

DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED HUMAN SCIENCES

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES

FALL 2022

From the Interim Department Head



Welcome to the Fall 2022 Applied Human Sciences department newsletter. We have had a busy fall semester and I am excited to share some of these activities with you. In this newsletter you will learn more about our graduate program in Prevention Science; a Walk for Peace hosted by our Conflict Resolution program; undergraduate student attendance at an international conference; alumni activities and honors; and kudos to our faculty, staff, and students.

I hope you enjoy reading about our department activities and I would love to learn more about you and your time at K-State. Please feel free to reach out and share more about your experiences and what you are doing now – we love to hear from our alumni!

Go Cats!

Mindy Markham, PhD, CFLE (mmarkham@k-state.edu)

Prevention Science

The faculty within the Applied Family Science Master's and PhD program came together to update the degree program and name to Prevention Science in Human Development and Family Science. This program combines education, research, and outreach to better understand and enhance the lives of individuals, families, and communities.

The Master's degree program trains students in applying research-based knowledge to the development, implementation, evaluation, and administration of prevention programs designed to promote individual, family, and relationship health and well-being across the life course. The doctoral program in Prevention Science in HDFFS provides students with the skills to teach, conduct research, and practice in the field.



Walk For Peace

The Conflict Resolution program hosted a Walk for Peace to observe International Day of Peace on September 20th. Participants walked from Justin Hall to Anderson Hall and were encouraged to have discussions on peace using provided prompts and questions. The walk ended on Anderson lawn where a photo of the group was taken in the shape of a peace sign.



Undergraduate Students Attend International Conference



This last September, Mia Schinder and Morgan Paddock, undergraduate students majoring in Family and Consumer Sciences Education, attended the International Federation for Home Economics World Congress in Atlanta, Georgia. They shared the following about their experience.

As future Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) Educators, we were only two of a handful of students in attendance. We were surrounded by many names recognizable in the field of Home Economics (HE) nationally and internationally. In addition, we built relationships with other FCS/HE educators and home economists in higher education, finance, child development, culinary, etc. We even were able to visit Miller Grove High School and tour their FCS programs, including their wonderful culinary program.

We attended sessions that made us think bigger about sustaining Family and Consumer Sciences Education as a profession in the

United States as many other countries have been able to do by modernizing the field to focus more on the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

We were blown away by the success of Home Economics in other countries and how much of a pillar it is in their communities. We came away with a multitude of ideas and connections that will make us better educators. We are thankful that the College of Health and Human Sciences financially supported us for this trip and are thankful for all the Family and Consumer Sciences Educators we met in Atlanta.

Proud Of Our Alumni Celebration of Excellence

The College of Health and Human Sciences Celebration of Excellence Awards honor the significant contributions made by graduates and friends of the college. We were proud to recognize three alumni from programs in our department.



Career Achievement Award

Dr. Sandra Stith is an internationally known expert on understanding and treating intimate partner violence. She is known for her work with the U.S. Air Force, working with the U.S. Military Family Advocacy Programs where she managed and conducted a variety of family violence-related research projects, including a project to develop and test a risk assessment measure for partner violence.

This program is now used worldwide through the Department of Defense. Over the span of her career, Stith served as a principle investigator for over \$20 million in external grants.

Stith published her first book, 'Couples Treatment for Domestic Violence: Finding Safe Solutions', in 2011. Before retiring, she has edited seven books and has authored or co-authored over 150 articles and book chapters.

She has been an active member of numerous national organizations related to marriage and family therapy, serving as a board member for the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, the National Council on Family Relations, and the American Family Therapy Academy.

Along with being a highly sought out presenter on the topic of couples treatment for domestic violence both nationally and internationally, Stith's work has been recognized with numerous awards and honors, including the American Family Therapy Academy's Distinguished Contribution to Family Systems Research Award, the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy's Outstanding Contribution to Marriage and Family Therapy Award, and in 2013, she was named a Fellow for the National Council on Family Relations.

