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Dr. Susan Kirby has been named to a national panel

Arnold School alumna Dr. Susan Kirby has been named to a national panel working to set core competencies for persons seeking a doctor of public health degree.

The president of a San Diego social and health marketing firm, Kirby co-chairs the communications workgroup for an Association of Schools of Public Health project to determine the communication and marketing academic and leadership credentials for doctoral candidates at ASPH member institutions.

“The reason we’re doing it is to be sure that the people on the frontlines of public health – state, federal, local, foundations, nonprofits, and even private sector firms – have the executive/management skills to be leaders in their communities within the public health arena,” said Kirby.

The larger project, launched two years ago, is entitled the Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) Competency Model

Development Project. Recommendations from the project are expected to be available for dissemination to member schools in August 2009.

Kirby explained that each of the project’s seven work groups is co-chaired by one person from “the academic world and the other from the practice world.”



Dr. Susan Kirby

Kirby (continued page 16)

Partin 1995 HPEB Grad

Elise Partin has made her home on Cayce’s L Avenue since she was a graduate student at USC’s School of Public Health more than 15 years ago.

It has been a great location to start a family, make friends and launch a political career that saw her neighbors choose her in November as the first woman mayor of this riverside community of 12,000.

Cayce also has been the venue where

Partin employed public health principles she learned while studying for a 1995 master’s degree in Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior.

“In public health, success is all about finding out who the community leaders are, bringing people to the table and making change happen,” Partin said.

That sounds exactly like the prescription she used on her way to City Hall.

Partin (continued page 16)



message from the dean

Thanks to Winona's foresight and determination the Arnold School is a strong institution today. Thirty-four years after its meager beginning the school now has 56 tenure track faculty, 60 clinical and research faculty, more than one thousand students and our faculty consistently bring in \$20-25 million per year in extramural funding.

It is with great sadness that I have to report the loss of Winona Vernberg, our former dean and interim provost at USC. Winona died on December 29, 2008 in Saluda, N.C. where she moved after she and her husband, Dr. F. John Vernberg, retired from the university.

Winona was dean of our school for almost 20 years. She literally built the school from scratch with half a dozen faculty and almost no resources. She had great vision and was a formidable champion of our cause. She recognized very early on the important linkage between physical activity and health, and she made a wise strategic move to bring the Department of Exercise Science – not a department normally included in a school of public health – into our school. Our work to promote health through physical activity, diet, and nutrition is frequently recognized nationally.

Winona's life work at USC laid the groundwork for where we are today as a school of public health. She worked tirelessly in the 80's and early 90's raising awareness and funding for badly needed new facilities. That struggle was partly met with the opening of the new Public Health Research Center, but it is an ongoing struggle for the remainder of the school. In this very tough economic climate I am very hopeful that Winona's dream of a "one campus" facility for the school will be met in the near future.

Winona was not only an insightful administrator she was an exemplary educator and mentor who cared deeply about her students. When she retired, the Winona Vernberg Fellowship Fund was established in her honor as a tribute to her love for students. Please join us now in supporting this fellowship fund. During these difficult times financial assistance for our students is more critical than ever.

Norman and Gerry Sue Arnold made a significant gift to the school in 2000 and that gift has been invaluable in supporting students, funding programs and providing educational opportunities for faculty and staff. However, with cutbacks in funding from other sources their gift cannot do it all. A gift of any size can help us keep up the good work that Winona and her colleagues started 34 years ago. If you would like to make a contribution to the school see the development page 8 for additional information or call Louisa Campbell at 803-777-1349.

In addition to her fellowship, the school hosts the Winona B. Vernberg lecture each year to honor Dean Vernberg. She was a productive and recognized scholar in environmental health sciences. This year we had Dr. Doug Dockery, chair and professor of Environmental Epidemiology in the Department of Environmental Health at the Harvard School of Public Health as our guest lecturer.

As we enter the spring semester our thoughts turn to this year's Hooding Ceremony which will be held on May 7, 2009 in the Koger Center. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Wes Jackson, President of the Land Institute. Dr. Jackson established and served as chair of one of the country's first environmental studies programs at California State University-Sacramento and then returned to his native Kansas to found The Land Institute in 1976. He is the author of several books including *New Roots for Agriculture* and *Becoming Native to This Place*, and he is widely recognized as a leader in the international movement for a more sustainable agriculture. He was a 1990 Pew Conservation Scholar, in 1992 became a MacArthur Fellow, and in 2000 received the Right Livelihood Award (called the "alternative Nobel prize"). He was also named as one of *Smithsonian Magazine's* "35 Who made a Difference." Wes will be giving the Delta Omega Public Health Honor Society spring lecture on May 6. Details will be posted on our website. I hope all of our graduating students will take the opportunity to participate in this year's hooding ceremony. It is a heartwarming event for students, faculty, family and friends.

G. Thomas Chandler
Interim Dean, Arnold School of Public Health

Program is latest initiative by the Arnold School to meet the needs of the public health industry

The University of South Carolina is offering a new certificate program to develop expertise in health communication for graduate students and working professionals.

Two years in development, the Certificate of Graduate Study in Health Communication is a collaborative effort of the USC School of Journalism and Mass Communications, the School of Library and Information Science, and the Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior of the Arnold School of Public Health.



The certificate is designed to enhance the professional or clinical skills of working practitioners in public health organizations and the media.

It also will help academics and researchers to better design and evaluate health communication interventions using media, communication, and health behavior theory and

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Two Arnold graduates recognized

Two Arnold School graduates with a shared interest in teen pregnancy prevention are among The State newspaper's 20 under 40 list for 2009.

The newspaper's business news editors selected Forrest L. Alton, executive director of the S.C. Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy and Rozalynn B. Goodwin, director of policy research and lobbyist for the S.C. Hospital Association, from a field of 80 nominees.

Alton, 31, studied in the Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior and finished in 2004. Goodwin, 31, studied in the Department of Health Services Policy and Management and finished in 2001.

The two were among a dozen USC graduates featured in an annual special section of The State that recognizes 20 Midlands professionals under age 40 for their business talents



Rozalynn B. Goodwin



Forrest L. Alton

and community involvement.

Alton is a native of upstate New York. He earned a bachelor's degree in health promotion from Coastal Carolina University in Conway where he was a 2008 distinguished alumnus.

Alton said studying adolescent health issues was a highlight of his career at Coastal where another Arnold School graduate, Dr. Sharon

Thompson, professor and coordinator of health promotion, influenced and mentored him.

Other influences from the USC faculty included Dr. Mary Prince, Dr. Suzan Boyd, Dr. Donna Richter, Dr. Skip Valois and the late

Dr. Murray Vincent.

