



New faculty bring experience and vitality to Family and Consumer Science programs

Duane Whitbeck joined the Pitt State faculty this fall after completing course work toward a doctorate from the University of Tennessee. He anticipates completing his dissertation this year on the topic of "Preservice teacher's beliefs about teaching: A construction in progress."



Whitbeck holds an MS degree in child development from North Dakota State University and a BS in child development from Weber State University in Utah. He brings critical work experience as head teacher of children's programs at Weber State and North Dakota State Universities. He was also an instructor at Michigan State University before beginning his doctoral study at the University of Tennessee. His assignment in the FCS department is as assistant professor in the area of early childhood and director of the laboratory preschool.

Interested in curriculum development, program evaluation, social development and parenting skills, Whitbeck is actively involved as a researcher, writer and presenter. He holds memberships in the National Association for the Education of Young Children and the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development as well as two honor societies.

When asked to identify one goal he hopes to accomplish at Pitt State, Whitbeck stated his desire that "this program develop a strong regional reputation for both the quality of programs for children and as a training institution for the next generation of early childhood educators."

Whitbeck, his wife and three children relocated to the four-state area in August, building a new home in Webb City, Mo. Mrs. Whitbeck is a pediatric nurse.

This was the year for snatching outstanding professionals from the state of Tennessee. Donna Emerson moved to Pittsburg during the hot days of August from Murfreesboro, Tenn. Emerson is teaching in the area of Interior Design and assisting in the expansion and building of that program. She brings to Pitt State a broad educational and experiential background.



Emerson holds a BS in art education from Middle Tennessee State University, MS in interior design from the University of Tennessee, and a Master of Architecture from Virginia Tech. She has experience in teaching interior design at the University of Kentucky. In addition, she was the historical architect for the Tennessee Historical Commission, a designer with architectural and design firms and the in-house designer with JRN, Inc. She also served as director of the Tennessee Main Street Program.

Obviously having a wide range of experience, Emerson's primary interest has been restoration, renovation and adaptive reuse -- dealing with both interior and exterior design problems. Special interests include decorative finishes, especially stenciling.

Emerson hopes to "develop a professional design curriculum that meets prescribed educational standards in the profession, as well as training students for a variety of different positions within the profession."

She is especially proud of a brand new grand-nephew!

Both of these individuals bring rich experience and great enthusiasm as the department expands and enhances existing programs. They have already made tremendous contributions.

Viola Lacher Roe Holmes Scholarship



Jill Holmes of Stillwater, Okla., honored her mother, Viola Marian Lacher Holmes, by establishing an endowed scholarship for Pittsburg State University students. African American and Native American students in Family and Consumer Sciences or Education will carry on the legacy of Viola Holmes who graduated from Kansas State Teachers College in 1934. The first recipient of this scholarship was announced recently. Khisha Roberts of Kansas City, Kan., is a junior fashion merchandising student.

A true pioneer, Viola Holmes first received a degree from the Palmer School of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa. After practicing for nine years with her husband in Pittsburg, Kan., Viola then realized another goal by earning her degree in home economics and teaching at several Oklahoma schools. She also earned a master's degree from Oklahoma State University as well

(see Holmes Scholarship, pg. 4)

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES



From the chairperson

Dear Alumni and Friends,

As I write this article, the Pittsburg Community Campaign for the University has just gotten underway. I am increasingly



impressed with the strong sense of partnership between the community of Pittsburg, the southeast Kansas area and Pittsburg State University. As we call on individuals and businesses, one does not have to convince people of the value the university has to the economy and well-being of the area.

FCS students find jobs, often related to their area of study, helping to support their college education. Faculty members make contacts with businesses to assist with class activities, assignments and presentations. Student organizations often identify local support for professional projects. This community/university relationship is critical for the entire university and in particular, the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Community support for the expansion of scholarships is especially meaningful. As you look at the list of scholarship recipients for this academic year, please realize that in addition to the tremendous support by alumni, many local friends contributed as well. For example, out of respect for Gina Sharp, an FCS major who died of cancer a year ago, many people responded to requests for donations during the Cancer Relay for Life last May. Approximately \$3,000 was donated to the scholarship fund in Gina's memory.

Before long, the FCS home page will be accessible over the Internet. The location is www.pittstate.edu/facs. If you have access to the Internet, provide feedback and let us here from you via that source. It is always exciting to hear from our alumni and friends!

