

From the Dean

The School of Health Professions held its first-ever "Making Health Care Heroes" golf tournament at St. Andrew's Golf Club on August 18, 2023. And what a tremendous success it was! We had 18 teams of golfers competing for prizes, and held a fun raffle drawing for more exciting prizes during the lunch reception following. The funds raised will allow us to expand our financial support to students, helping them become successful future leaders of health care. Special thanks to our board of advocates members **Will Shields**, **Francie Stoner** and **Paula Woolworth**, and to Office of the Dean staff, especially **Christi Jones**, **Tiffany Pollard** and **Terry Erisman**. I am extremely grateful to each of our sponsors, participants, volunteers and supporters for such an outstanding effort. [View photos](#).

Congratulations to **Dave Burnett, Ph.D., RRT**, associate dean for community engagement and workforce initiatives, on receiving notice of award for a \$3.25M grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration, and agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. He is the principle investigator on this project titled "Underserved Communities Have a Medical Provider" and aims to develop infrastructure for a rural scholars program in the health professions. Way to go!

The Accreditation Council for Genetic Counseling has granted full accreditation through 2028 to our school's new master's degree program in genetic counseling. Usually taking 8 to 12 months, our first application was accepted in just three months and without need for clarification or revision. Congratulations and thank you to founding program director **Erin Youngs, M.S., CGC**, and her team on this significant accomplishment.

Eight faculty in the School of Health Professions [were approved for promotion](#) by Chancellor Girod effective July 1. Previously tenured faculty **Holly Hull, Ph.D.**, **Robin Maser, Ph.D.**, and **Katie Siengsukon, Ph.D.**, received promotion to full professor. **Mindy Bridges, Ph.D.**, was promoted to associate professor with tenure. **Lauren Foster, OTD**, and **Letycia Nuñez-Argote, Ph.D.**, were promoted to clinical associate professor, non-tenure track. **Julie Mujica, M.A.**, and **Melanie Somogie, M.A.**, received promotion to clinical assistant professor, non-tenure track. Congratulations to each of you.

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



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