



CNHS Newsletter

Winter 2023

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Dean Greenwood's Note



Following an exceptionally busy semester, the campus is quieting down for a winter's nap before winter intersession starts. This newsletter shares a collection of faculty/student research that was presented or published this fall, as well as some other notable work that has been ongoing in the college. Of special note are the many faculty and staff who were recognized for milestone years-of-service this year, including Dr. Kim Morris who we congratulate for more than 40 years at UT!

I wish you all a rejuvenating respite during the holiday season!

Most cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Paul J. Greenwood".



Critical Incident Exercise

On November 18th, the College of Natural and Health Science orchestrated a joint effort among multiple programs to simulate a mass casualty incident. This crucial training equips aspiring health professionals to competently respond during emergencies. By immersing students in a simulated healthcare system, they gain firsthand experience in managing the chaos that ensues when numerous patients arrive simultaneously. While unfortunate, these events are a reality, demanding our preparedness. Such training ensures these future healthcare providers can respond with poise, control, and expertise. Additionally, this exercise provided an invaluable opportunity for interprofessional education. Students not only learned alongside their peers but also gained insights into diverse health professions, fostering the creation of cohesive healthcare teams.

The simulation included a scenario of a natural gas explosion, resulting in 30 simulated patients requiring immediate care. The Crisis Center of Tampa Bay contributed ambulances and paramedics, while the Ultimate Academy's EMT students assisted in on-site triage. Concurrently, UT Athletic training students supported with initial care and triage, while ROTC cadets ensured event security. Upon transfer to the simulated Spartan University Medical Center, UT Nursing students reassessed the patient and assigned them to their designated treatment areas. These options included an orthopedic urgent care staffed by the UT AT program, a fast-track area managed by UT MSN students, an ER overseen by UT PA, BSN, and MSN students, or access to the Operating room. Critical patients were directed to trauma bays where emergency medicine residents from HCA Brandon Regional collaborated with UT PA and Nursing students. Notably, undergraduate allied health students took part by assuming the roles of patients in the simulation. This all occurred on the 2nd floor PA simulation lab.

The event was made possible by the involvement and support of multiple CNHS faculty as well as community physician and PA volunteers who provided oversight and guidance as students made treatment decisions. UT administration and security provided much appreciated support for the event as well.