—Dr. Lynette J. Olson

Spring and Summer graduates for 1997

from left to right, front row: Carissa Decker, Shelly Frasco, Debbie Clark; back row - Tasha Huxman, Lana Busey, Donna Hamrick Brierbrodt, Christa Finley, and Jacqui Jones. (Not pictured: Kim Fritsche, Tzu-Ying Lee, Kristine Ligtenberg, Tammie Neppi, Tanya Scott, Jennifer Wilbourn)



Lana Busey, Early Childhood: Lana is the director of the Westside Child Care Center in Bartlesville, Okla.

Debra Clark, Fashion Merchandising: Debra is assistant manager at Gap Kids in the Towne Center Plaza in Kansas City.

Carissa Decker, Interior Design: Carissa is a showroom consultant with the First National Fixture Design Center in Wichita. She is also working at Sears.

Christa Finley Jahay, Interior Design: Christa was married June 14th. She is a visual trimmer and style show planner for six Stage stores in Ill.

Shelly Frasco, Fashion Merchandising: Shelly is in the management trainee program for JC Penney in Omaha, Neb.

Kimberly Fritsche, Interior Design: Kim is manager of R. S. Basso Interior Design Shop in San Jose, Calif.

Donna Hamrick Bierbrodt, Vocational Family and Consumer Sciences: Donna is teaching high school Family & Consumer Sciences in Topeka, Kan.

Tasha Huxman, Interior Design: Tasha is with Tile Source in Overland Park, Kan.

Jacqui Jones, Fashion Merchandising: Jacqui has completed management training with Montgomery Wards in Kansas City and has been assigned to a store in Omaha, Neb.

Tzu-Ying Lee, Fashion Merchandising: Current information unavailable

Kristine Ligtenberg, Early Childhood: Kristi is the lead teacher in a Kansas City preschool.

Tammie Neppi, Fashion Merchandising and Interior Design: Tammie is Women's Manager at Abercrombie & Fitch at the Country Club Plaza in Kansas City, Mo.

Tanya Scott, Early Childhood: Tanya is currently the lab assistant in PSU's Early Childhood Preschool while continuing her education for an Elementary Education Certificate.

Jennifer Wilbourn Huff, Interior Design: Jennifer became the bride of C.J. Huff on July 5th. She is a commercial interior designer at Hood-Rich Architectural and Engineering Firm in Springfield, Mo. Her husband is a 4th grade teacher at Bolivar Intermediate School.



Fashion Merchandising students traveled to the Dallas Fashion Career Seminar in April. Left to right (front): Merike Kolts, Jill Arck, Shelly Frasco, Kelly Hammons; (back row): Betsy Rhodes, Joel Emerson, Jacqui Jones, Debra Clark, Jayme Ernst, and Instructor Addie Johnson.



May 1997 graduates of the PSU Early Childhood Preschool.

Scholarships

The following students were awarded a total of \$6,325 in various scholarships for the 1997-98 academic year:

Alumni Incoming Student Scholarship

Janna DeBruler, Cherokee, Kan., -
Interior Design;

Cynthia Leniton, Sedan, Kan., -
*Vocational Family & Consumer
Sciences*

Deborah Noakes, Erie, Kan., -
*Vocational Family & Consumer
Sciences*

Abby Rink from Humboldt, Kan., -
Fashion Merchandising

E. Louise Gibson Memorial Scholarship

Barbara Benavides, Parsons, Kan., -
*Vocational Family & Consumer
Sciences*

Melody Cagle, Riverton, Kan., -
Early Childhood

Roberta Calvert, Erie, Kan., -
Interior Design

Jayne Ernst, LaCygne, Kan., -
Fashion Merchandising

Kelly Hammons, Clive, Iowa -
Fashion Merchandising

E. Louise Gibson Phi Upsilon Omicron Scholarship

Jill Arck, Pittsburg, Kan., -
Fashion Merchandising

Gina Kimble, Andover, Kan., -
Fashion Merchandising

Merike Kolts, Arkansas City, Kan., -
Fashion Merchandising

Camille Leonard, Humboldt, Kan., -
Interior Design

Holly Thyfault, Columbus, Kan., -
Interior Design

Kathy Woods, Independence, Kan., -
Interior Design

Greater Kansas City Family & Consumer Sciences Scholarship

Barbara Benavides, Parsons, Kan., -
*Vocational Family & Consumer
Sciences*

Melody Cagle, Riverton, Kan., -
Early Childhood

Viola Lacher Roe Holmes Scholarship

Khisha Roberts, Kansas City, Kan., -
Fashion Merchandising

Mary Kern Martin Scholarship

Li-Lin Tseng from Taipei, Taiwan -
Fashion Merchandising

Christy Wichman from El Dorado, Kan., -
Interior Design

continued

M. H. McFarland Scholarship

Barbara Benavides, Parsons, Kan., -
*Vocational Family & Consumer
Sciences*

Student Section of Family & Consumer Sciences Scholarship

Christy Wichman, El Dorado, Kan., -
Interior Design

Carrie Arlene Williams Memorial Scholarship

Kelly Hammons, Clive, Iowa -
Fashion Merchandising



1997-98 Scholarship Recipients:

Front row, left to right: *Melody Cagle, Barbara Benavides, Kelly Hammons;* (back row) *Camille Leonard, Christy Wichman, Merike Kolts, Jill Arck, Li-Lin Tseng, Roberta Calvert and Holly Thyfault.*

alumni spotlight

Cindy Allen Dean, '96, is with a bank in Parsons, Kansas.

