

HEALTH

Starts Here

A history of the Mizzou
College of Health Sciences



How health programs evolved into
a leading academic unit

Contributors

This documentation of the history of the College of Health Sciences is based on information in the University of Missouri Archives, archival video interviews, and on original and published interviews with individuals who created and developed this academic unit. Degrees for CHS alumni are noted.

Researcher/Writer

Cheri Ghan

Editor

Dale Smith

Designer

Cheryl Unterschutz

Project Lead

Angela Dahman

Commissioned By

Kristofer Hagglund

Acknowledgments

We extend our appreciation to the many individuals who generously contributed their time, memories, data and other important information for this publication:

Roger Harting, Richard Oliver, Kristofer Hagglund, Stephanie Reid-Arndt, Todd Pridemore, Michelle Custer, Joseph Sall

We also thank staff, faculty and retired faculty who contributed information for departmental histories, which informed this publication:

Carmen Abbott, Carla Allen, Stephanie Allen, Christi Baker, Diana Baldwin, Botswana Blackburn, Tiffany Bolton, Sherry Borscherding, Marilyn Blanke Braschler, Teresa Briedwell, Kelsey Carroll, Bev Denbigh, Winnie Dunn, Janet Farmer, Meichele Foster, Dana Fritz, Karen Funkenbusch, Jeff Galen, Crystal Gateley, Kyle Gibson, Judith Goodman, Jean Griffith, Marilyn Sanford Hargrove, Eric Hart, Whitney Henderson, Rosemary Hogan, Julie Kapp, Jennifer Keely, Bethany Kendrick, Adria Koehn, Leanna Lawrence, Crystal Lim, Lea Ann Lowery, Steve McDonald, Barbara McLay, Kathy Myers, Sara Parker, Shirley Patterson, Lynelle Phillips, Teresa Pitts, Lise Saffran, Diane Smith, Kelly Stephens, Brittney Stevenson, Aaron Thompson, Alese Thompson, Alice Townsend, Eva Trumbower, Timothy Wolf

Special thanks

With gratitude to University of Missouri Archives for their assistance and support: Anselm Huelsbergen, Haley Lykins, Kris Anstine, Gary Cox



Above: May 11, 2024, Commencement.

Cover: College of Health Sciences student ambassadors in 2024, from left, Madison Frisbie, Mathew Kimaku, Hannah Meystrik and Ava Millard. Abbie Nell Lankitus photos

A history of the College of Health Sciences

The College of Health Sciences is one of the largest academic divisions at the University of Missouri, yet it is the youngest. The College arose from a vision of emerging health care practice and research coupled with the administrative leadership bringing thematically related degree programs under one umbrella. The College continues to be a leader in education, discovery and service.

PART ONE — EARLY DAYS

3 **Early Days**
Long before the College of Health Sciences, students earn certificates at the University of Missouri.

6 **An Unusual Partnership Forms**
Two academic units collaborate in 1968 to offer bachelor's degrees in "allied" health programs.

9 **Forward Progress**
Planning begins to gather health programs into a single unit.

10 **A Proposal is Made**
The School of Health Related Professions forms in 1978.

12 **Growth Begins**
The School takes on new academic units with a four-year professional format.

14 **Finding a Home**
The School's first offices are established in Lewis and Clark halls in 1978.

17 **Becoming Independent**
The School of Health Professions becomes an autonomous academic unit in 2000.

PART TWO — NEW ENERGY

19 **New Energy**
Enrollment and research take off.

23 **Filling Gaps in Health Care**
The School launches programs to address health care workforce shortages in Missouri.

27 **Learning and Serving Through Care**
A tradition of hands-on learning benefits the community.

28 **Leadership Change**
A new dean sets priorities for growth in multiple areas.

30 **New Programs Serve Students**
Updated and new programs meet the needs of students and patients. The School develops dedicated offices for recruitment, advising and career services.

33 **Growth Accelerates**
New faculty and programs join the School.

34 **Big Changes Announced**
A new name, College of Health Sciences, and major renovations to Clark Hall reflect the college's stature on campus.

36 **Donors Advance the Mission**
Philanthropic support reaches new heights.

38 **Tackling the Unknown**
Research awards and grant expenditures increase dramatically.

40 **Programs Evolve**
The year 2025 sees new degree offerings in criminal justice and clinical laboratory science.

42 **Forward Thinking**
The College of Health Sciences is Mizzou's third largest academic unit in enrollment.

SPOTLIGHT STORIES

45 **The Future of Health Sciences**
Students and faculty in the College of Health Sciences employ the latest technology such as Big Data and AI in their work. But they also look at each patient with their own eyes. The goal: Develop the right diagnosis, treatment and preventive measures for that person's physical, mental and social circumstances. Treat the whole person — mind, body and spirit — and help them live their best life.

49 **Creating the BHS in Health Science**
During the early 2000s, the School of Health Professions has a growing undergraduate student population, not all of whom are accepted to professional programs. Some switch majors, but many leave the university.

The School responds to the problem in 2008 by launching the BHS in Health Science degree to prepare students for a range of health programs.

Within a few years, Health Science becomes the most popular major at the University of Missouri.

52 **The Home of Health Sciences**
Lewis and Clark halls open in 1965 as privately owned, upscale student dorms. Richard Oliver, BS MT '71, and Winnie Dunn, BHS OT '72, recall working in the halls as undergraduate students.

