Dear Alumni and Friends:

In one of those Saturday afternoons in early April, I heard my phone ring; it was from a Russian friend who asked if I would have time to join him in enjoying classical music. Of course, I said yes. I brought a bottle of my favorite Dornfelder and drove over. The choice I had in my mind that day was Beethoven Symphony No. 6, one of a few narrative symphonies mastered by the incredible composer. Sitting down and turning on the stereo, we were quickly immersed in the vivid sonata that gradually conjured up sky, clouds, trees and rivulets in our imaginations. Magically, Beethoven painted the beauty of farmland, the storm and the peace afterwards, and the life drama therewith, through the notes of contradictions, tensions, and harmonies. I couldn’t help thinking that his genius really originates from his thorough understanding of the complexity of vast musical instruments and the sound each generates, and his masterful uses of these complexities to compose superb, lasting masterpieces. The beauty in the complexity is that all about!

Quite similarly, the complexity of very diverse technical approaches in our research can result in unprecedented methodological advantages on which to inspire the competitive edge in the modern research and discovery. Two of the telling examples can actually be found on the right panel of this page. Dr. Jason Cannon is a neurotoxicologist who has been working on animal models for mechanistic study of environmentally induced neurodegeneration. After joining our faculty in 2012, Dr. Cannon has established collaborations with Purdue’s engineers and used the engineering tools to discover the mechanisms of neurodegeneration. With these complex approaches, i.e., from animal models to cell culture systems and from molecular pathology to biomedical engineering, Dr. Cannon has advanced his research rapidly and received the recognition by his peers. He has received the multiple funds from NIH, the American Parkinson Disease Association, and the Michael J. Fox Foundation. Most recently, he was awarded a new NIH/NIEHS R01 grant about $1.7 million for the next five years. Dr. Cannon was merited for an early promotion to the rank of tenured Associate Professor in academic year 2015-2016. Congratulations Jason!

I would also like to congratulate Dr. Ulrike Dydak for her new title of University Faculty Scholar! Dr. Dydak’s research interest is the application of complex neuroimaging techniques, in particular in vivo Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) and Spectroscopy (MRS) techniques, to the understanding of environmental causes of neurodegenerative diseases. Her group has been pioneering the use of whole-brain 3D mapping techniques of gamma amino butyric acid (GABA) to study Parkinson Disease and manganese-induced parkinsonian neurotoxicity. Dr. Dydak is a frequent reviewer for both toxicology and medical imaging journals and for NIH study sections. Most recently Dr. Dydak was elected by her peers

(continued on page 2)
Hayden Hamby was named one of the College of Health and Human Sciences’ 2016 Outstanding Seniors, and was honored at a dinner held in April. Hayden hails from Trinity, Alabama, her major is Health Sciences, Pre-Professional with a concentration in pre-medicine and a minor in biology.

In a recent interview Hayden was asked what she would consider the ideal complement and her answer was simple: “If someone says that I am passionate and I really care about what I do, I feel like that could be the best compliment someone could give me.” Passion is not just a compliment to Hayden, it is the definition of Hayden! Sharon Versyp, the women’s basketball coach echoes this sentiment by saying, “Everything Hayden does, she gives it her all. No matter what it is, she’s going to be passionate about what she does. Above and beyond, 100 percent.”

Many of us have been fortunate to see Hayden’s passion in action in several different venues; on the basketball court where she was voted tri-captain of the Purdue women’s basketball team; in the lab as Dr. Marcy Towns’ research assistant; as a member of the Board National Senior Honor Society; as a representative for Boilermaker Wish, i.e. organization granting Purdue athletic wishes for youth facing difficulties; as a member of the Boilermaker Athletic Council where she served as a mentor for freshmen and sophomore student athletes; and as a founding member of SNAP Shooting Stars, a basketball program at the Y for youth with special needs.

Hayden’s academic achievements have been recognized by the Big Ten as she has been named an Academic All-Big Ten honoree three consecutive years and a Distinguished Scholar in 2015. Hayden was also a nominee this season for both the All State Good Works Team, which is an award that shines the spotlight on selected student-athletes who have shown dedication to service in their communities and the Senior CLASS Award. In February, the College Sports Information Directors of America announced that Hayden had earned Academic All-District Honors and would advance to be on the Academic All-American ballot.

