Building Partnerships
As I looked back over the year, I tried to think of the area where the department most excelled. Was it promoting health and wellness, researching food safety, evaluating value-added products, working with businesses and the community, or engaging students? I finally realized that I could not select any one area because we performed meaningful and productive work in each area. Therefore, if I were to characterize this cluster of activities, I would say that the Department of Human Ecology spent the past few years “building partnerships.”

Human Ecology faculty, staff, and students, while small in numbers (178 students and 9 faculty), performed admirably during the year. Faculty collaborated with scientists across campus and at other institutions to conduct research and address needs of the region; faculty and staff provided educational and service programs to the University and local communities that addressed issues of health and wellness and food safety, and students were introduced to WebCT and related technology and they embraced it. These efforts are shared in various formats throughout this newsletter.

I applaud the foresight and commitment of our extremely talented faculty for taking the education of our students and enhancing their professional knowledge to an uncommonly high level. A brief listing of the outstanding activities performed during the year includes:

- Faculty gave 18 professional presentations
- Faculty were awarded externally funded grants totaling $997,011
- Professor published *Textile Professor*, a software program which is being used by other institutions to supplement their textiles instruction
- Offered nine web-based/assisted courses
- Conducted a Health and Wellness Fair
- Began Undergraduate Research (UR) Program that engaged students in a research project [http://www.umes.edu/ ecology/URP](http://www.umes.edu/ecology/URP)
- Food Science doctoral program faculty conducted several sensory evaluation tests relative to value-added products
- Expanded the Child and Family Development Center (CFDC) facility to accommodate 22 additional 2-3 year old children, and
- Hosted a smoke education program for over 400 head start and day care children.

Human Ecology continues to “Build Partnerships.”

Shirley Hymon-Parker, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair, and
Associate Research Director
NEW FACULTY

Ms. Bridgett Clinton joined the department as Fashion Merchandising Lecturer in August after relocating from Lansing, Michigan. An alumnus of the department, Bridgett earned her B.S. in Fashion Merchandising and an Applied Associate of Sciences degree from the Fashion Institute of Technology in Advertising and Marketing Communications. She earned her masters in Merchandising Management from Michigan State University. Bridgett comes to UMES with retail and public school teaching experience.

Dr. Jungmi Oh joined the faculty in August as Assistant Professor in Fashion Merchandising. Dr. Oh, also referred to as “Jamie,” earned her B.S. in Apparel Design and M.S. in Merchandising from Sungshin Women’s University in Seoul, Korea. She completed her doctorate in Textiles and Consumer Sciences at Florida State University. Prior to joining UMES, Dr. Oh was a member of the faculty at the Art Institute of Philadelphia.

NEW STAFF

The Child and Family Development Center (CFDC) welcomes two new teachers to their staff. Ms. Ashely Gale and Ms. Chari Jones are both recent graduates from the department’s child development program. They teach two and three year olds in the newly expanded child care facility. Ms. Gale is a native of Salisbury. She speaks fluent Spanish and has worked as a teacher’s aide with Little Lamb Daycare. Chari Jones is a native of Princess Anne, Maryland. She was named “Most Outstanding Student in Human Ecology 2004-2005.” In addition to attending school full-time, Ms. Jones worked part-time at Horsey’s Day Care and UMES’ CFDC as Senior Staff.

CONGRATULATIONS

Nina Lyon Jenkins completed her doctorate in Child and Family Development at the University of Georgia. Dr. Jenkins is now an Assistant Professor in the department.

KON/URC MEETING & PRESENTATION

Drs. Shirley Hymon-Parker and Missale Kumelachew (KON advisor) accompanied four students, Kendal Belton, Chantel Craig, Ayisha Thompson, and Joann Willis to the Kappa Omicron Nu (KON) Leadership Conclave and Undergraduate Research Conference (URC). The conference was held at the Radisson Hotel and Suites in Chicago August 4-7, 2005. This meeting marked the third Undergraduate Research Community Conference wherein seven students had papers accepted for presentation. Joann Willis, a child development major, was one of the students whose research paper entitled, “Expanding Multicultural Activities Across the Curriculum for Preschoolers,” was accepted for presentation during the conference. Kappa Omicron Nu and URC chapter advisors, faculty research advisors and students from universities around the country gathered for this four day conference.

RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP

Dr. Anugrah Shaw has established a partnership with the European Crop Protection Association for exchanging information relating to protective clothing for pesticide users. This year UMES conducted laboratory tests for screening materials used for worker exposure studies. Participants in the Safe Use Initiative in Portugal and Greece will conduct exposure studies on these materials and send the data to UMES. The research goal is to better protect pesticide applicators by creating more concise standards globally for measuring the impact of pesticide exposure on specific textiles.

OUTSTANDING DIETETIC STUDENT

Michael P. Kirtsos, senior dietetic major, was named “Outstanding Dietetic Student” by the Maryland Dietetic Association. Michael is a student representative for the UMES Dietetic Advisory Committee, and member of the American Dietetics Association as well as the Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society. Michael completed the Serv Safe Food Safety and Sanitation course and worked as dietetic technician at Peninsula Regional Medical Center, while enrolled full-time maintaining a 3.8 GPA. Michael graduated with the highest University honors, Summa Cum Laude.
THE CHILD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CENTER EXPANDS TO SERVE 52 CHILDREN!

We are pleased to announce that our campus laboratory school, The Child and Family Development Center, has expanded its program to offer subsidized childcare for an additional 22 two- and three-year-old children. The expansion program, made possible through a $252,564.00 Infant and Toddler Direct Services Grant through the Department of Human Resources’ Maryland Child Care Administration, is earmarked for Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester County qualifying residents and those currently on the Purchase of Care waiting list.

With a fully remodeled wing, the expansion site has many amenities including two fully equipped classrooms with many age-appropriate materials, games and activities including sand and water tables, art easels, dramatic play centers, loft, reading and listening nook with wrap around sectional sofa, fantasy play area, twin computer station with developmentally appropriate learning software and touch screen monitors, bathrooms with child-sized toilets to support each classroom, fully equipped kitchen, and science exploration station. Children and their families delight in the many whimsical murals and multicultural wall hangings throughout the space. Additionally, both classrooms have direct access to the large outdoor classroom with jungle gym and large motor equipment as well as a four-season children’s garden.

The CFDC director, Ms. Donna Long, and the Child Development Specialists, Ms. Ashely Gale and Ms. Chari Jones, encourage you to make plans to tour the new child care wing on your next visit to campus or DIETETICS PROGRAM UPDATE

Malinda Cecil, M.S., R.D.

It is hard to believe I have finished my first year as director of dietetics programs in the Department of Human Ecology. What a sense of pride I felt when I watched our four senior dietetic majors graduate this past May, several with academic honors. Another thrill was realizing that all four students had plans to continue their education beyond their baccalaureate degree.

The dietetic internship program is poised for expansion. Eastern Correctional Institution will come on board this fall as an additional foodservice management rotation. As a way of saying thank you, UMES sponsored a half-day workshop for the preceptors. With nearly 100% participation, participants explored their roles as dietetic preceptors and discussed ways to improve and strengthen the program.

The dietetic interns continue to participate in joint classes with other interns across the bay and find this enhances the experiences they receive. This year our two interns, Jennifer Dickson and Stacy Schaffer, had the opportunity to attend the American Dietetic Association’s Public Policy meeting and see first hand the promotion of nutrition policy in Washington. They returned with a greater appreciation for the impact nutrition services have on the health and well-being of the nation. In April, the interns presented a poster titled Sources of Change and Motivation for Healthy U Participants at the annual MDA conference. This was a wonderful opportunity to highlight their research and the nationally recognized community-based health promotion program on the Eastern Shore.

An interview with a local TV station allowed the students to share with the Delmarva community the educational opportunities at UMES and the profession of dietetics. Both Jennifer and Stacy agreed that an important strength of our program is the diversity of experiences we are able to provide.
FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM UPDATE

The doctoral program in Food Science and Technology at UMES continues to grow. There are now 16 students enrolled, 9 female and 7 male. The exceptional quality of faculty and staff combined with their enthusiasm results in the development of new courses, research program advancements, grant submissions, publications, and presentations. We expect the first graduates from our program during the 2005-06 academic year.

