, Ed.D.

Dear PCPS Friend:

The words of e. e. cummings' poem "i thank You God for most this amazing" keep playing over and over again in my mind. My hope for Edward R. Leahy Jr. Hall is that grace will be bestowed on the lives of every student, faculty and staff member and guest who enter through the doors of the new home of the Panuska College of Professional Studies.

This amazing new facility is all about "Embracing the Call to Care," by providing a place where teaching and technology meet kindness and compassion for one another. Our Call to Care is at the very heart of our mission as a Catholic and Jesuit institution of higher learning. As well, it provides the foundation for PCPS's work in embracing the University's Strategic Plan, providing a student experience that is engaged, integrated and global.

**i thank You God for most this amazing**

*i thank You God for most this amazing  
day: for the leaping greenly spirits of trees  
and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything  
which is natural which is infinite which is yes  
(i who have died am alive again today,  
and this is the sun's birthday; this is the birth  
day of life and of love and wings: and of the gay  
great happening illimitably earth)  
how should tasting touching hearing seeing  
breathing any — lifted from the no  
of all nothing — human merely being  
doubt unimaginable You?  
(now the ears of my ears awake and  
now the eyes of my eyes are opened)*

— e. e. cummings,  
*100 Selected Poems*

A.M.D.G.

Best,

*Debra Pellegrino*

Debra Pellegrino, Ed.D.

*Academic Dean, Panuska College of Professional Studies*

Please take the opportunity to view the "Embracing the Call to Care" video at <https://youtu.be/xsOOYDVcoCA>



## THE EDWARD R. LEAHY, JR. ENDOWMENT

FOUNDER'S SOCIETY • \$5,000 and more

BENEFACTOR'S CIRCLE • \$2,500 - \$4,999

PATRONS • \$1,000 - \$2,499

FRIENDS • up to \$999



# Datti Serves as PCA President



As of July, Paul Datti, Ph.D., director of the Undergraduate Counseling and Human Services (CHS) Program and acting CHS department chair this fall, has been serving as president of the Pennsylvania Counseling Association (PCA). PCA is a state chapter of the American Counseling Association (ACA) with approximately 500 members, including practitioners, educators, and students. Dr. Datti has been a longtime active member of PCA, but in his current role is able to do many things to advocate and help propel the counseling profession, which, in many ways, translates to better services being provided to clientele. For example, in July, Dr. Datti attended ACA's Institute for Leadership Training (ILT) in Washington, D.C., where he had the opportunity to advocate for the profession on Capitol Hill with regards to issues such as Medicare reimbursement for counselors, allowing counselors in the Vets Administration training program, and the Elementary and Secondary School Counseling Program.

# Dr. West Appointed to CAHME Board of Directors

Dr. Daniel West, chairman and professor of the Department of Health Administration and Human Resources, has been elected to serve as the Chair for the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (CAHME) Board of Directors. CAHME strives to improve the overall quality of graduate healthcare management programs across the United States and Canada.

# Professor is Recognized for Teaching

The University of Scranton Student Chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives presented Peter C. Olden, Ph.D., MHA with its Excellence in Teaching Award. Dr. Olden teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in health administration.

# Counseling and Human Services Department Faculty Attend ACA Conference

Drs. Katherine Purswell, Paul Datti, and Julie Cerrito attended the American Counseling Association (ACA) Conference held in Orlando, Florida from March 12-15, 2015. ACA is a national counseling conference and one of the largest and most comprehensive professional development events of the year. The conference also included a Chi Sigma Iota (CSI) Day to commemorate the 30th anniversary of Chi Sigma Iota, whose mission is to promote scholarship, research, professionalism, leadership, advocacy and excellence in counseling, and to recognize high attainment in the pursuit of academic and clinical excellence in the profession of counseling. Dr. Cerrito, chapter faculty advisor for Chi Sigma Iota (Chi Delta Rho chapter) at The University of Scranton, pictured with Dr. Spencer Niles, current 2015-2016 Chi Sigma Iota president and dean of the School of Education at The College of William & Mary, at the ACA Conference in March, 2015.



# PUBLICATIONS

Behun, R. J., Owens, E. W., & Cerrito, J. A. (in press). The amended child protective services law in Pennsylvania: Implications for mandated reporters. *The Journal of the Pennsylvania Counseling Association*, 14(2).