Hayden’s next adventure will take her home to Alabama where she will begin medical school in the fall. There is no doubt that her passion for medicine will be seen in the care of her patients and the interactions with her classmates and professors. We would all be fortunate to have a doctor who is as passionate and caring as Hayden Hamby!

Above left to right: Truda Strange, Hayden, Rosie Ricci and Dr. Wei Zheng.

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD (CON’T)

to serve in a four-year chain as the Chair of the International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine’s MR Spectroscopy and Imaging Study Group. It is truly amazing to see how an engineer who deeply understands the complexity of MRI/S has successfully applied her knowledge and skills to environmental and occupational health science research. Ulrike well deserves her new title!

There are many more examples in this academic unit where our professors are inventing new techniques, new systems, and new theories to push the boundary of scientific innovation. With our consistent effort, the school has gradually developed a unique critical mass of faculty with expertise in an array of relevant and complementary fields who collaborate to explore the disease causation and to develop advanced diagnostic methods for better prevention and/or management of environmental and occupational health risks. The interdisciplinary collaborations have brought together Drs. Nie/Wells/Zheng for noninvasive quantitation of manganese and lead in bone among occupationally exposed smelters, Drs. Dydak/Rosenthal/Wells for biomarker research among welders, Drs. Freeman/Nie for assessment of non-cancer health effect of ionizing radiation exposure, and Drs. Cannon/Freeman/Sebulveda/Iruayyaraj for evaluation of the developmental origins of haloalkyl contaminants. I can perceive that these collaborations driven by complex, yet synergistic efforts will yield valuable contributions not only to human health but also to technology innovation.

Finally, I would like to thank Dr. Carlos Perez-Torres and Ms. Lisa Hilliard for their effort to develop two highly anticipated new courses for students on Purdue campus. Both courses, i.e., Carlos’s Oncology (HSCI305) and Lisa’s Anatomy (HSCI420), are designed for sophomore, junior and even senior undergraduates. The courses will enrich the current curricula and the learning experience. especially for those in our pre-med and other pre-professional programs.

For those who love classical music, you know that all symphonies consist of multiple movements, usually starting with an opening allegro, followed by gradual development in adagio and minuet, and finished with a virtuous sonata. If we could liken our effort in building the school to composing a masterpiece that reflects the school’s life course, where are we now? I would imagine that we are only at the beginning of this delightful overture; more and better will certainly come as we hit the right notes synergistically.

Hail Purdue!
Wei Zheng, Head of School of Health Sciences
Purdue Profiles: Jim Schweitzer

Purdue has some of the most advanced research in the world taking place on the West Lafayette campus, which also means it can have significant laboratory hazards and compliance requirements with various federal, state and local entities.

Jim Schweitzer, director of radiological and environmental management, and his team make sure health and safety protocols are established in laboratory and shop areas through a proactive system of training and consultation.

Using the Integrated Safety Plan (https://www.purdue.edu/ehps/rem/home/ispinfo.htm), REM partners with various units to make sure that formal safety programs are implemented in each organizational unit to ensure compliance with federal, state, and local safety and environmental regulations.

Schweitzer is a 1985 graduate of the School of Health Sciences. He worked at the Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety before returning to the University in 1987 as the radiation safety officer in REM. He has served as director since 2001. For his outstanding services to Purdue and School of HSCI, Schweitzer was named the 2015-John Christian Distinguished Alumnus.

Schweitzer also co-teaches a health sciences lab course on radiation instrumentation. Jim enjoys teaching, and commented that many of the instruments that are used in the lab are used routinely in real life radiation monitoring. He teaches various technologies and the theories of how radiation monitoring devices work.

Research at Purdue Social Media to Feature 13 Purdue Women

From developing portable systems to test Chinese children for lead poisoning to helping therapists better understand how young adults deal with grief and loss, Purdue women researchers are striving to make the world a better place. In conjunction with Women’s History Month, there are 13 Purdue Women researchers, including Dr. Linda Nie from the School of Health Sciences, who become the featured woman researchers on the Office of the Executive Vice President for Research and Partnership’ social media accounts.