DISTANCE EDUCATION PROGRAM RECEIVES ADEC HONORABLE MENTION AWARD

The 2+2 Head Start Distance Education Program received honorable mention for the Webb-Godfrey-Hill Award during the recent American Distance Education Consortium (ADEC) Meeting. ADEC has recognized excellence in distance education programs since 2000. The Webb-Godfrey-Hill Award was established by ADEC in 2002 to encourage 1890 institutions to continue their quest for excellence in distance education by creating an incentive that promoted excellent teaching, research and extension programs into the information technology/multimedia arena.

The 2+2 Head Start Distance Education Program in the Department of Human Ecology was established in Fall 2000 for the purpose of fulfilling the needs of non-traditional students, namely Head Start personnel in their pursuit of a bachelor degree in child development. Head Start personnel and other child care employees have an opportunity to pursue a bachelor degree without having to leave their community. Most classes are offered via WebCT, video-conferencing, or on-site at the local community college. The first cohort graduated May 2005.

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

PUBLICATIONS


PRESENTATIONS


Third place graduate student poster presentation


GRANTS AWARDED

- Long, D. “Increasing the Capacity for Two- and Three-Year-Old Childcare on the Lower Eastern Shore.” Department of Human Resources/Maryland Child Care Administration, 10/1/04 – 9/30/06, $252,564.
- Long, D. “We’re the CFDC and We’re Smoke Free.” Somerset County Health Department, 11/24/04 – 6/30/05, $6,180.
- Satterlee, D. “Movement Educator.” Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore, 6/1/05 – 5/30/06, $2,000.
FORMER MISS UMES RECEIVES OUTSTANDING ALUMNI AWARD

Ms. Sandra Smith-Whitaker (1984, Fashion Merchandising), is a financial specialist for the Federal Transit Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). In addition to her financial duties, Ms. Whitaker also serves as an Equal Employment Opportunity Assistant. Following graduation from UMES, Ms. Whitaker embarked on a management career with J.C. Penney until diagnosed with lupus. After a battle with lupus, Ms. Whitaker re-entered the workforce with U.S. DOT, where she has been for the past eighteen years, moving upwards from accountant to budget analyst to staff advisor for Human Resources, and now to her current position as Specialist and EEO Assistant.

Ms. Whitaker is an avid volunteer and supporter of charitable organizations, including the Lupus Foundation of Greater Washington, the Kidney Foundation of the National Capital Area, the United Negro College Fund, and the AIDS Walk. Further, she supports the University and department by serving on and working with the UMES Alumni Association and the Department of Human Ecology Alumni Development Committee. Ms. Whitaker was also instrumental in U.S. DOT’s donation of computers to the department in the late 1990s. Sandra’s devotion to the University and department has been steadfast, dating back to her tenure as Miss University of Maryland Eastern Shore 1983-1984. She is married to Jordan and lives by the words of Victoria Gray, whose motto is: “I’ve never been afraid to step out and to reach out and to move out in order to make things happen.”

Then

NOW

Dr. Carolyn Brooks, Dean
School of Agricultural and Natural Sciences

“Leaders are like eagles, they don’t flock. You find them one at a time.” (unknown)
Beginning Careers

- **Johanna Asgaralli (’05)**, Fashion Merchandising graduate, is working with JIVE Records in New York City.
- **Codi Barnes (’05)**, Fashion Merchandising graduate, is working as Product Specialist for MAC Cosmetics in New York City.
- **Ashley Brown (’05)**, Fashion Merchandising graduate, is Executive Manager with Target Stores in Virginia Beach, Virginia.
- **Deseree Berryhill (’05)**, Child Development graduate, is an Assistant Director with Maryland National Park and Planning.
- **Celeste Blake (’05)**, Fashion Merchandising graduate, is attending McAllister Institute of Mortuary.
- **Sandra Braxton (’03)**, Fashion merchandising graduate, is an Assistant District Manager for Rite Aid in Richmond, Virginia.
- **Ashely Gale (’05)**, Child Development graduate, is a teacher with UMES’ Child and Family Development Center.
- **Ariel Givens (’05)**, Fashion Merchandising graduate, is an Assistant Buyer with Macy’s New York.
- **Tania Hightower (’05)**, Fashion Merchandising graduate, is a Softline Manager with Target Stores.
- **Adrienne Jenkins (’04)**, Child Development graduate, is a teacher with Head Start in Berlin, Maryland. She is also enrolled in the masters program in Guidance and Counseling at UMES.
- **Chari Jones (’05)**, Child Development graduate, is a teacher with UMES’ Child and Family Development Center.
- **Lani Kennedy (’05)**, Fashion Merchandising graduate, was accepted into Salisbury University MBA program and began work as Sales and Marketing Associate for Ryan Homes in Easton, Maryland.
- **Michael Kirtsos (’05)**, Dietetics graduate, was accepted into UMES’ Dietetic Internship Program.
- **Donald Lewis (’05)**, Fashion Merchandising graduate, is a store manager with The Limited, Inc.

