First food and nutrition students get taste of management

From menu planning to budget control, students get hands-on food-service experience

The University’s food-services operation is helping to prepare some of the food-service professionals of tomorrow through a partnership this semester with the food and nutrition program in the College of Nursing and Health Professions.

Thirteen students enrolled in either the food-service management or the nutrition and wellness tracks of the food and nutrition major are involved behind the scenes as well as in customer-service areas for 10 weeks at food-service facilities in the University Center. It is the first time for many of the students to be involved hands-on in a large-scale food operation.

Dr. Julie McCullough, program director for food and nutrition, said, “One of the goals is to see the link between the customer and the food service operation—how we are trying to meet the needs of the customer. Food-service managers must know how to provide good nutrition within budget and labor constraints. Our students are being exposed to a real-world food service establishment. They’re taking the knowledge and skills they have learned in the classroom and applying them in a food-service operation.”

The students completed a course in management fundamentals last spring and are enrolled for fall semester in a course on quantity food production and purchasing.

Chris Briggs, general manager of Food Services for the University, and William Haliburton, executive chef, have helped coordinate the practical rotation for the food and nutrition students. University food service is provided by Sodexho, one of the top three food-management companies in the world.

As part of the practical experience, students are becoming familiar with Sodexho’s management software. They also are learning to use CookenPro, a leading food management software program purchased by the college’s food and nutrition program for its students. CookenPro allows the user to store and modify recipes, search for recipes by ingredient or category, plan menus, perform nutrition analysis on menus or recipes, create grocery lists, and complete other food-service management tasks.

The students will help with the University’s annual Madrigal Feaste and other catered events. They will assist with food preparation work in the kitchen area, study proper use of a knife, and learn how bakery items are prepared. The students also will be out front assessing customer satisfaction.

“There’s a little bit of culinary education in their experience, but they will be spending the main portion in the management area,” McCullough said. Food and nutrition is a new program for the College of Nursing and Health Professions. The first students enrolled in fall 2005. They have completed the ServSafe food safety and certification program which is required

See Management, page 2
New technology enhances student learning

Instructional technology has been a key component of our College since it was established in 1988. Soon after the initiation of the nursing program, distance education classes via videoconferencing were offered in the RN-BSN program. In 1995, with the support of Drs. Trudy and Bill Mitchell, interactive wired student response pads were installed in the new Health Professions Center and used by both our college and the University community. The first Internet-delivered courses were offered by nursing in 1997 followed by course offerings in imaging sciences, health services, nutrition, and occupational therapy. Streaming lectures downloaded on iPods, online audio and video discussions, and virtual interactive classrooms are examples of technology used in our distance education programs.

An exciting instructional technology was added to the college this fall with the acquisition of four computerized anatomically accurate mannequins. Each of these computerized SimMan models provides realistic patient simulations. Students assess and initiate treatment on the simulation models and respond to patient scenarios that include variable heart and respiratory rates, breath and bowel sounds, contraction and dilation of pupils, and real patient verbal responses. Personal digital assistants (PDAs) loaded with clinical and instructional software are used with the SimMan as well as in other clinical and classroom settings.

Students in the college’s newest program, food and nutrition, were greeted this fall with a new fully equipped lab classroom. Food analysis equipment and food sensory simulations provide students with a hands-on learning experience.

Student response pads (wireless) providing instant response capability support a new level of interactive learning for college students. Attendance tracking, electronic quizzes, and active learning games are possible with this technology. Students and faculty are enthusiastic about the added interaction and time-efficient learning that the response pads provide.

Consistent with the faculty’s goal of providing active student learning, a classroom has been renovated and equipped with technology to provide the college’s first model interactive classroom. Students are seated at round tables and engage in collaborative interactive learning through the use of wireless computers, whiteboards, and student response pads.

The Dental Clinic faculty and students are excited about the addition of a new intraoral camera and the addition of computers in each of the 15 dental operatories. EagleSoft dental documentation software on each of the computers supports both chair-side documentation and education.

Faculty and students in the College of Nursing and Health Professions are to be congratulated for their innovative and cutting-edge use of technology. Students graduating from USI nursing and health professions programs are prepared for the increasing world of technology.

Recommended reading

Program Notes

Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene

Bachelor’s degree program
The dental hygiene program is transitioning from an associate degree to a bachelor’s degree program, effective for students entering the program in fall 2007. USI is the only institution in the state offering the entry-level bachelor’s degree program.