In choosing these outstanding researchers, the Office received many recommendations from around campus. There are some new faces whom “many people may not be familiar with—great women doing great research but who may be unsung heroes outside of their fields,” says Angie Roberts, writer/graphic designer who oversees social media in the Office of Research Communications.

Linda Nie, associate professor of Health Sciences, has developed a portable version of an X-ray fluorescence system to measure lead levels among children in China. Currently her research team is developing a neutron activation analysis technology for in vivo quantification of metals in human bone, a portable x-ray fluorescence technology for in vivo quantification of metals in human tissues, and an associated particle neutron elemental imaging technology for early diagnose of cancer. Her group also has access to the advanced photon facility at the Argonne National Laboratory, where she conducts research on metal mapping in human and animal tissues. Nie’s other researches also include the health effect of toxic elements and radiation. In this line of research, she applies the novel technologies, developed in her group, on occupational and environmental health to investigate associations between metal exposure and health outcomes. She is well funded by several NIH and NIOSH research grants. (Photo by Vincent Walter)
The School of Health Sciences celebrated its successes on Friday, April 22, 2016 with the Annual Graduation and Awards Banquet in the Purdue Memorial Union in the North Ballroom. We were honored to have Dr. Thomas Berndt as our guest.

Congratulations to our award winners, Graduates, Distinguished Students, Honor Students and Club Presidents who were honored for their many contributions to academic achievement, service research, and teaching in the School. Also recognized at this banquet was our Robert Landolt Excellence in Teaching Award winner, Dr. Shuang Liu and our 2016 Young Alumni recipient, Dr. Dallas Cowan.

Lisa Hilliard & Brandon Lehr  
Lisa Hilliard & Ming Yang  
Shuang Liu & Marissa Ehrlich

Ellen Wells & Lakin Bowell  
Craig Yoder & Courtney Oare  
Ulrike Dydak & Courtney Oare

Truda Strange & David Putt  
Jason Cannon & Kendal Weger  
Jason Harris & Elzbieta Madej

Carlos Perez-Torres & Rachel Yuska  
Ulrike Dydak & Eric Cameron  
Stan Hampton, Eric Ward & Ulrike Dydak
UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

THE MERIT SCHOLARSHIP IN RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH SCIENCES  
COURTNEY C. OARE

BARBARA YOUNG AWARD  
BRANDON S. LEHR

BOOTSMA DISTINGUISHED MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCES SCHOLARSHIP  
MING YANG

DISTINGUISHED HEALTH SCIENCES STUDENT AWARD  
MARISSA E. EHRLICH

ROBERT R. LANDOLT RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH SCHOLARSHIP  
COURTNEY C. OARE

UNDERGRADUATE SERVICE AWARD  
DAVID M. PUTT

JEFF KIZER AWARD  
LAKIN K. BOWELL

RICHARD VETTER SCHOLARSHIP  
KENDAL L. WEGER

THOMAS WIDNER AWARD  
ELZBIETA MADEJ

PAUL ZIEMER OUTSTANDING FRESHMAN SCHOLASTIC PERFORMANCE SERVICE AWARD  
RACHEL M. YUSKA

GRADUATE AWARDS

ELI LILLY AND COMPANY INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE AWARD  
ERIC J. WARD

GRADUATE SERVICE AWARD  
ERIC M. CAMERON

WAYNE KESSLER GRADUATE STUDENT AWARD  
SARA E. WIRBISKY
DALLAS M. COWAN, PhD, CIH, DABT

Dr. Dallas Cowan is a board-certified toxicologist and industrial hygienist with more than six years of consulting experience in occupational toxicology, industrial hygiene, exposure and human health risk assessment. He is a Supervising Health Scientist with Cardno ChemRisk. Dr. Cowan completed his PhD in Toxicology at Purdue University in 2008, where his principal research focus involved biomarkers of manganese (Mn) exposure and early-onset manganism in Chinese smelting workers. During his doctoral work, he was involved in several research projects aimed at understanding the effects of Mn and possible therapeutic effects of drugs on manganism using rodent models. He was involved in animal dosing and treatment, followed by tissue sample preparations. These bench-top projects utilized laboratory analysis techniques such as atomic absorption spectrometry and real-time reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction for determination of metal content and gene-expression, respectively. Dr. Cowan completed his MS in industrial hygiene at San Diego State University in 2005 where his research investigated the effect of anthropometric facial characteristics on the efficacy of disposable dust masks.

Dr. Cowan’s industrial hygiene and safety experience includes a variety of exposure assessment techniques, qualitative and quantitative fit testing for respiratory protection programs, development of safety bulletins, preparing and conducting safety briefings regarding permit required confined space entry, fall protection, respiratory protection, and personal protective equipment. He was also involved in preparing for a CalOSHA Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) STAR recertification and escorted a VPP auditor during the evaluation.

More recently, Dr. Cowan has provided technical and litigation support on various projects involving exposure and health risk assessment of chemicals in a variety of occupational, environmental, and consumer product settings. His experience includes investigating the health effects of exposure to a variety of compounds, including benzene, styrene, vinyl chloride, and other VOCs, metals including manganese, and asbestos. He also has expertise and has published in the area of product stewardship and sustainability involving methods for comprehensive product safety assessments. His peer-reviewed publications have included “A cross-sectional analysis of reported corporate environmental sustainability practices” and more recently an “Evaluation of the California Safer Consumer Products Regulation and the Impact on Consumers and Product Manufacturers”, both published in the journal Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology.

We are proud of all that Dallas has accomplished and look forward to his continued success!

LANDOLT EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Dr. Shuang Liu was selected as the recipient of the 2016 Health Sciences Robert R. Landolt Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Criteria for the award include: Clarity of Presentation, Creating Student Interest in the Subject, Intellectual Challenge to the Students, Development of Logical Approaches and Critical Evaluation. Dr. Liu was honored at Awards Banquet on Friday, April 22nd in the North Ballroom of the Purdue Memorial Union.

Congratulations Dr. Liu~ Great Job!
**FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**Dr. Jason Cannon** received his new NIH/NIEHS R01 grant totaled $1.68 million (6/01/2016-5/31/2021). The project will examine the possible contribution of PhIP (a heterocyclic amine produced primarily during high-temperature meat cooking such as summer barbecuing) in Parkinson’s disease or other neurodegenerative disorders. Dr. Cannon and his research team will investigate the mechanisms whereby PhIP produces neurotoxicity in animal models and culture systems. Given that PhIP is also a mutagen and probable carcinogen, he has teamed up with other researchers at University of Minnesota and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory to explore the overlap between carcinogenesis and neurodegeneration, aiming at creating a new frontier in brain disorder research.

**Dr. Ulrike Dydak**’s NIH S10 Large Equipment Grant proposal for a 3T MRI Scanner has recently been awarded ($2 million). The grant will allow Purdue to purchase an advanced MRI scanner solely serving for the purpose of research. It opens a new era in translational research not only in HSCI but also, to a much greater extent, on Purdue’s campus! I sincerely admire Ulrike’s determination, persistence, skills and energy underpinning this great success. She has built a sound platform on which many of our researchers will benefit for their scholarly endeavors in years to come.

**Dr. Jennifer Freeman** and her student just published their work in Nature (Scientific Reports) 19 Feb 2016 (http://www.nature.com/articles/srep21337). In their study, Dr. Freeman and her team provide the convincing evidence that atrazine, a herbicide widely used in the Midwest to control weeds on crops, is an endocrine disruptor and can cause adult diseases when exposure takes place during embryogenesis. Nature, for its rigorous review process and high scientific standard, has the worldwide recognition among researchers.

**Dr. Keith Stantz**’s proposal titled “3-D Dosimetric imaging of particle beams for radiation therapy” has been funded in the amount of $30,000 by the Trask Innovation Fund (TIF). This fund will propel Keith’s newly developed technology toward commercialization.