Black, B., Wright, P.M., & Limbo, R. (Eds) (2016). *Perinatal and pediatric bereavement*. NY, NY: Springer Publishing Company.

Cebreck Grossman, J.A. & Payne, E.K. (2015). A comparison study of short duration high intensity training and traditional exercise in post-menopausal women. *Medicine & Science in Sport & Exercise*, 47(5), S200.

Collins, T.L. (2015). *Writing a Case Report. The Quarterly Report*: a publication of the Home Health Section –APTA, 50(3), p. 25-27.

Coté, C. A. (2015). Dynamic systems theory model of visual perception development. *Journal of Occupational Therapy, Schools & Early Intervention*, 8, 157-169.

Coté, C. A. (2015). Visual attention in a visual-haptic, cross-modal matching task in children and adults. *Perceptual & Motor Skills*, 120, 381-396.

Datti, P. A., & Jacob, E. J. (2015). A vocational development group program for men living with HIV/AIDS in suburban and small city areas. *Journal of the Pennsylvania Counseling Association*, 14(1), 2-11.

DeMarzio, D.M. (2015). Guest Editor, Special Issue on the Philosophical Novel for Children. *childhood & philosophy*, vol. 11, no. 21, 11-103.

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Fleming–Castaldy, R.P. (2015). A macro perspective for client-centred practice in curricula: Critique and teaching methods. *Scandinavian Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 22, 267-276

Fleming–Castaldy, R.P. (Ed.). (2015). *National OTA certification exam review & study guide* (3rd ed.). Evanston, IL: TherapyEd/IER.

Grossman, J. & Deitrick, R. (2015). Air displacement plethysmography and resistance exercise. *Internet Journal of Allied Health Sciences and Practice*, 13(2), 1-4.

Mbugua, T. (2015). Education Diplomacy in Maintaining International Collaboration. In G. Duarte & E. Strelakova-Hughes (Eds.), *Education diplomacy in action: Voices from around the world* (pp. 97-107). Washington, DC: ACEI.

Nastasi, J. (2015). Occupational leadership to facilitate occupational engagement in older adults with visual impairment. *Topics in Geriatric Rehabilitation*, 31(2), 121-128.

Nastasi, J. (2015). Chapter 8 – Fieldwork. In K. Jacobs (Editor), *Management and Administration for the OTA: Leadership and Application Skills*. Slack Incorporated.

Reale, N., Fleagle, P., Collins, T.L. (2015). Teaching Models in Home Care: A Literature Review. The Quarterly Report: a publication of the Home Health Section – APTA, 50(3), p.15-17.

Wright, P.M., Black, B., & Limbo, R. (in press). Theoretical foundations of perinatal and pediatric bereavement care. In B. Black, P.M. Wright, & R. Limbo (Eds), *Perinatal and pediatric bereavement*. (pp. 3-14). NY, NY: Springer.

# PRESENTATIONS & GRANTS

Datti, P. A., & Herrick, S. (2015, April). *Vocational rehabilitation considerations for LGBT clients with HIV/AIDS*. Ninety minute “highlighted” session presented at the National Council on Rehabilitation Education Annual Spring Conference, Newport Beach, CA.

Eschbach, L. A., Wilkerson, K. S. & Cerrito, J. A. (October, 2015). *Innovative approaches to school counseling program curriculum design and implementation*. Workshop to be presented at the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

Feeney, A. (2015, March). *Perinatal nurses’ role in smoking relapse prevention counseling*. Paper presented at the International Nursing and Midwifery Conference, National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland.

Hanson, M.J.S. (2015, July). U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Health Resources & Services Administration. *Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship* for 2015-2016 for nurse practitioner students funded for \$306,000.

Hanson, M.J.S. (2015, February). *The Theory of Planned Behavior applied to cigarette smoking in non-smoking high school students*. Poster Presentation at Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco 2015 Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA

Mantione, A. (2015, March). *Reaching Marginalized Population using a Free Clinic Model*. Presentation at the 2015 MBAA International Conference, Chicago, IL.

Mbugua, T., Trube, B. & Hardin, B. (2015, March). *Ensuring Quality Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Using Guidelines/Standards*. Presented at the Institute for Global Education Diplomacy (IGED), Washington, D.C.

Miller, K.L., Berman, M., Collins, T.L., Mayer, S. (2015, October). *Developing a Student Clinical Education Program in Home Health*. 2015 Education Leadership Conference of the APTA. Baltimore, MD.