"You learn at some point that you were given two ears for a reason and when you're around wonderful people like these you listen, soak it all in, work hard and try to do the right thing," Alton said.

"He was already an emeritus professor by the time I got there, but I count

Grads recognized (continued page 18)

CARLSON IS A CORPORATE LEADER AT KIMBERLY-CLARK

A new book on healthcare management practices co-authored by an Arnold School graduate is drawing praise from leaders in the industry.

Organizations committed to building a values-based culture are better positioned to achieve superior clinical and financial results.

Leading Healthcare Cultures: How Human Capital drives Financial Performance is a short work by Dr. Tom Atchison, an independent healthcare consultant from Hot Springs Village, AK and Dr. Greg Carlson, a 2008 HSPM grad from the Arnold School and manager of Global Health Services at Kimberly-Clark Corp. in Atlanta.

"Sharing their insights on the relationship between human capital and financial performance delivers a sharp focus on the most valuable asset of a healthcare

Carlson (continued page 19)

Boyd guided S.C. Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy for five highly successful years

Dr. Suzan D. Boyd, a veteran Columbia public health leader and Arnold School alumna, has been recognized for her long-standing commitment to the well-being of the state's children. EdVenture Children's Museum presented her with the 2009 South Carolina Great Friend to Kids Award at a January 15 dinner at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center.

Boyd, a former Arnold faculty member, is best known for her role as executive director of the S.C. Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. She joined the organization in 2002 and for over five years helped the campaign grow from three to 15 employees and increase its annual budget from \$400,000 to more than \$1.5 million.

Boyd (continued page 18)



Dr. Suzan D. Boyd

Young adults, older black women are fastest growing segments afflicted by HIV/AIDS



The TV camera's eye could not make the righteousness of Bambi Gaddist's cause any clearer.

"I decided to become an AIDS activist because it was killing people, and I wanted to do something about it," she declares, chin set firmly.

The camera belongs to CNN, which has been following Gaddist for one in a series of video reports on "CNN Heroes."

The network describes "CNN Heroes" as ordinary people who accomplish extraordinary deeds in areas ranging from the environment to civil rights.

Culminating in a year-end awards gala, the network will honor the most outstanding of viewer-submitted nominees from around the world.

Among those who will be cheering her at that event are

faculty, staff and students of USC's Arnold School of Public Health.

Before it was re-named, Gaddist earned her doctorate from the former Department of Health Promotion and Education at the USC School of Public Health.

Gaddist was nominated as a "CNN Hero" because of her extraordinary efforts on behalf of South

Gaddist (continued page 17)

Thompson receives 2008 Professor of the Year award



Dr. Sharon Thompson, an Arnold School graduate and coordinator of health promotion at Coastal Carolina University, is the Governor's 2008 Professor of the Year for four-year institutions of higher education.

She was selected from among 36 candidates for the prestigious annual award, which recognizes excellence in teaching and student advising.

Each year the Governor and the S.C. Commission on Higher Education jointly sponsor two "Governor's Professor of the Year Awards." One is conferred on a faculty member at a public or private senior college or university. The other is conferred on a faculty member at a two-year institution of higher learning.

Each winner receives a formal citation and check for \$5,000, presented during a ceremony hosted by the Governor's office.

Thompson was born in Greenwood and grew up in Florence. She graduated from West Florence High School in 1976 and earned a bachelor's degree in plant sciences from Clemson University in 1980.

At the University of South Carolina she earned a master's degree in community education in 1982 and an educational specialist degree in educational administration in 1992. She earned a doctorate from the Arnold School's Department

of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior in 1993.

In 1991, Thompson joined the faculty of Coastal Carolina University, where she is professor and coordinator of health promotion. She has been a major force in the creation and development of the University's health promotion major, which was recognized in 2008 with a national award given by American's leading health education associations.

Thompson credits her parents and her late husband as role models for

Thompson (continued page 18)

With her gift, Fair will become a member of the Carolina Guardian Society that honors donors of deferred gifts such as trusts, bequests, insurance policies and annuities. The society includes more than 560 individuals, including 29 anonymous members.

Society members represent more than \$166 million in future gifts to the university and its affiliated foundations. To date, matured planned gifts represent more than \$14 million.

BEQUEST TO PAVE THE WAY FOR FUTURE PHD STUDENTS

Fellowship will support future students in their efforts to become successful doctoral candidates



Arnold School graduate Dr. Alecia Malin Fair, has made a generous bequest to pave the way for future PhD students at USC.

Now a professor at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Fair says the fellowship she received was instrumental in her choosing the PhD program at USC and obtaining her doctorate in 1999 in Health Promotion, Education and Behavior.

“Education has made me the person I am today,” she said. “My parents came from modest beginnings but both worked hard to receive PhDs and law degrees and they made wonderful lives for themselves and others. I wanted to do something that would make an indelible impact and for posterity in the School of Public Health.”

Her recent marriage to popular Nashville jazz musician Michael Fair prompted

the couple to complete their estate plans including the planned gift to USC. The generous example set by other Arnold School donors provided further inspiration, she said.

The fellowship, funded from the sale of her residence after she and her husband are deceased, will support students seeking a doctorate like her.

Interim Dean Tom Chandler said, “Alecia’s planned gift to the Arnold School represents one of the best and least painful ways that alums can provide a long lasting tribute of thanks for their educational experiences here. We are all very appreciative of her gift and, as importantly, her ambassadorship on behalf of our school.”

Fair is a native of Buffalo, NY. She studied political science as an undergraduate and received a master’s degree in public policy and administration from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1996.

By then her parents were retiring to Florida. She wanted to pursue a doctorate and set out to find a quality school in the Southeast where she could be nearby.

She was drawn to USC because of its research stature in obesity, physical activity and dietary intervention, all reflecting her interests at the time.

She achieved distinction at USC as the recipient of the Arnold School’s 2000 Doctoral Achievement Award. She also was a member of Delta Omega, the honorary society for graduate students in public health.

Former Arnold School Dean Dr. Donna Richter was Fair’s department chair in HPEB.

“I have fond memories of Alecia’s time as a student with us. She was always a ‘spark plug,’ someone who made things happen. She has boundless energy and is a very talented public health professional. Her bequest is a generous expression of her commitment to the field and

FAIR (continued on page 19)

Winona B. Vernberg

The University of South Carolina and the Arnold School of Public Health were fortunate to have Dr. Winona B. Vernberg as a professor, administrator, and guiding force. She was instrumental in building the Arnold School of Public Health and in her final year on campus guiding the university. Winona will be sorely missed by those who knew and loved her.



Winona was born in Pittsburg, Kansas on January 9, 1924 to Ralph and Edith Bortz. She died Dec. 29, 2008, in Saluda, N.C. where she moved after she and her husband, Dr. F. John Vernberg retired from the university. Winona had one sister Patricia Bortz Embody.

