



K-State Center on Aging

Gerontology Update

September 2009

www.humec.ksu.edu/aging/

Note from the Director

Welcome back for another semester of teaching and learning! I can't imagine that I'm the only one that seems to have more left on her to-do list than when the summer started. Even though I wish I could have been more productive before summer ended, I am happy and grateful to see the students back on campus. As we begin another year I'm looking for someone who wants an easy volunteer job to add to their service. The Center has three committees that help oversee our programs. We are always looking for new gerontology faculty to take a turn with this work. We don't meet frequently but when we do it is for a significant reason. Currently Laszlo Kulcsar heads the research committee, Migette Kaup chairs the academic affairs group and Deb Sellers is chair for outreach. Please contact our office if you would be willing to serve on one of these three committees.

Over the summer we replaced nearly every secondary major that we lost through graduation with no signs of a let-up. Students are learning from their advisers that this degree enhancement will serve them well and our graduates are confirming that. Please keep up the good work in sending students to us and encouraging their work in gerontology.

Let us know how we can help you have a great semester.

Gayle


Calendar

- 9/24 Inauguration of Kirk Schultz
- 9/25 Spring 2010 Course Schedule on web
- 10/5 Student holiday
- 10/26 Enrollment for spring 2010 begins
- 11/25 Thanksgiving holiday begins
- 12/11 Last day of fall classes
- 12/14 Semester exams begin
- 12/28 January Intersession begins

The start of the school year is so exciting with new classes, new challenges and students getting another year closer to graduation. As you are working with students this semester, please feel to call us if we can assist you. We are always happy to help a student with course planning to see how gerontology can fit into their schedule. We hope to get more information on our website this year related to careers in aging. If you know of specific sites that we should consider adding to our list of resources please let me know. We have made available to our students the 2009 Wage and Salary Survey Report of Kansas Long Term Care Providers. If you would like an electronic copy of this document, please send me an email. We will also have available soon a new advising "syllabus" for gerontology. It will include information related to our secondary majors, graduation procedures, resources, etc. Have a great semester and let us know how we can help you.

Pam





Welcome Back

For the first time the Center on Aging is planning a “welcome back” day of activities for students and gerontology faculty – and you are invited! Some of the Meadowlark Hills staff and residents will be joining us. Please encourage any of your students who are interested in gerontology to stop by that day and . . . **we hope to see you there.**

When: September 10th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.*

Where: The quad between Willard Hall and Hale Library

What: Snow Cones, Popcorn, Outdoor Games (hillbilly golf, horseshoes, etc.) & intergenerational activities

100 plus

As we told you in April 100 was the number we had targeted as our goal – 100 students declared as Secondary Majors in Gerontology by the end of the Spring 09 semester. We actually exceeded our goal -- 103 students. Fifteen students graduated in May/August, and currently we have 102 students. A number of students were sent to us this summer by our gerontology faculty and we want to say thanks for all you do in this area. It is because of you that we continue to reach and recruit new students into our program.

Our graduate program is doing well with steady enrollments and applicants. We continue to have the largest enrollment of any of the universities participating in the Great Plains IDEA online masters in gerontology.

Gerontology studies will help our students tremendously when they graduate and enter their chosen field. We continue to look for opportunities to share with students about careers related to aging. If you have questions, want a “refresher” on the secondary major requirements, would like us to give a presentation in your class (5-50 minutes), or have other areas where we can help please let us know.

The mediocre teacher tells.

The good teacher explains.

The superior teacher states.

The great teacher inspires.

William Ward





WHAT ARE THEY DOING?



Each semester students in our Intro to Gerontology class get a taste of what some older adults might experience as they age. This activity is one of our most popular sessions in the course. We have even been contacted by some student groups inquiring about our availability to do this aging simulation with their members. They heard about it from their friends who were enrolled in our class and who thought it was a great learning experience. If you are interested in doing an aging simulation in your own class, please feel free to contact our office. We can suggest activities which are not difficult to do but which can really have an impact on student understanding of what it might be like to be older. Student comments about the simulation indicate that they gained a better understanding of the challenges some older adults face on a daily basis.



Are you doing something unusual or unique in one of your classes? We'd love to hear about it and may even feature it in a future issue of this newsletter. Send the information to Pam Evans at pevans@ksu.edu.

K-State notice of nondiscrimination

Kansas State University is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnic or national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, age, ancestry, disability, military status, veteran status, or other non-merit reasons, in admissions, educational programs or activities and employment, including employment of disabled veterans and veterans of the Vietnam Era, as required by applicable laws and regulations. Responsibility for coordination of compliance efforts and receipt of inquiries concerning Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, has been delegated to the Director of Affirmative Action, Kansas State University, 214 Anderson Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506-0124, (Phone) 785-532-6220; (TTY) 785-532-4807.

Revised April 22, 2008.