As Health Professions programs begin moving into Lewis and Clark, former dormitory rooms are converted for clinics, classrooms and offices. By 2023, the College of Health Sciences is the sole occupant of both buildings.

In 2024, a \$6 million renovation transforms Clark Hall.

Part One

Early Days

Before health programs come together into a single academic unit, students such as these in medical technology earn certificates through hospital and medical school departments.

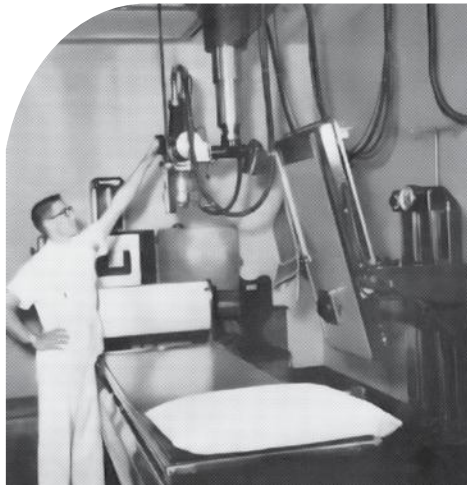
Photo courtesy of the Medical Technology program, 1959

EARLY DAYS

As far back as the late 1800s, some University of Missouri students wanted to pursue health careers other than medicine and nursing. Students interested in “allied health” careers typically earned undergraduate degrees in other majors and took additional courses related to their area of interest. No department existed where they could earn a degree in their chosen field until, after many years of this makeshift approach, an academic unit formed to graduate students from multiple specialty programs. That unit ultimately became the College of Health Sciences, and this is its history.

University Hospital opened in 1956, at which time many health courses were based there or in related School of Medicine departments.

For example, students interested in medical technology took classes affiliated with the pathology department. Coursework enabled students to obtain professional certificates in medical



A radiography student adjusts an X-ray tube at University Hospital in 1961. *MU*tion photo

technology, inhalation therapy (now called respiratory therapy), radiographical sciences, physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech-language pathology.

A 1969 report of the University of Missouri Subcommittee on Long-range Planning for Allied Health Sciences recognized the need for a school of allied health. The subcommittee arrived at this conclusion after assessing the university’s current offerings,

Students earn certificates for health careers in medical technology, inhalation therapy and other fields.

potential for growth and workforce needs across the state and nation.

Committee members included two people who went on to significantly influence the unit’s development. Herbert Goldberg became the founding director of the School of Health Related Professions, and Raymond Hogue became founding director of the MU Physical Therapy program.

Roger Harting, then a relatively new instructor in the College of Education, also figured prominently in the planning and development of the new school.



Physical Therapy Graduating Class, 1965



Herbert Goldberg, 1960s



Jerry Browning, Physical Therapy director, 1981

1969

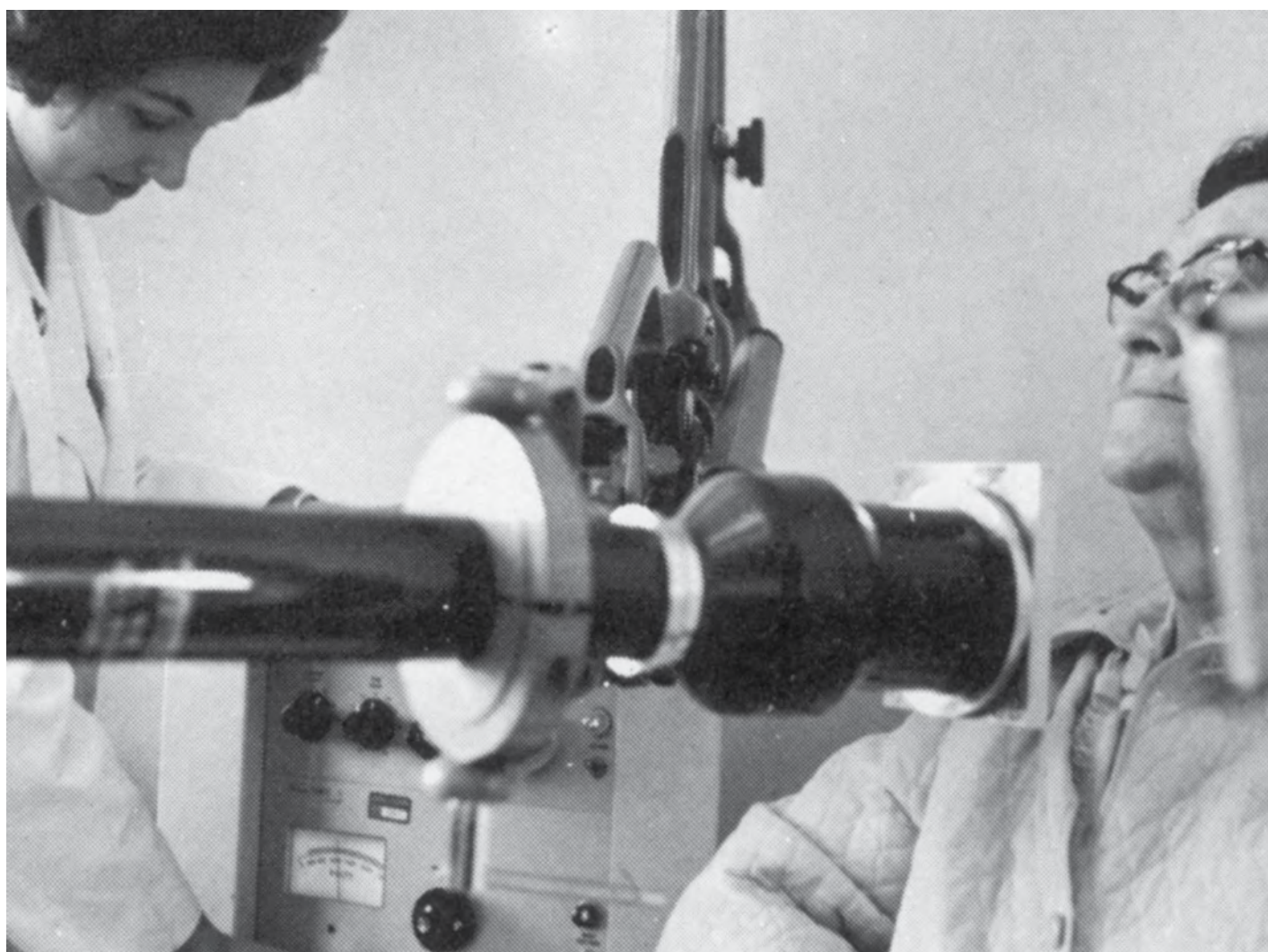
A subcommittee on long-range planning recommends the establishment of a school of allied health professions.

1978

The School of Health Related Professions is created within the School of Medicine under the direction of Herbert Goldberg.

1981

The SHRP Planning Committee recommends changing from a two-year upper division degree format to a four-year school.



Clockwise from top left: During the 1960's, physical therapy students practice evaluations during a lab class; radiography students take a break; and a radiography student performs a treatment.
Photos courtesy of Marilyn Sanford Hargrove and *MUtation*

AN UNUSUAL PARTNERSHIP FORMS

The year 1968 saw a formal agreement between the College of Education and School of Medicine

allowing students to earn bachelor of science degrees in some hospital-based health areas. The new degrees replaced the hospital-based certificate programs and were administered and awarded through the College of Education. The School of Medicine continued providing the clinical content.

Harting was named allied health assistant to the College of Education and School of Medicine deans and assistant professor in the College of Education. He reported to associate deans in both the College of Education and School of Medicine as he shepherded the new endeavor.

The curricula departed from the traditional disciplinary sole focus. For instance, students wanting to become respiratory therapists or medical technologists also had to complete basic education courses for elementary or secondary teachers.

“We felt that some exposure to coursework on curriculum

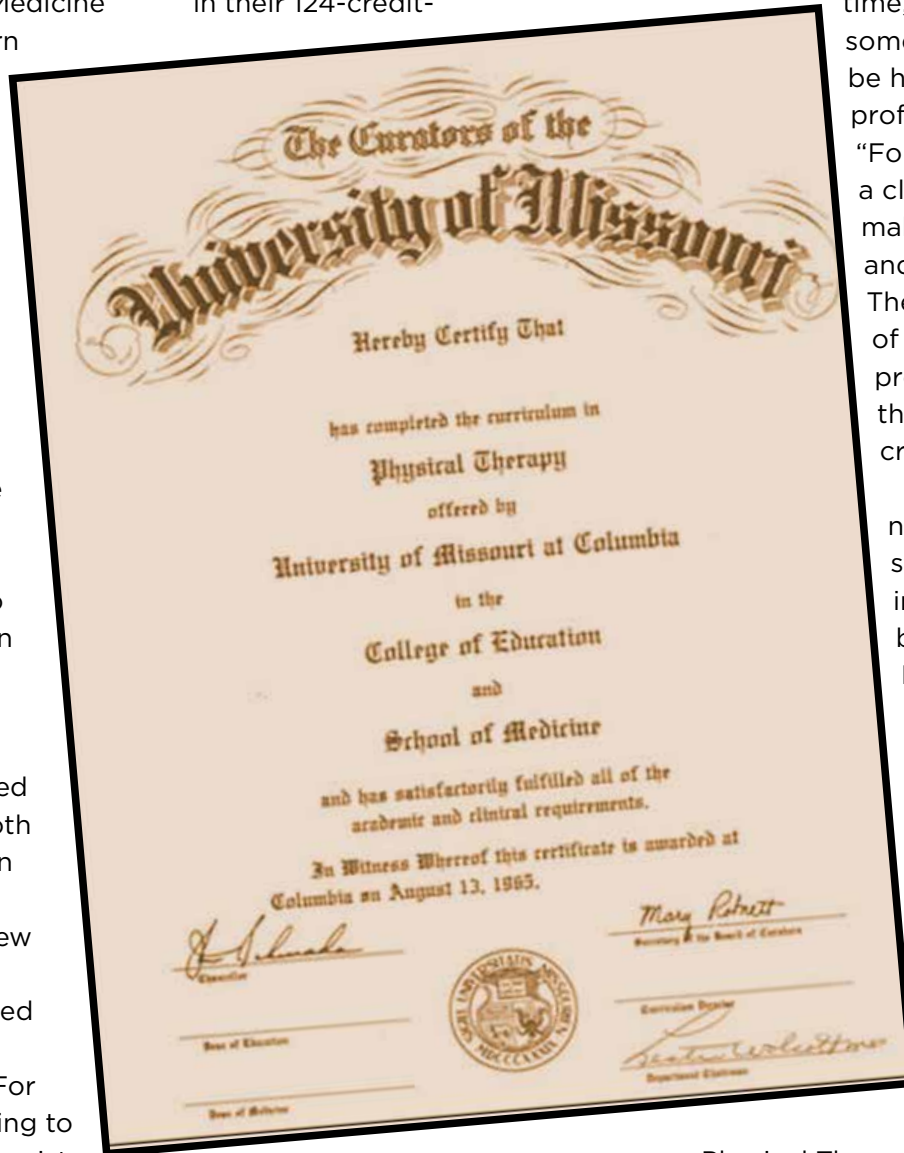
development and teaching methodology might be useful to the graduates,” Harting said. “The coursework tended to be focused on elementary and secondary education, and if there was room in their 124-credit-

on to faculty positions in the unit. He eventually retired as founding dean of the College of Health Sciences.

Classes such as public health were not available at MU at the time, Oliver said, but some offerings could be helpful across professional settings. “For instance, we took a class on how to make presentations and use multimedia. They made a video of us making a presentation, and then we had it critiqued.”

At the time of the new agreement, 68 students participated in several hospital-based programs: Medical Technology, which had subspecialties in cytotechnology and histotechnology that focused on cell examination and analysis; Inhalation Therapy (now Respiratory Therapy); Radiologic Technology; and

Physical Therapy. The students were given the option of finishing their noncredit programs or enrolling in the new baccalaureate degree programs. Additional students were admitted to the new programs. Faculty were hired and



hour programs, it might be more useful professionally for them to take advanced coursework in the biological sciences.”

Richard Oliver, BS MT '71, found the coursework helpful as he went



Physical therapy students meet Bob Briggs, director of the Missouri Crippled Children's Program in 1964. Photo courtesy of Marilyn Sanford Hargrove

listed as employees of the various School of Medicine departments.

Harting worked with program directors to create curricula and get courses approved by the University of Missouri System. He developed semester-by-semester course plans and pursued accreditation. All programs were approved and accredited in two years, and the first bachelor's degrees were awarded in the

1970-71 academic year. He also worked with faculty to create a faculty policy handbook, faculty bylaws and a general governance structure. The policy and procedures plan was met with unanimous support from the faculty, he said.

Harting reported on the allied health education project to School of Medicine Associate Dean Herbert Goldberg. In addition

to creating the educational component of the joint venture for undergraduate students, they also worked with the College of Education to develop a program for the health faculty to obtain master's and doctoral degrees in the College's Department of Higher and Adult Education. Harting served as the academic advisor for these faculty while they were students in the graduate programs.



Above: Members of the physical therapy class of 1980 take part in an aging simulation class in McHaney Hall.

Opposite page: The University Hospital rehabilitation team, including physical and occupational therapy faculty and students, gathers outside McHaney Hall, 1972. Photos courtesy of Marilyn Sanford Hargrove

FORWARD PROGRESS

As the degree partnership between the College of Education and School of Medicine was being created and launched, bigger goals were under consideration. Harting and Goldberg worked diligently through the first half of the 1970s to take the next big step — establishing a school of health professions, as the 1969 university subcommittee outlined.

By March 1976, they had developed a planning document with seven recommendations that would later form the basis of a proposal to the chancellor and UM Board of Curators. The new unit would be named the School of Health Related Professions (SHRP).

“We chose that name because there was a national association for academic units of this type called the National Association of Schools of Health Related Professions,”

Harting said, “and the larger and stronger units were named this way.”

The School’s clinical components would continue to be provided at the hospital by School of Medicine faculty, and planners hoped funding from the affiliated departments would follow. Thus, a recommendation suggested housing the new School in the School of Medicine. Harting and Goldberg called this an interim step toward the establishment of a free-standing School.

The clinical education for each program included only upper-level coursework, and so the planning document suggested organizing the new unit as a two-year professional program, admitting students only into the professional phase of their chosen program. Potential students in their freshman and sophomore years would be classified as “preprofessional.”

As was the case before the new

preprofessional designation, the College of Education offered undergraduate coursework, guidance and advising.

The Goldberg-Harting recommendations called for SHRP to develop relationships with other health-related programs on campus. Baccalaureate programs in Dietetics, Food Systems Management, Speech Pathology, and Health Services Management eventually joined the new unit, though some for only a couple of years.

The planners sought to give students and faculty an academic home that would allow common learning and teaching experiences, more options for student-faculty collaboration, and an opportunity for individual programs to grow. In short, an independent School would give faculty and students the visibility on campus and in their professions that many felt was lacking.



A PROPOSAL IS MADE

In November 1977, Goldberg and Harting transformed the planning document into a

43-page proposal for the School of Health Related Professions and submitted it to university administration.

This period saw a shortage of physicians, and the proposal noted that the University of Missouri Board of Curators had sought to lessen the problem by opening a second medical school at the University of Missouri-Kansas City in 1971. However, the report continued, increasing the supply of physicians would not eliminate patient-care shortages, as each physician works with 15 to 20 additional health care providers across disciplines.

To meet that need, another academic unit was needed — the School of Health Related Professions.

Goldberg and Harting spent months building on the principles they had developed, and the proposal contained an outline for operations. Organizationally, the leaders of the proposed unit would be program directors reporting to

a senior director who reported to the School of Medicine dean. None of the new School's programs would be departments, so, unlike in other schools on campus, there were no chairs.

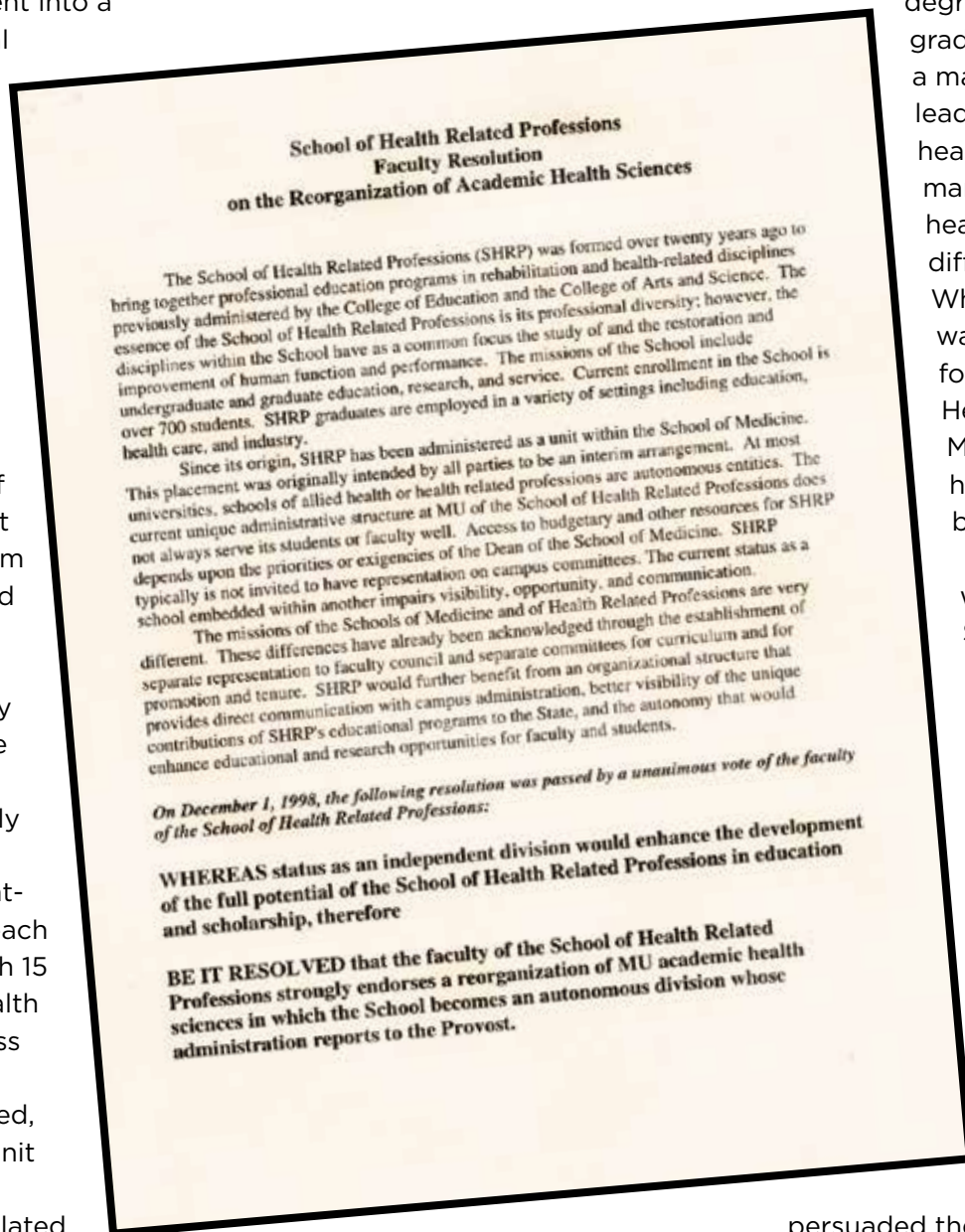
Technology and Respiratory Therapy. The sixth program was a master's in Health Services Management, which awarded a degree then called "Master of Science in Public Health." The

degree prepared graduates to "assume a management and leadership role in health services management." (Public health is defined differently today.) When the proposal was taken forward for approval, the Health Services Management public health degree had been removed.

Finding funding was among the School's biggest challenges, and Harting and Goldberg both worked to gain financial support. No new money was available from campus. Goldberg, an associate dean in the School of Medicine, had direct access to that unit's leaders. He

persuaded them to contribute funds to help the new School launch and graduate badly needed health professionals.

The proposal stated, "A School of Health Related Professions with definite academic units would provide the opportunity for this status to be attained. These health



The original proposal called for six programs. These included the five programs from the partnership with the College of Education: Medical Technology, Occupational Therapy (which started taking students in 1969), Physical Therapy, Radiologic

personnel are ready to fulfill the expectations which would come with this new faculty identity.”

The School’s proposed organization would continue large elements that had been in place under the Education-Medicine agreement, in which preprofessional students enrolled in the College of Education. Upon acceptance to the professional-level of a program, they would register as students in the School of Health Related Professions. This arrangement gave all students a common core of classes so that anyone not gaining acceptance to a professional program could pursue a different degree without starting over.

University of Missouri Chancellor Herbert Schooling sent his support of the proposal to University of Missouri System President James Olson. Olson forwarded the recommendation with his support to the UM Board



Herbert Goldberg helps plan and run the School of Health Related Professions.
MUtation photo

of Curators, who voted on May 26, 1978, to establish the School of Health Related Professions. The vote carried an effective date of July 1, 1978.

Goldberg was named director and Harting associate director, and they controlled a budget of \$775,000. Faculty who spent more than 50 percent of their effort on the allied health programs were given primary appointments in the new School, while those devoting less than 50 percent were offered joint appointments.

The 1977-78 academic year saw 37 FTE faculty positions, 316 pre-professional students and 243 professional students. For the first time, the word “health” became part of degree names. For instance, instead of earning a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy, diplomas would read Bachelor of Health Science in Occupational Therapy.



Physical therapy class of 1982 graduates return for a 25th reunion in 2007. From left, Erick Wilson, Brett Derrick, Jerry Browning (director), Kathy Early, Mark Mattingly and Shelley (May) Goedel.
Cheri Ghan photo

GROWTH BEGINS

As Missouri's only state-supported health sciences program on a campus with an academic health center, the new School of Health Related Professions was positioned to educate well qualified health care professionals.

The university's Speech Pathology/Audiology Program joined the School in 1979, one year after its creation. Housed in Parker Hall, it continued to

Programs multiply. Faculty roles evolve. Student advising strengthens to meet rising demand.

grow and thrive, including not only undergraduate, master's and doctoral degrees but also the MU Speech and Hearing Clinic.

The School took on Medical Dietetics and Health Services Management in 1980, though they left for other campus units later in 1980 and 1988, respectively. The Health Services Management

undergraduate degree answered a state requirement at the time that nursing home administrators have a bachelor's degree. "The need for this degree faded over time, and the program moved back under the School of Medicine," Oliver said.

SHRP faculty saw a need to update the system of having only professional-level students, while



the pre-professional students were in the College of Education, other majors and even at other universities.

“It just did not make sense to continue as only an upper division unit, and we needed to get control of the advisement process for all undergrad students,” Oliver said.

In December 1981, in his role as chairman of the SHRP Planning Committee, Medical Technology Program Director Richard Oliver’s memo to Goldberg pointed out the growth and viability of the School’s programs as partial justification for a significant

change. He recommended that, while retaining its affiliation with the School of Medicine, the School change from a two-year upper division degree format to a four-year course of study. Goldberg agreed, and the change was made.

The shift was just one of several that became key to the School’s development. “Initially the programs’ faculty advised all the students, but we eventually transitioned to professional advisors. We needed the faculty to focus on teaching, research and service. Plus, we started more student recruitment activities to

grow the school,” Oliver said.

Further changes included the Radiologic Technology Program becoming the Radiologic Sciences Program in 1982 with emphasis areas in Radiography and Nuclear Medicine Technology; and Speech Pathology/Audiology changing its name to Communication Science and Disorders in 1985.

In a 2004 interview, Goldberg noted the new School was a major step forward for the university and the students interested in pursuing health careers. “It was sometimes challenging to be an advocate for health professions programs that still had to compete with medical school programs for resources and recognition,” Goldberg said. “Our new School did not receive all the resources and recognition we wanted, but we did have independence and a clearly defined mission that we needed to evolve.”



Members of the Student Speech and Hearing Association, including their faculty, 1979. *Savitar* photo

FINDING A HOME

Harting was the first School of Health Related Professions employee to locate in the Lewis and Clark halls complex, which was originally designed and built as student housing. He moved to an office on the Clark Hall mezzanine in 1968. He worked there while he was creating initial coursework under the partnership between the College of Education and School of Medicine, then as the associate director of the School of Health Related Professions and, in 1983, as its director when Goldberg returned to the classroom as a professor. The complex was home to numerous university offices and programs.

Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy were the first SHRP programs that moved to Lewis Hall. Until the 1984 move, they had been housed in McHaney Hall, a former residence hall for student nurses located adjacent to

University Hospital. They left when University Hospital's expansion needs grew during the early 1980s.

Although Harting had solved an immediate Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy space issue and also found office space for the Respiratory Therapy and

Radiography programs near his office, he didn't intend it to be a permanent solution.

"I never felt the space in Lewis and Clark halls was a very appropriate location for the School's programs, but there were no other choices available," Harting



SHP students gather in Clark Hall courtyard, 1988. *Savitar* photo



Roger Harting, 1980s



Richard Oliver, 1988



Student registration, early 1990s

1983

Roger Harting named director of the School of Health Related Professions.

1986

Richard Oliver is named director of the School of Health Related Professions. He moves to Clark Hall.

1989

Enrollment is at 804 students, and the school has now produced 2,456 graduates since its inception.

said. "Some other units were similarly housed in old buildings or residence halls. As it was, our programs were in seven different places on campus at one time."