**Dr. Ellen Wells**, a co-PI of a research proposal titled “The Nandi Clean Kitchen Study”, has just received the award letter from Purdue’s Global Engineering Program for its 3D Lab Seed Grant. This pilot project will investigate air quality/potential interventions related to cook-stove use in Kenya. The project is a part of international collaboration research with a university in Kenya and it will have a significant impact on public health promotion for citizens of Kenya. It also shows our faculty’s global influence in their research and discovery.

**Dr. Wei Zheng**’s research proposal titled “Adult neurogenesis in manganese-induced neurotoxicity” has received $155,000 from NIH/NIEHS (12/01/2015-11/30/2016). The proposal will allow his lab to explore how altered neurogenesis in adult brain affects manganese-induced parkinsonism. Another NIH/NINDS R01 grant titled “Environmental Epidemiology of Essential Tremor” for which Dr. Zheng has had a long-time collaboration with Dr. Elan Louis of Yale University (since 1999) has recently been competitively renewed for another 5 years (3/01/2016-2/28/2021) with a total budget of $3,593,950.

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**Dydek Lab**
**Nie Lab**
**Zheng Lab**
**Toxicology Graduate Students**
**Wabash Research Group**
**Cannon Lab**
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<td>Julie B. Allison</td>
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<td>Amanda G. Kaiser</td>
<td>Elizabeth J. Soldat</td>
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<td>Carly A. Francis</td>
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### Medical Laboratory Sciences Clinical Placements 2016

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<td>Lauren Mesaros</td>
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<td>Brandon Myers</td>
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<td>IU Health Partners</td>
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<td>Tariq ALGhamdi</td>
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<td>Kaitlin Begley</td>
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<td>Ming Yang</td>
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<td>OSF St. Francis Medical Center</td>
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<td>Kaleigh Lacas</td>
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<td>Parkview Memorial Hospital</td>
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<td>Jaymee Mills</td>
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<td>V.A. Hines Hospital</td>
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<td>Sally Romanek</td>
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### Beyond Graduation

**Stephanie Barthuly**  
Indiana University School of Health & Rehab Sciences  
Master of Physician Assistant Studies

**Lauren Deeter**  
Indiana University  
School of Optometry

**Carly Francis**  
IUPUI  
Doctor of Physical Therapy School

**Ryan Holladay**  
University of Illinois  
Doctor of Physical Therapy School

**Jannaye Huser**  
Indiana University  
School of Dentistry

**Lindsay Kaspar**  
Community North Hospital  
Fishers, IN

**Samantha (Sunny) Lee**  
Indiana University  
School of Dentistry

**Emerald (Emmie) Smith**  
Indiana University  
School of Optometry

**Katherine Williams**  
Naval Surface Warfare Center  
Crane, IN

### Service Anniversaries

On January 21st, Rosemary Ricci and Truda Strange were recognized for their years of service at Purdue, at the Purdue Memorial Union.

Rosemary Ricci, Senior Academic Advisor celebrated her 35\textsuperscript{th} year of advising at Purdue and Truda Strange, Head Academic Advisor celebrated her 20\textsuperscript{th} year anniversary.

Congratulations Rosie and Truda, and Thank you for a job well done!

### Boilermaker Baby

Graduate student Eric Ward and his wife Amber welcomed their first child, daughter Olivia, on January 31\textsuperscript{st}. She weighed in 6 lbs. and 11 oz. She was 19" long.

Congratulations and welcome to the Family!
**MORE GOOD NEWS FROM HSCI**

**Indiana Public Health Week Conference**

Danelle Rolle, a doctoral graduate student in Dr. Ellen Wells’ group, recently attended the Indiana Public Health Week Conference in Bloomington on April 7, 2016 and was invited to give a presentation.

Danelle is the leading author and the presenter for a research paper that describes the project currently on-going in Zunyi City, China. The project entitled “Bone Manganese (BnMn) as a biomarker of cumulative Mn exposure: A pilot study” is a collaborative effort among laboratories of Dr. Ellen Wells, an epidemiologist in public health and environmental exposure, Dr. Linda Nie, an engineer engaging in developing medical devices, and Dr. Wei Zheng, a metal toxicologist having long-time research in this cohort. Danelle reported the epidemiological findings in assessment of BnMn among smelters using non-invasive detection technology. The presentation was very well received and the audiences were really interested to see where the study goes!