West, D.J., Szydlowski, S.J., Costello, M., & Ramirez, B. (2015, June). *Using Research in Health Management Education to Design & Implement International Accreditation*. Paper presented at the annual EURAM 2015 Conference, Warsaw, Poland.

West, D.J. (2015, October). *Developing Strategic Initiatives to Advance Global Healthcare Management Education*. Paper presented at the 39th IHF World Hospital Congress, Chicago, IL.

Wisniewski, P.A. (2015, June). *OT: ALOWD*. Poster presented at the 2015 Annual Conference: Recovery Workforce Summit presented by the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association & the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Foundation, in partnership with the Pennsylvania Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services, Philadelphia, PA.



## University of Success

Twenty-two rising ninth grade students completed The University of Scranton's University of Success Program held on campus in July. The University of Success is a precollege program designed to provide academic, social and cultural enrichment to first generation college-bound high school students. The goal of the program is to assist participating students to successfully complete high school and gain entrance into a college or university. The program provides an academic support network with information and strategies "to allow young students to follow their paths to college, go to college, and grow into the people they are capable of becoming."

As part of a Jesuit institution at The University of Scranton, in addition to academics in the classroom, the students are taught the value of volunteerism and the need to integrate volunteer activities into every part of their lives. The Success students participate in volunteer activities in the *Magis* Tradition and volunteer their time at St. Francis Food Kitchen, the CAC (Center for Children Advocacy) and the Leahy Clinic for the Uninsured.



## Graduate Occupational Therapy Students Learn About Low Vision Rehabilitation

PCPS 540, "Low Vision Rehabilitation," is a two-day seminar consisting of lecture and lab experiences. The seminar focuses on examining the visual system as it relates to older adults with low vision, and the occupational therapy low vision evaluation and interventions utilized to increase independence, safety, and overall quality of life. Students evaluate familiar and non-familiar environments specifically related to vision. The seminar is structured to allow students to experience different low vision diagnoses while transferring in and out of cars, shopping, eating and cooking.



**LEFT:** Graduate Occupational Therapy Students Stephanie Gordan and Shannon Glanton prepare cupcakes while experiencing cataracts and macular degeneration in the ADL apartment.  
**RIGHT:** Graduate Occupational Therapy Student Natalie Gower tries to read the expiration date on a can of soup while experiencing diabetic retinopathy in Royal Market.

## Graduate MHA Students Compete in Case Competition

In February, second-year health administration graduate students, from left to right: Dave Linhares, James Dalkiewicz, and Alex Bourne who represented The University of Scranton in the 19th Annual University of Alabama (UAB) Case Competition. They competed against 38 other CAHME accredited health administration programs across the nation and Canada.



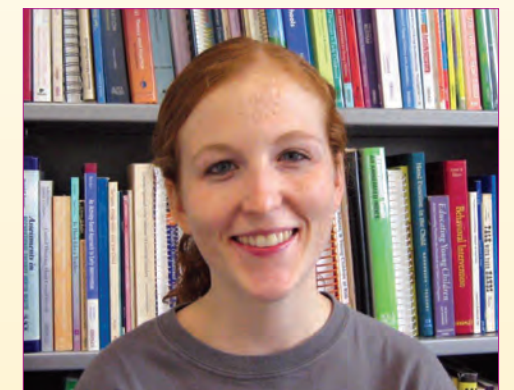
## Graduate MHA Student Receives NAHSE Award

Second-year health administration graduate student, Prudence Akindo, is a recipient of the 2015-2016 Florence B. Gaynor Scholarship Award. The award is given by the National Association of Health Services Executives (NAHSE), recognizing outstanding achievements among female graduate students who are striving to become leaders in healthcare management and NAHSE.



## Occupational Therapy Student Selected for Prestigious Scholarship

Cassidy M. Kemp received The Willard & Spackman Scholarship from the American Occupational Therapy Foundation (AOTF) in July 2015. This highly-competitive national scholarship for \$2,000 is based on excellence in academic qualifications and the potential for further professional development in the field of occupational therapy.







## *University of Scranton's Panuska College of Professional Studies Dedicates Upcoming Year to 'Embracing the Call to Care'*

This year, a new strategic plan unveiled by The University of Scranton refines the institution's focus on being "engaged, integrated and global." The three-pronged plan re-emphasizes the unique Jesuit calling to prepare students to "be men and women for and with others," in part by amplifying connections between service and learning. In that spirit, the University's Panuska College of Professional Studies (PCPS) dedicates 2015-2016 as a year of "Embracing the Call to Care."