Deborah Carl, program director for dental hygiene, said, “Increasingly, research shows a direct link between systemic health and oral health. One is essential for the other. There’s more information that needs to be taught.”

Carl said an increasing number of prospective students have indicated interest in a bachelor’s degree program in recent years.

Improved clinical facilities
The dental clinic facilities have been upgraded with the installation of computers and software in all clinic operatories. All client scheduling is completed through the software, and it will be used to compile client records, resulting in less paper chart production.

Senior dental hygiene student Lydia Flora, left, and junior Natasha Brown practice using the new digital intraoral camera in the dental clinic. The camera allows the user to document and show areas of the teeth and gums on a computer screen.

Each operatory also has a docking station for use of a camera for intraoral photography. The camera allows the user to show at close range a specific portion of the mouth that may not be seen easily by the eye.

The photos are important for patient education and better diagnosis and treatment by the clinician. A copy of the photo in the patient’s file is a useful reference for follow-up visits. Software support and intraoral photography are becoming the standard of care at most dental offices today.

Clinical faculty
Dr. Richard Whaley, a dentist in Vincennes, Indiana, has joined the faculty as part-time clinical faculty.

Food and Nutrition

Working with Sodexho
Students in the food and nutrition major are completing a 10-week period of hands-on work with the University’s Sodexho food-services operation. See story on page 1.

Grants support nursing programs

The undergraduate nursing program has received a two-year grant of $324,555 from the Indiana Department of Workforce Development’s Strategic Skills Initiative, a program which identifies critical occupational shortages and funds grants to address those shortages.

The grant will support the increase of undergraduate nursing students from 60 to 80 each year.

Dr. Ann White, assistant dean for nursing, is project director. The nursing program has obtained new simulation equipment to enhance training opportunities and added faculty to support the increased number of students. Deaconess Hospital and St. Mary’s Medical Center are providing additional clinical units and clinical instructors.

Dr. Nadine Coudret, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions, said the grant merges technology advances occurring in health care and health-care education and will move the college to the forefront in computerized simulation training.

The college also has received a five-year grant with $269,000 for the first year from the Department of Health and Human Services to continue providing health-care services at Vanderburgh County correctional facilities.

A graduate nursing traineeship grant from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) provides students with funds for tuition and books. The $72,000 award to USI is the second-largest amount awarded in the state.

Beth Johnson, associate professor of nursing, learns to use the SimMan model. The simulator will help nursing students develop clinical and decision-making skills in patient-care scenarios.
Program Notes
Continued from page 3

Health Services

Faculty activities

Rohn Butterfield, instructor in health services, is completing an introductory health care finance textbook to be published by Delmar Press.

Dr. Otis Stanley, assistant professor of health services/administration, published an article about weekly evaluation methods used in an online course in the July edition of The Journal of Educators Online. He was asked to join the journal’s editorial board.

Dr. Kevin Valadares, program director and assistant professor of health services/administration, has an article about problem-based learning forthcoming in the Journal of Health Administration Education. He serves on the editorial board for the Journal of Health Administration Ethics.

Nursing

Alumni scholarship

The Nursing Alumni Society has established a new fund in the USI Foundation which will support nursing scholarships, academic endeavors of the nursing faculty and students, and the ongoing development and growth of the Nursing Alumni Society.

The organization’s annual scholarship was presented on Honors Day in March to Cassandra Bartelt. She completed an associate degree in the spring and is now pursuing a bachelor’s degree in nursing.

Occupational Therapy

Backpack awareness

More than 90 students in the occupational therapy and occupational therapy assistant programs helped children at nine Evansville-area schools learn how to pack and wear a backpack correctly in September on National School Backpack Awareness Day. The college joined with St. Mary’s Rehabilitation Center to provide information that help schoolchildren reduce their risk for back injuries and other health problems related to backpack use.

Backpack weigh-in data for fourth and sixth graders will be part of a national study conducted by AOTA.

The event is sponsored nationally by the American Occupational Therapy Association. USI has participated since 2002 when 15 students taught a session at Corpus Christi School.

Students also are working with individuals at the Vanderburgh County Community Corrections Complex. They have offered instruction in crafts and hobbies to encourage meaningful use of leisure time.

Susan Ahmad, program director for the occupational therapy assistant program, said the USI students have increased their cultural awareness while the individuals attending the sessions have developed new interests that may help them control impulses or frustration.

“When you make something, you feel good about it,” she said.

