

Letter from the Director

Forming and Educating Agents of Change has been the focus of our recent Center for Health Services Research and Patient Safety (CHRP) activities. Examples of this are highlighted in this newsletter. Leading research scientists reminded us how to achieve excellence in our work at a two day external advisory campus visit with us.

CHRP staff led a successful national Patient Safety Awareness Week for the benefit of our own Creighton community.

During a School of Medicine First Week seminar series, CHRP faculty addressed the subject of critical decisions when professionals confront the moral dilemma of managing health care errors.

In this issue, please read about the important work of our colleagues.

Warm Regards,

Kimberly Galt, Pharm.D., Ph.D.
Director, Center for Health Services Research and Patient Safety

Coming Soon

Please watch the CHRP website and *Creighton Today* for information on upcoming "Meet the Researcher" Series events.

For additional information contact:

Program Coordinator
402.280.4944

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External Advisory Committee Conducts 2012 Site Visit

By Mavis Hall, M.A., Jamie Steemken and Kevin Fuji, Pharm.D.

On Feb. 27 and 28, the Center for Health Services Research and Patient Safety (CHRP) welcomed a second site visit by four nationally recognized senior scientist leaders. These leaders serve as members of an external advisory committee for the Creighton Research Infrastructure Program to Achieve Sustainability project, sponsored by a grant from Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (R24-HS018625).

These senior scientists led a two-day planning and training session for faculty affiliated with the sustainability project and other CHRP-affiliated faculty.

The External Advisory Committee members include:

- Dennis Berens, M.A., director, Nebraska Office of Rural Health, Division of Public Health, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.
- Ann Barry Flood, Ph.D., professor of radiology at Dartmouth Medical School. Flood has been co-editor-in-chief of the Health Services Research journal for 10 years.
- Kate Lapane, Ph.D., professor and chair, Department of Epidemiology and Community Health, Virginia Commonwealth University.

- Sue Tolleson-Rinehart, Ph.D. - assistant chair for faculty development, Department of Pediatrics and co-associate director, Health Care and Prevention MPH Program, School of Public Health, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Thanks to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality grant, since October 2009, the external advisory committee has provided ongoing strategic assistance and advice on implementation of research approaches within the three projects associated with the grant.

Berens provides expertise on development and maintenance of community relationships and translation of findings to practice, Flood on strategic planning for translation of research, Lapane on health-services research program initiatives and research methods, Tolleson-Rinehart on curricular formation and development in health-services research.

This year's event provided an opportunity for a dynamic exchange of ideas with faculty and professional staff involved in the grant projects.

On the first morning of the visit, the external advisors participated in discussions on

individual project progress and offered valuable performance-based feedback and assessment of areas of strength and improvement needed.

Afternoon sessions began with a keynote "Meet the Researcher" session by Flood, entitled "An Editor's Perspective of Peer Review in Health Services Research".

She provided insights about publishing health services research from her perspective as former co-editor-in-chief of Health Services Research, the official journal of the AcademyHealth.

Considerations for researchers who are preparing manuscripts for journal submission included the importance of appropriately assigning authorship; identifying not only a target journal for submission, but a second and third option as well; and understanding that very few manuscripts get published without needing additional minor or major revisions.

Flood also led a discussion session on "Process Management to Generate Greater Productivity", which focused on the manuscript review and dissemination process used by CHRP.

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CHRP Faculty Participate in School of Medicine Seminars on the First Week Event

By Jamie Steemken and Eric Albert Zimmer, S.J., Ph.D.

The Moral Dilemmas in Health Care session of the First Week Seminars program was held on Feb. 3. Health professions students from the fields of medicine, nursing, dentistry, pharmacy, occupational therapy and physical therapy spent their time in discussion with faculty members. Administrators



Eric Albert Zimmer, S.J., Ph.D.

from medicine as well as faculty from pharmacy, nursing and physical therapy were also in attendance.

The First Week Seminars program is an event sponsored by the Creighton University School of Medicine. The event is coordinated by Eric Albert Zimmer, S.J., Ph.D., director of Leadership Development for the School of Medicine.

