



## CNHS Newsletter

Spring 2020

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### Dean Greenwood's Note



*Colleagues,*

*This is certainly not the spring semester any of us anticipated, and I have been remarkably impressed with the way the faculty have transitioned to remote delivery of the college's courses so quickly. The Connection that is at the heart of our mission statement has been evident as I have witnessed how faculty members have shared resources, collaborated on laboratory virtual instruction, and collectively shared tips and advice on course delivery to make the semester continue for our students. Our students have also been remarkably flexible and patient in receiving revised instruction, understanding the issues that we all face jointly.*

*In this newsletter I am proud to share the successes and continuous involvement, scholarship, and events that exemplify the high quality of our faculty and students. Additionally, our newsletter acknowledges those faculty and students who are recognized this year for numerous awards. We congratulate these individuals and their successes.*

*As this eventful academic year winds down to our virtual commencement on May 9<sup>th</sup>, I thank all of the CNHS faculty, staff, students, and advisory board members for their hard work and dedication to the University of Tampa.*

**CNHS Motto : Connect – Transform – Succeed**

Cordially,

The College of Natural and Health Sciences has supported local hospitals, including Tampa General and Moffitt Cancer Center in their fight against COVID-19, by supplying personal protective equipment to the healthcare workers during this time of need. You can read more [here](#).



**Professor Tracy Zontek** (Public Health) was recently interviewed by WUSF regarding the current COVID-19 pandemic. The station requested her perspective as a public health expert. After the program aired, she received the email below from the Dean of the College of Public Health at USF, Dr. Donna Petersen. The interview can be heard [here](#).

*Good morning, Dr. Zontek,  
I was so fortunate to have been in the car this morning when you were interviewed on WUSF. You said exactly what needed to be said in a clear, compelling and professional manner. As a state institution we aren't quite so free to speak on these matters, especially when there is a difference of opinion with our leaders. You demonstrated so beautifully what I try to teach our students – you need advocates out there who can speak when you can't. I was heartened, grateful, and inspired by your courage and your sound advice. I hope to be able to meet you some day, hopefully when we don't have to do so at a distance!  
From all of us,  
Thank you!  
Donna*

## CNHS Campus Happenings

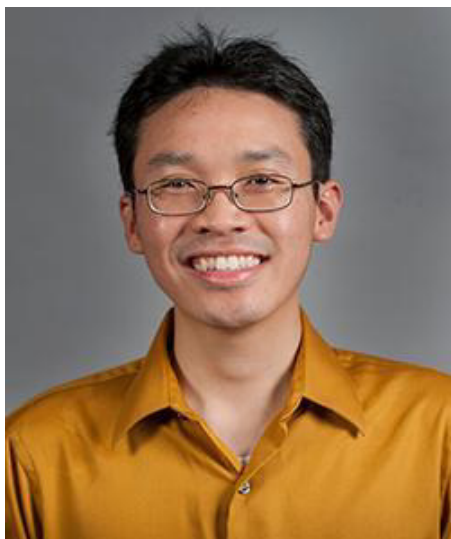


**The Nursing and PA programs** hosted a simulation speaker event with Janet Sprehe. All health science programs at UT and our community partners were invited to attend the event. The nursing department offered continuing education credits (CEUs) for attendees. The event had an impressive turnout with community partners attending from Moffitt Cancer Center, HCA Hospital Brandon, and Hillsborough Community College; along with faculty from PA and Nursing programs.

CNHS and the Academic Success Center partnered to host the **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Health Professions Graduate School Fair**. This year the fair was part of the Heat Wave Tour collaborating with USF, UCF, Florida Southern College and Rollins College. This multi-stop fair provided school representatives an opportunity to visit five schools within a few days. More than 150 students attended the fair at The University of Tampa to learn information on individual health professions graduate programs. During the fair, students had the opportunity for a photo op. The top picture is **Brianna Rubenstein** (Allied Health major). The bottom pictures is **Elizabeth Camilleri** and **Emma Vargo** (both Allied Health majors).



## Faculty Presentations, Publications and Scholarship



**Professor Tony Pham** (Chemistry) recently wrote and contributed to several manuscripts.

*Insights into the Gas Adsorption Mechanisms in Metal–Organic Frameworks from Classical Molecular Simulation*, that is part of a special collection in the journal *Topics in Current Chemistry*. The article can be found [here](#).

*Radiation-Resistant Metal-Organic Framework for Efficient Separation of Krypton Fission Gas from Spent Nuclear Fuel* was accepted to Nature Communications.

Sameh K Elsaidi, Mona H. Mohamed, Ahmed S. Helal, Mitchell Galanek, **Tony Pham**, Shanelle Suepaul, Brian Space, David Hopkinson, Praveen K. Thallapally, Ju Li

*A robust soc-MOF platform exhibiting high gravimetric uptake and volumetric deliverable capacity for on-board methane storage* accepted to Nano Research. Full text located [here](#).

