



College of
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES
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2007–2008 Annual Report

Department of Health Sciences

Partnerships

The Health Sciences Department currently has affiliation agreements with 15 hospitals for the placement of CLS students, and additional sites have expressed interest in developing agreements. These experiences will provide greater diversity among the placement opportunities for CLS students.

Practicum and internship placement sites are currently being established with health care agencies and institutions in central and northern Wisconsin for the Health Science majors. These practical experiences are a valued and necessary component in the education of health care professionals.

Partnerships for a capstone course in Health Sciences, Health Sciences 490: Interdisciplinary Perspectives in Health Care, are being developed. Health Science majors are matched with projects and research endeavors identified in cooperation with local agencies. Partnerships are currently established with Marshfield Clinic, the American Red Cross, Portage County Literacy Council, Portage County Health and Human Services Department, UWSP Health Services, and others. These successful collaborations result in meaningful outcomes for the partner health care agencies and valuable experience in applied project work that fosters skills such as critical thinking and problem solving.

Focus on Teaching/Active Learning

All health science majors gain practical experience through internships, experiential learning, or practica. Faculty are currently focusing on the development not only of skills appropriate for students' fields of study but also on attitudes and professionalism appropriate for their selected careers.

Fifty-two clinical and pre-clinical students attended the Wisconsin Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (WISCLS) State Convention held in Waukesha on April 16–17. With 495 attendees over the two days, the students had the opportunity to share, discuss, and network with laboratory professionals from throughout the state. A total of 45 hours of educational programming offered opportunities in all areas of the clinical laboratory.

Twenty-five clinical students presented case studies and research projects for the Ninth Annual Student presentation Day held April 7. A wide variety of topics was presented, and posters were displayed in the foyer of the Science Building.

The Department of Health Sciences sponsored three student bowl teams for the Wisconsin student bowl competition. These three teams competed in “friendly” competition with 16 other teams from other university and hospital programs.

Diversity/International

Minority students represent approximately 8–9 percent of the student enrollment in Health Sciences. In advising students, retention of minorities remains a focus. Diversity is also embraced in the Health Sciences courses with objectives designed to emphasize cultural and ethnic influences. The department continues to strive for greater diversity and is developing a plan to address recruitment of Health Sciences majors from areas of Wisconsin with higher populations of minority high school students.

Faculty have interest in the development of study abroad programs with a health care focus. Currently, Health Sciences students are encouraged to participate in study abroad programs that are available through the UWSP campus. A CLS faculty member will serve as a leader for a semester abroad in 2008-09.

Student-centered Excellence

UWSP CLS students continue to be very competitive nationwide. A student received one of 34 awards from Dade Behring for the Emil von Behring Scholarship. Another CLS student was awarded one of five awards for the Dade Behring Legacy Scholarship.

Six CLS-MT students received the American Society for Clinical Pathology National Honor Award. This award recognizes those students in the laboratory profession who demonstrate both academic excellence and a commitment to community service and leadership activities.

CLS students continue to be successful in being awarded state and community scholarships. A UWSP student was awarded the Clinical Laboratory Managers Association Scholarship.

An awards reception was held on Monday, April 7, in the Alumni Room of the Dreyfus University Center. Department scholarships in an amount totaling \$2,850.00 were distributed to students who will begin their Clinical Practicum experience this fall. Nine students—five CLS majors and four Health Science majors—received the CPS Dean’s Awards.

Three of 25 CLS-MT graduates were awarded the Chancellor’s Leadership Award this year.

The 2007 CLS graduates maintained the tradition of excellent performance on the national certification exams, with 100 percent passing the exam. Over the last 10 years, the pass rate for UWSP students has been greater than 95 percent, while the national average is 70 percent. The 2008 graduates will be completing their certification examinations this summer.

The ninth annual Student Presentation Day was held Monday, April 7, 2008. Posters were displayed throughout the day in the foyer of the Science Building. As part of the requirement for their capstone course, 25 students developed and presented their research projects and case studies to faculty, students, and guests. The topics were exceptional, and the presentations and posters were truly professional. This experience promotes professional growth, personal development, and presentations at professional meetings.

At the Wisconsin Society for Clinical Laboratory Science Convention, UWSP was represented by the entry of 25 student research and case studies. One hundred CLS and CLT students presented 85 scientific poster topics.

Sigma Mu Tau focused on leadership development for its members, making a difference in the community through service, and education. This year's accomplishments included conducting a food sales for the Tammy Feltz Memorial Scholarship, participating in the Cultural Fair, participating in the Involvement Fair, serving as "Books from the Heart" contributors, and collecting donations for Casa Hogar, an orphanage in Peru.

Community Service

With three large health care and several insurance corporations in Central Wisconsin, there is a need for practicing health care professionals and support staff. With the addition of the Health Science major, the possibility of expansion for a bachelor's degree in nursing, and the steady growth of the clinical laboratory science major, UWSP plays a vital role in preparing qualified graduates to fill this community need for qualified health care providers.