Stith joined the K-State couple and family therapy program in 2007, serving as the Virginia Mowrey McAninch professor and director of the couple and family therapy program. In 2014, Stith was named a university distinguished professor, a lifetime title and the highest honor K-State bestows on its faculty members.



Distinguished Service Award

Gayla Randel has been a practitioner, teacher and advocator of family and consumer sciences education, FCS, for over 37 years. Her work as a grade 7-12 classroom FCS teacher and Family, Career and Community Leaders of America adviser spanned 20 years with students winning state and national recognition for outstanding service and leadership.

Following her time in secondary-education, she joined K-State's FSC program, serving as an adjunct instructor.

Randel currently serves as a state-level FCS administrator for the state of Montana where her work focuses on creating strong partnerships for the human services, hospitality and tourism, education and training, and visual arts—fashion, apparel, and interior design, career clusters at the local, state and national levels. This work also directly addresses the social-emotional wellness of our adolescent populations through prevention education. Prior to her time in Montana, she held the same position for the state of Kansas. She is also actively involved in national organizations and has held numerous national leadership positions and is presently chair of the National FCCLA Board of Directors.

Her teaching and mentorship has received national recognition from organizations including the Association for Career & Technical Education, the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, and Phi Upsilon Omicron Honor Society. In 2020, Randel was inducted into the National Family, Career and Community Leaders of America Leadership Hall of Fame.

Randel holds two degrees from K-State including a bachelor's degree in vocational home economics education and a master's degree in adult, continuing and occupational education. She is also certified by the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.



Health and Human Sciences Partner Award

Don Munce is a first-generation college student from South Dakota who began his career in college admissions his freshman year, serving as a college ambassador for Augustana University. His career in college admissions continued uninterrupted for another 47 years, progressing to different titles such as admissions counselor; director of admissions and financial aid; director of student affairs; to executive director; and finally ending with the title

chief executive officer and owner of the National Research Center for College and University Admissions.

The National Research Center for College and University Admissions, or NRCCUA, links colleges and universities to the nation's largest college and career planning program for students seeking post-secondary guidance.

Munce is recognized as an innovative, entrepreneurial leader in marketing and enrollment planning services in higher education. The college planning program he developed was credited by one leading higher education expert as, "having resulted in the nationwide enrollment of more underrepresented student populations than any other single influence". His innovative Encoura data platform, an enrollment management technology

platform that combines student intelligence data, advanced analytics and education-specific research, was the first major use of artificial intelligence to predict the most likely college enrollment choices by students at institutions across America.

Munce is active as a board member and volunteers for many institutions and non-profit organizations, currently serving as the Chairman of the Board at the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance in Kansas City. His family foundation has been actively supporting programs at K-State, Augustana University, Central Christian College, the American Legion and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children along with other educational and youth serving organizations.

He earned his bachelor's degree at Augustana University in Sioux Falls, SD and received his master's degree in adolescent development from K-State.

Communication Sciences and Disorders Alumnus Receives ASHA Honor



Dr. Travis Threats, graduate from the Communication Sciences and Disorders program and Professor and Chair of the Department of Speech, Language, & Hearing Sciences at Saint Louis University, received the Honors of Association from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), the organization's highest honor.

The award recognizes exceptional contributions to the field of speech,

language, and hearing sciences and is awarded to only a select few individuals each year.

We had the chance to catch up with Dr. Threats this fall as he presented at the Kansas Speech-Language-Hearing Association conference in Manhattan. Dr. Threats was recognized for his achievements at an alumni event hosted by the Communication Sciences and Disorders program at the Flint Hills Discovery Center in advance of the conference.

Kudos

Here is just a snapshot of some of the amazing work our faculty, staff and graduate students are doing.

- **Shelby Astle**, doctoral student in Applied Family Science, along with her colleagues, **Chelsea Spencer**, **Michelle Toews**, **Paige McAllister**, **Kristin Anders**, Kansas State University; and Matthew Rivas-Koehl, University of Illinois, were awarded the 2022 National Council on Family Relations Family and Community Education Section Best Student Proposal for their paper titled Factors associated with sexual assault victimization among college students in the U.S.