Dr. Barbara Williams, program director for occupational therapy, said students also are benefiting from a partnership with the Solarbron Pointe Retirement Community adjacent to campus. Solarbron has adopted a wellness plan. OT and OTA students will participate in an information fair for residents. Students in a communications course will practice their interviewing skills by talking with residents, and students will hear Solarbon residents speak about retirement, particularly from the perspective of being young and healthy retirees.

Students also are providing clinical services to children at Joshua Academy, a charter school in Evansville.

Radiologic and Imaging Sciences

Ultrasound for moms-to-be

Expectant mothers are invited to have an ultrasound, not for diagnostic purposes but to help students in the sonography program practice their skills in providing this service. Women in any trimester of pregnancy may volunteer through the end of fall semester by contacting faculty members Claudine Fairchild (cfairchi@usi.edu) or Amy Wilson (alwilson2@usi.edu). There is no charge for the service.

Sonography students also need volunteers with peripheral vascular disease or bypass grafts in their legs for lower extremity arterial studies.

Respiratory Therapy

25 students

The 25 students enrolled in the respiratory therapy program participated in a number of health fairs in the fall. They provided smoking cessation and intervention options and performed pulmonary function screening and oxygen analysis.

Winning team

The second-year student team of Dayna Barrett, Candice Durall, Brittany Hamer, and Kristie Watson won their division of academic competition referred to as the Sputum Bowl in the spring at the 33rd annual meeting of the Region II Respiratory Care Conference in Covington, Kentucky. They brought home a trophy and $500.

The first-year team of Hannah Anderson, Amber Rainey, Christie Turley, and Scott Gillespie finished second in their division.

Bob Hooper, program director for respiratory therapy, and Tony Schmitt, clinical director, accompanied 23 students to the professional meeting.
Dr. Barbara Davis, professor of nursing, is co-author along with USI M.S.N. students of two articles published recently. The article “The relationship between spirituality and compliance in patients with heart failure,” appeared in the summer issue of Progress in Cardiovascular Nursing. Graduate students Gladys Black, Kim Heathcotte, Nikki Mitchell, and Charlotte Sanderson were co-authors. The article “Early Onset of Sexual Activity: Implications in Incarcerated Women” was in the April issue of Journal of Correctional Health Care. Co-authors were Jennie Ahmed, Erin Gottman, and Heather Payne.

Dr. Ann White, assistant dean for nursing, has been named to the USI Foundation Board to represent the faculty. Her one-year term began in July. White also has been selected to serve on the editorial board for the Journal of Nursing Education, a national peer reviewed nursing journal that has the largest subscription base of any journal in nursing education.

Dr. Martha Sparks, professor of nursing, recently presented as part of a symposium titled “Evidence-Based Practice for Gerontological Nursing” at a pre-convention workshop for the National Gerontological Nursing Association (NGNA) Annual Convention in Cincinnati. Sparks also had an abstract, Theory of Retrogenesis: Perceptions of Caregiver, accepted for a poster presentation at the annual conference of the National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists. The conference will be held in Phoenix in February. Sparks has been re-elected to a two-year term on the NGNA board of directors.

Four nursing faculty members are pursuing doctorates. Mellisa Hall and Mary Ann Wehmer are enrolled in a program at Case Western Reserve University Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing. Judi Kuric is studying in a program offered by Rush University, and Marilyn Ostendorf is enrolled in a Purdue University program.

Phyllis Maddox, assistant professor of dental hygiene, is president of the Ohio Valley Dental Hygienists’ Association for 2006-07. Deborah Carl, program director for dental hygiene, is president elect, and Jennifer Bartek, instructor in dental hygiene, is secretary. Bartek and Mara Beth Womack, assistant professor of dental hygiene/dental assisting, attended a cultural diversity workshop in Los Angeles in July.

Help strengthen the College of Nursing and Health Professions

Your gift to the College of Nursing and Health Professions helps strengthen its programs and provides support for its students and faculty.

Apply my gift in the following way. (You may choose more than one.)

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A contribution of $25 or more to any USI Foundation fund makes graduates “active” members of the USI Alumni Association.

To learn more, visit www.usi.edu/giving
Welcome new faculty and staff

The College of Nursing and Health Professions has announced the following appointment:

- Wanda Douglas, instructor in nursing, has served the last eight years as education director for the Texas Nurses Association. She is past executive director of the Louisiana State Nurses Association and former faculty member at Delgado Community College in New Orleans and at Midland College in Midland, Texas. She holds a master’s degree in nursing from the University of Illinois; a bachelor’s in nursing from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in Lubbock; and a master’s in nursing from University of Texas at Arlington. She has pursued doctoral work at Louisiana State University Medical Center in New Orleans.