“Old-timers remember her strong leadership, high intellect, iron will, and never-tiring compassion for others less fortunate,” said Dr. Tom Chandler, acting dean of the Arnold School.

Winona’s USC career spanned 28 years: eight as a biology professor, two years as acting dean and 17 years as dean of the School of Public Health. She served as provost and interim

Winona will be sorely missed by those who knew and loved her.

vice-president for academic affairs under USC President John Palms.

Winona is widely credited as a driving force behind the school of public health that admitted its first students in 1975.

It was a humble beginning, Vernberg recalled in a 2006 newspaper interview.

“Scrounging was one of the things we did best back then. We encountered some resistance from other units on campus because there was not a lot of money. Our budget was low at that time.

“We started out in the nursing building and were grateful if we had eight or nine rooms. We thought it would be astounding to be in a building of our own; when we got one, we outgrew it very quickly,” she told the Columbia Star.

Winona earned a bachelor’s degree from Kansas State College of Pittsburg in 1944. She earned a master’s degree from DePauw University in 1947, where she was an instructor until 1949, and a doctorate in Zoology from Purdue University in 1951. She served in the U.S. Navy from 1944-45 and was a research professor at

Duke University from 1951-1969.

She married in 1945, an event that also linked the careers of two talented people. Her husband, Dr. John Vernberg was the first director of the Belle W. Baruch Institute for Marine Biology and Coastal Research and the first dean of the university’s School of the Environment.

“The Arnold School has a long history of productive collaborations with Baruch – many of these were jointly spearheaded by Winona and John via their personal reputations in science and their carefully cultivated friendships with Washington,” said Dr. Chandler.

The Vernbergs also were a research/writing team. In 2001, they collaborated on a book, *The Coastal Zone*, which *The Post and Courier of Charleston* praised as a “concise and timely review of coastal ecology, its past and its prospects in the face of coastal growth and continuing shift of the nation’s population to the coast.”

Besides the book, Vernberg also published 127 papers in scientific journals and reports. She was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, a Fulbright-Hayes fellow to Brazil,

Vernberg (continued on page 19)

ADVANCEMENT

The Arnold School of Public Health Development Office

Charitable giving from our alumni and friends provides the critical difference in funding for fellowships and programs that fulfill our mission of improving peoples’ health statewide and worldwide.

If you would like to make a gift, please contact us:

Director of Development, Louisa Campbell,
Arnold School of Public Health
Health Sciences Building Room 101,
Columbia, SC 29208
803 777-3471 or www.sph.sc.edu/giving.htm

Lack of Dental Care for Children is a public health problem



A University of South Carolina study of children's dental health has found that nearly one-fourth of the nation's children have had no dental care in at least a year.

Conducted by researchers at the S.C. Rural Health Research Center at the Arnold School of Public Health, the study found that nearly 32 percent of Hispanic children in rural areas had no dental care in the past year. Twenty-six percent of rural black children had no dental care, followed by 23 percent of "other" children and 22 percent of white children.

"Our nation has a group of children suffering dental disease severe enough to constitute a public health problem," said Dr. Amy Brock Martin, the lead author of "Dental Health and Access to Care among Rural Children: A National and State Report."

Data for the report came from the 2003 National Survey of Children's Health, which used parents' reports to measure the health and well-being of children from birth to age 17. The survey asked parents in urban and rural areas about the condition of their children's teeth, utilization of dental care and dental insurance coverage.

The University of South Carolina report looks at dental health from a national perspective and also provides state and regional analyses.

More than 47 percent of all children 5 and younger had not seen a dentist in the previous year. Among rural children, the percentage was more than 48 percent. More than 33 percent of rural children had no dental insurance.

"Dental care is critical for children, even preschoolers," she said. "A thorough dental exam not only helps children have healthy teeth, but also can detect nutritional deficiencies, injuries and some diseases and infections.

"This report gives us a better understanding of children's oral health and the challenges faced by healthcare providers. It also gives us information specific to rural children, particularly rural minority children."

Among the report's other findings:

Hispanic children in rural and urban areas are the least likely to receive preventive dental care. Vermont led the nation in the percentage of its children receiving preventive dental care (84 percent); Florida, with nearly 61 percent, had the lowest.

Hispanic children in rural and urban areas were the least likely to have dental insurance. Hawaii, with nearly 89 percent of children having dental insurance, was No. 1. Montana had the lowest number (nearly 61 percent)

of children with dental insurance.

Rural counties throughout the nation are likely to have Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA), a federal designation. Of all rural counties, nearly 60 percent had a dental HPSA designation between 2000 and 2004. The areas with the greatest shortages are in Northwest and Southwest states, followed by those in the Midwest and Southeast.

More than 68 percent of parents in the United States consider their children's teeth to be in very good or excellent condition. Urban white, black and Hispanic parents were more likely to describe their children's teeth as "excellent" than those in rural areas. Among states with a large number of rural people responding to the study, New Hampshire, with nearly 54 percent, had the highest proportion of children with excellent teeth.

Brock Martin said the study provides a foundation for future studies on children's dental health and provides data for policymakers and healthcare providers who make decisions on children's health needs.

"This report provides state-by-state information on children living in urban and rural areas," she said. "Dental care has been designated as the most prevalent unmet health need in U.S. children, and this report underscores that the problem is particularly acute among rural children." ■

SOUTH CAROLINA FACTS

Dental Health and Access to Care among Rural Children

S.C. Rural Health Research Center,
Arnold School, University of South Carolina

- 40.3 percent of the parents of rural S.C. children said their children have teeth in excellent condition; the number was 44.4 percent among urban children.
- Rural "non-white" children were less likely to have dental insurance than "non-white" children (80.1 percent vs. 88.1 percent).
- Among children ages 12 – 17, rural children had teeth in poorer condition and were less likely to have dental insurance than urban children.
- Dental insurance among rural children with special healthcare needs (93.5 percent) was higher than children with special healthcare needs in urban areas (86.4 percent).
- South Carolina ranks 20th in the nation for the number of rural children not having dental visits in the past year.
- South Carolina ranks 30th in the nation for the number of rural children not receiving preventive care.
- South Carolina ranks 10th in the nation for rural children with dental insurance – a positive statistic for the Palmetto State.
- Most counties in South Carolina have been designated by the federal government to have Health Professional Shortage Areas for dentists.

Faculty Awards



Blair's 25-years of trials and studies helped establish value of exercise as weapon against disease
Dr. Steven Blair of the Department of Exercise Science has been honored by the American Heart Association with its Population Research Prize for leading major population studies that established the benefits of aerobic exercise in achieving cardio-respiratory fitness.