According to Debra A. Pellegrino, Ed.D., dean of the Panuska College of Professional Studies, "Embracing the Call to Care" is both a celebration of the many ways PCPS programs and students bring the goals of being "engaged, integrated and global" to life and an opportunity for the PCPS community to express joy

and gratitude for its new facility, Edward R. Leahy Jr. Hall.

Dean Pellegrino said the year-long "Embracing the Call to Care" is designed to "perfect our quest to be a model for the helping professions." She noted it "recognizes the need to act on continuous improvement, implement diverse opportunities for students to be engaged in transformative and reflective experiences and provide substance to our University's strategic mission and values through a continuous assessment plan."

"Embracing the Call to Care" will feature many themed events throughout the year, some of which include:

September: Students in Action theme that honors the dedication of the Edward R. Leahy Jr. Hall through a drive for donations to the Alice V. Leahy Food and

Clothing Pantry. Donations will be accepted beginning in September and will continue throughout the year. The food and clothing pantry is located in the Leahy Community Health and Family Center on the lower level of McGurkin Hall. The entrance is on Kressler Court.

PCPS will also begin collecting new or gently used children's books in September and continue through December. Donations can be made in purple containers placed around campus and in the community. The PCPS Class of 2019 will provide a personalized or inspirational inscription that will be placed inside the donated book cover. The culmination of drive is the Blessing of the Books ceremony Dec. 4 at 3 p.m. in the Forum of Leahy Hall. The event is open to the public and refreshments will be served.

October: World in Action theme, PCPS, in collaboration with the University's Schemel Forum and WVIA-TV, will host a lecture by Avi Melamed, an independent Israel-Middle East strategic intelligence analyst and a fellow of Middle East security and affairs for the Eisenhower Institute at Gettysburg College. The author of "Inside the Middle East: Making Sense of the Most Dangerous and Complicated Region on Earth" will discuss this topic Oct. 14 at 5:30 p.m. in The Forum of Leahy Hall. The lecture is free of charge and open to the public.

PCPS will host its 14th Annual Northeastern U.S. Conference on disABILITY Oct. 21, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the DeNaples Center. This year's conference focuses on successes in vocational rehabilitation. The conference includes a Town Hall Meeting with Rebecca Alexander, author of "Not Fade Away," at 4:30 p.m. in the McIlhenny Ballroom of the DeNaples Center. The Town Hall Meeting is open to the public free of charge.

November: Saints in Action theme includes a Fashion Show on Nov. 6, at 7 p.m. in The Forum of Leahy Hall with proceeds benefiting the Leahy Clinic for the Uninsured.

In addition, PCPS, in partnership with Geisinger and the Friendship House, will host "From the Clinic to the Classroom – an Update on the Diagnosis and Treatment of Students with Special Needs," which is intended to raise awareness on autism. The event takes place Nov. 12 from 8:30 a.m. to noon in The Forum of Leahy Hall. It is open to the public, free of charge.

April: Our Environment in Action theme will feature a PCPS Community Celebration and Open House April 5, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The event will include tours of Leahy Hall and McGurkin Hall and will showcase research and academic service projects by PCPS faculty, students and staff. The event is open to the public and admission is the donation of a can of food for the Alice V. Leahy Food Pantry.

For a full list of events visit <http://www.scranton.edu/academics/pcps/the-call-to-care/index.shtml>.





## The University of Scranton Dedicates Edward R. Leahy Jr. Hall

The University of Scranton dedicated the new state-of-the-art, eight-story building on the corner of Linden Street and Jefferson Avenue Edward R. Leahy Jr. Hall at a ceremony on Sept. 18. The building is named in honor of the late son of long-time University benefactors, Patricia and Edward Leahy '68, H'01.

"Patricia and Ed, we are grateful for your many contributions to the University, but most importantly, we are grateful for your incredible compassion for those confronted with physical challenges," said University of Scranton President Kevin P. Quinn, S.J., at the dedication ceremony. "The spirit of Edward Jr., for whom this building is dedicated, will inspire students at The University of Scranton to demonstrate such compassion. Let us pray that the many lives Edward Jr. touched in his life will remind us of our responsibility to have a positive impact on others."

