Respiratory Therapy Program Recipient of Gift

With the assistance of Susan Wynn of Schneck Medical Center in Seymour, Indiana, Instrumentation Laboratories has donated a state-of-the-art arterial blood gas machine to the Respiratory Therapy program. The machine is an Instrumentation Laboratories GEM® Premier™ 3000 with Intelligent Quality Management (iCM™), a fully automated Quality Assurance system. In addition to the standard quality control features, the company has equipped the machine with an educational tutorial that will enhance our student’s laboratory experience. Lew Staum, Illinois area sales representative, provided an introductory in-service for program faculty. He has offered to provide continued technical and instructional support.

Tony Schmitt, Respiratory Therapy faculty, reports that this machine performs several functions. It can be used as an actual blood gas machine and also as a teaching tool. The device plays a video that explains each step of the process from introducing blood into the machine, testing, and maintenance. Students also can interact with the machine by entering patient data, analyzing, and printing results.

Dental Assisting Students Provide Care and Smiles to Children

Give Kids a Smile Day” in the USI Dental Clinic on February 3 was a unqualified success. Dr. Ralph Matacale program director for dental assisting and dental assisting students provided dental care for seven children in the community. Participants were from low income families. This event is sponsored by the Indiana Dental Association to “help make a difference in the lives of children, while raising awareness of the growing number of families who don't have access to dental care.”

A little Madness in the Spring
Is wholesome even for the King.

- Emily Dickinson, No. 1333
Dental Assisting Participates in Scout Merit Badge Activities

Dr. Ralph Matacale and Jennifer Bartek, dental assisting faculty, along with Dominique Cherry, sophomore dental assisting student and student worker from northern Indiana, provided a 6 hour learning experience and the right to a merit badge for nine Boy Scouts on Saturday, February 11. The participating boys from Indiana and Illinois were in 5th through 10th grades. The scouts made impressions of their fingers from dental stone, practiced sutures and extractions, witnessed an oral examination on a large screen via a camera, and made clay tooth models. 500 Scouts from the area earned badges through participation in several academic programs on the USI campus.

Nursing Student Selected Princess for Indy 500

Jeanette Schafer, second year nursing student, learned recently that she had been selected for the royal court of the Indianapolis 500 Festival. She is one of over two hundred young women to file applications for one of thirty three princess level positions in the court. During the next few months, Jeanette will be participating in a number of pre-race events as a volunteer locally and also in the state capitol. She will receive a coveted “Bronze Pass” which gives her access to all race areas, including the racing pits, a seat in the third level of the pagoda at the Raceway, and an invitation to the ball that follows the race. Jeanette’s volunteer work, a speech, and her academic and extracurricular efforts here at USI gives her the opportunity to be selected queen of the Indy 500 Festival at the coronation breakfast on May 20. Jeanette says that she’s met a lot of interesting people and that participation provides networking opportunities that will last a lifetime for her and the other participants.

Respiratory Therapy Student Wins Dream Wedding

Candice Durall, second year respiratory care student, was the winner of Dream Wedding, a contest sponsored by a local television station. Candice is engaged to Casey Elkins, a student at Indiana University. Help Candice choose her gown at http://www.wfie.com/global/category.asp?c=72219.

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HAPPY SPRING BREAK!
Student News

- On February 7, students from radiologic technology, sonography, respiratory therapy, and the occupational therapy programs had pizza and cookies with Dr. Nadine Coudret and Mary Lindsey, coordinator of student activities. Students provided input on opportunities for program and college enhancement.

- Food and Nutrition students are participating in “A Healthier Evansville,” a local awareness event scheduled for the first week of May. The Community Nutrition class is designing a pledge card for the opening event; they will also be serving as volunteers on nutrition education and physical activity. Nutrition for Fitness and Sport class members have created slogans on physical activity, nutrition, prevention, and healthy choices that will displayed on posters placed in Garvin Park.

- Jaime Langhans, occupational therapy assistant student, and Jessica Worth, dental hygiene student, were members of the USI Homecoming court. They were presented at the basketball game against Rockhurst University. The Screaming Eagles were victorious—74-59.

- Junior dental hygiene students are preparing for the National Dental Hygiene Board Exam in late March. Members of SADHA (student organization of the Dental Hygiene Association) will be traveling to St. Louis in late April for celebratory end of the year trip to the Dental Theatre there.

Faculty News

- Dr. Kevin Valadares and Dr. Martin Reed, program directors in Nursing and Health Professions, attended the 23rd Annual Chairpersons Conference in Orlando, Florida in early February.

- Robert Hooper, program director for respiratory therapy, serves as vice-president of Board of Trustees for the Cumberland Presbyterian Children’s Home in Denton, Texas; he attended their annual board meeting February 17-19.

- Lesa Cagle, food and nutrition, is a key organizer in the week-long local event, Healthier Evansville. She is chairing the opening health fair and the closing walk during the week of April 30-May 7. Log on to the website, www.healthierevansville.org for more information.

- Dr. Ralph Matacale, program director for dental assisting, is currently serving as president of the First District Dental Society, a ten county affiliate of the Indiana Dental Association.
DATES TO REMEMBER

March  6-11   Spring Break
March  22   CNHP Honors Day, Mitchell Auditorium, 4:00
March  30   Early Registration Begins for Fall 2006
April  5   Nursing Leadership Conference, Carter Hall
April 12   Research Conference
April 16   Easter
April 29   Final Exams Begin
May  6   Commencement

ALUMNI STORIES

- Shelby Collins, MHA 05, has accepted directorship of the Child Health Center at St. Mary’s Medical Center.
- Barbara Zellerino, MHA 05, is a Senior Consultant with 3M Health Information System Division, Atlanta, GA.
- Laura Peterson, BS, Health Services 06, has been accepted into the Doctoral Physical Therapy program at the University of Indianapolis.