“Over the past 25 years, clinical trials and observational studies led by Dr. Blair have provided the world with solid scientific evidence of the efficacy of physical activity as a weapon against disease,” said Association President Dr. Timothy J. Gardner in presenting the prize, including a \$5,000 honorarium.

Gardner made the presentation at the opening of the American Heart Association Scientific Sessions 2008 at

the New Orleans convention center.

Foremost among Blair's studies has been the Aerobics Center Longitudinal Study, which provided some of the first major evidence of the importance of cardio-respiratory fitness to health in a large group of adult women and men, Dr. Gardner said.

The aerobics center study showed that physically fit individuals have about a 50 percent lower risk of cardiovascular disease and death than

their sedentary peers do. Blair's many other studies include a finding that lower fitness levels increase the risk of high blood pressure.

“This research has provided important contributions to our understanding of the health benefits of physical activity,” the AHA president said. He said Blair's work was a major factor in the American Heart Association's decision to recognize physical inactivity and low cardio-respiratory fitness as a major risk factor for cardiovascular diseases.

From 1980 to 2002, Dr. Blair was director of epidemiology and clinical applications at the Cooper Clinic in Dallas. He currently is professor of exercise science, epidemiology and biostatistics at USC.

Exercise Science professor to study treatments for combat-related posttraumatic stress disorder

Department of Exercise Science assistant professor, Shawn Youngstedt, has been awarded a VA Merit Award (\$600,000) to study novel treatments for combat-related posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

PTSD is the most common mental health disorder of current veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan with a prevalence of 20%. Present treatments for PTSD are inadequate, so there is a need to test alternative or adjunct treatments.

Dr. Youngstedt and colleagues are about to embark on a 3-year study of 70 Iraq or Afghanistan war veterans with combat-related PTSD. The veterans will be randomly assigned to one of two 4-week treatments which could have positive effects on their



symptoms: daily exposure to 45 min of bright light or negative ions.

Participants will receive a psychiatric examination before and after the experiment, and they will complete weekly questionnaires related to mood, anxiety and sleep.

Colleagues on the project will include Drs. Jack Ginsberg and Donald Powell at the Dorn VA, Christopher Kline, a PhD student, and Dr. Ron Murphy of Francis Marion University.



Pate recognized for professional knowledge, technical expertise and compassionate service

USC Associate Vice President for Health Sciences Dr. Russell Pate has been awarded an Honorary Membership in the American Dietetic Association, one of the highest honors the association can grant to non-members.

Pate, a professor in the Arnold School's Department of Exercise Science, was honored during the ADA Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo which drew a crowd of 12,000 persons to Chicago, Oct 25-28, 2008.

In welcoming remarks, ADA President-elect Jessie Pavlinac noted Pate's “professional knowledge, technical expertise and compassionate service have shaped physical activity and nutrition recommendations and policies at the local, state and national levels.

“He has contributed to the advancement of dietetics and ADA by col-

laborating with registered dietitians; through significant contributions to the 2005 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee; the Institute of Medicine's Panel on Prevention of Obesity in Children and many other groups.

“Dr. Pate also played a key role in the creation of the University of South Carolina Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities,” Pavlinac said.

Each year two or three honorary memberships are awarded to non-members for distinguished contributions to the dietetics profession.

Voice disorders researcher received ASHA 2008 Early Career Contributions in Research Award

Dr. Heather Bonilha, a junior faculty member of the Arnold School of Public Health, received the 2008 Early Career Contributions in Research Award presented by the American Speech-Language Hearing Association.



She was the sole recipient of this year's award that recognizes scientific accomplishments by individuals in the early stages of their careers.

Bonilha accepted the award at the ASHA's national convention in November.

Bonilha received her doctorate in 2005 from the Arnold School's Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders where she continues to work as a research assistant professor under the Centenary Plan.

Bonilha is the founder and director of The Voice Clinic, part of the USC Speech & Hearing Research Center. The clinic helps patients with voice

disorders and provides hands-on experience with these types of disorders for students in the COMD Master's program.

“This is an outstanding accomplishment for the university and the research development program for young researchers at USC. Heather is conducting outstanding research here and in collaboration with regional institutions,” said Bonilha's department chair, Dr. Elaine Frank.

Bonilha “has begun a line of research, funded by an R03 from the NIH National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, that has contributed significantly to our understanding of the role (and

The ADA is the world's largest organization of food and nutrition professionals. It is committed to improving the nation's health and advancing the profession of dietetics through research, education, and advocacy.

Approximately 75 percent of ADA's nearly 69,000 members are registered dietitians and four percent are dietetic technicians, registered (DTRs). Other members include consultants, educators, researchers, and students.

Approximately 75 percent of ADA's nearly 69,000 members are registered dietitians (RDs) and four percent are dietetic technicians, registered (DTRs).

Other members include consultants, educators, researchers and students. Nearly half of all ADA members hold advanced academic degrees.

potential seriousness) of the accumulation of vocal fold mucus and the throat clearing and coughing behaviors that accompany the mucus,” said COMD research professor Dr. Allen A. Montgomery, who nominated her for the award.

Bonilha is a certified speech-language pathologist. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Central Florida in Orlando before coming to USC in 2002. While a doctoral student, she received the New Investigator Research Award from The Voice Foundation.

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association is the professional, scientific, and credentialing association for more than 130,000 members and affiliates who are audiologists, speech-language pathologists, and speech, language, and hearing scientists.

continued next page>



Dr. Alan Decho was keynote speaker at international symposium on Stromatolites
 Arnold School researcher Dr. Alan Decho was a keynote speaker at an international symposium dedicated to the study of one of the world's oldest organic structures – stromatolites.

The academics assembled at the University of Göttingen where Decho spoke on An Emerging Framework for Understanding

Marine Stromatolite Formation.

“Stromatolites are a sensitive environmental dipstick and the ultimate platform from which to study bacterial communication and coordination of activities; processes that play key roles in both the environment and disease,” Decho said.

Stromatolites are the earth's earliest microbial communities, having persisted for over 3.5 billion years, according to Decho, a professor in

the Department of Environmental Health Sciences.

Decho also is director of the department's Microbial Interactions Laboratory at the Public Health Research Center.

The lab is involved in microbial studies in Columbia and at Highborne Cay, a remote subtropical island in the Bahamas where stromatolites grow on the ocean floor.

The stromatolites in the Bahamian waters are rocklike structures formed by layered deposits of calcium carbonate. The layers are created by biofilms of microscopic organisms.

Scientists from 18 nations gathered for the weeklong International Kalkowsky-Symposium on the Geobiology of Stromatolites in the German city of Göttingen.