- Rebecca Gallagher, instructor in nursing, was most recently a family nurse practitioner with St. Mary’s Senior Health Center in Evansville. She also has been a home health nurse with St. Mary’s and has experience in a geriatric housecall program and geriatric outpatient clinic at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. She has worked in other nursing positions in Brownstown, Indiana, and in Indianapolis since 1983. Gallagher earned an associate degree in nursing at Indiana University School of Nursing in Indianapolis and bachelor’s and master’s degrees in nursing from USI.

- Kimberly Hite is program director for dental assisting. She has been associated since 1996 with dental offices in Evansville and in Henderson, Kentucky. In addition, she served as an adjunct clinical instructor in dental hygiene for the College of Nursing and Health Professions the past two years and worked with Dr. Ralph A. Mata.

- Emily Holt is assistant professor of dental hygiene/assisting. She previously worked full time as a dental hygienist in a family and cosmetic dentistry practice in Owensboro, Kentucky, in addition to serving as an adjunct instructor in the USI dental hygiene program. She earned an associate degree in dental hygiene, bachelor’s degrees in dental hygiene and health services, and a master’s in health administration, all from USI.

- Tracy Kinner, instructor in nursing, joined USI from St. Mary’s Sleep Disorders Center, where she worked as a family nurse practitioner. She also is a family nurse practitioner in the emergency room at Deaconess Hospital in Evansville. Kinner has experience as a registered nurse in pediatrics, pediatric intensive care, and in a cardiovascular catheterization laboratory. She earned an associate degree in nursing at Owens Community College in Toledo, Ohio, and a bachelor’s in nursing from Lourdes College in Sylvania, Ohio. She completed the master’s program in nursing at USI in 2005.

- Jeanne Melton, instructor in health services, was most recently executive director of the AIDS Resource Group of Evansville. She has worked extensively in not-for-profit organizations, and her primary focus and interest have been on women and children’s health. She is a past administrator for the Little Red Door Cancer Agency and the BASTA (Spanish for “enough”) program, serving women and children who were victims of domestic violence in Indianapolis. Prior to that, she held an administrative position with the Area 10 Agency on Aging in Bloomington, Indiana. Melton holds a bachelor’s degree from Indiana University and a master’s in health administration from USI.

- Marie Palladino has joined the college as student advising and recruitment coordinator. She most recently was owner and partner in a St. Louis-based medical billing company and an independent consultant providing technical support. She has more than 19 years’ experience as a registered nurse in positions from staff nurse to assistant director of nursing as well as experience as an information technology professional in health-care settings. Palladino earned bachelor’s degrees in psychology and nursing at USI and a master’s in nursing from the University of Evansville.

- Connie Swenty, instructor in nursing, began her teaching career in 1994 at Ivy Tech Community College in Evansville and then taught for 12 years in the associate degree nursing program at Lincoln University in Missouri. She most recently worked as a wound, ostomy, and continence nurse at a clinic in Rolla, Missouri. Swenty earned a bachelor’s in nursing at Drury College in Springfield, Missouri, a master’s in nursing from Clarkson College, Omaha, Nebraska, and certification in wound, ostomy, and continence nursing at Metropolitan State University in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Calling all alumni
Submit news along with your degree and year of graduation, major, address, phone number, current position, and employer to College of Nursing and Health Professions, University of Southern Indiana, 8600 University Boulevard, Evansville, IN 47712-3593 or e-mail scahill@usi.edu.
News

IONE awards scholarship to M.S.N. student Lori Grimm

Lori Grimm, a graduate nursing student, has received a $2,000 scholarship from the Indiana Organization of Nurse Executives. Candidates selected for this scholarship are completing a graduate degree in nursing with an emphasis in nursing administration. Grimm is pursuing the nursing management and leadership specialty. She works at Women's Hospital in Evansville as the patient safety officer.

Andrew Bowman receives award from ENA Foundation

Andrew Bowman, a graduate student, has been awarded a $5,000 Advanced Practice Nursing Scholarship from the Emergency Nurses Association Foundation.

A registered nurse, Bowman is night shift patient care coordinator in the emergency department at Home Hospital in Lafayette, Indiana. He has been associated with Home Hospital since 1982.

Bowman is enrolled in the acute care nurse practitioner program and plans to complete requirements for the Master of Science in Nursing degree in July. He is a manuscript reviewer for “Emergency Medicine Practice,” a monthly evidence-based journal, and a contributing author for “Emergency Nursing Procedures: 4th Edition,” a manual edited by Jean Proehl, to be published in 2007.