**Professor Nauris Tamulivicius** (HSHP) recently published three articles.

**Tamulevicius N.**, Martinasek M.P., Moss, S.J., Pfeffer I., Gibson-Young L., Yahaya, M. *An Analysis of Associations Between Electronic Nicotine Delivery System Users*. Respiratory Care, March 2020; 65 (3): 355-361.  
<https://doi.org/10.4187/respcare.07172>

Jakobsson S.K., Amasay T., Mier C.M., **Tamulevicius N.** *Influence of Fatigue on Change of Direction Performance in Soccer Players*.

International Journal of Exercise Science. 2020, 13(1): 656-666.  
<https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2495&context=ijes>

Oviedo, G.R., **Tamulevicius, N.**, Onagbiye, S.O., Phidza, M., Sedumedi, C., Cameron, M. Moss, S.J. *Quality of life, physical activity and cardiorespiratory fitness in black African women: B-Healthy project.* Quality of Life Research. 2020; 29, 987–997.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11136-019-02368-6>



**Professor Johnna Yealy** (PA Program) published a research manuscript in the Internet Journal of Allied Health Science (VOL 18, Number 2, Article 9) entitled, *The Relationship Between Physician Assistant School Admissions Exam (PA-CAT) and Undergraduate Performance Measured by Science GPA and Cumulative GPA*. This is a longitudinal study related to the development of the national college admissions exam for physician assistant training. She is the lead researcher on the development and commercialization of this basic science exam. More information can be found at: <https://www.pa-cat.com/>

<https://nsuworks.nova.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1880&context=ijahsp>

## Faculty and Student Engagement

**Professor Eduardo DeSouza** (HSHP) was lead author on a paper published in The Journal of Strength Conditioning and Research. This study was funded by a grant through the Office of Undergraduate Research and Inquiry. The article is entitled, *Progressive Resistance Training Volume: Effects on Muscle Thickness, Mass, and Strength Adaptations in Resistance-Trained Individuals*.

Undergrad coauthors: **Daniel Aube, Joshua Bradshaw, and Spencer Zazzo**

Graduate student coauthors: **Tanuj Wadhi, Jacob Rauch, Jeremy Pearson.**

Adjunct coauthor: **Professor Christopher Barakat** who completed his Masters degree at UT.

Additionally, **Professor DeSouza** was coauthor on an article entitled, *To Flex or Rest: Does Adding No-Load Isometric Actions to the Inter-Set Rest Period in Resistance Training Enhance Muscular Adaptations? A Randomized-Controlled Trial*, in Frontiers in Physiology.



**is scheduled for Friday, May 1 from 2-4:30 p.m.**  
**Below is a sampling of faculty/student research topics from CNHS!**

The Effect of the Sea Slug *Elysia clarki*'s Anti-predatory Chemical Defense on the Feeding Behavior and Long-term Memory of Blue Crab, *Callinectes sapidus*

**Samantha Schreiter**, Marine Science-Biology Mentor: **Dr. Michael Middlebrooks**

There is Something in the Water! Correlation of Trihalomethanes with Head and Neck Cancer in the Tampa Bay Area

**Magen Hoch**, Biology Mentor: **Dr. Kimberly Dobrinski**

The Reductive Dehalogenation of Substituted Benzenes Utilizing Carbazole Derivatives as Photocatalysts

**Tyler Weinhold**, Chemistry Mentor: **Dr. Ashley Longstreet**

The Best Health & Safety Practices in University Fab Labs **Nicole Scott**, Public Health Mentor: **Dr. Tracy Zontek**

Role of Microtubules on the Coalescence of Viral RNA Polymerase of TMEV

**Devon Grey**, Biology Mentor: **Dr. Eric Freundt**

Abiotic and Biotic Habitat Preference of a Unique *Hippocampus erectus* Population

**Matthew Gamache**; Marine Science-Biology Mentors: **Dr. Heather Masonjones** and **Dr. Emily Rose**

The Retinal Pigments of Filter-feeding Sharks and their Role in Visual Foraging Ecology

**Katherine Serba**, Marine Science-Biology Mentor: **Dr. Jeffry Fasick**

A complete list of all presentations can be found [here](#). The 42 presentation Zoom links will also be found [here](#) on Friday.

## CNHS Faculty Awards

# Awards & Recognition



**Professor Denija Crnojevic, Physics**  
**Outstanding Scholar Award**



**Professor Taegan McMahon, Biology**  
**Outstanding Student Research Supervision Award**



**Professor Malinda Rivers, Nursing  
Outstanding Part-time Faculty Award**



**Professor Ronda Sturgill, HSHP  
Outstanding Service Award**



**DNP Program Faculty  
Innovation in Teaching Award**

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## CNHS Student Awards

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### Sports Management Awards

Sport Management Academic Achievement Award: **Alexander Kirsch** and **Hanna Vernetti**  
Dr. Robert Birrenkott Professional Development Award: **Adriann Harper** and **Nicholas Freiri**

### Nursing Awards

Academic Excellence in BSN program: **Lindsay Staiman**  
Academic Excellence in MSN program: **Brittany Morris**

### Chemistry, Biochemistry and Physics Awards

2019-2020 Outstanding Biochemistry Student - Senior Class: **Madison R. Donovan**  
2019-2020 Outstanding Chemistry Student - Senior Class: **Tyler D. Weinhold**  
2019-2020 Outstanding Forensic Science Student - Senior Class: **Carley Z. Reid**  
2019-2020 Outstanding Physics Student: **Rachael Mathis**  
2018-2019 Outstanding General Chemistry Student: **Brooke Hopper**  
2018-2019 Outstanding Organic Chemistry Student: **Wyatt Larrinaga**  
2018-2019 Outstanding Analytical Chemistry Student: **Taylor Collignon**  
2018-2019 Outstanding Biochemistry Student: **Mikayla Darrows**  
2019 Outstanding Inorganic Chemistry Student: **Wyatt Larrinaga**  
2018-2019 Outstanding Physical Chemistry Student: **Forrest Lundy**

**HSHP:** Awards to be announced by the department on April 30.

**Biology:** Awards to be announced by the department during finals week.

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## Experiential Education

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**Professor Mark McRae** (Biology) and Field Ornithology students in Biology 345 attended multiple locations around Tampa to learn about birds and their habitats.



Field Ornithology Class, November 2019. Rock Ponds Ecosystem Restoration Area, Hillsborough Co.



October 2019. Eastern Wood Pewee (*Contopus virens*) at Fort DeSoto Park, Pinellas Co.



October 2019. Hairy Woodpecker (*Dryobates villosus*) at Babcock-Webb WMA, Charlotte Co.



Field Ornithology Students, October 2019. Babcock-Webb WMA, Charlotte Co.

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Allied Health student, **Marissa Gosselin**, was accepted as the recipient of the 2020 Tampa General Hospital Advanced Organ Disease and Transplant Institute Summer Internship. Congratulations Marissa!



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## Program News

American Medicine Today, seen locally on ABC Action News 28 and nationally on WGN America, filmed a segment at the **UT PA Program** featuring **Program Director Johnna Yealy** and **Simulation Director Marisa Belote**; as well as PA students. The segment focused on the innovative way that the UT PA program is using medical simulation.

CAE Healthcare, in partnership with Microsoft, filmed PA faculty and student's reaction to the new HaloLens 2 virtual reality device that has been combined with a medical education application.



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## Connections Outside the Classroom

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Three times each semester, the **Sport Management Department** invites local and national sport industry executives to meet with the SPM students. By attending these Monthly Networking Meetings, the students have the opportunity to speak with executives about their organizations, discuss the current trends in their industry segment and inquire about volunteer, internship and job opportunities.

Our February meeting was fortunate to have the following guests attend: The Tampa Bay Sports Commission, The Firestone St. Petersburg Grand Prix, The NCAA Men's Basketball Championships, The Host Committee for Super Bowl LV being hosted in Tampa in 2021, WWE WrestleMania and the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tampa.



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## Alumni News

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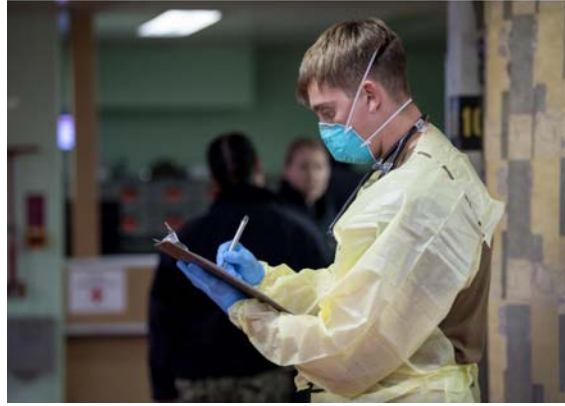


**Daniel Aube**, HSHP Alumnus, received acceptance for an oral presentation at the National Athletic Training Association Conference (NATA) in Atlanta, Georgia. His presentation is entitled, *The Association Between Self-Reported, Accelerometer and Heart Rate Derived Training Loads in Collegiate Soccer Athletes*.

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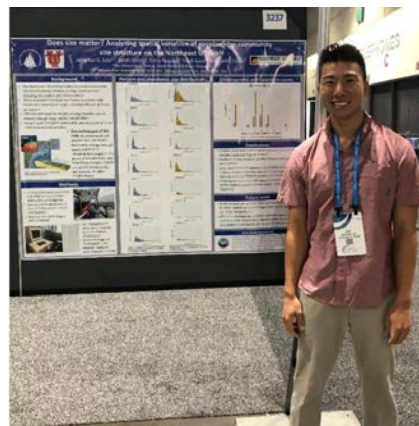


Patrick Coyle, Nursing Alumnus and Army ROTC graduate, made the news on the USNS Mercy Sailor. Patrick was deployed to San Francisco, CA to help with the Non-COVID patients, so the on-shore hospitals can focus on the COVID patients.



**Brett Grelle**, HSHP Alumnus, is featured in a video on how the IMG sport science team tracks NFL combine athletes with Catapult. Brett was hired by IMG due in part to extensive experience with the Catapult software/hardware and the other testing/monitoring tools he had the opportunity to learn through the HSHP program.

**Jonathan Low**, Marine Science-Biology Alumnus, attended and presented at the 2020 Ocean Sciences Meeting. His research was entitled, *Analyzing spatial variation of zooplankton community size structure on the Northeast US Shelf*.

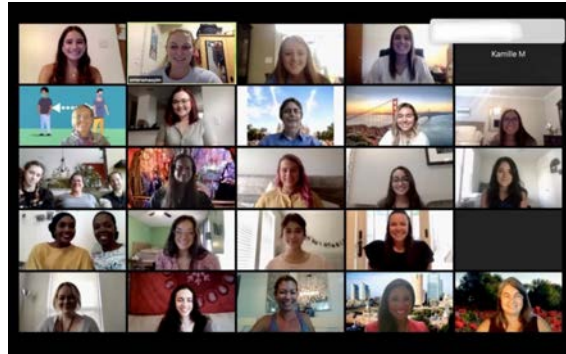
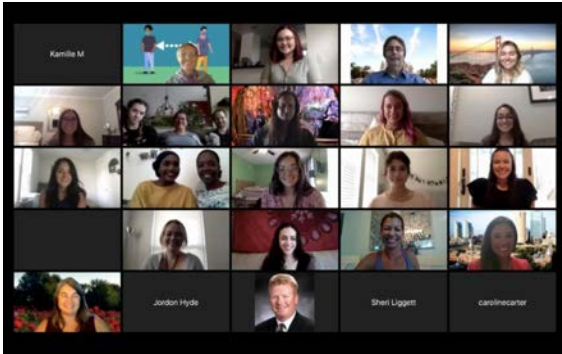


**Patria Casalduc**, Nursing alumna, was featured on WFLA Channel 8 highlighting our nursing heroes.

## Virtual Student Connections

On Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, Eta Sigma Gamma (ESG) held their 4<sup>th</sup> Induction and Award ceremony via ZOOM.

ESG is a health education honorary where students with GPAs greater than a 3.0 and who have committed to the field of health education are inducted to the National public health honorary. This year 17 students were inducted into the honorary. Also, the chapter accomplishments were celebrated and recognized several students for their initiative and leadership. This year UT's ESG chapter, Epsilon Sigma, received two national award recognition. The first was from the American Public Health Association for student research, and the second was from the National Eta Sigma Gamma honorary for chapter excellence in research, education/teaching, and service/advocacy. ESG is led by **Professor Claudia Aguado Loi** (HSHP).



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## Video Congratulations to the Biology Majors Class of 2020!

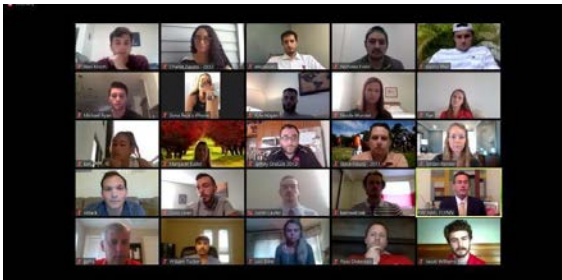
The Biology faculty developed a virtual congratulations and best regards for their graduates! The video can be seen at [Congratulations Biology Department Majors Class of 2020!](#)

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## University of Tampa Department of Sport Management Alumni Panel Discussion

Recently, the Department of Sport Management held a Zoom meeting that connected their current Seminar in Sport Management seniors with alumni of the program. Industry trends and professional development topics were just a few of the many items discussed.

Thanks to Cody Liner '17, Jordan Bender '19, Chanel Zapata '17, Jeffrey Draluck '12, Nate Black '15 and Steve Fidura '11 for "*Coming Home*" and providing amazing advice.



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## 2020 Virtual Graduation Ceremony - May 9th!



CNHS will host its own virtual commencement on May 9 at 11 AM. You can find out more information [here](#). Students graduating this May will also be able to walk in-person at the December 2020

[commencement](#). Visit [here](#) to view a list of 2020 CNHS graduates!

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Please send future news items to [jdavila@ut.edu](mailto:jdavila@ut.edu)