Leahy Hall – the new home of the Panuska College of Professional Studies departments of physical therapy, occupational therapy and exercise science – has 25 state-of-the-art laboratories, nine traditional and active-learning classrooms, nine group study rooms, more than 50 faculty offices and multiple simulation environments, which include a hospital patient room for acute and long-term care and a streetscape for rehabilitation education with an apartment, street corner, garage, car and grocery store.

"Edward R. Leahy Jr. Hall will provide our students with the opportunity to learn in a state of the art facility, which is among the finest of its type in the country," said Debra Pellegrino, Ph.D., dean of the Panuska College of

Professional Studies. "This marvelous structure reflects our commitment to research and teaching excellence with an Ignatian spirit. It is a place where our students, faculty and staff will work, learn and grow together. Our students will become highly educated allied health professionals and will leave the University as engaged, ethical and compassionate 'men and women for and with others.'"

The new building, designed to facilitate research and expand service-learning projects, will put the best simulation environments, applied-science laboratories, equipment and technology directly in the hands of students and faculty.

Leahy Hall includes a pediatric and rehabilitation suite with gross motor and fine motor rehabilitation laboratories and a Sensory/Snoezelen Room, which uses special lighting, music and objects to work with children with Autism Spectrum disorders and older adults with dementia. Leahy Hall's human motion laboratory uses sophisticated equipment to quantitatively study and analyze athletes and sports activities through mathematical modeling, computer simulation and measurement. The physiology laboratory allows research of the body's response to a wide range of physical exercise conditions including level of exertion, type of exercise, amount of oxygen available in the air, source of metabolic energy and diet. The facility also has vision research and training laboratories; a hand rehabilitation laboratory, a therapeutic modalities and orthopedics laboratory, a human anatomy laboratory and a body composition laboratory, to name a few.

The active classrooms are designed to accommodate the needs of the bachelor's-, master's- and doctoral-level programs utilizing the space and to encourage inter-professional collaboration.

Leahy Hall also has a second floor Forum that can accommodate 260 guests; Einstein Bagels café and seating area; and a green roof therapy garden.

Most Rev. Joseph Bambera, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of Scranton, blessed the building at the dedication. Also speaking at the dedication were Edward Steinmetz, senior vice president for finance and administration; Donald R. Boomgaarden, Ph.D., provost and senior vice president for academic affairs; Judee Bavaria, member of the University's Board of Trustees, and Edward and Patricia Leahy.

The dedication also began a yearlong series of events under the theme "Embracing the Call to Care," which will give the community opportunities to experience firsthand Leahy Hall and the programs of Panuska College of Professional Studies.



President Quinn (far right) presents a commemorative gift to Edward and Patricia Leahy during the dedication of Edward R. Leahy Jr. Hall.

# 2015-2020 THE PANUSKA COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES STRATEGIC PLAN

## ENGAGED, INTEGRATED & GLOBAL STUDENT EXPERIENCE

PCPS is transformed by the academic mission and vision of the University of Scranton

**OUR MISSION:** The University of Scranton is a Catholic and Jesuit university animated by the spiritual vision and the tradition of excellence characteristic of the Society of Jesus and those who share in its way of proceeding.

The University is a community dedicated to the freedom of inquiry and personal development fundamental to the growth in wisdom and integrity of all who share in its life.

**OUR VISION:** We will provide a superior, transformational learning experience, preparing students who, in the words of Jesuit founder St. Ignatius Loyola, will "set the world on fire."

**In our quest for perfection to be a model for the "Helping Professions," Embracing the Call to Care year-long plan recognizes the need to:**

- ⇒ Act on continuous improvement based on an education that is engaged, integrated and global for academic excellence.
- ⇒ Implement diverse opportunities for students to be engaged in transformative and reflective academic, social, spiritual and service-oriented experiences that are intentionally designed to develop their knowledge and skills while challenging them to be men and women of faith and service to their communities through their knowledge-base in the helping professions.
- ⇒ Provide substance to our University's strategic mission and values through a continuous assessment plan through our many accrediting bodies and the PCPS quality-control assessment plan.