2023 CNHS Years of Service Recipients

40 Years

Dr. Kimberly Morris, Health Sciences and Human Performance

20 Years

Dr. J C Andersen, Health Sciences and Human Performance

Dr. Todd Campbell, Environmental Studies

Jana Davila, College of Natural & Health Sciences

Dr. Tom Jackman, Chemistry

Dr. Jay Jisha, Sport Management

Heather VanOpdorp, Health Sciences and Human Performance

15 Years

Dr. Abraham Miller, Health Science & Human Performance

10 Years

Dr. Michael Middlebrooks, Biology

Dr. Philip Murray, Chemistry

Junita Payne, Athletics

Jackie Sanchez, Nursing

5 Years

Louis Ambrosio, Biology

Dr. Marisa Belote, Physician Assistant Medicine

Dr. Denija Crnojevic, Physics and Astronomy

Dr. Melissa Culp, Nursing

Dr. Adrienne George, Environmental Studies

Shelby Lewis, Nursing

Dr. Nathan Scharf, Chemistry

Dr. Julie Umberger, Nursing

Dr. James Weiner, Sport Management

Dr. Tracy Zontek, Health Science & Human Performance

Fall Undergraduate Research Forum



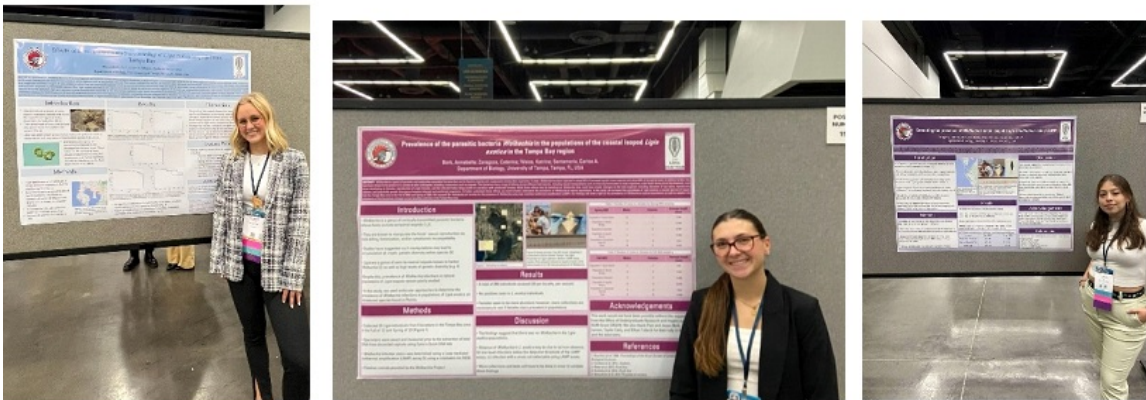
The Fall Undergraduate Research Forum was held in Fletcher Lounge on December 6 with over 100 students participating with over 60 poster presentations in all. Photos from the Research Forum are posted on the OURI social media page and can be followed at @utinquiry. Congratulations to all the students and their faculty mentors!

Operation Christmas Child Holiday Charity



HSHP participated in the Operation Christmas Child Holiday Charity. Faculty, staff and student participation included the donation of gifts, as well as the assembly of the gift boxes by Ivy Viera (staff assistant), Dr. Jennifer Wortham, Dr. Abe Miller and Kaylee Rice (Allied Health student worker). Approximately 22 gift boxes were donated this year. Well done!

Student Success



Three of **Dr. Carlos Santamaria's** (Biology) undergraduate research students attended the 2023 National Diversity in STEM Conference hosted by SACNAS in Portland, OR. Undergraduates Annabelle Bork, Caterina Zaragoza, and Alexandra Larson all presented research posters, with Alexandra winning a poster award in the Life Sciences, Marine Sciences category. All three students were awarded travel

scholarships that covered all expenses to attend the conference.



Dr. Mary Martinasek's (HSHP) undergraduate students presented their research at the Fall Undergraduate Research Forum. The students' poster titles as well as the project origins are:

Jessica Hubbs: Attitudes and Perceptions of Vaping at the University of Tampa (class project)

Kayla Allison: Effects of Vaping on College Students who attend the University of Tampa (class project)

Katie Lawler: A Cross-sectional Study of Marijuana Attitudes, Knowledge and Perception among PA students (Research)

Tara O'Connor, Bianca Scottino, Megan Hessel: A comprehensive Review of Vaping Interventions using the Socio-Ecological Model (Research)

Tara O'Connor and Mekenzie Dahlin: A Systematic Review of the Respiratory Effects of Red Tide (SURF Grant Research)

Faculty and Student Scholarship





Dr. Michael Middlebrooks (Biology) recently published a paper in the Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society entitled, “A cryptic radiation of Caribbean sea slugs revealed by integrative analysis: *Cyerce* ‘*antillensis*’ (Sacoglossa: Caliphyllidae) is six distinct species”. In this paper, the authors describe five new species of *Cyerce* sea slugs. One species found locally, *Cyerce piercei* (photo attached), was named after Dr. Middlebrook’s postdoctoral advisor, USF Emeritus Professor Skip Pierce. Dr. Middlebrook’s acknowledgements include UT undergraduate students Daniela Gutierrez-Andrade (2020), Annabella Hernandez (2022), Kourtney Barber (2015) as well as UT staff instructor John Ambrosio. Dr. Middlebrooks' work was also recently highlighted by Bay News 9 (see link below).

<https://doi.org/10.1093/zoolinnean/zlad111>

<https://baynews9.com/fl/tampa/news/2023/11/26/sea-slug-named-after-retired-usf-professor->



The Fifth Global Invertebrate Genomics Alliance Research Conference and Workshop (GIGA V) took place in Cartagena, Colombia October 31–November 3 and the UT Biology department was well represented. **Dr. Michael Middlebrooks** chaired a session on Metagenomic and Photosymbiosis and gave a talk entitled “Combining High Throughput Genomic Sequencing and Field Surveys Reveal Cryptic Sources of Chloroplasts for the Solar-Powered Sea Slug *Elysia crispata*”; **Dr. Pad Mahadevan** gave a talk entitled “Evaluation of Various Short Read Genome Assemblers on Sea Slug Genomic Data”; **Dr. Hadyn Rubelmann** presented a poster entitled, “The Microbiome of the Tampa Bay Sponge, *Chondrilla nucula*, Sheds Light on Early Metazoan Holobionts”; and **Dr. Carlos Santamaria** presented a poster entitled, “Comparative Analyses of Mitogenomes from *Ligia* Isopod Species.” Well done and congratulations to you all!