The conference was organized to share scientific knowledge and to celebrate the centennial of the term “stromatolith,” coined by German researcher Ernst Kalkowsky in 1908.

The University at Göttingen has long been one of Germany's best, with 42 Nobel laureates having conducted their research there.

Seed grant from Arnold School's Office of Research funded study, additional research planned

Arnold School researcher Dr. Daniela B. Friedman is the 2008 winner of the James G. Zimmer New Investigator Research Award from the Gerontological Health Section of the American Public Health Association.



Friedman, an assistant professor in the Arnold School's Department of Health Promotion, Education and Behavior, was presented the award at APHA's annual meeting this past October in San Diego.

A seed grant from the Arnold School's Office of Research funded Friedman's formative research on African-American men's knowledge about prostate cancer and innovative strategies for delivery of prostate cancer messages to African-Americans.

Prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among men. African-American men in South Carolina experience the highest mortality from prostate cancer in the United States.

Additional research team members were co-investigator Dr. Sara Corwin and doctoral graduate students

Gregory Dominick and India Rose, all from HPEB.

The Zimmer Award recognizes “new investigators” - researchers who are within three years of completing a doctoral degree. Criteria for selection from a national pool of applicants include the importance of the research topic, the rigor of design, quality of writing, and potential benefit to the field of aging and public health.

The award-winning project, “What do Older African-American Men Really Think about Prostate Cancer? A Comprehensive Analysis Using a Health Literacy Framework,” involved 25 Black men from the Columbia area.

Friedman completed a bachelor's degree in biology and psychology at McMaster University and a masters

of Science and doctorate in Health Studies and Gerontology at the University of Waterloo in Canada.

Her research on the scope and difficulty level of cancer prevention messages in seniors' print media and on older adults' comprehension of cancer information in the media earned her the APHA Gerontological Health Retirement Research Foundation Graduate Student Research Award in 2002.

The APHA is the largest organization of public health professionals in the world, representing more than 50,000 members from more than 50 occupations of public health.

The Gerontological Health Section of the APHA includes more than 600 members. The mission of the Section is to stimulate public health actions to improve the health, functioning, and quality of life of older persons and to call attention to their health care needs. Friedman was recently elected to a Councilor position within the Gerontological Health Section. ■

NIDCD grants total more than \$3.4 million over next five years

Two of the Arnold School's most productive researchers are recipients of new National Institutes of Health RO1 grants totaling \$3.4 million.

The two grants will allow Julius Fridriksson and Chris Rorden to continue “very fruitful research collaboration” into the mysteries of how people recover from strokes and how the brain works to produce and understand speech.



Chris Rorden



Leonardo Bonilha



Julius Fridriksson

Fridriksson and Rorden are associate professors in the Department of Communications Sciences and Disorders.

Additionally, Fridriksson is director of the department's Aphasia Lab, which studies the relationships between brain damage and speech/language impairments. Rorden is team leader at the Neuroimaging Lab where he studies brain-behavior relationships.

The grants are both from the NIH's National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD).

Fridriksson said the newest grant, worth \$1.8 million over the next five years, will support groundbreaking research into understanding how the same areas of the brain used to produce speech also are important for understanding speech.

“It (the study project) pretty much breaks from conventional wisdom which suggests that we have one area of the brain for speech production and one area for speech comprehension,” he said.

Much of the study will be done at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston where Dr. Leonardo Bonilha, a local neurologist, will join the

research team.

“Without our collaboration with MUSC I don't think this (project) would happen,” said Fridriksson, adding the study will involve about 200 research subjects.

The second RO1 grant worth \$1.6 million over five years will allow the USC researchers to examine the brains of normal persons and stroke patients.

“This grant is going to help us better understand normal brain function and how we can extrapolate that to understanding recovery and stroke,” Fridriksson said.

Approval of the RO1 came on Jan. 23, the same day Fridriksson detailed findings of a similar study to an

NIDCD advisory group. Fridriksson said his earlier study found that people who suffer a stroke, but had healthy blood circulation in their brains before the stroke

occurred, are the

most likely to recover.

“It's the first study to show a recordable link between brain changes and the outcome following treatment of stroke patients,” he told the panel.

Fridriksson said the study focused on how parts of the brain unaffected by a stroke, called residual brain fitness, related to recovery.

The studies could provide clues to improving treatment or therapy for stroke victims. South Carolina is among seven Southern states with the highest death rates from stroke, and about half of stroke victims in the Midlands are younger than 60. ■

Arnold School welcomes 7 new tenure-track faculty

Seven persons joined the Arnold School of Public Health this year as tenure-track faculty members.



Dr. Denise Finneran



Dr. Peter Soros



Dr. Raja A. Fayad



Dr. Michael W. Beets



Dr. Christine E. Blake



Dr. Melinda Spencer



Dr. D. Phuong (Phoenix) Do

Dr. Denise Finneran and Dr. Peter Soros joined the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders.

Finneran received her doctorate from Purdue University this past December where she studied language impairment in preschool-age children. Her research interests include exploration of new methods to examine the deficits associated with language learning disabilities and the contributions of linguistic knowledge, working memory, and attention to the development of language disorders in young children.

Soros was a post-doctoral fellow at the School of Communication Sciences & Disorders, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada. He has a medical degree from the Hannover Medical School in Germany and a bachelor's degree (equivalent) from the

University of Gottingen. Dr. Raja A. Fayad and Dr. Michael W. Beets joined the Department of Exercise Science.

Fayad was a research assistant professor in the Department of Human Nutrition, University of Illinois at Chicago. He has a medical degree from Aleppo University School of Medicine in Aleppo, Syria.

Beets came from Oregon State University where he was Post Doctoral Fellow in the Department of Public Health. He earned his bachelor's degree and two master's degrees from Wichita State University and his doctorate from Oregon State University.

Dr. Christine E. Blake and Dr. Melinda Spencer joined the Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior.

Blake, a registered dietitian, came from Cornell University where she was a postdoctoral associate in the Division of

Nutritional Sciences. She earned her bachelor's degree from State University of New York at Plattsburg and her master's and doctorate from Cornell.

Spencer was a Kellogg Health Scholar and research assistant at the Center for Minority Health, University of Pittsburg Graduate School of Public Health. She earned her bachelor's, masters and doctorate from West Virginia University.

Dr. D. Phuong (Phoenix) Do joined the Department of Health Services Policy and Management.

Dr. Do was a Kellogg health disparities scholar at the institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Her interests include the social determinants of health, health disparities, community context and quantitative methodologies.

All of the new faculty members hold the title of assistant professor. ■

Certificate Program (continued from page 3) frameworks. "I'm especially pleased that both schools within our college are part of this collaboration," said Charles Bierbauer, dean of the College of Mass Communications and Information Science.