### TO ACCOMPLISH THIS VISION, WE WILL EMPHASIZE:

**Engaged:** Individual and community responsibility to connect theory and practice in a professional manner by "walking in faith and justice" to serve the underserved

*We will form men and women for and with others, providing education shaped by the service of faith and the promotion of justice, and emphasizing the development of adult faith.*

**Integrated:** Development of knowledge, theory and skills through the integration of transformative and innovative pedagogies

*We will integrate the use of transformative pedagogies across the curriculum to promote student engagement through the synthesis of knowledge in its many forms, collaboration with others in the development of understanding, and reflection on questions of meaning.*

**Global:** Continuous improvement and assessment of our curriculum in a global society that includes scholarship, service and resource stewardship

*We will build opportunities for every student's learning experience to include engagement in an international arena.*



# Engaged

- A.** Increase the levels of teaching, learning and scholarship within the Panuska College of Professional Studies community
1. Ensure that academic service learning and reflection is incorporated into all years of the Panuska College of Professional Studies curricula.
    - a. Faculty members will indicate in syllabi where Engagement of academic service learning fits into their Student Learning Outcomes
- B.** Develop additional academic service learning opportunities for PCPS faculty and students:
1. Develop theme communities on the “helping professions” and academic service learning by collaborating with student affairs
    - a. The Dean of PCPS and Board of Visitors and faculty volunteers will meet with the freshman students in the theme communities
    - b. Assigned readings will be shared with the freshman students to deepen the reflection on questions of meaning concerning the theme communities.
  2. Introduce the TAPESTRY program to graduate level programs in order to emphasize the promotion of justice, and the development of adult faith.



SOTA officers accepting “Club of the Year” Award. Pictured (from left to right): Maureen Hennessy, Sarah Morrill, Liviana Sacco, Kayla Concannon, Kim Paulsen, Katie Meier, Christina DiMasso, Gianna Bova and Natalie Gower.

## Student Occupational Therapy Association Named ‘Club of the Year’

The Center for Student Engagement recognized the Student Occupational Therapy Association (SOTA) for its significant leadership and service contributions to the University and community by naming SOTA “Club of the Year” at the 2015 Leadership Awards ceremony. Led by 2014-2015 President Kimberly Paulsen, the members and officers of SOTA worked collaboratively to enhance SOTA’s contributions to the OT department, the University, the Scranton community, and beyond. In her nomination of SOTA for this premier University award, Rita Fleming-Castaldy, Ph.D., SOTA faculty advisor, observed that SOTA’s vibrancy is evident in their numerous local and national service activities and educational events about occupational therapy. The more than 250 SOTA members stay connected through the innovative use of social media, with SOTA meetings consistently attended by over 100. The quality of SOTA’s activities was also recognized by the American Occupational Therapy Association, which highlighted SOTA’s OT Month promotional activities on various AOTA social media outlets.

## Nurses-2-Newborns

In 2011, then-senior nursing student Caitlin Brady ’12 was heartbroken while completing her clinical rotation in the Birthing Suites at Moses Taylor Hospital. She noticed a trend of first-time mothers leaving the hospital without any clothing, food or supplies for their newborns. Following the Jesuit ideals of being “men and women for others,” she established Nurses-2-Newborns, a student run organization, which strives to provide newborn essentials to mothers in need in the Scranton community.

Since its beginning, Nurses-2-Newborns has made nine donations to Moses Taylor Hospital, helping approximately 300 mothers through those donations.

Patricia Horan ’15 is current president of the club. “Both The University of Scranton and its Nursing Department have instilled service based values in our curriculum,” she said. “We take pride in being able to give back to the Scranton community, and making a difference in the lives of others.”

During the 2014-15 school year, Nurses-2-Newborns raised over \$2,000 in donations, and were able to fill 82 bags with necessities for newborns. Students made this donation to social worker Sue Galinsky, who distributed the bags based on need. When asked about the services Nurses-2-Newborns provides, Megan Straut, vice president of the club, said, “Nurses 2 Newborns has been a

great way to get involved in helping the local community and families who are really in need. I look forward to see how the organization can grow and continue to help new mothers and children in need.”



Faculty and students collect and deliver donated items as part of the Nurses-2-Newborns club. Pictured (from left to right) are: Dr. Marian Farrell, Heather Lynch, Meg Borden, Megan Straut, Patricia Horan, and Jaclyn Shwaninger.

