

Annual State of the School Report

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UNCG

School of Human
Environmental Sciences

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**School of Human Environmental Sciences
2008 State of the School Report**

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2008 State of the School

Introduction

The School of Human Environmental Sciences (HES), one of six professional schools at UNCG, is a leading academic unit comprised of five highly-ranked departments, nationally and internationally recognized faculty, "state-of-the-science" research facilities, and interdisciplinary and inter-institutional programs. Currently, there are 1300 undergraduate students and 250 graduate students in the School. Seventy HES faculty provide excellent teaching, conduct nationally-recognized research, and are engaged in university and community outreach.

The School includes five academic departments:

- Consumer, Apparel, and Retail Studies which offers the B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees
- Human Development and Family Studies which offers the B.S., M.S., M.Ed., and Ph.D. degrees as well as a post-baccalaureate certificate program in Early Child Care and Education Leadership
- Interior Architecture offering the B.S. and M.S. degrees
- Nutrition which offers B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees and the post-baccalaureate Dietetic Internship program
- Social Work which offers B.S.W. and M.S.W. degrees and the School Social Work Licensure program.

In addition, HES hosts the following centers:

- The Center for Innovation in Interior Architecture (Department of Interior Architecture)
- The Family Research Center (Department of Human Development and Family Studies)
- The Center for Research Excellence in Bioactive Food Components (located in Kannapolis; Department of Nutrition)
- The Center for New North Carolinians (School of HES)

HES Vision Statement

Through teaching, discovery, dissemination of knowledge, and community engagement, HES aims to inspire people and institutions to make the world better, safer, healthier, more just, and more humane.

HES Mission Statement

The exceptional scholarship, research, outstanding teaching, and active community outreach of HES fosters the capacity to enhance the quality of life and improve the environment for individuals, families, communities and the world at large. Guided by an ethic of caring and interdisciplinary collaboration, HES addresses the needs of people from diverse cultures across the entire lifespan

The mission of the School is reflected in the following goals:

HES Goals Statement

- 1) To provide optimal educational opportunities in the University of North Carolina system for undergraduate professional preparation in subject matter disciplines offered within the School of Human Environmental Sciences.
- 2) To achieve state and regional recognition for all Master's programs.
- 3) To achieve national recognition for all doctoral programs.
- 4) To achieve excellence in teaching, enhanced faculty-student relationships, and expanded student-learning opportunities in professional settings.
- 5) To attain national recognition for student and faculty research, scholarly activity, and creative expression in order to address issues of contemporary significance and expand the availability of empirical and theoretical knowledge.
- 6) To achieve a strong sense of intellectual and social community within the School.
- 7) To provide community, institutional, and professional service.
- 8) To provide experiences that enable faculty and students to view the development of human beings in culturally diverse and global environments.

2007-08 School Accomplishments

The School of Human Environmental Sciences achieved a very productive 2008 academic year in teaching and learning, student enrollment, fundraising, research and creative activity, and faculty and student success. *In our work, the three principles of “innovation”, “interdisciplinary”, and “internationalization” guided new and continuing projects.* Administration and faculty met throughout the year to discuss our mutual vision and future. This work resulted in the development of a new vision and mission statement for HES. Our accomplishments are described below.

Teaching and Learning

- The School continued to achieve enrollment growth. In the spring of 2008, HES enrollment was 1460 students compared with 1410 students in spring of 2007, and 1318 students in the spring of 2006.
- In the fall of 2007, HES enrollment was 1507 students compared with 1449 in the fall of 2006.
- Student credit hour production, based on the Office of Institutional Research data, increased from 30,929 in 2006-07 to 31,715 in 2007-08.
- To support this increased productivity, the School continued to develop teaching and scholarship initiatives which included e-learning initiative mini-grants for selected faculty to facilitate the development of distance and on-campus blended courses, support for faculty to attend teaching and research conferences, technology workshops to upgrade faculty use of technology, and provision of HES Outstanding Teaching awards to recognize excellence in faculty teaching.
- In 2007, Dr. Heather Helms and Prof. Jay Poole received HES Outstanding Teaching Awards. In 2008, Prof. Susan Dennison, Dr. Kittichai Watchravesringkan, and Prof. Stoel Burroughs received HES Outstanding Teaching Awards.
- The School expanded the number of international and cultural exchange courses and programs offered to students by implementing a student study abroad course in Thailand, exploring new exchanges in Ghana and Mexico, and continuing successful programs in such locations as Costa Rica, Finland, Taiwan, Mexico, Australia, Scotland, England, and Italy.
- Major curriculum revisions were implemented in Consumer, Apparel, and Retail Studies to provide relevant state-of-the-art instruction to students which reflects the economic