Table discussions were facilitated by Zimmer and Amy Abbott, Ph.D., R.N., associate professor, School of Nursing; Cindy Costanzo, Ph.D., R.N., assistant professor, School of Nursing; Deborah Givens, P.T., Ph.D., D.P.T., professor and chair of physical therapy; Kevin Fuji, Pharm.D., resident assistant

professor, Center for Health Services Research and Patient Safety (CHRP); Stephen Lanspa, M.D., professor of medicine and senior associate dean of medicine, School of Medicine; and Robert Sandstrom, Ph.D., P.T., associate professor, physical therapy.

This session focused on a case study that dealt with patient medication error and resultant patient harm. It was developed by Kimberly Galt, Pharm.D., Ph.D., director, CHRP, and Fuji. The case study presented a medication error from two different perspectives: first from the viewpoint of a nurse who committed the error, and then from the viewpoint of the nurse's supervisor. This approach allowed participants

to reflect on and discuss the unique moral dilemmas posed by each situation.

Information about this event can be found at: <http://medschool.creighton.edu/leadership/seminars/index.php>.

The School of Medicine hosts three events per semester for a total of six events per year. This is the second year of the First Week Seminars program. This program is primarily for medical school students and faculty, however, students and faculty from the health sciences schools are periodically invited to attend. ▲

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Sustain Grant External Advisory Committee 2012 Site Visit

Other presentations included:

- “Leadership Succession and Sustainability in Research: The role of community”, in which Berens provided an overview of succession planning and research leadership development in an academic setting. Berens pointed out that each person in an academic setting is a part of multiple communities, and that collectively, it is

important to determine what we value in our educational community in order to build a sustainable research leadership model. He described the need for maximizing the individual assets of community members by attending to their individual needs while still working toward the shared vision of the entire educational community.

- “It Takes a Village to Grow Principal Investigators: Career Development Awards Pathways to Success” in which Lapane provided an overview of career development awards and shared suggestions for developing a career development award program. These

suggestions included having the trainee develop a clear career trajectory that will be facilitated by the career development program; setting specific year-to-year expectations but remaining flexible to take advantage of unique opportunities for growth; and identifying both traditional and non-traditional training sources such as didactic courses, mentoring, experiential education, and summer seminars, among others.

- “Some Small Thoughts on Small Grant Programs”, in which Tolleson-Rinehart discussed development of the CHRP small-grants program based on their mission and goals. She

suggested having a clear scope and vision for the small-grants program, and emphasized the importance of these programs in providing researchers with funding to conduct pilot studies. Data from these pilot studies are crucial for helping researchers set up streams of research that will lead to larger funding opportunities in the future.

The presentations can be viewed at the CHRP web page: <http://chrp.creighton.edu/External%20Advisory%20Visit.aspx>. ▲

CHRP Participates in Patient Safety Awareness Week

By Jamie Steemken and Mavis Hall, M.A.

The Center for Health Services Research and Patient Safety (CHRP) worked to raise patient safety awareness during National Patient Safety Awareness Week held March 4-10. Sponsored by the National Patient Safety Foundation (NPSF), this year's theme was "Be Aware for Safe Care".

Throughout the week, CHRP featured articles in Creighton Today, JAYNET-NEWS and on its web page. Each article focused on a selected hot topic in patient safety, as identified by the National Patient Safety Foundation.

The articles published included: "Be Aware for Safe Care", "How You Can Prevent Medication Errors", "Preventing Injury from Falls", "Preventing Health Care-Acquired Infections" and "Avoiding Readmission to the Hospital".

Tips provided to patients included:

- Communicate with your health care providers about medications you are taking, and ask any questions you might have.
- Work with health care providers to identify appropriate exercises to reduce the risk of falls and injury.
- Wash your hands before and after visiting a health care facility, and ask health care providers to wash their hands before touching you.
- When discharged from a hospital, make sure you and/or your caregiver understand your discharge instructions before you leave.

Members of CHRP faculty and staff providing expertise and information for the articles included:

- Amy Abbott, Ph.D., R.N., Creighton associate professor of nursing;
- Shirley Blanchard, Ph.D., associate professor of occupational therapy;
- Bartholomew Clark, Ph.D., a pharmacist and associate professor of pharmacy sciences;
- Cindy Costanzo, Ph.D., assistant professor of nursing;

- Kevin Fuji, Pharm.D., resident assistant professor;
- Kimberly Galt, Pharm.D., Ph.D., director, CHRP and professor of pharmacy practice;
- Mavis Hall, CHRP administrator and assistant director of the Office of Research, School of Pharmacy and Health Professions; and
- Karen Paschal, P.T., associate professor of physical therapy

In addition to the articles, CHRP also distributed goodie bags with items related to Patient Safety Awareness Week to students, staff and faculty in Creighton Dentistry, Emergency Medical Services Education, Medicine, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Pharmacy and Physical Therapy.