# Integrated

## Development of knowledge, theory and skills through the integration of transformative and innovative pedagogies

- A.** Enhance our students’ knowledge, theory and skills through the integration of transformative pedagogies
1. Enhance our students’ critical thinking and problem-solving skills
    - a. Establish a specific PCPS Dean’s Conference meeting as a professional development meeting-begin planning in Fall 2015
    - b. Implement a system for sharing transformative pedagogy strategies and academic literature on best practices within the college.
  2. Provide transformational educational experiences through integrated curriculum
    - a. Utilize the Leahy Community Health and Family Center and the 7 inter-professional clinics to promote co-curricular experiences, field work, internships and clinical experiences.
    - b. Increase the affiliation agreements across the region and state for field work, internships and clinical agencies
- B.** Enhance our students writing and presentation skills
- C.** Enhance our students’ quantitative and qualitative skills
- D.** Enhance our students’ technological skills for their profession



## The Educational and Psychosocial Needs of Refugee Children

Over the summer 2015, Dr. Tata Mbugua continued with her research on early childhood education within the global community. Her focus was on the education of refugee and forcibly displaced children from Eastern Africa who reside in Kenya. This entailed the administration of the Global Guidelines Assessment (GGA) tool in both Swahili and English languages, in a variety of schools and early childhood programs in Nairobi, Nakuru and Mombasa. The GGA is an evidence-based instrument designed to help early childhood professionals systematically examine and improve the quality of their program services worldwide, particularly in developing countries.

Dr. Mbugua worked in collaboration with Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Eastern Africa Office in Nairobi, Kenya. JRS mission is to accompany, serve and advocate the cause of refugees and forcibly displaced people.

## Education Faculty Member Recognized as Innovative Leader

Professor Sandy Pesavento, technology faculty specialist, recently presented at the NJPAECET2 Conference in Branchburg, New Jersey on Sept. 20-21, 2015 as an Innovative Leader in Education. The conference was hosted by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to bring together passionate, innovative educators to model effective teaching. This year’s theme was: “Leveraging the Leader Within.” Pesavento and student teachers Fjollza Shabani and Haley Ackerman, Class of 2016, presented “Are Pre-Service Teaching Programs Preparing Future Teachers to Effectively Utilize Technology in the Classroom?” Pesavento shared the importance of effective technology training in pre-service teaching programs, followed by her students sharing their experiences on how they utilize technology as a tool in their student teaching placements, allowing them to create authentic and differentiated learning experiences that engage all learners.



Professor Sandy Pesavento (left) presented at the NJPAECET2 Conference along with education majors Haley Ackerman (center) and Fjollza Shabani (right).

# Global

## Continuous improvement and assessment of our curriculum in a global society that includes scholarship, service and resource stewardship

- A.** Find opportunities to emphasize the international nature of the “helping professions”
- B.** Enhance scholarly projects for faculty and students in the international arena
- C.** Increase exposure to the global world of our students
1. Implement a lecture in PCPS on the global arena
    - a. Establish a Forum on the global society
  2. Implement a system for students to connect globally with others in the helping profession
  3. Encourage more students to learn in a global setting by establishing study-abroad options into every academic program and by promoting study abroad



## Middle East Expert Presents Lecture

Avi Melamed, Israel-Middle East Strategic Intelligence Analyst, author and lecturer and Fellow of Middle East Security and Affairs for the Eisenhower Institute presented a lecture jointly sponsored by the Panuska College of Professional Studies and the Schemel Forum on Oct. 14. Melamed discussed the highlights of his just-published book, Inside the Middle East: Making Sense of the Most Dangerous and Complicated Region on Earth. Described as “a personal GPS that helps you navigate the dramatically changing Middle East,” the book provides a comprehensive understanding of current events in the region.



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## Student Reflection by Marissa DiBella



Rebecca Alexander, 2015 Disability  
Conference Keynote Speaker

On October 21st, 2015, several students from the Counseling & Human Services Association had the opportunity to attend the fourteenth annual Northeastern U.S. Conference on disABILITY. Among other guests, Allison Smith, Mary Ellen Kane, Sean Bassler, Madison Conway, and Marissa DiBella were able to hear from several speakers who focused on issues related to employment of individuals with disabilities. The theme of this year's conference was titled, "You're Hired!" and dealt primarily with the subject of vocational rehabilitation. Each speaker added a different perspective on how we as professionals can assist individuals with disabilities with their goals of joining the workforce. As students in the Counseling & Human Services program, this conference was an extremely important event to be able to attend. Because individuals with disabilities make up one of the most served populations in the human services field, it is essential that we as future counselors educate ourselves in order to increase our competency and professionalism. This conference gave students the opportunity to do just that, and we are grateful to be part of a campus community that makes these issues a priority.