- **Anthony Ferraro**, Associate Professor in Human Development and Family Science, was named the recipient of the [Association of Public and Land-grant Universities \(APLU\) Board on Human Sciences 2022 Undergraduate Research Mentor Award](#). The award recognizes a faculty member in human sciences for exceptional performance as a research mentor to undergraduate students.

- **Anthony Ferraro**, Associate Professor in Human Development and Family Science, was awarded the College of Health and Human Sciences Hulsing Mentoring Award, recognizing his exceptional mentoring of undergraduate and graduate students.

- **Stephanie Fox**, Department Accountant, was awarded the College of Health and Human Sciences Outstanding Staff Award for her outstanding achievement and performance as a staff member in the college.

- **Elaine Johannes**, Kansas Health Foundation Distinguished Professor of Community Health and Extension Specialist, has received several recent grants and contracts to support health-related community engagement projects, including supporting vaccination education projects, building a network of Extension professionals to provide grant writing assistance to local communities, and replenishing the Kansas public health workforce through scholarships and internships or K-State's Master of Public Health students.

- **Ben Jones**, doctoral student in Couple and Family Therapy, was awarded the 2022 National Council on Family Relations Family Therapy Section Best Student Paper Award for his paper titled Adolescent internalizing symptoms, maternal burnout, and negative self-appraisal of parenting.

- **Ben Jones**, doctoral student in Couple and Family Therapy, was selected as the doctoral winner of the [Graduate Student Council Award for Graduate Student Teaching Excellence](#). As the winner of this award, he will serve as K-State's doctoral nominee for the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools Excellence in Teaching Award.

- **Kari Morgan**, Teaching Associate Professor in Integrative Human Sciences, was selected as the recipient of one of two [2022 K-State Global Campus Excellence in Online Teaching awards](#). This award is given to a faculty member who has provided outstanding online teaching, course development, mentoring of students, and service to the field of continuing education.

- **Kari Morgan**, Teaching Associate Professor in Integrative Human

Sciences, was awarded the College of Health and Human Sciences Dawley-Scholar Award for Faculty Excellence. The award recognizes outstanding achievement in the area of student development resulting in the personal, professional, and educational growth of one or more undergraduate and/or graduate students.

- **Chelsea Spencer**, Research Associate Professor, was awarded the College of Health and Human Sciences Faculty Research Excellence Award for superior accomplishment in research, scholarly activities, and discovery.

- **Bradford Wiles** and **Anthony Ferraro**, Associate Professors in Human Development and Family Science, were awarded a \$200,000 grant from Child Care Aware of Kansas to provide guidance and resources in conducting community-level child care-related needs assessments to local coalitions in need of support.

- **Amber Vennum**, Associate Professor in Couple and Family Therapy leads [Relevate](#), a multidisciplinary team of researchers and practitioners who make research-based information about interpersonal relationships

accessible to all. The Relevate team won the [Priester Award for Innovation](#) at the National Health Outreach Conference.

- **McKenzie Zimmermann**, Applied Family Science Master's program alumni, was selected by the Graduate School to serve as K-State's nominee for the MAGS Distinguished Thesis Award for the Social Sciences category.

- The **Kansas State Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association** was awarded [2022 Bronze Chapter Honors by the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association](#).

We Want To Hear From You!

Please reach out and share about your time in the department. I would love to meet you and hear about your experiences.

–Mindy Markham, interim department head (mmarkham@k-state.edu)

Celebrating 150 years!

Join us as we celebrate 150 years of the College of Health and Human Sciences!

Though the college continues to evolve in our ever-changing world, we hold great pride in knowing how deep our roots run at Kansas State University. From the first sewing class offered in 1872, to the 17 undergraduate and 13 advanced degrees, our college remains driven to produce people-focused professionals.

Your financial support allows us to continue on our mission of preparing the future generations for meaningful lives and careers that will have great impact on their communities and the world.

Give Today