Congratulations to **Professor June Llerena** (Nursing) for earning CHSE-A certification from the Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSH). The Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator-Advanced (CHSE-A) are leaders who impact and influence the field of healthcare simulation. These individuals have proven themselves to be advanced in their practice. They serve as examples to others in the field, positioning

themselves to serve as leaders, mentors, and advocates for simulation. There are approximately 150 CHSE-A professionals worldwide so this is a great accomplishment for Professor Llerena.



Dr. Mary Martinasek (HSHP) recently published a paper entitled, “Vaping Behavior in Young Adults During the COVID-19 Pandemic” in the journal *Respiratory Care*.

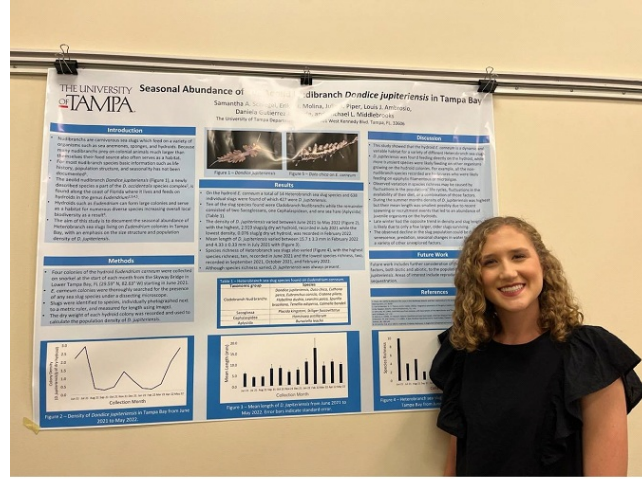
Respir Care, November 2023 68:1493-1501 doi:10.4187/respcare.10629



Dr. Jeffrey Fasick (Biology) attended the annual North Atlantic Right Whale Consortium meeting October 23-27 in Halifax, NS. During the meeting, Dr. Fasick participated in the Ropeless Fishing workshop which focused on the design and implementation of lobster pots with remotely deployed vertical lines to reduce right whale by-catch. Dr. Fasick hosted a workshop entitled, "Sensory Systems as They Relate to the North Atlantic Right Whale" as well as a roundtable luncheon for New Investigators.

Dr. Michael Middlebrooks and his undergraduate research student Samantha Schlegel attended the Meeting of the Florida Association of Aquatic Biologists that took place November 6-7 at Weeden Island Nature Preserve in St. Petersburg, FL. Ms. Schlegel presented a poster entitled “Seasonal Abundance of the Aeolid Nudibranch *Dondice jupiteriensis* in Tampa Bay” which was awarded 1st Place in the student poster contest. Congratulations Samantha, well done! Dr. Middlebrooks

presented a talk entitled, “The Solar-Powered Sea Slug *Elysia crispata* has a Broader Diet than Previously Understood”.



Dr. Claudia X. Aguado Loi (HSHP) recently published an article entitled, “Transcreation matters: A learner centric participatory approach for adapting cancer prevention messages for Latinos” in the journal Patient Education and Counseling.



<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0738399123002689>



The University of Tampa has partnered with Gannon University to offer eligible UT graduates a direct pathway to graduate-level health programs in speech-language pathology, occupational therapy and physical therapy. This agreement guarantees admission of up to five qualified UT graduates to enter each of the following three Gannon graduate programs: Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology, Occupational Therapy Doctorate, and Doctor of Physical Therapy.

<https://www.ut.edu/news-and-ut-life/ut-announces-graduate-health-program-partnership-with-gannon-university>

Important Dates



[UT Master Calendar](#)
[UT Academic Calendar](#)

January 10- College Meeting
 January 15- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
 January 16- Classes begin for Spring Semester
 March 3–10- Spring Break
 March 25- Last day to withdraw from 14-week classes.
 April 1- Registration begins
 April 29- Last day of Spring classes
 April 30 – May 3- Spring Final Exams
 May 4- Spring Commencement

Please send future news items to jdavila@ut.edu or jfasick@ut.edu