Email Photos to ConStrolls@nurs.utah.edu

January 24, 2022

Award:

The Academy of Health Science Educators’ (AHSE) Advancing Excellence in Education Committee selected Dr. Richmond Doxey, Theresa Dvorak, Dr. Amy Locke, Dr. Jennifer Macali, Dr. Tricia Petzold, and Jean Zancanella, members of the Culinary Medicine Team, to receive the 2022 Interprofessional Education Team Award. Members of the team worked to create an interdisciplinary
course, incorporating food and medicine. The course presents the learners with evidence-based nutrition as it relates to cooking at home. Classes take place in the cooking kitchen on campus or in the home kitchen virtually. The course is open to graduate health-science students. The AHSE will recognize the team at its Induction Ceremony in April.

**Grant Awards:**

The [Utah Department of Health](http://health.utah.gov) awarded two sub-contracts for a total of $60,000 to [Dr. Deanna Kepka](http://www.deannakepka.com).
- *Improving HPV Vaccination Rates in the Era of COVID-19* – Team members will use a multi-pronged approach to partner with a large healthcare system in Utah to assess, implement, and evaluate evidence-based HPV vaccination strategies.
- *Utah School Nurse Providers Project for Improving HPV Vaccination Rates* – Team members will conduct an environmental scan of school nurses to assess barriers to HPV vaccination in Utah, and partner with school nurses to test and evaluate the implementation of evidence-based strategies to improve HPV vaccination in school settings.

The [Huntsman Cancer Institute Breast and Gynecologic Cancers Center](http://huntsmancancer.org) awarded $20,000 to [Dr. Deanna Kepka](http://www.deannakepka.com) to support the [Intermountain West HPV Vaccination Coalition](http://www.intermountainwest HPV vaccination coalition.org) during FY22.

[Dr. Catherine Staes](http://www.catherine staes.com) and [Dr. Carolyn Scheese](http://www.carolyn scheese.com), in collaboration with Damian Borbolla from the Department of Biomedical Informatics secured, $50,000 in [Utah Department of Health](http://health.utah.gov) funding for a Graduate Assistant Special Project. They and team members will collaborate to build and document the Chronic Disease Surveillance System, and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the current electronic case reporting infrastructure for chronic disease reporting in Utah.

**Everyday Exceptional Work Being Commended:**

Patients submitted comments regarding [Dr. Pam Phares’](http://www.pam phares.com) exceptional work.

“Dr. Phares is an excellent listener, educator, and is knowledgeable. She also is very kind and empathetic.”

“I love this doctor; not only did she talk to me about my diabetes, which is her specialty, but she also looked at my other tests for my heart and kidneys, which not even my PCP will do. She seemed concerned with my overall care, and I love her for it!”

“Pam was exceptional. She was able to tactfully provide information on a sensitive topic in a caring and informative way. She was empathetic to the challenges of the lifestyle changes and provided resources and information on how to succeed.”

“Pam Phares is amazing!”
**Peer Mentoring:**

During orientation for NURS 3410 Acute Care Nursing Practicum, fourth semester pre-licensure students Cathryn Boyle, Eliana Crabtree, Stephen Lander, and Ben Paxman spent 45 minutes offering guidance and advice to second semester pre-licensure students. The second semester students are raving about the experience. Course faculty include Dr. John Nerges (course lead), Melissa Black, Tamara Ekker, Lynn Parker, Eryka Pawlak, Christopher Sneddon, and Dr. Jacob Steenblick, and teaching assistant Jenifer Cosentino, a 3rd year DNP student.

**Presentations:**

Dr. Deanna Kepka presented an e-poster titled *Successful Multi-Level HPV Vaccination Intervention at a Rural Healthcare Center in the Era of COVID-19* at the 34th International Papillomavirus Conference - IPVC 2021 that took place virtually on November 15-19, 2021.

Dr. Deanna Kepka will present a poster titled *COVID-19 Vaccination Intent, HPV Vaccination Receipt, and Dimensions of Vaccine Hesitancy* at the American Society of Preventive Oncology 46th Annual Meeting, which will be held on March 13-15, 2022 in Tucson, AZ.

Dr. Deanna Kepka will deliver a podium presentation titled *Intention to Receive COVID-19 Vaccination Relates to HPV Vaccination Receipt among Young Adults Ages 18-26 Years in the Western Region of the United States* at the EUROGIN (EUropean Research Organisation on Genital Infection and Neoplasia) International Multidisciplinary HPV Congress, which will be held on April 10-12, 2022, in Düsseldorf, Germany.

**Publications:**


**Community Engagement:**

McKinley Withers, Ed.D., M.Ed. from Health and Wellness at the Jordan School District wrote Dean Marla De Jong to commend Dr. Kathie Supiano and [Caring Connections](https://www.caringconnections.org).

“I just wanted to reach out to thank you for supporting Kathie Supiano's work in supporting our schools through the amazing grief training she has been doing in partnership with USBE [Utah State Board of Education](https://www.usbe.k12.ut.us/). It has healed many hearts. She has taken the time to train all of our school-based mental health staff on grief and we have received so much positive feedback about the healing that this will allow.

Today, at South Hills Middle School, Kathie did an amazing job helping that school heal… I am so grateful that we have been able to lean on Caring Connections through very difficult circumstances… For those of us working in the schools, we hope that this support and partnership will be able to continue.”

Adrienne Bott provides tremendous administrative support for Caring Connections, giving Kathie the flexibility to rapidly respond to acute situations. **Lynn Dixon** helped quickly generate budgets and plans when the state provided additional funding, enabling Kathie to continue work with community health workers and schools.
In Other News:

The Gerontological Society of America’s Academy for Gerontology in Higher Education recently published the 7th edition of *Gerontology and Geriatrics: Curricular Standards and Guidelines in Higher Education*. Dr. Kara Dassel served on the Board of Reviewers and reviewed multiple content drafts.

As part of Cervical Health Awareness Month (January 2022), expertscape ranked Dr. Deanna Kepka in the top 0.53% of 19,416 published authors worldwide on papillomavirus vaccines.