Joann Murphy, '96, was married November 8th in Pittsburg. She has been promoted to manager in waiting at Lady Foot Locker on the Oak Park Mall in Overland Park, Kansas.

Dana Robinson, '96, is a cosmetic consultant at Nordstrom's in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Nilla Senechal-Madden, '96, is a family support worker at Kaw Valley in Pittsburg.

Betty Wilkins, '96, is with the Head Start Program in Joplin, Missouri.

Gina Peterson Williams, '93, and husband Jeff are in Liberal, Missouri. They had a daughter on January 4, 1996, Mariah Paige Williams.

Kelly Sponsel Larmer, '93, and husband, Jared, had a son, Jayden Scott on April 17, 1996. They reside in Pittsburg.

Tonya Ernsting, '93, is manager of Payless Shoe Source in Pittsburg, Kansas.

Susan Hoffman Harmon, '92, is a 7th and 8th grade Home Economics Technology instructor at Neodesha High School. She keeps involved with FHA and community service including taking students to volunteer at a therapeutic riding center in Coffeyville. She and her husband, David, have bought a farm where they raise horses. They have four children.

Julie Brown Pedd, '91, had a son, Lucas Andrew on 11, 1996. She and her husband, Mark, live in Pittsburg.

Lori Henderson James, '91, has been with Ethan Allen for five years and is currently the assistant manager in Ft. Collins, Colorado. Her husband, Jim, is a chiropractor.

Lori Carpino, '86, is a Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher for junior high and high school for USD 493 in Columbus, Kansas.

Alumni, keep your cards and letters coming so that we can keep our records updated. We enjoy hearing from you!

Joellen Shipmen Brill, '85, and her husband, Charles, are in Carrollton, Texas. They had a daughter, Taylor Anne, July 10, 1996.

Melissa Gibson Arbuckle, '80, married Robert Arbuckle Jr. on December 23, 1996. They now reside in Pittsburg.

Susie Romondo Dalton, '73, a Family and Consumer Sciences teacher at Pittsburg High School was awarded the Fifth Annual Anna Fintel Excellence in Education Award. Susie was selected from among five candidates by an anonymous selection committee. She received a check for \$6,000 from the founder of the award.

Marie Eichhorn Brinkman, '56, and a partner opened Affordable Tax Service in Pittsburg seven years ago. It has been very successful. Marie has five married children and 16 grandchildren.

Alice Allen Lovely, '48, retired in 1994 after teaching 46 years. She and her husband, Don, reside in Essex, Massachusetts.

Mary Virginia Corporon Shead, '41, is a homemaker and news reporter in Arcadia, Kansas. She writes for The Morning Sun, Fort Scott Tribune, Nevada Daily Mail, Girard Press, and The Liberal News. She and her late husband, Paul, have two sons: Larry is principal of Faith Christian Academy in Ft. Scott and Ralph is a missionary in Santiago, Chile.

Mary McCollister Howard, '39, is retired and living in Andover, Kansas. She has three children.

Katherine Parker Potter, '38, formerly taught Vocational Home Economics and later Head Start. Her deceased husband, Leonard, had a chain of chicken hatcheries. All four of their children are graduates of PSU. She is currently enjoying retirement and baby-sitting for her great-grandchildren.



WE WANT YOUR NAME IN PRINT!

We are very interested in what our alumni are doing these days. *We have not heard from some of you for years!*

Please update us today by **RETURNING THIS FORM**



name _____

maiden name _____

degree _____ yr. grad: _____

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Holmes Scholarship (from pg. 1)

as an elementary teaching certificate from Tulsa University.

Viola Holmes died December 25, 1995, at the age of 90 in Stillwater, Okla. She had made her home with her daughter since 1977.

The Department of Family and

Consumer Sciences is honored to participate in this scholarship. Scholarships such as the Viola Lacher Roe Holmes provide encouragement to students. With their donations, alumni and others light the path toward completion of educational goals.

Department of Family & Consumer Sciences

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