"We feel there is information and communication component to just about everything a university does. But it's especially critical that people have access to reliable and useful information regarding their health."

"Everyone in South Carolina can benefit from a better understanding of their particular health needs and how to obtain them," he said.

The Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior administers the public health studies of the certificate program. That role is in keeping with the department's focus on understanding how policy, environmental, institutional, and individual actions can improve the public's health.

"This certificate program is truly the product of months of hard work by multiple faculty across these three colleges at USC – and all for the betterment of health outcomes in South Carolina through more effective health communication."

"Arnold School faculty will benefit greatly from the expertise and collegiality being extended by Journalism and Libraries in this effort," said Arnold School Interim Dean Dr. Tom Chandler.

The certificate program requires 18 hours of post-bachelor's study including a research project or practicum. The curriculum is structured so that students experience an interdisciplinary core of courses and select an emphasis area in Journalism and Mass Communications, Library and Information Science, or Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior.

"Over the next six years, public health workforce development is staring at the precipice of a critical shortage of certified professionals like none before in recent history."

– Dr. Tom Chandler Interim Dean, Arnold School of Public Health

A limited amount of credit hours in the certificate program can be applied to other USC graduate degree programs. The program culminates in a mentored research project or practicum.

Examples of practicum projects or internships will include appointments with local agencies involved with health communication, or with active research projects on campus or in the community. Faculty members will work closely with students to help secure their practicum.

Dr. Ken Watkins, HPEB's associate chair and graduate director, said interest in the program is growing. "We have seen an enthusiastic response from current graduate students who are seeking an interdisciplinary approach to learning about the science and applications of health communication."

"It also is a great way for working professionals to enhance their education without having to seek a master's degree," said Dr. Daniela Friedman of HPEB, who teaches Applied Health Communication, one of the certificate's core courses.

Six faculty members in the three collaborating schools are participating in the program with more expected to join as enrollment expands.

Specifically for the Arnold School, this certificate program is the latest initiative to meet the needs of the public health industry. In the past year, the school has:

- revised its master's of public health in general public health, a degree program aimed at working professionals.
- introduced Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science programs in public health, two paths to a broad pre-professional degree.

"Over the next six years, public health workforce development is staring at the precipice of a critical shortage of certified professionals like none before in recent history," said Chandler.

"Certification is a very effective way to address this shortfall at a time when working professionals in every health field are extremely strapped for time and financial resources to pursue full graduate degrees." ■

For more information about the program, contact:

Dr. Daniela Friedman Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior Arnold School of Public Health University of South Carolina Phone: (803) 777-9933 E-mail: dbfriedman@sc.edu

Dr. John C. Besley School of Journalism and Mass Communications College of Mass Communications and Information Studies University of South Carolina Phone: (803) 777-4105 E-mail: jbesley@sc.edu

Dr. Feili Tu School of Library and Information Science College of Mass Communications and Information Studies University of South Carolina Phone: (803) 777-3858 E-mail: tuf@mailbox.sc.edu

Kirby (continued from page 1)

Dr. Dan Boatright, senior associate dean and professor at the University of Oklahoma School of Public Health, is the other co-chair of the workgroup.

Besides communications, the other workgroups embrace a gamut of public health skills, including: advocacy, community/cultural orientation, critical analysis, leadership, management, professionalism, and ethics.

Kirby earned two degrees from USC's Arnold School: her master's in 1990 and her DrPH in 1993. It was a valuable experience, she recalls, because faculty members not only were skilled researchers but also worked closely with the state health depart-

ment and a variety of community projects.

After finishing her doctoral studies, she worked for the Emory University School of Public Health for four years. She then became a health communication specialist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention where she worked closely with centers on communication and marketing program development, founded the Marketing Research Resource Center, and led a CDC brand identity project.

The CDC post helped hone her marketing skills, but it was a demanding job and while she loved it, "I was at the point where I needed a change of pace and a break," she said. She also wanted to get back to more hands-on public health practice with state and local agencies.

That opportunity came following a chance meeting on an airplane that

led to romance and an opportunity to leave government work and move to San Diego.

"I always lived in the South and I thought, as a public health professional, I should live in at least one other entirely different culture," she said. It has been an enriching and eye opening experience to say the least.

In 2001, she founded Kirby Marketing Solutions Inc. that specializes in bringing a marketing mindset and communication excellence to organizations that "do good."

Her clients include the CDC, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, CALCASA, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Kansas Health Foundation, L.A. County. California Center for Physical Activity, National Institutes for Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps. ■

Partin (continued page 1)

She was a leader in numerous local organizations and was a founder of the Avenues Neighborhood Association, representing the residential areas surrounding Brookland-Cayce High School.

The neighborhood association introduced her to an array of public concerns and helped kindle a public service spirit that soon had her immersed in community issues.

Among those was a controversial decision for Cayce to annex land and a development in Richland County across the Congaree River.

Partin said during her campaign that the annexation was an unwise decision but her election now means she will have responsibility for overseeing the fate of the property.

Public health does not compete with police and fire protection on a municipality's list of top concerns, but Partin says quality of life issues also are important to residents too.

She is a proponent of the "complete streets" concept, a relatively new idea that municipal streets ought to serve everyone, not just vehicles. "That means that there is a lane for cars, a lane for bikes and sidewalks for pedestrians," she said.

Partin also is unabashedly proud of Cayce's section of Three Rivers Greenway along the Congaree River.

"It's amazing. I'm biased, but our side is the best," she said.

Since graduation, Partin has worked at USC where she currently is an adjunct instructor in the Arnold School's Department of Exercise Science.

Partin's husband, Gene, also is a school of public health graduate, earning a degree in Environmental Health Sciences in 1998. The couple did not meet until both graduated, "but we love it that we have the same school in common," she said.

Gene is the Environmental Site Assessments services manager in the Columbia office of Terracon Consultants Inc., a national engineering consulting firm based in Olathe, KS.

The couple has two children, Joseph, 4, and Zoe, 3. The family is active at Trenholm Road United Methodist Church. ■



Elise Partin

Gaddist (continued from page 5)

Carolínians threatened with HIV/AIDS.

That is a daunting task, says Gaddist. "South Carolina currently ranks ninth in the nation in the rate of AIDS. African-Americans make up 73 per cent of all of the cases although we make up only 30 percent of the population as a whole," she said.

Thirteen years ago, Gaddist helped start and direct the South Carolina HIV/AIDS Council, a non-profit group that has given free HIV tests to more than 8,600 persons.

The council operates a mobile test facility that Gaddist is willing to take "anywhere it needs to go." That includes venues ranging from nightclubs – both gay and straight – to churchyards.