December 2004 Graduates

**Bachelor of Science – Human Ecology**
- Taryn Corbin-Fashion Merchandising, Mayslanding, NJ
- Tyrese Davis-Fashion Merchandising, Bowie, MD
- Johann Rene-Family and Consumer Sciences, Spring Valley, NY

May 2005 Graduates

**Bachelor of Science - Human Ecology**
- Johanna Asgaralli-Fashion Merchandising, Cheverly, MD
- Codi Barnes-Fashion Merchandising, Westbury, NY
- Deseree Berryhill-Child Development, Upper Marlboro, MD
- Celeste Blake-Fashion Merchandising, Philadelphia, PA
- Ebony Bowden-Fashion Merchandising, Baltimore, MD
- Annaleese Boyd-Fashion Merchandising, Salisbury, MD
- Ashley Brown-Fashion Merchandising, Portsmouth, VA
- Tameeka Byrd-Child Development, East Orange, NJ
- Meghan Cathey-Nutrition, Hyattsville, MD
- Charlene Copper-Pierce-Child Development, Easton, MD
- Danielle Dawkins-Child Development, Baltimore, MD

Graduates
May 2005 Graduates (continued)

Michelle Finley-Nutrition, Oxon Hill, MD
Sandra Friend-Child Development, Federalsburg, MD
Ashely Gale-Child Development, Salisbury, MD
Ariel Givens-Fashion Merchandising, Newark, DE
Justin Head-Fashion Merchandising, Upper Marlboro, MD
Tania Hightower-Fashion Merchandising, Willingboro, NJ
Chari Jones-Child Development, Marion, MD
Lani Kennedy-Fashion Merchandising, Mardela Springs, MD
Michael Kirtosos-Dietetics, Salisbury, MD
Ayana Lateef-Fashion Merchandising, Mitchellville, MD
Donald Lewis-Fashion Merchandising, Pikesville, MD
Mamie Lewis-Child Development, Tallahassee, FL
Amelia Martin-Child Development, Mitchellville, MD
Latoya Parker-Family & Consumer Sciences, Pungoteague, VA
Diamond Parker-Mason-Child Development, Burlington, NJ
Yamina Pinnock-Child Development, Mitchellville, MD
Alesha Purnell-Nutrition, Salisbury, MD
Betty Robinson-Child Development, Hurlock, MD
Keanna Sanders-Fashion Merchandising, Owings Mills, MD

Markia Seward-Child Development, Edgewood, MD
Rachel Monet Simmons-Fashion Merchandising, Baltimore, MD
Thekisha Towns-Child Development, Salisbury, MD
Kamesha Waldren-Fashion Merchandising, Silver Spring, MD
Danielle Ward-Nutrition, Waterbury, CT
Kurtria Watson-Nutrition, Syracuse, NY
Andrea Whitley-Nutrition, Townsend, DE
Joann Willis-Child Development, Easton, MD
Lashanda Wilson-Child Development, Newark, NJ
Mary Wolfe-Fashion Merchandising, Salisbury, MD

Distance Education Graduates (l to r): Charlene Copper-Pierce, Betty Robinson, Joann Willis, Sandra Friend
Alumni Update: Dear alum, help us keep your information current in our databases. We would also like to stay informed about your personal and professional accomplishments and ask that you complete and return the bottom half of this page to Dr. Shirley Hymon-Parker, Department of Human Ecology, 2101 Richard A. Henson Center, Princess Anne, MD 21853. Fax 410-651-6285 or email: shparker@umes.edu. Please check out our website for exciting programs and activities in the department. www.umes.edu/ecology

Name_________________________ Major________________ Graduation Year______
Address______________________________________________________________
City_________________________ State________________ Zip________
Phone (H)____________________ (W)_________________ Email:______________
Professional News_____________________________________________________
Personal News________________________________________________________
Additional Education/Accomplishments____________________________________

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Soaring
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED