The 2010–11 academic year saw the birth of new leadership for two Wright State University colleges and one of its campuses. The College of Science and Mathematics, the College of Nursing and Health and the Wright State University–Lake Campus each welcomed new deans.

In July, Rosalie O’Dell Mainous, Ph.D., APRN, NP-BC, associate dean for graduate programs and research at the University of Louisville, was named dean of the Wright State University–Miami Valley College of Nursing and Health.

“I am looking forward to working with Mainous,” said Wright State Provost Steven Angle, Ph.D. “She brings a great depth of experience and energy to the dean’s position at Wright State. Having excelled as a nurse, a nurse practitioner, a researcher and an administrator, she is well positioned to lead the Wright State University–Miami Valley College of Nursing and Health.”

Mainous became an instructor at the University of Louisville’s School of Nursing in 1987, an associate professor in 1993 and was named coordinator of the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Program in 1998. She was appointed interim associate dean for Graduate Academic Affairs in 2006. She later became the associate dean for graduate programs and, in 2009, the associate dean for graduate programs and research.

“The College of Nursing and Health at Wright State University has benefited from the leadership of Dean Pat Martin and is now poised for movement towards a strong national presence,” Mainous said. “The faculty and staff are outstanding. I feel fortunate to have the occasion to work with this provost and to lead the college in a time of both challenges and opportunities.”

In April, both the College of Science and Mathematics and the Wright State Lake Campus also adopted new leadership, as Yi Li, Ph.D., and Bonnie K. Mathies, Ph.D., respectively, were appointed deans.

Li came to Wright State from the University of Iowa, where he served as the mathematics department chair since 2007. During that time, he was also a professor in informatics and applied mathematical and computational sciences.

“We are very excited to welcome Dr. Li to the Wright State family,” said Angle. “His wealth of experience in higher education complements the strengths of our university.”

Under Li’s leadership, the UI mathematics department made great strides in enhancing its diversity. In 2005, the department was honored with the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring from President George W. Bush for its work with minority students.

Prior to his appointment as department chair, Li served as the UI director of the Applied Mathematical and Computational Sciences program, associate chair/director of graduate studies and acting director of undergraduate studies.

Three New Deans Named

School of Nursing in 1987, an associate professor in 1993 and was named coordinator of the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Program in 1998. She was appointed interim associate dean for Graduate Academic Affairs in 2006. She later became the associate dean for graduate programs and, in 2009, the associate dean for graduate programs and research.

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For more information about any of the speakers, call the Wright State University Office of the President at (937) 775-2312.

September 13, 2011

Community
Student Union
www.wright.edu/lecture

Our state funding to provide a return on investment at Wright State, this year we will have a renewed priority. We want to make sure that none of our students are negatively impacted by this transition. My thanks to Director of Semester Conversion Herb Dregalla, NCVI for their diligent work in creating new curricula for the 22nd century. Fall Quarter also brings the announcement of our theme for the new academic year. I am pleased to tell you that this year’s theme is “Changing Lives, Changing Communities.” While community engagement is nothing new at Wright State, this year we will have a renewed focus on our role in promoting economic development and enhancing the quality of life in our region. We will reach out to our students, staff, and faculty as a collaborative enterprise to find an investment in our region. Our focus on community transformation also extends to service-learning to help solve the problems of our region. While there are already a number of ways in which we engage with the community, I want to make sure that we offer every possible opportunity for students, faculty, and staff to become involved.
The Vice President’s initiative is certainly a step in the right direction, offering a variety of opportunities for our students to support their research and skills to non-profit agencies. I plan to participate in some of these projects myself and hope you will join me!

As always, I look forward to working with each of you as we continue on our journey of “Changing Lives, Changing Communities.” Here’s to another great year!
Timothy Cope began his time at Wright State University chairing the Department of Neuroscience, Cell Biology and Physiology. In the short span of six years, he has made a positive impression on the lives of many students and colleagues, as well as benefited his department.

Less than two years after Cope’s arrival, Wright State neuroscience researchers successfully competed for funding as a National Institute of Health Program Project, with Cope as catalyst and director.

“Tim has succeeded in leading neuroscience research at Wright State to unprecedented heights and to national prominence,” said Robert Gryfe, associate dean for research affairs. “As department chair and academic leader, he has created an environment in which not just his own research program, but those of faculty throughout his department and across college boundaries, can thrive.”

“Dr. Timothy Cope is a rigorous researcher and scientist with a sustained track record of productivity and achievement in both the fields of motor control, sensory feedback and nerve injury. His publications have frequently challenged foremost researchers in his field, opened new areas of investigation. He is also a dedicated and joyful educator who still conducts all his experiments with his students, and a helpful and cooperative colleague with us all. Cope is a ‘true’ teacher.”

“Dr. Timothy Cope is deeply passionate about the success of others,” said Dan Suss, the former interim dean of the College of Science and Mathematics. “[He] is always striving for ways to support and assist faculty in their research projects by providing support and encouragement as department chair. By helping a junior colleague write a stronger grant proposal, by building collaborations—whatever is helpful.”

Perhaps driven by Cope’s spirit of cooperation, leading scientists from universities such as Case Western Reserve and Georgia Tech regularly visit Cope’s Wright State lab to participate in collaborative studies with him.

Christopher Wyatt, Ph.D., is a hard-working, nationally recognized scientist dedicated to research and education. In his four years at Wright State, he has published 15 papers in prestigious journals, been invited to give seven seminars across the country, and received $1.4 million in grant money to fund his research.

“It is an amazing accomplishment in this day of highly competitive funding and a testament to the impact of his research,” said Putnam.

Wyatt’s research in the field of oxygen sensing holds great potential for being translational, leading ultimately to treatments for health problems such as sleep apnea and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. He has recently begun to collaborate with Galloon Pharmaceuticals, a company focused on respiratory disorders, receiving funding to study the effects of putative respiratory stimulants on carotid type-I cells.

Wyatt consistently receives high scores on both student and peer evaluations, indicating he is both a superb teacher and a cooperative colleague.

“His abilities because of combined prowess in critical and creative thinking, clear and effective communication and a dedicated work ethic,” said Timothy Cope, chair of the Department of Neuroscience, Cell Biology and Physiology.

“She is a role model for us all and we are honored to be her colleagues,” they said.
"The first thing that strikes one about Mark is the pleasant way he greets everyone and his willingness to go out of his way to help anyone, to locate something or to work well beyond normal expectations to get a project done properly," said Kenneth Turnbull, chair of the Department of Chemistry. "Mark Baguran arrived in his office in Department of Chemistry 15 months ago and found it staffed and in the midst of innovation-induced moves. There was no departing administrative support coordinator to guide him. Baguran took this in stride and maintained a professional and personable demeanor, earning the respect of his colleagues and helping the department through a trying time. His pleasantness and courtesy in dealing with students, faculty and visitors has been a most valuable asset for the department in its relations with the rest of the university and the wider community," said Turnbull. "Furthermore, his personal integrity is nonpareil and his record never met anyone more votes in the department and his job.

Despite the steep learning curve, Baguran has become a skilled and competent support person as well as beloved colleague. Baguran never fails to recognize special merits with cards or gifts, strives to improve the working atmosphere in the department and regularly shows up an hour early to prep the office for the work day. "Mark’s service to his position has kept the department functioning on a daily basis," said Angela Brooksy, financial aid coordinator. "His willingness to learn and serve others often extends beyond his positive and caring attitude, pleasant demeanor, eager approach to problem solving and commitment to his position and the Department of Chemistry."

Human Relations (Classified)
Barbara Bullock
As director of Institutional Research, Barbara Bullock ensures that her office provides the accurate and timely data necessary for the university’s various centers, departments and colleges to evaluate their programs and achieve their missions. In the past, the Office of Institutional Research provided 10-day prior, as well as first, seventh- and 14-day enrollment reports to deans. As enrollment has increased over the past few years, the office has needed to provide greater historical data and trend analysis to help with university planning.

Under Bullock’s leadership, the office now produces the traditional reports as well as monthly dashboards with historical data. This allows Enrollment Management, Student Affairs and Residence Services, to better anticipate and respond to changes in enrollment. Bullock ensures that the university’s accountability reports are prepared and delivered to the Ohio Board of Regents. Those reports allow Wright State University to receive proper funding and also oversees the university’s report to the National College Rankings project. "Barb is well respected for the vital work that she does and the high quality statistical analysis and interpretation provided by the staff," said archivist and records manager Chris Wydman.

"They spearheaded an effort to address a largely unknown need at the university and should be highly commended for their spirit of caring and service to the campus community,” he said.

Outstanding Unit Award

The Statistical Consulting Center (SCC) has worked with almost every college, school and center at Wright State University. It provides statistical consulting services to Wright State faculty, staff and students involved in research.