The study with the pilot data submitted by primary presenter - Danelle Rolle, along with co-authors of Yingzi Liu, Farshad, Yuanzhong Zhou (a visiting scholar from Zunyi Medical College), Wei Zheng, Linda Nie and Ellen Wells - won 1st place in the student poster competition by the Indiana Public Health Week Conference.

Thank you for all the hard work that is continuously being put into this study!

**EXPLORING NEW OPPORTUNITIES OVERSEA**

Dr. Zheng was recently invited to visit University of Lampung in Lampung and Padjadjaran University in Bandung in Indonesia. Both are public universities established 1965 and 1957, respectively. While relatively short in their history comparing to many other higher learning institutions worldwide, the university administrations are determined to contribute to the country’s move to create the green economy. Indonesian is an island country situated in the Pacific Ocean, having more than thirteen thousand islands with a 258-million population. It is the world's fourth most populous country.

Indonesia is rich in its natural resources such as gold and copper mines, crude oil and tropical products. Rapid economic development has raised the public awareness calling for the environmental protection for a sustainable long-term development.

At the University of Lampung, a new undergraduate degree program and a major in Environmental Science has recently been established. Prof. Sugeng P. Harianto, the Rector (President), during his meeting with Dr. Zheng expressed his desire in establishing a mutual relationship with Purdue’s School of Health Sciences for student exchange as well as for faculty’s research collaboration.

Dr. Zheng met with Rector Sugeng P. Harianto (center), vice rector (first from left), dean of graduate school (second from left), Prof. Tommy Nur (next to Zheng) of environmental study during his visit to University of Lampung in April, 2016.
The Office of Student Services has completed another successful year. It seems like yesterday we welcomed the class of 2019 and our upper classman back to campus. Spring has sprung and with that we say good-bye to our School’s 60 graduates who will begin their next journey in life. Our College wished 804 May graduates the best as they began their next chapter in life.

Our Medical Laboratory Science program continues to evolve in structure due to the added teaching responsibility of Lisa Hilliard, Director of the Medical Laboratory Science (MLAB) program. This fall, she will be unveiling a new course, Applied Anatomy for Medicine. The course will involve hands-on laboratories with tissue dissection, case study investigations, and a visits to the Indiana University School of Medicine cadaver lab. We are proud to report that 100% of our MLAB students who applied and interviewed have been accepted into one of our clinical sights.

In addition to Lisa’s new course, I am pleased to report the Dr. Carlos Perez-Torres will also be unveiling a new course, Basics of Oncology. Students will be introduced to the basics and biology of cancer with a focus on what makes cancer different from normal tissues and how those differences can be leveraged for diagnostic and treatment purposes. The course will touch on the topics of epidemiology, cancer biology, and common therapeutic and diagnostic approaches.

Very soon, we will be welcoming a record number of new Boilermakers (207) to Health Sciences during Summer Transition and Registration (STAR). The entering class of 2016 will be the largest since 2008 with an increase in diversity and academic profile. We look forward to a new beginning and the energy these new students will bring to our School and University.

Through the generosity of John and Emma Tse, the John and Emma Tse Fund for Global Scholars has been established to assist undergraduate students in the College of Health and Human Sciences with costs associated with study abroad.

For 2015, $22,300 from the TSE Scholarships have been awarded to 20 HHS Students. This year the School of Health Sciences Tse Scholar awardee is Asmah Amir-Khani.

Dr. Jim McGlothlin and Dr. Ellen Wells led a group of 31 students on a Study Abroad trip March 11-20, 2016. During this trip, they toured London’s Windsor Castle, visited Edinburgh and Hadrian’s Wall, spent St. Patrick’s Day in Dublin, had a city tour of Galway, Blarney Castle and Cork before returning to the US. Overall, the trip was a success and the students had an educational and enjoyable experience.

Dr. McGlothlin will lead a Maymester trip to Peru with 35-40 students. One of the highlights will be to visit two different orphanages where the students will work with the children.