Summer study available at Harlaxton in England

Students will have opportunities to observe the British health-care system in action and study at Harlaxton College near London through a summer study/travel program offered by the College of Nursing and Health Professions. The program is planned for June 17–July 1.

Jeri Burger, assistant professor of nursing, said the group will attend classes at Harlaxton and visit a number of health-care settings in the area. Students may travel independently over the weekend between the two weeks of classes and will spend a day in London before their return trip.

Harlaxton College in Grantham, England, is owned and operated by the University of Evansville.

Advisory committees, adjunct faculty welcomed

Community professionals who serve on advisory committees for the educational programs in the College of Nursing and Health Professions attended a welcome dinner and meeting in late September. More than 80 health-care providers and representatives of area health-related organizations and agencies toured the University’s new Rice Library and learned about program goals for the academic year.

Adjunct faculty attended an in-service meeting in August. They learned about new technology available for college programs.

Oral health can increase health of unborn child

USI graduate helps educate expectant mothers through grant program in rural Kentucky

Sara Jenkins Womack ’04 is the dental hygienist on an interdisciplinary team of health-care providers helping to improve health care for expectant mothers and their families in Hopkins County, Kentucky.

Based on the Centering Pregnancy concept developed by a Yale University nursing graduate, the program in Madisonville expands the title to “Centerring Pregnancy with Smiles” to emphasize the addition of dental hygiene care and education to the original model.

Pregnant women whose babies will be delivered by a midwife are placed into groups of 12-16 women with similar due dates. The women meet as a group with the midwife, the dental hygienist, and other health-care providers in a two-hour session each month until their last month of pregnancy when they begin meeting every other week.

“Instead of 10 minutes with a midwife, they get 10 two-hour sessions,” Womack said.

At each visit, the midwife assesses patients individually prior to an educational session using a discussion format. A free exchange ensues in an atmosphere of mutual support. The women learn more about their bodies and their babies.

Womack said research shows a correlation between periodontal disease and pre-term low birth weight infants. A baby is more likely to be born full term and at a normal weight when the expectant mother has healthy gums and teeth and presents without infection. Womack provides information on proper brushing, flossing, periodontal disease, development of cavities, eruption of a child’s primary and permanent teeth, and proper feeding techniques for infants. Each patient also is scheduled for a dental hygiene appointment.

Centerring Pregnancy with Smiles is a joint project of the Hopkins County Health Department, the Trover Foundation’s Center for Women’s Health, and the University of Kentucky. It is funded by a grant from the University of Kentucky. Since January, the program has served 237 women and 60 babies have been delivered.

Womack holds a bachelor’s degree in dental hygiene education and will complete requirements in the spring for a Master of Science in Education at USI.
Workshops and Conferences

Oral and Systemic Health through the Golden Years, February 10
Caring for Difficult Patients: A Guide for Nursing Professionals, February 14
Heart of Cardiovascular Nursing, March 8
Healing Touch Workshop, March 9–11
4th Annual Nursing Leadership Conference, March 21
11th Annual Research and Health Care Issues Conference, April 18
13th Annual Case Management Conference, May 10
9th Annual Advanced Practice Nursing Symposium, May 11
Nursing Clinical Practice, September 28, 2007
12th Annual Nursing and Health Professions Educator Conference, October 17, 2007
Healing Touch Workshop, October 26–28, 2007

Certificate Programs (Internet-delivered instruction)

Alzheimer’s Disease Management, six weeks, begins March 19
Anticoagulation Billing, three weeks, begins February 26
Anticoagulation Therapy Management, six weeks, begins January 8, March 5, April 30, and June 25
Case Management, six weeks, begins January 15, April 16
Chronic Heart Failure, five weeks, begins January 22, April 2
Complementary and Alternative Health Care, six weeks, begins February 12
Diabetes Management, six weeks, begins January 15, April 2
Health Promotion and Worksite Wellness, 10 weeks, begins January 15
Lipid Management, six weeks, begins January 22
Pain Management, six weeks, begins January 29, April 9
Basic Parish Nursing, six weeks, begins March 12

Registration information: http://health.usi.edu or 812/465-1148

Customized programs: For programs tailored to meet the specific needs of your organization, contact Peggy Graul, coordinator of Continuing Education, College of Nursing and Health Professions, University of Southern Indiana, pgraul@usi.edu or 812/465-1161.