

The College of Health Science and Public Health has a strong commitment to the following values

Collaborative Care • Health Care Equity • Access • Assurance • Sustainability

# College of Health Science & Public Health August 2021

# **COVID-19 Response**

Eastern is continually evaluating safety protocols. Currently:

Washington has mandated masks for indoor public spaces, effective Monday, August 23rd. Masks are required in indoor public spaces for everyone-whether they are vaccinated or not.

All EWU students, employees, and visiting scholars must provide proof that they are fully vaccinated or have an approved waiver. Documentation is required by September 15, 2021.

Eastern continues to conduct testing and contact tracing, while consulting with local and state public health experts to monitor developments, especially the Delta variant. We are continually monitoring positive case rates on campus and in our community, as well as other important information such as the number of people who have submitted their vaccination records to the university via Med+Proctor. You can always find the latest information at our Covid-19 website: www.ewu.edu/coronavirus.



Erin Conroy, junior, pre-nursing major is the winner of a full-year, in-state tuition waiver as part of the EagsVaxUp incentive program.

# Dean's Message



This week we welcomed students back to campus for the 2021-2022 academic year. Students in the Communication Sciences and Disorders, Dental Hygiene, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy programs are back in class on both the Spokane Riverpoint Campus and the new Catalyst Building. Students in our quarter programs will return on September 22nd.

As the new academic year begins, I am proud to share recent news and updates from the college, as well as a look forward to our initiatives and plans for the upcoming year. I hope that you enjoy reading about all of the great things we have been doing in the College of Health Science and Public Health!

As always, I welcome your thoughts, comments and advice. Please contact me via email (dmann@ewu.edu), phone (828.1348/509.991.7825) or text (509.991.7825).

Sincerely,

Dana Man

# **Adaptive Athletics**



On July 27th our EWU Wheelchair Basketball team demonstrated their skills at our Adaptive Athletics program "Tip-Off" Event at the new Hooptown North Bank courts in Riverfront Park. The event provided an opportunity for dignitaries, community members, and members of the EWU men's and women's basketball team

to get into wheelchairs and experience this unique brand of basketball. You can view pictures and read more about this event <u>HERE</u>.

A \$30,000 match donation to the program was announced by EWU Foundation Board Member Mike Mumford. To contribute to the match and make your gift go twice as far, visit https://www.ewu.edu/give/adaptive, or explore other options by contacting Kaarin Appel (kappel@ewu.edu).

# **CHSPH Program Updates**

## **Adaptive Athletics**

The Wheelchair Basketball team is planning an exhibition event at Fairchild Air Force Base in October. The event is intended to be part of a potential partnership with Fairchild AFB that will provide opportunities for our student-athletes to shadow some AFB personnel and gain work experience if they have such interest.

The program continues to grow. We have 2 incoming freshmen and one new transfer student joining us this fall. We currently have 3 scheduled campus recruit visits, and we have two verbal commitments for next season, including one graduate student and one high school senior.

Our new student-athletes for the 2021- 2022 season include:

Jackson Atwood - Spokane Valley, Washington, Freshman

Elijah Johnson - Lacey, Washington, Freshman

Zach Garcia - Yakima, Washington, Transfer (from University of Arizona)

### **Communication Sciences & Disorders**

The University Speech and Hearing Clinic was featured in the Spokesman-Review on July 7, 2021. The story "Solving for 'R:' EWU clinic uses ultrasound technology to help children with speech disorders" highlighted the work of Hashemi Hosseinabad, PhD. Hosseinabad, an assistant professor, and six graduate students from EWU and Washington State University hosted a clinic where they used cutting-edge technology to evaluate children struggling to say their Rs. <u>LEARN MORE</u>.

## **Dental Hygiene**

The Dental Hygiene program celebrates its 50th year anniversary this year. We will be planning an event to celebrate the occasion!

## **Occupational Therapy**

Grace Hamill, a second-year OT student, recently was awarded the Arc of Washington Trust Fund stipend award of \$5,000. This is a competitive award that reflects the academic training that the student has received and the dedication of the student in serving individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

We are partnering with Shriner's Hospital to sponsor a mobility device Halloween costume project. We have done this in the past with great success. Students design and create costumes for the kids that incorporate their mobility device. This year, the kids will show off their custom costumes at the River Park Square mall on October 30th. We are currently seeking sponsors to help secure costume-making materials. Contact Amy Shadd (ashadd@ewu.edu) to donate materials or funding for this community event. Material costs are estimated to be ~\$500 and include PVC pipe, poster board, paints and general craft supplies.

#### Master of Public Health

This fall, we are launching the Master of Public Health and Graduate Certificate in Public Health in a fully online accelerated format. The College of Health Science and Public Health offers the only Master of Public Health (MPH) and Graduate Certificate in Public Health programs in Eastern Washington. Interest and enrollment in this program has more than doubled since launching the awareness and registration campaign this summer.

# **Physical Therapy**

All third-year students (class of 2022) passed the National Physical Therapy Exam. Two students received a perfect score of 800!

### **Wellness and Movement Sciences**

Students in the Wellness and Movement Sciences program will return to campus for fall quarter in late September. This year, we will be working on transitioning the Bachelor of Science in Public Health degree to the Public Health and Health Administration department so that both public health degrees (BSPH and MPH) are in the same department.

# **UPDATES AND INITIATIVES**

### **EWU Presidential Search**

Eastern Washington University has retained the Executive Search Firm of WittKieffer to facilitate its search for a new permanent university president. WittKieffer will be holding listening sessions with various stakeholder groups to solicit input on what qualities they wish to see in the individual who is hired for this important leadership position in mid-late August and early September 2021.

### **Holistic Admissions**

We recently received a generous grant of \$45,000 over a 3-year period from **Providence** to support diversity and inclusion initiatives at EWU through implementation of a holistic admissions process and thoughtful supports to maximize student success both academically and socially. We have engaged with a highly qualified consultant group, American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO) and are excited to launch this new initiative with the support of the University and the EWU Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. **Cambia Foundation** has donated an additional \$25,000 to support this important initiative.

### **Faculty and Staff News**

Welcome to the following new faculty and staff:

### **CHSPH Dean's Office**

Rose Knight, Finance and Budget Officer Amy Shadd, Administrative Specialist

#### **Communication Sciences and Disorders**

Heidi Iwashita, ABD, Visiting Assistant Professor

### **Dental Hygiene**

Heather Anderson, RDH, MSDH, Lecturer Windy Rothmund, RDH, MSDH, Assistant Professor (formerly Lecturer)

## Occupational Therapy

Danielle DiLuzio, OTD, OTR/L, Assistant Professor (formerly Lecturer) Leanna McManus, MOTR/L, Lecturer Dane Vulcan, MOT, Lecturer

### **Physical Therapy**

Jennifer Jordan, PT, DPT, Lecturer Cynthia Robinson, PT, PhD, Lecturer and Director of Clinical Education, Joel Sattgast, PT, DPT, OCS, Assistant Professor

### **Public Health and Health Administration**

Lynn Anidi, PhD, Visiting Assistant Professor and Department Chair

#### **Wellness and Movement Sciences**

Jamie Bartlett, PhD, Lecturer Laree Shanda, Lecturer

Congratulations to the following faculty members whose promotions were recently approved by the Board of Trustees!

Lesli Cleveland, promotion to Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders
Jeremy Jostad, tenure with promotion to Associate Professor of Wellness and Movement Sciences
Lori Speer, tenure with promotion to Associate Professor of Dental Hygiene
Katrina Taylor, tenure with promotion to Associate Professor of Wellness and Movement Sciences