As such, Harting found himself spending a lot of time walking to SHRP programs all over campus. "I made it a practice to try and visit the physical location of each individual program every Friday morning with the intention of being visible and of providing faculty and students the opportunity to talk to me and to help them feel that they were part of a larger unit," Harting said.

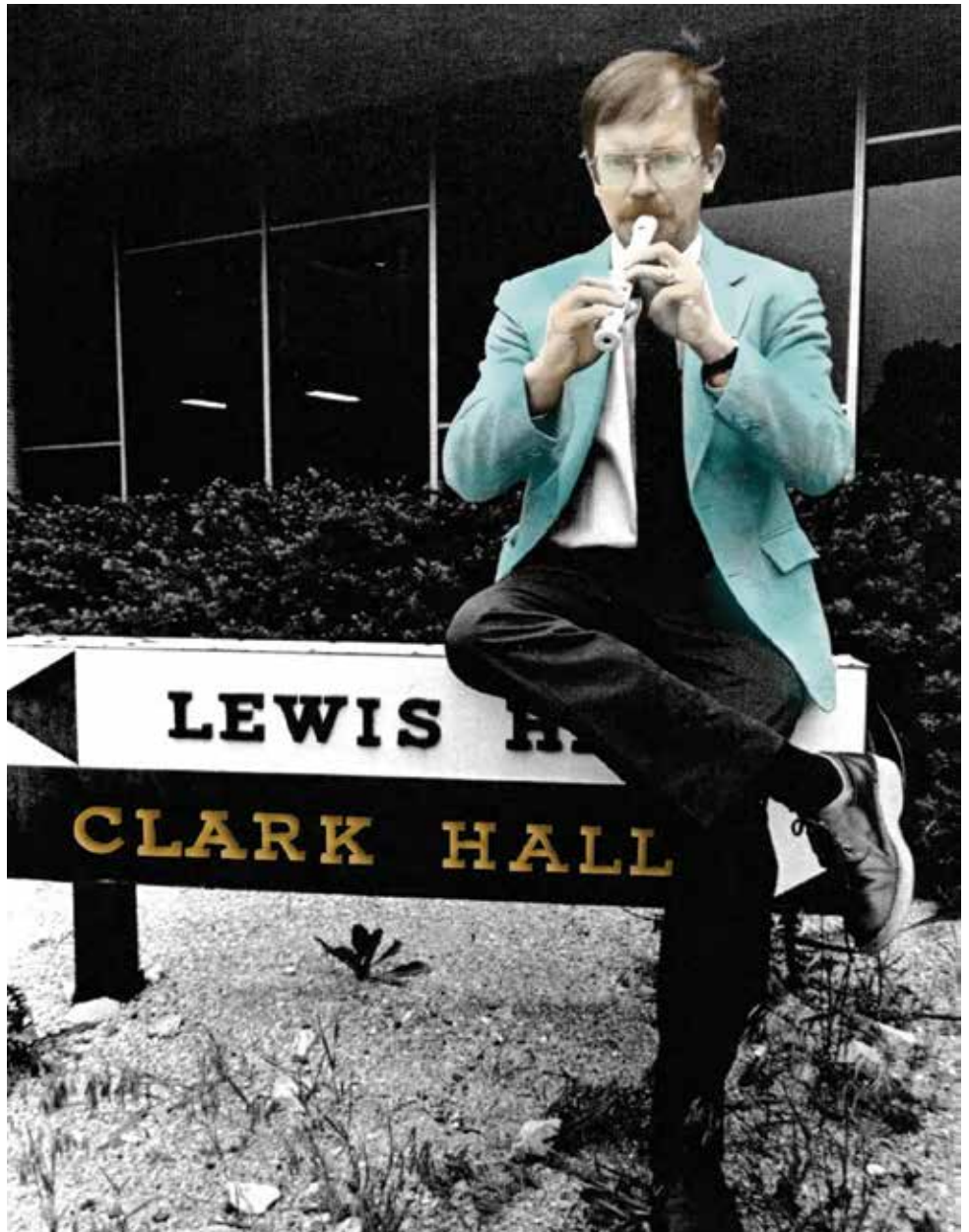
Harting doubted he would ever see his hope of the School being housed in a new building realized. "At one time, it seems like the provost told me we were tentatively 23rd on a potential list for our own facility," he said.

At the beginning of his career, Harting never imagined that he would lead a program for health care professionals. He took great pride in helping to create the School of Health Related Professions, but he felt a person with a background in health care should run it. What's more, his heart was with preparing public school educators and administrators. And so, in 1984, he returned to a full-time appointment in the College of Education.

Oliver was named interim director and in 1986 became the permanent director. He moved from the School of Medicine to an office atop the stairs in the Lewis and Clark lobby.



