



Spring 2017

As we come to the end of another academic year, it seems like a great time to reflect on our many successes this past year.

I continue to see faculty working hard to ensure student learning, conducting important research, and providing valuable service to our profession and community.

While this is not intended to be an extensive list of department activities and accomplishments, I wanted to quickly highlight the great work that our faculty, staff, and students continue to do at California Baptist University.

For those students graduating this year, I pray that you hold strong to your word and remain biblically rooted. I ask you to reflect-and remember- how the faculty here at CBU have equipped you to live your purpose, to remain a part of the CBU community, and to give back to CBU all that has been given to you.

For those returning students, I ask that you think about how you can become more involved in student clubs, faculty research, and departmental activities next year.

Have a peaceful and productive summer.

Blessings,

Dr. Robert G. LaChausse



PHS students participate in National Public Health Week activities

Dr. Sanggon Nam and **Akua Amankwaah** joined the faculty in the Department of Public Health Sciences (PHS). Dr. Nam continues his program of research examining healthcare disparities and Akua is completing her dissertation in the area of nutrition science at Purdue University.

We continue to work on the accreditation of our Master of Public Health (MPH) program to the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH).

Dr. Marshare Penny and I attended the CEPH accreditation workshop in Denver, CO in November.

Dr. Shasha Zheng and **Akua Amankwaah** hosted high school students from Jurupa Valley Unified School District at the Food Innovation Center (FIC) learning about the Nutrition and Food Sciences program at CBU.

Dr. Melissa Wigginton and several PHS students led National Public Health Week (NPHW) at CBU this past April. PHS students shared information on physical activity, healthy eating, and sunscreen use to CBU students in Stamps Courtyard.

Test all things and hold fast to what is good.

(1 Thessalonians 5:21-22)

Dr. Sangmin Kim continues to coordinate the Practicum courses. We have expanded both the number and quality of internship sites around Southern California.

PHS students can now choose between completing **HSC495 (Practicum)** or **HSC499 (Capstone)** for their culminating experience during their senior year. HSC499 allows senior-level students to work with a faculty member of their choice on a research project.

Dr. Marshare Penny and **Dr. Jessica Miller** received a grant from the California Department of Public Health, Office of Health Equity to examine mental health disparities in San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

Dr. Marshare Penny represented the department at the CBU Welcome Weekend and CBU Graduate Student Open House.

Dr. Sangmin Kim continues to develop a health coaching certificate program for students in the Health Behavior course.

The **BS- Health Science** program underwent an external review highlighting the strength of the curriculum and the range of extracurricular activities offered to CBU students to prepare them for professional schools (medical, dental, pharmacy).

Lisa Schwartz, our wonderful department secretary, continues to provide excellent support to our faculty and students. She has been instrumental to the success of many department events and projects this year. **Alanah Conrad**, **Jennet MacDonald**, and **Meghan Stillwell** serve as student workers in the PHS department.

Several faculty and I have met with **CBU Admissions** and **CBU Advising** staff to provide them with an update of our academic programs and curriculum to ensure student success and academic quality.

Dr. Ashley Parks is the current President of the California Association for Healthcare Quality (CAHQ). This professional association promotes healthcare quality through education, resources, networking and leadership to its members.

Several faculty members including **Dr. Melissa Wigginton**, **Dr. Robert LaChausse**, **Dr. Sanggon Nam**, **Dr. Shasha Zheng**, and **Akua Amankwaah** continue to be active in research with publications in peer-reviewed journals including the *American Journal of Public Health*, *Nutrients*, and the *Journal of Cellular Biochemistry*. Additionally, several faculty members presented their research at various national conference including the American Public Health Association (APHA), the American Evaluation Association (AEA), the Western Psychological Association (WPA), the California Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (CAHPERD), and the American Society for Nutrition (ASN).

Reason is the God-given means for discovering the truth that God discloses, whether in his world or his Word. While God wants to reach the heart with truth, he does not bypass the mind. -Jonathan Edwards

We have several adjunct faculty members including **Dr. Jessica Miller**, **Dr. Michael Paalani**, **Lily Lee**, **Lindsay Fahnstock**, **Mitch Saruwatari**, **Susan Herrington**, **Adleit Asi**, **Matt Lazari**, and **Kristen Riegel** that serve the department by filling teaching needs in several academic programs. These professionals provide real-world experiences and professional development opportunities to enhance student learning at CBU.

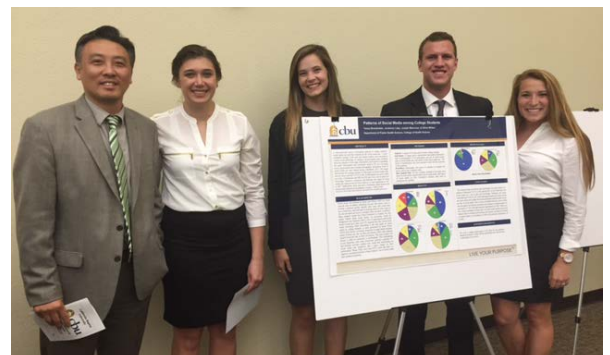
Eta Sigma Gamma (ESG) initiated 12 CBU undergraduate and graduate students this past fall. ESG is the national health education honorary society that recognizes excellence in academic achievement and student research in health education and promotion. CBU public health majors with at least a 3.0 GPA are eligible for initiation. ESG members plan and participate in community service events, "meet the professional" sessions, and social activities throughout the year. ESG members volunteered over 12 hours at the Southern California Ragnar Running Relay in April.

We have established an agreement with **Loma Linda University (LLU)**. Each year, two outstanding Nutrition and Food Sciences (NFS) students will receive guaranteed admission into LLU's Master's program in Dietetics (RD) upon recommendation from the NFS faculty. This is an excellent addition to our many partnerships including our **LECOM EAP** program where PHS students can receive early admission into medical school.

Graduate students in the **Master of Public Health (MPH)** continue to receive highly competitive fellowships and awards. **Nelly Telleria** & **Eduardo Sida** are Western Regional Council of Governments (WRCOG) fellows and **Chiassidy Ikeokonta** & **Meghan Stillwell** are Randall Lewis Health Policy fellows this year. **Krissy Ruiz** won a Graduate Student Research Award at the Western Psychological Association annual conference.

Several PHS students participated in the **2017 CBU Student Research Colloquium**. Our own **Maria Perez** received the Best Oral Presentation award.

We are excited about the **new concentration in Environmental Health** in the BS- Public Health program. Students will be eligible to take the Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) exam for certification. REHSs are in great demand and the salary outlook is high for those working in all areas of environmental health at public health departments, hospitals, or private corporations.



Dr. Kim and his students at the CBU Student Research Colloquium