Through partnerships established with Marshfield Clinic, the American Red Cross, Portage County Literacy Council, Portage County Health and Human Services Department, UWSP Health Services, and others, the Department of Health Sciences helps to complete projects and research studies of vital interest to the community.

In cooperation with the Blood Center of Wisconsin, CLS students again sponsored a summer blood drive.

A university credit course, "Evolution of Health Care Professions," is offered at Stevens Point Area High School. Students successfully completing the course will earn credits toward the introductory course for majors in Health Sciences and general degree requirements. This is of value to students who hope to pursue careers in health care because they will have earned credits toward the majors in health care prior to their entry to UWSP.

Junior and senior level students assist faculty with the "Women in Science" demonstrations, giving a "hands-on" exposure to health sciences.

Life and Look of Campus

A Health Sciences laboratory was completely remodeled during this past year. Completely updated, this lab includes an electronic health information system, complete with more than 5,000 patient records. This lab will be used for courses in both health science and clinical laboratory science majors. The remodeling provides for more efficient utilization of the space and greater access for students.

Program Highlights

Three new Health Sciences faculty joined our staff this past year. The Health Science major continues in its development.

The Health Sciences Department continues to seek entitlement for a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing. Meetings were held with UW System and the Deans from other UW Nursing Programs over the past year. The final report is due the end of June.

The first Health Science majors graduated on May 18, 2008. Graduates included three in pre-physical therapy; three in pre-occupational therapy; and two in Health Care Administration.

Enrollment in all of the options is increasing. To meet the increased demand for courses, an additional Health Sciences faculty member will be hired for fall 2008.

Twenty-five CLS majors joined the workforce as practicing professionals. The demand for Clinical Laboratory Scientists remains high, with many of the May graduates securing employment prior to graduation.

Additional articulation agreements with area technical colleges are being considered. These agreements would ease the transition from various associate degree programs to bachelor's degree programs with majors in Health Science or CLS.

At the annual Awards Reception, the Friend of the UWSP Department of Health Sciences Award was presented to Tim Keeffer. Tim routinely offers his expertise (30+ years with Beckman Coulter) as a clinical instrument electronics guru and volunteers his time to the Health Sciences Department.

The Outstanding Alumni Award was presented to Ms. Diane Carlson. Diane, a 1985 Medical Technology graduate from UWSP, is currently the administrative director of the Blood Center of Northcentral Wisconsin. She voluntarily trains CLS clinical students in transfusion medicine.

The Health Sciences Department is fortunate in having such uniquely qualified volunteers involved in the education of our students.

Faculty News

General

The implementation of the new Health Science major was a total department effort; the result was our first Health Science graduates on May 18, 2008.

Three new department faculty successfully completed their first year teaching in the department.

Susan Raab

- Coordinated online clinical practicum courses.
- Developed additional partnerships with clinical sites.
- Chaired two Search and Screen Committees.
- Advised more than 100 students during each of two semesters.

Joyce Bulgrin

- Served as Health Sciences representative for Viewpoint days.
- Chaired Health Science Academic Staff Search and Screen Committee.
- Conducted Women in Science in fall 2007.
- Received CPS-Continuing Education Course Development Grant
- Offered CE courses for CLS 295, 427, 428.
- Served as judge for state poster competition.
- Advised more than 60 students during each of the two semesters.
- Coordinated summer blood drive.

Michelle Shulfer

- Advised Sigma Mu Tau.
- Offered CLS 100 Health Career Exploration in conjunction with SPASH.

- Conducted Women in Science Day program.
- Served as Health Sciences ViewPoint representative.
- Coordinated National Lab Week decorations and activities.
- Advised more than 60 students during each of the two semesters.

Carol Hebert

- Participated in Teaching Partners Program.
- As part of the UWSP Teaching and Learning Program, participated in a Teaching Colloquium-Service Learning at Sentry Insurance.
- Advised more than 30 students during each of two semesters.
- Represented Health Sciences at the fall Majors Fair.

Carole Paulson

- Participated in forum discussion groups on campus regarding service-learning, curriculum design, and exemplary instruction.
- Drafted UW System's Entitlement to Plan for Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree Completion program.
- Applied for UPDC grant for education-based research in spring 2008.
- Developed experiential learning contracts.
- Advised more than 30 Health Sciences majors.
- Continued work on doctorate degree.

Sue Becker

- Advised more than 30 Health Sciences majors.
- Completed the initial steps in implementing laboratory Information System.
- Presented for Women in Science.

Dan McCarty

- Advised more than 30 Health Sciences majors.
- Continued community research projects.

***Nancy Habermann*, Academic Department Associate**

- Assisted in advising Health Sciences students.
- Served as the clerical support person on all department search and screen committees.
- Coordinated department activities.