By providing high-quality statistical analysis and interpretation, the SCC has increased the stature of Wright State research. There is little doubt that this contributed to the university’s distinction of being ranked fourth nationally for research productivity among small universities by the Faculty Scholarly Productivity index in 2007. The university with high research activity by The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

The SCC offers its expertise and advice to area businesses and individuals, thereby strengthening the ties between the university and the community. This expertise and availability has helped establish the SCC as an important technological resource in the Miami Valley.

For Excellence

Spirit of Innovation Award

As a reference specialist in the university libraries, Beth Anderson has a unique understanding of the benefits of technology to education. During the fall of 2002, Anderson decided to bring those benefits to students who might not otherwise have a chance to utilize them.

Anderson created the Wright State University Upward Bound Program to serve high school students from low-income families and first-generation college-bound students. The goal of the program is to increase the rate at which participants complete secondary education and enroll in and graduate from, postsecondary education.

"She not only created an opportunity to expose students to technological advances in digital media,” said Brenda Deodoro, director of Pre-College Programs and the Upward Bound Program, “but also opened a whole new college-based experience for students that would not have been made available to them otherwise."
The Wright State Alumni Association will host its Legacy Scholarship Brunch at 10 a.m. at the Wright State Nutter Center Berry Room. Join the Alumni Association as it honors the scholarship donors and recipients.

Later on Saturday, September 10, from 2 to 6 p.m., come celebrate Alumni Daze at the Wright State Nutter Center McKinley Gym. Make sure to bring back all those good vibes from the October/May Daze of yesteryear.

Alumni will enjoy basketball instruction from Raider greats while the kids can play in the inflatables in the kid zone. Come play the same festival games from when you were in college and get your taste buds ready for a chili cook-off and much more. Bring the family and show your fellow alumni how you’re still rowdy after all these years!

“Students are already doing a lot on campus, but professionals can offer things in community service that students often can’t,” said Neal. “We want to tap into that resource in a more organized way with We Serve U.”

Primarily, We Serve U aims to organize at least four community service opportunities each year for Wright State professionals, posting essential information about the events on the We Serve U website. But the program aims to facilitate much more than that.

“We wanted to organize community service events on campus that faculty and staff could participate in, but also we wanted to collect information about other opportunities and share that on our website,” said Neal.

The program’s website was designed to become a source of information for community service opportunities that originate from both on and off campus, from both students and staff. Program leaders also want the website to serve as a service hour tracking tool for university professionals too.

“It helps us to reaffirm our mission and vision to transform the communities we serve, and I think the site tracking will help us all see how much we really are doing and may inspire others to do more too,” said Joanie Hendricks, We Serve U co-chair.

Tracking service hours is essential, not only for the information but also for recognition, which Wright State gained again during the 2010–11 academic year.

For the second consecutive year, Wright State was named to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for its support of volunteering, service-learning and civic engagement.

Wright State was listed on the Honor Roll with Distinction for “its strong institutional commitment to service and campus-community partnerships that produce measurable results for the region.” Only 114 institutions across the country received such an honor.

The recognition only affirms what many on campus deeply believe: Working in higher education should also mean working toward a higher calling.

“We are an educational institution, which means we’re all here for a purpose greater than just our jobs,” said Jennifer Papadakis, We Serve U co-chair. “We Serve U highlights that.”

Visit www.wright.edu/weserveu to learn more and get involved.

Wright State University Alumni Association’s 40th Anniversary

Three New Deans

Also in April, Mathies was elevated to dean from her position as interim dean. Prior to that she was the associate dean of the Lake Campus for three years.

“Dr. Mathies has shown her dedication to this university and its students for more than three decades,” said Angle. “Her excellent reputation as an educator and administrator made her an excellent choice for this role.”

Mathies came to Wright State in 1974 as an instructor in the College of Education and Human Services (CEHS). She became chair of educational technology and allied programs in 1988 and assistant dean for communication and technology in 1994.

Mathies served as associate dean of the CEHS from 2000 until her move to Lake Campus in 2007. She was responsible for overseeing the $10 million renovation of Allyn Hall, Wright State’s first building.

Degrees paths are available now for four colleges. Degree paths for all other colleges will be available Fall 2012. You can find a link to TAP on Wright State’s homepage and the Semesters website (www.wright.edu/semesters), or visit www.wright.edu/semesters-advising.

The campus is invited to the first monthly update of the new school year. Semester Transition General Meeting Friday, September 16, 9–10:30 a.m. Apollo Room B&C (refreshments will be served)

Dialogue

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Managing Editor: Denise Robinson

Wright State University

Changing Lives