

## From - the - Dean

I am happy to announce **Dave Burnett, Ph.D., RRT**, has transitioned his role with the school to associate dean for community engagement and workforce initiatives, effective June 11, 2023. Replacing him as chair of the Department of Respiratory Care and Diagnostic Science is **Lisa Trujillo, DHSc, RRT**, who has served as vice chair since 2022. Please join me in thanking them both for their leadership and welcome them to their new positions.

Occupational therapy education faculty member **Anna Zanotto, Ph.D.**, is first author on [a paper published](#) in the journal Qualitative Health Research titled "'Make Them Wonder How You Are Still Smiling': The Lived Experience of Coping With a Brain Tumour." In addition, she was selected to receive the school's faculty practice grant award to support her project, "'Exploring the Experiences of Older People Taking Part in a Safe-falling Training Program: A Qualitative Study." Nice work and congratulations.

After placing first in her platform group at the 2023 KU Medical Center Student Research Forum held April 11-12, medical nutrition science student **Mary Hastert** was [chosen for the top award](#) among presenters from our school overall. She is mentored by School of Medicine faculty member **Diego Mazzotti, Ph.D.** Students **Emily Fravel** and **Lauren Hand**, both mentored by **Holly Hull, Ph.D.**, tied for second place in the group. Rehabilitation science student **Sodiq Fakorede** won his department's top award, Outstanding Presentation in Rehabilitation Science Research. His mentor is **Hannes Devos, Ph.D., DRS**. Congratulations to each of you. [See photos.](#)

**Abigail Garrett, Natalie Ligtenberg** and **Hannah Prymek** comprise the first cohort to graduate from our master's degree program in athletic training. In addition, the three recently passed the profession's national board certification exam on their first attempt. Well-deserved congratulations to each of you. [See photos.](#)

Please remember: the "**Making Health Care Heroes**" golf tournament will be held on August 18, 2023. See details [on our website](#). Funds raised during this event will specifically be used to expand new scholarship awards and international educational experiences for students in our school.

Please be safe and thank you for all that you do.



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