

School of Health Sciences, Human and Public Services



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School of Study Happenings: Steve Legette Returns to Wando from Active Duty

I have returned to my job as teacher for about 49 days now and as I reflect on the past year of my life, I realize how much things have changed from last year compared to this year. Last year this time I was wearing a camouflage, bullet proof vest, and trying to deal with a culture that wasn't my own. My job for the year in Afghanistan contained many different titles; I was a platoon sergeant to 45 guys; I was in charge of security for a 12 acre base that was home to about 450 troops from the US Army, Air Force, and Navy, as well as people from Romania, Germany, Japan, and Canada; I also was in charge of all security convoys leaving the base, which included personally being responsible for about 4.54 million worth of equipment; also I was the Equal Op-



portunity Representative for the 1500 troops assigned to Afghan East. The daily routine was never the same, some days it was stay on base and work on security issues other days it would be go on a convoy across the rugged terrain of Afghanistan. To go from one base to another one road that we often traveled, which was only 35 miles, took three hours to get there, because of the conditions of the roads.

Returning to teaching has been an experience. I appreciate teaching and life more. I enjoy being around

young people like never before, enjoying them for who they are, with unlimited potential. I enjoy hearing about their struggles and challenges, and in turn challenging them to become better people. While in Afghanistan I visited schools in which the teachers wouldn't be photographed because they were afraid that they would be killed, students were the same way. I want my students to know that we have an awesome country and many of us will never have to sacrifice much in order to gain the fruits of other's work in defending our life style. Appreciate what you have or have the ability to have, because we do live in the greatest country in the world. Steve Legette



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**SCHOOL OF
HEALTH SCIENCE,
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School of Health
Sciences, Human
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Government and Public Administration Cluster

- Military Science
- Social Sciences

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- Biomedical Sciences
- Health Diagnostic Specialties
- Health Treatment Specialties
- Medical Science and Research

Human Services Cluster

- Early Childhood Development and Services

Law, Public Safety and Security Cluster

- Emergency Fire and Management Services (future offering)
- Law Enforcement Services (future offering)
- Law and Legal Services



Course Highlights: Internship 1 and 2 a Perfect Partner for HHPS

Tamara Hocking, a Senior at Wando High School completed an internship at East Cooper Regional Medical Center Pharmacy during her junior year. Her duties included preparing IV bags and anti-viral cream, counting pills and packaging them, restocking Pyxis machines and restocked and checked expirations for medical boxes. Robert Wilkens, Director of the Pharmacy Department at East Cooper, Tamara’s mentor, said, “this internship program is a wonderful tool to help students decide which career path they might want to follow before they enter college.” Tamara hopes to become a doctor one day and she left it would be to her advantage to see how a pharmacy operates before going off to college. Tamara hopes to be involved with Roper St. Frances SCURBS program as intern this year.

Shelby Schuster, a graduate of Wando High School was another student involved in a health science internship last year. She worked at Roper St. Francis in the **Students Can Really Use Bedside Skills (SCRUBS)** program. The SCRUBS program allows students to work 4 hour shifts along with Certified Nursing Assistants, Licensed Practical Nurses, and Registered Nurses on a variety of nursing units. The SCRUB program has proven to be very successful and generally has a waiting list. Students completing the SCRUBS program after one semester will receive a “Certificate of Completion”. Shelby also worked 2 days a week in the nursery. Shelby also worked at East Cooper Regional Medical Center under the direction of Sybil O’Donnell, RN, BSN, CCRN, and Education Coordinator. Shelby would like to pursue a career in nursing.

Betsy Wilson

HHPS Teacher Spotlight—Sally Nesmith



I inherited the teacher gene from my mother, a first grade teacher, and the science gene from my father, a physician. When I was four, I moved to Charleston, and two years later, began my educational journey as a first grader at St. Andrew’s Ele-

mentary School. The school has not changed much in the many years since I was there, and when I pass it occasionally, I smile as the happy memories flood in. For all those elementary school years, I knew I would be a teacher. I loved everything about school from the first moment I entered.