shifts in the textile industry and a new concentration in Global Apparel and Related Industries Studies was approved.

- Through a major acquisition, Lectra design software was installed and used by CARS students.
- The American Apparel and Footwear Association endorsed the CARS curriculum as meeting the necessary competency requirements, a distinction only thirteen schools achieved nationally. This program endorsement, which runs until July 2013, makes the department eligible to receive scholarship funds from the American Apparel Education Foundation.
- A successful reaffirmation site visit was completed for the Department of Nutrition's undergraduate dietetics program and the post-baccalaureate dietetics internship program.
- The Joint Master of Social Work Program began an Advanced Standing option which allows students with BSW degrees from accredited programs to complete their MSW in one calendar year rather than two academic years.
- Over 500 HES students received and completed applied learning opportunities in volunteer work, service learning, and internships. Students were placed in for-profit businesses, non-profit agencies, healthcare facilities, design companies, and educational organizations.
- The Department of Interior Architecture students and faculty completed a unique and prominent applied project by designing and building a home for a family at 909 Dillard Street in Greensboro.
- Department of Social Work students also assisted with helping the family make the transition to their new home.
- IAR students won 11 national design competition awards during this period.

All of these activities contributed to an excellent teaching and learning environment.

Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity

- HES received the highest amount of external funding of any academic unit at UNCG during the 2007-08 academic year.
- The School achieved this success by obtaining \$8,156,163 in external funding for research and creative activity which provided opportunities for faculty and students to work collaboratively to extend our knowledge of human environmental sciences programs. During this same period, HES faculty submitted more than fifty new, renewal

or revised extramural grant proposals seeking a total dollar amount of \$25,655,243.

- The Department of Nutrition led in the development of the new UNC Nutrition Research Building at the North Carolina Research Campus in Kannapolis, NC; with our UNCG Center for Research Excellence in Bioactive Food Components.
- HES provided seed funding for nationally competitive proposal writing, innovative interdisciplinary research, and creative activity projects to foster increased external funding and scholarly productivity.
- Scholarship forums, workshops on EXCEL and qualitative research methodology, and research exchanges were held to foster an environment for research productivity.
- Outstanding HES research was recognized through our research award program. In 2007, Dr. Tanya Coakley and Dr. Cheryl Lovelady received HES Research Excellence Awards.
- In 2008, Dr. Jonathan Tudge received the HES Research Excellence Award.
- Most notably, Dr. Susan Calkins in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies received the UNCG Research Excellence Award for 2008.
- The Edward Lowenstein exhibit, produced by Dr. Patrick Lucas and his students was a major exhibition this year and featured off-campus showings throughout the Triad.

Our Community of Students, Faculty, Staff, and Alumni

- HES faculty are active leaders in UNCG campus activities such as SOAR, prospective student recruitment events, and faculty committees.
- This year, HES faculty served on such university groups or committees as the Research Advisory Council, the Lloyd International Honors College Evaluation Committee, Faculty Senate, Institutional Review Board, Promotion and Tenure, Teaching and Learning Advisory Committee, Academic Integrity Committee, Academic Appeals Committee, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Graduate Studies Committee, and Faculty Library Committee.
- Dr. Anna Marshall Baker was named the Director of the UNCG Center for Sustainability.
- Dr. Susan Calkins serves as Coordinator for the campus-wide UNCG Child and Family Research Network.
- The HES Center for New North Carolinians provided education, leadership, public outreach and research on issues related to the lives of immigrants and refugees.
- Programs such AmeriCorps ACCESS, Immigrant Health ACCESS, Immigrant Interpreter Training, and many smaller initiatives with funding from such groups as the Duke Energy Foundation helped to make HES and UNCG a more diverse community.
- HES held regular well attended gatherings and programs for alumni and retired faculty.

Strengthening the Economy and Enhancing the Quality of Life for Citizens

- A major strength of HES is community engagement. Every department has major initiatives or programs targeted toward enhancing quality of life for North Carolina citizens. Many of these are interdisciplinary such as the Moses Cone-Wesley Long Community Health Foundation-funded Congregational Social Work Education Initiative.
- The Departments of Nutrition, Social Work, and Human Development and Family Studies provided over twenty community workshops on topics ranging from obesity to mental health services.
- Over twenty HES faculty serve on community organization advisory boards.
- The HES Center for New North Carolinians provided over three hundred workshops for the community on issues related to immigrants and refugees. In addition, through their AmeriCorps ACCESS program, Interpreter ACCESS program and Health ACCESS program, CNNC staff improved the lives of over 10,000 new immigrants and refugees by linking them with needed services. The CNNC Research Fellows, comprised of UNCG faculty and community leaders, completed targeted research on quality of life issues facing new immigrants.
- The HDF Family Research Center and related HDF programs completed significant research which has had direct application to child care, child development and parenting. In addition, the HDF B-K licensure program and the NC Child Care Rated Licensure Project have infused over two hundred trained teachers into child care education programs while also improving the quality of care.
- In total, the School of Human Environmental Sciences has over 300 full and part-time employees which is a significant contribution to the economic development of the Piedmont Triad.

Recruit and Retain Students with the Potential to Succeed

- HES provided over \$200,000 in scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students from the HES Foundation.
- HES provided over \$850,000 in graduate stipends and tuition waiver support to recruit and retain top students.
- Through HES outreach and recruitment efforts, student credit hour (SCH) production increased by 2.4% in 2008 as compared with 2007.

- New hybrid and on-line initiatives have been implemented, and Dr. Deb Cassidy has received a UNC grant to develop on-line delivery for the Master of Education: Interdisciplinary Studies in Education and Development in Birth-Kindergarten (B-K ISED) degree program.
- HES departments enhanced recruiting efforts for the graduate programs, including close coordination with The Graduate School. This involved updating/refining recruiting materials, identifying potential students with interests in HES programs, sending graduate program materials to prospective students in several stages, and updating websites related to recruiting graduate students.

Public & Private Support

- The total amount received from private, corporate and foundation gifts were \$927,739. This represents an 18.4% increase in support from our calendar year 2006 figure of \$783,466. In addition, there were pledges in the amount of \$879,367 which are not included in the above figure. This pledged figure is a record for our school.
- School and department initiatives to increase donor support have included HES Foundation Board meetings and fund-raising activities, alumni awards, luncheons and open houses, publication of the HES *Connections* magazine, upgrading of the HES website, and development of department newsletters.

Administration

- To increase administrative effectiveness, HES implemented two new support offices for faculty and students: the HES Office of Research and the HES Advising Center.
- The Office of Research provides faculty with expert pre and post-award support in order to develop, submit and manage externally-funded proposals.
- The HES Advising Center provides advising to HES students based on departmental needs and also coordinates all HES recruitment, orientation, and special student events.

Personnel Achievements, Appointments, and Awards

The following faculty were awarded permanent tenure and promotion to the rank of Associate Professor effective August 1, 2008:

- * Dr. Lauren Haldeman, Department of Nutrition
- * Dr. Patrick Lee Lucas, Department of Interior Architecture

The following faculty and staff were presented with HES awards for teaching, research advising, leadership, and staff support excellence during the 2008 HES Honors Convocation.

HES Outstanding Teaching Awards

- * Dr. Kittichai Watchravesringkan, Department of Consumer, Apparel, and Retail Studies
- * Mr. Stoel Burroughs, Department of Interior Architecture
- * Prof. Susan Dennison, Department of Social Work

HES Outstanding Research Awards

- * Dr. Jonathan Tudge, Department of Human Development and Family Studies

Outstanding Advising Awards

- * Dr. Catherine Scott-Little, Department of Human Development and Family Studies
- * Dr. Jo Leimenstoll, Department of Interior Architecture
- * Dr. Martha Taylor, Department of Nutrition

HES Award for Outstanding Leadership and Service

- * Dr. Novem Mason, Department of Interior Architecture

Staff Excellence Awards

- * April Judge, Department of Consumer, Apparel, and Retail Studies
- * Pam Howe, HES Office of the Dean
- * Peggy Craig, Department of Human Development and Family Studies

New Faculty Appointments for 2008-09

Our School has appointed new full-time faculty for the 2008-09 academic year. These persons include:

Department of Human Development and Family Studies

Dr. Richard Faldowski, Associate Professor

Department of Interior Architecture

Mr. Stoel Burroughs, Academic Professional Assistant Professor

Suzanne Buchanan, Lecturer

Jake Tucci, Lecturer

Nadia Volchansky, Lecturer

Department of Nutrition

Dr. Wei Jia, Professor

We welcome each of these faculty to HES!!

Retirements

HES recognized the retirement of Professor Novem Mason, of Interior Architecture in 2008. The sustained contributions by Novem have strengthened HES in our work with students, creative activity and outreach. We wish him a long and happy retirement

SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

25 Years of Service

Garrett Lange, Human Development and Family Studies
Mary Morgan, Human Development and Family Studies

20 Years of Service

Tommy Lambeth, Interior Architecture

15 Years of Service

Cheryl Lovelady, Nutrition
Martha Taylor, Nutrition
John Rife, Social Work
Elisabeth Hurd, Social Work

10 Years of Service

Raleigh Bailey, Social Work
Sharon Mims, Human Development and Family Studies
Anne Fletcher, Human Development and family Studies
Jacalyn Claes, Social Work

5 Years of Service

Arelys Chevalier, Center for New North Carolinians
Ann Garrison Ramsey, Consumer, Apparel and Retail Studies
Jennifer Austin Clark, HES Dean's Office
Richard Edward Goldberg, Interior Architecture
Melinda Joy Wolf-Forester, Human Development and Family Studies
Rhonda Brady Sawyer, Human Development and Family Studies
Tanya Renee Covington, Human Development and Family Studies
Patrick Lucas, Interior Architecture
Ruth Katherine Hinshaw, Center for New North Carolinians
H'Tuyet Rahlan, Center for New North Carolinians
Melissa Floyd Taylor, Social Work
Janet Johnson, Center for New North Carolinians
Lauren Haldeman, Nutrition
Carolina Tommie Parrish, Human Development and Family
Kanika, Alston, Human Development and Family Studies
Angela Turner Cranor, Human Development and Family Studies
Sudha Shreeniwas, Human Development and Family Studies
Anna Marshall Baker, Interior Architecture
Tina Sarawgi, Interior Architecture
Daniel Beerman, Social Work

Conclusion

The state of our school is strong as we begin the 2008-09 academic year. We continue to demonstrate excellence in our teaching, research and outreach programs. Through faculty and staff efforts, the stature and reputation of HES has grown and been strengthened.

In the 2008-09 academic year, three themes will continue to guide our work: **Innovation, Internationalization and Interdisciplinary**. In addition, we will also begin to focus on initiatives on **Inclusion, Engagement, and Sustainability**. We will spend time building our programs to be inclusive and innovative, and to reflect interdisciplinary collaboration where warranted. We will continue to be a campus leader in providing international education and research opportunities for our faculty, students, and staff.

We will also continue growing our strengths by recruiting and rewarding outstanding faculty, being a campus leader in professional preparation for undergraduate and graduate students, recognizing student accomplishments, being active in providing support for faculty research, scholarship, and creative activity, and rewarding staff for outstanding productivity.

Together, we will continue these successful trends in 2008-09.



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