Gaddist says her council pioneered the concept of alternative, non-government supported HIV/AIDS testing. It remains the council's "anchor service."

"We started it in the back of my house," she said. With \$25,000 in seed money from Bristol-Myers Squibb, Gaddist's small group was able to become trained and obtain kits with which to start testing.

Gaddist also works with a network of about 30 churches that have embraced health and wellness as part of their mission. Project F.A.I.T.H. (Fostering AIDS Initiatives that Heal) is an innovative faith-based initiative funded through the South Carolina Legislature.

One of the two CNN segments shows a service at Springhill AME Church in Gilbert where Pastor Robert L.

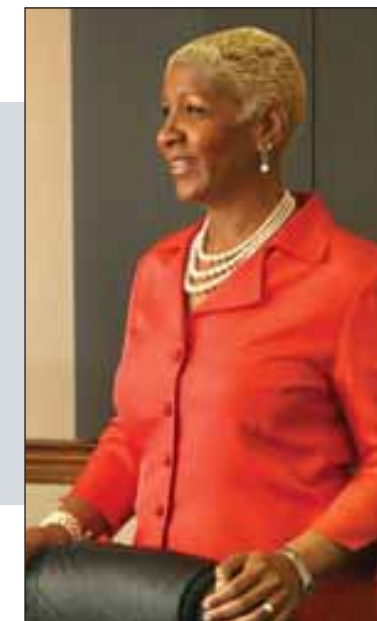
China Jr. preaches an HIV/AIDS awareness sermon. Spring Hill is a one Project F.A.I.T.H. recipient.

With the mobile lab set up outside, China sets an example by getting tested himself. The camera follows Gaddist and her volunteers as they visit with parishioners, preaching their own HIV/AIDS gospel of testing and awareness. Tables display a variety of condoms along with brochures.

Gaddist said the CNN recognition

I decided to become an AIDS activist because it was killing people, and I wanted to do something about it.

–Bambi Gaddist



could not have come at a better time. Like many non-profit groups, her HIV/AIDS council is feeling the pinch from the economic downturn.

The council has been supported for the past five years by a Centers for Disease Control grant. However, that grant runs out next year. The organization will have to reapply for funding in a highly competitive environment marked by government stinginess and scant private philanthropy.

"I'll be honest, we need some help. It's really been difficult. Maybe this will be an avenue so people will see us in a different way," she said.

Gaddist said the HIV/AIDS threat continues to grow. The number of cases in South Carolina averages between 15,000-16,000 persons who have been tested.

Gaddist suspects the number is higher because people are reluctant to be tested and the medical establishment does not pursue detection aggressively.

The fastest growing two groups are young persons, aged 20-24 and black women, age 45 and up, she said.

"About 42 percent of our cases are actually heterosexual. This runs against what many believe – that this is a predominately gay problem," she said.

A New Jersey native, Gaddist came south to study physical education and health at Tuskegee University. Later she earned her master's degree in physical education administration/health from Indiana University.

She specialized in human sexuality and family life education during her doctoral studies at USC. Her mentor and advisor at that time was the late Dr. Murray Vincent, a nationally recognized expert in teen pregnancy prevention.

She worked for S.C. State University and the S.C. Department of Education before helping establish the HIV/AIDS council.

She is married to Bernard Gaddist. They have a 27-year-old daughter, Kialeah Sumpter, who is a MSW graduate of USC. She also works in the HIV/AIDS field. Two grandsons, Nyheme, 10, and Chase, eight months, round out the family.

She attends Brookland Baptist Church in West Columbia. Besides being her spiritual home, Brookland was one of the first churches to participate in the HIV/AIDS Council's efforts by making a financial gift to the program. ■

Grads recognized (continued from page 4) Murray Vincent as a dear friend and mentor," Alton said." Dr. Vincent, who died last year, was a nationally recognized expert on the issue of teen pregnancy prevention.

Goodwin is a native of Mt. Carmel, a crossroads community of 231 people in McCormick County. As a teen growing up in a close-knit family, she developed an interest in health care as she saw her great-grandmother age and then move away to a nursing home.

She won a scholarship to Lander College in nearby Greenwood, where she earned a bachelor's degree in health care management.

Thompson (continued from page 5) becoming a teacher, an advisor, and a contributing member to family and community life. The mother of two daughters and a member of the Myrtle Beach First Presbyterian Church, she was named by the Myrtle Beach Sun News as Volunteer of the Year in 2003.

She has also chaired the Waccamaw Youth Center and the Horry County School District Comprehensive Health Education Advisory Committee.

Her work as a teaching faculty member has been universally admired on the campus. Since 1998 she has received several campus awards of distinction,

Boyd (continued from page 5) She retired from the campaign in 2007, but continues to serve the group as an executive consultant. During this period, the organization has continued to succeed. The rate of teen pregnancy in South Carolina has dropped by 33 percent over the last ten years.

EdVenture president and CEO Catherine Horne said Boyd is being recognized for her service and dedication to the health and welfare of children and for her work in pregnancy prevention.

"Over the past several decades, she has really dedicated her life to helping

At the Arnold School, she found wonderful mentors in Dr. Saundra Glover, now associate dean for health disparities and social justice, and Dr. Suzan Boyd, former director of the Arnold School's MHA program and later executive director of the S.C. Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy.

Goodwin and Alton share a connection to Dr. Boyd. Her influence led them both to join the SC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy where they now serve as the executive director and board member respectively.

Before joining the SCHA, Rozalynn worked in strategic planning and system development with Palmetto

including the 1998 Student Affairs Award and the 2004 Distinguished Teacher-Scholar Lecturer Award. A full-time teacher and advisor to 80 students annually, she still has found time since 2001 to sponsor students at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research, (NCUR).

In 1997, she was named the South Carolina Health Professional of the Year by the South Carolina Association for the Advancement of Health Education.

She has been co-author of 20 published manuscripts and/or proceedings with students. She is also the University's Faculty Athletic Representative

our youth start their adulthood in the strongest possible position (regarding responsible parenting choices)," Horne said.

EdVenture established the Great Friend to Kids award in 2006 to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of South Carolina residents who have taken the lead in addressing the needs of children in the state. Funds raised through the effort go directly to helping youths statewide.

Over a 25-year career in public health, Boyd's contributions have ranged from management and primary care activi-

Health and in health and human services policy research in the office of former Gov. Jim Hodges.

Church and family also are important to her. She is an elder at the Right Direction Christian Center where she worships along with her husband, Michael and two-year-old daughter Gabrielle.

She also is founder of The Motherhood Priority, a group to "advocate for working mothers with business and government to establish policies that enable mothers to be the primary caregivers of their children while supporting their households financially." ■

and advisor for the health promotion honor society.