As a high school (Ashley Hall) and college (Furman and then TCU) student, I developed a passion for the sciences and shifted my goals from being an educator to a biomedical professional. I followed that path into dental school at MUSC. After 16 years as a dentist, practicing in SC and then several New England states, I returned to Charleston to live. I decided to take a short break from

Dentistry and accepted a job as a science teacher at a local Charleston high school. My Plan was to teach for a year. Within a few months of being in a science classroom, my childhood love for everything teacher kicked in. I realized that although I had really liked being a dentist, I truly loved being a teacher. That was 12 years ago and I still love being a teacher. I have taught many different science courses over the years including physical science, biology, anatomy/physiology, physics, and chemistry at three different high schools: St. Andrew's, James Island, and now Wando.

I received national board certification in adolescent and young adult science in 2001, and became a PACE instructor for the state, working with career changers who want to become teachers beginning in 2004. One of the most exciting challenges I have undertaken since I came to Wando has been piloting the Biomedical Science curriculum with DeAna Herring, a fellow science teacher. The introductory course exposes students to many fields of biomedical science and allows me to integrate all my medical background in my classroom.

My parents still live in the same home where I grew up, and I have 2 sisters who are both teachers. I have a daughter who is an attorney and the mother of my 4 grandchildren, and 2 sons who are in college. None of them are teachers yet, but I am waiting! Sally Nesmith

Highlights of the Quarter: Wando Teachers Attend the National Health Science Curriculum Conference



The National Consortium on Health Science and Technology Education is a national partnership of individuals and organizations with a vested interest in health science and technology education. The consortium was organized in 1991 to stimulate creative and innovative leadership for ensuring a well prepared health care workforce. Nancy Allen from the South Carolina Department of Education is the Past Chair of the NCHSTE and was thrilled to have a group of educators from SC attend the conference.

Amy Glenn, Catherine Lawson, Margaret Burwell, and Ruth Truluck are the teachers from Wando that not only attended but were facilitators for some of the conference sessions. The conference is only held every two years and is usually located much further away than Raleigh, NC. The dynamic Starla Ewan led several of the heavily attended workshops over the 3 days. She conducted workshops that included Essential Elements of Teaching, student motivation, and Anatomy in Clay, a unique hands-on method of learning and "seeing" the relationships of anatomical components. "The mind does not forget what the hands have learned." Other workshop titles were: Implementing Cross-Curricular Teaching Strategies, Instructional Leadership, Pharmaceutical Drug Discovery and Development, Grant Writing Tips, and Health Science in Cyberspace to name just a few.

Everyone had to make difficult choices from the list of interesting topics and everyone felt that the trip and time away from the classroom was well worth the strategies and ideas that could positively

impact the students in the Health Sciences, Human and Public Services School of Study.

Burwell, who attended the series of Starla workshops reported, "We started with the rolling of clay into spheres, strings and "carrots" to make organs for the circulatory, endocrine systems as well as some muscles. I had actually begun using the "Manekins" before the conference but after seeing how much more I could have accomplished with them I can't wait to get started with them again. Starla also demonstrated a very cool activity with pancakes and dilute "syrup" to show the relationship between tissues and their being nourished by the circulatory system. We even learned that McDonalds pancakes work best! Movement connected with sounds was also used to teach many things from directional terms in anatomy to the actual filling and emptying of the heart, blood pressure and what we hear with stethoscopes.

Glenn reported that, "One of the most beneficial parts of this conference was meeting other health science teachers from across the United States and networking with them to share ideas and solutions for the challenges of teaching health science and working with high school students. There were teachers there from all over the US including Montana, Utah, Vermont and even Alaska and Hawaii.

The final day of the 11th Biennial National Health Science Curriculum Conference began with the keynote speaker, Lieutenant Colonel Laura Favand. Lt. Col. Favand is the ROTC Eastern Region Chief

Nurse, who is responsible for recruiting BSN prepared registered nurses and preparing them for the combat zone. This presentation covered the care of injured soldiers from the point of injury and covered the entire process until the patient returned to the US. She shared real stories of victories and sorrows. Examples of using state-of-the-art care were shown in a harsh environment of war. Critical thinking was demonstrated on numerous occasions when technology failed and the medical team had to rely on other basic skills to monitor the patients. "As a nurse, I really enjoyed this presentation," reported Lawson.