Materials about Patient Safety Awareness Week were also displayed at Creighton University Health Sciences Library/Learning Resources Center. They



Materials included in the goodie bags

included: copies of the articles and items included in the goodie bags.

Tent cards with a "Be Aware for Safe Care" theme were placed in the cafeteria and pharmacy at Creighton University Medical Center.

The articles and additional information about patient safety, including ongoing patient safety-related research by CHRP members can be found at: <http://chrp.creighton.edu/Patient%20Safety%20Awareness.aspx>. ▲

Faculty Member Elected for Catherine Worthingham Fellow of the American Physical Therapy Association

By Gail Jensen, Ph.D., P.T., F.A.P.T.A.

Karen Paschal, P.T., D.P.T., M.S. has been elected a Catherine Worthingham Fellow of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA).

The award is the highest honor among the APTA membership designations. She

will be recognized during APTA's Annual Conference in Tampa, Fla. June 6-9.

APTA fellows are recognized for their frequent and sustained contributions (including leadership, influence and achievement) of excellence in education,

practice, research or advocacy.

"Dr. Paschal continues to demonstrate compelling and sustained efforts to advance the profession through her work and leadership in clinical education, along with strong evidence of

translational contributions to practice, research and advocacy," said Gail Jensen, Ph.D., P.T., F.A.P.T.A., dean, of the Graduate School and University College and professor of Physical Therapy. ▲

Center for Health Services
Research and Patient Safety
2500 California Plaza, Boyne 143
Omaha, NE 68178

Phone: 402.280.4944

Fax: 402.280.4809

E-mail: chrpinfo@creighton.edu

<http://chrp.creighton.edu>

Editorial Committee

Editors-in-Chief

Amy Abbott, Ph.D., R.N.

Kevin Fuji, Pharm.D.

Production Manager

Mavis Hall

Production Editor

Jamie Steemken

Contact for Contributions

Jamie Steemken

402.280.4944

jamiesteemken@creighton.edu

The Creighton University Center for Health Services Research and Patient Safety was founded to coordinate and support research and training efforts among faculty within an interdisciplinary and collaborative research environment. Faculty and staff serve the research interests of governmental agencies, health care facilities, employers, health care industry companies and educators.

Mission Statement: The Center for Health Services Research and Patient Safety conducts health services research to improve quality, safety and efficiency of patient care through the discovery, translation and dissemination of new knowledge.

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Faculty Presentations

- Paschal, K.A., Crawford, S., Blanchard, S., Ohri, L., Raynovich, W., Galt, K. *The role of community infrastructure in promoting rural residents' access and use of health information: A multi-case study.* Poster session at National Rural Health Association—35th Annual Rural Health Conference, Denver, Colo., April 2012.
- Siracuse, M.V., Galt, K.A., Fuji, K.T., Bramble, J.D., Paschal, K.A., Abbott, A.A. *Impact of e-prescribing on rural pharmacies and medical clinics.* Poster session at American Pharmacists Association Annual Meeting & Exposition, New Orleans, March 2012.

Dissemination

- Abbott A.A., Fuji K.T., Paschal K.A., Galt K.A. How Baccalaureate Nursing Students Value an Interprofessional Patient Safety Course for Professional Development, ISRN Nursing, Accepted Jan 5, 2012, <http://www.isrn.com/journals/nursing/aip/401358/2012>; Article 401358.
- Galt K.A., Fuji K.T., Drincic A., Bramble J.D., Siracuse M.V., Paschal K.A., Abbott A.A. PDA use by physicians: where do they fit with emerging technologies and use of electronic health records in office practices? *Journal of Healthcare Engineering.* 2012;3 (1):163-178.

Special Thanks

- Our thanks and gratitude goes out to the External Advisory Committee members for believing in us and sharing their talents and vision with us.

Creighton
UNIVERSITY

Center for Health Services Research and Patient Safety
2500 California Plaza, Boyne 143
Omaha, NE 68178

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