Students are enthusiastic and expressive about her work with them. They speak of the time she takes to listen; her constant looking for opportunities for her students to succeed; her knowledge, kindness and sincerity – and, above all, her commitment.

"As a part of a Coastal Carolina University awards ceremony," said one of them, "I was asked, 'What is the best thing about Coastal Carolina University?' Without hesitation I replied, 'Dr. Sharon Thompson!'" ■

ties at the Brookside Park Family Life Center in Boston, to Vice President of Ambulatory Services at St. Joseph Hospital in Chicago.

Additionally, she was director of the MHA Program and associate professor at the Arnold School of Public Health and a consultant in strategic planning and management.

She earned a bachelor's degree from Boston College, a master's degree from Yale University, a master's of business administration from Simmons College, and a doctorate from the Arnold School at USC. ■

Carson (continued from page 5) The ACHE is an international professional society of more than 30,000 healthcare executives who lead hospitals, healthcare systems and other healthcare organizations.

Publisher's notes indicate the book can help health care professionals "learn how to leverage both human and financial capital to improve employee and patient satisfaction, physician relationships, and profitability."

Carlson says "Organizations committed to building a values-based culture are better positioned to achieve superior clinical and financial results.

Research for the book, both in health care and outside of healthcare, documents that organizations focused on creating values-based cultures consistently outperform their competition."

The book is available from Health Administration Press, the publishing arm of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Fair (continued from page 6) to helping others," Richter said. After graduating from USC, Fair moved to Nashville to become a postdoctoral research fellow in cancer epidemiology at Vanderbilt University.

Fair keeps a quick pace in both her personal and professional lives as an avid runner and as a busy academician. She has been published in a

are critical to long-term success," Cohn said.

In his current position with Kimberly-Clark, Carlson is responsible for maintaining and improving the health of company employees and influencing the cost of health care services.

He served as an adjunct faculty member at the University of South Carolina while completing his PhD. Currently he is an instructor at Georgia State University in Atlanta where he teaches courses on managed care and executive leadership.

For ten years, he was chief executive officer of a 500-bed freestanding healthcare system with more than 2,500 employees.

Carlson has more than 25 years of experience as a hospital administrator, and his interests are focused on healthcare quality, physician relationships and practice models, organizational culture, and strategic planning. ■

number of professional journals. Her current areas of research include breast disease and treatment and the links among vitamin D intake, obesity, physical exercise and chronic diseases.

She makes her home in the Nashville area with her husband, two cats and a Maltese Cocker Spaniel named Lucy. Her stepdaughter, Lindsay, lives in San Francisco. ■

Vernberg (continued from page 7) winner of the Russell Award for Research in Science, and was a recipient of the William S. Proctor Prize for Scientific Achievement, Sigma Xi in 1983.

She served on the National Advisory Committee on Oceans and Atmosphere (1974-1976), the Science Advisory Committee for PRIMA, Program of the National Science Foundation (1977-1979), the executive committee, Science Advisory Board EPA (1978-1982), the National Advisory Council, NASA (1979-1982), and president of the Council on Education for Public Health (1984-1986).

Together she and John traveled to every continent from Point Barrow, Alaska (1977) to Antarctica (2001) from Siberis 1979) to the Amazon (2002), from Lexington, SC to Dentsville, SC.

The Arnold School's Alumni Association also sponsors an annual event, the Winona B. Vernberg Distinguished Lecture, in her honor. She also was named distinguished professor emerita and dean emerita.

Surviving besides her husband are, daughters, Amy Beekman of Tampa, Florida and Marcia Verberg (married to Ted Godfrey) of North Augusta; and son, Eric Vernberg (married to Dee Dee Vernberg) of Lawrence, Kansas.

Grandchildren include: Drew Beekman, Haley Beekman, Amy Godfrey, Amanda Snoddy (married to Jim Snoddy) Scott Lewis, and Stefan Vernberg

Great-granddaughters include, Courtney and Caroline Lewis, Lizzie Snoddy and Katie Snoddy.

Memorials may be made to the Winona Vernberg Bicentennial Fellowship Fund, USC Development Office, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208.

alumni news

1989

Frank Stephen Rutkowski, MPH (HPEB) is the Regional Manager Southern US marketing/sales for prevention/disease and condition management programs at the Mayo Clinic.

1999

Ashley Redmond, MPH (HPEB) is the Ryan White Program Manager at Roper St. Francis Healthcare in Charleston.

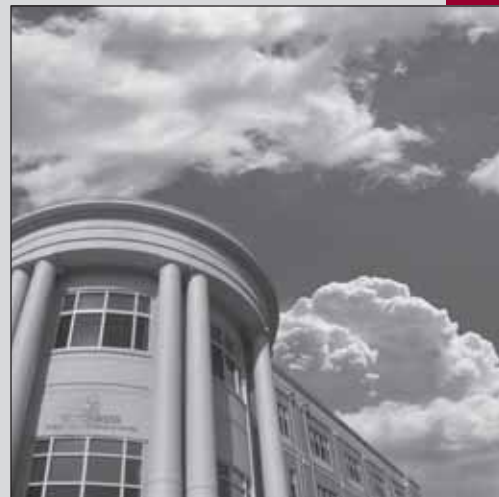
2000

Michael G. Dickey, MPH (HPEB) is the assistant chief executive officer for the national office of the Society for Public Health Education.

Emily Rines, MPH (HPEB) is a project director at United Way program Let's Go in Portland.

2007

Shanice Charlemagne, MPH (HSPM) is working on a one year internship with the National Cancer Institute Health Communications Informatics Research Branch Behavioral Research Program, Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences in Rockville, MD.



*In an effort to conserve resources and save the landfill a lot of paper we will be reducing the number of printed materials produced by the Arnold School. With over 4,000 alumni and friends now in the School's data base, the amount of paper, ink, and postage needed to produce one issue of **HealthBeat** is astonishing. To do our part in keeping our school green we will start by sending you **HealthBeat** via e-mail. It's actually better in full color and you will be saving a lot of trees.*

Color Us Green

*To insure that you receive your e-mail copy of **HealthBeat** please fill out the information card below and return it in the mail to Susan Haney, Development Office, 800 Sumter St., Columbia, SC 29208.*

Alumni can update their information at <http://www.sph.sc.edu/ALUMNI/UPDATE.ASP>. You will also receive advance notice of seminars, special events and other important news and information.

USC Arnold School of Public Health

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Work Phone:

Home Phone:

E-mail:

Employer

Address:

Current Position

Date of Birth:

Additional information from alumni:

Department

Year of Graduation:

Program and Major:

Previous name if different from the name listed above

Delta Omega member



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