Speech-language pathology graduate student Pam Ramsey and faculty member Brad Allard work with auditory brainstem response equipment. *Connections* photo



Richard Oliver, then director of the School of Health Related Professions, shares a lighthearted moment outside Lewis and Clark halls, 1986. *Connections* photo



Early 1990s members of the School of Health Related alumni board are, from left, first row: Julie Dyer, Lara Wakefield, Brenna Ildza, Mary Hofmann. Second row: Michael McGeehan, Jeanne Earley, Jennifer Stevenson, Angela Tanner. Third row: Rita Sterler, Steven Edgar, Neal Tanner. Fourth row: Peggy Newsham, Matt Williams. Steve Zumbro photo

BECOMING INDEPENDENT

Oliver began what would become nearly 30 years of advocacy for the School. He noted in a 1986 report that the School ranked ninth out of 19 Midwestern health schools in terms of students enrolled in professional programs. The Missouri Coordinating Board for Higher Education recommended the same year that the University and the School continue to assess the “aspiration needs” of the various programs.

At this time, SHRP had affiliation agreements with 280 hospitals and health care institutions nationwide. It had 38 faculty members and six staff members along with the following numbers of students:

- 452 preprofessional students.
- 90 professional students.
- 60 graduate students.

Oliver’s initiatives included broadening the role of community service in the School’s activities

and curriculum. The MU Speech and Hearing Clinic had long been serving the community. In 1989, the School opened a “daycare” facility for older adults called the Eldercare Center. Physical Therapy Professor Marian Minor’s arthritis research led to the opening of a community-based health and wellness center called The Health Connection.

or our society and we have the capacity and expertise to respond, we have a moral obligation to provide care and assistance. Plus, what a great learning environment for our students.”

The School’s enrollment reached 804 students by 1989, and it had produced 2,456 graduates since its inception in 1978. Communicative Disorders, now Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences, moved to Lewis Hall in December 1989 after renovations to provide clinic and office space were made to the third floor. Other programs, including Respiratory Therapy classroom and lab space, moved around in the Lewis and Clark complex.

Oliver’s 1994 report to the UM Board of Curators said 1,000 more students had graduated from the School since 1988. During this era, however, reimbursement mechanisms for pathology procedures shrank, which limited the Department of Pathology’s ability to invest in educational programs like Medical Technology. The program closed in 1995.

Despite this loss, with the continued growth in popularity of other

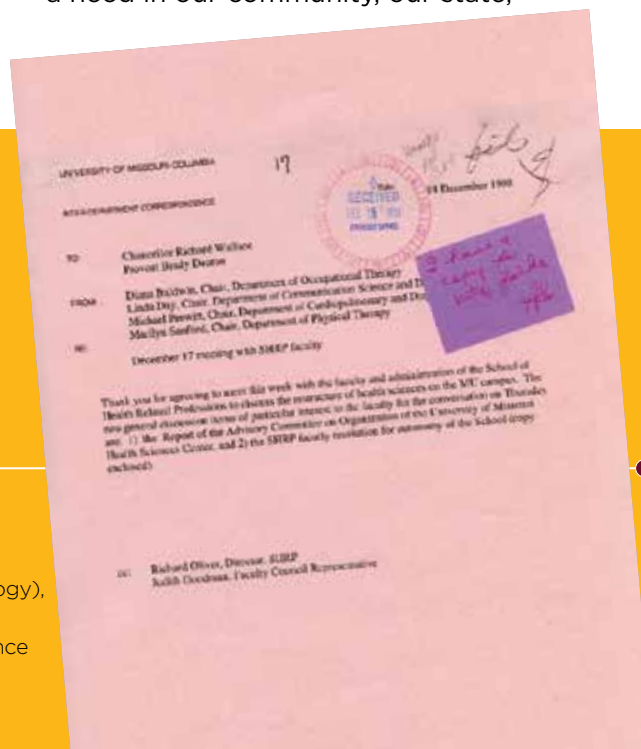
The School of Health Professions claims its place as an autonomous academic unit.

Oliver said the clinical services related well to the University of Missouri’s mission as a land grant university.

“We were taking our research in the lab and applying it to the living room,” Oliver said. “I think if there is a need in our community, our state,



Mary Sebacher with radiography students, 1990s



SHRP faculty request to meet with the chancellor

1994

Degree programs are: Clinical Laboratory Science (Medical Technology, Cytotechnology), Communicative Disorders, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Radiologic Science (Radiography, Nuclear Medicine), and Respiratory Therapy.

1998

SHRP faculty meet with MU Chancellor Richard Wallace to request a restructuring of the school as an autonomous unit at the University of Missouri.

programs and high workforce demand for its graduates, Oliver and the program directors worked toward increased independence.

Oliver launched an effort to change the School from a program structure to one with departments. His 1997 proposal to School of Medicine Dean Lester Bryant outlined four departments: Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Communication Science and Disorders, and Cardiopulmonary and Diagnostic Sciences. He suggested using typical departmental structures, with 60 to 100 professional-level students and eight to 10 faculty members each, plus clinical preceptors.

The Department of Cardiopulmonary and Diagnostic Sciences was the only new department. Oliver formed it by combining the three smallest programs: Respiratory Therapy, Radiography and Nuclear Medicine.

The plan won approvals up the chain from Bryant, Provost Edward Sheridan and interim MU Chancellor Richard Wallace.

The following year, 1998, School faculty met with then-Chancellor Wallace to request another restructuring — a move out of the School of Medicine to make SHRP an autonomous unit.

A group of students, alumni and faculty members argued that health professions issues were distinct from those of medicine, and a separate and independent entity would be better able to deal with them. They also noted that, as an independent School, faculty would be able to apply for funding from the National Institutes of Health, which was not possible as a School of Medicine unit.

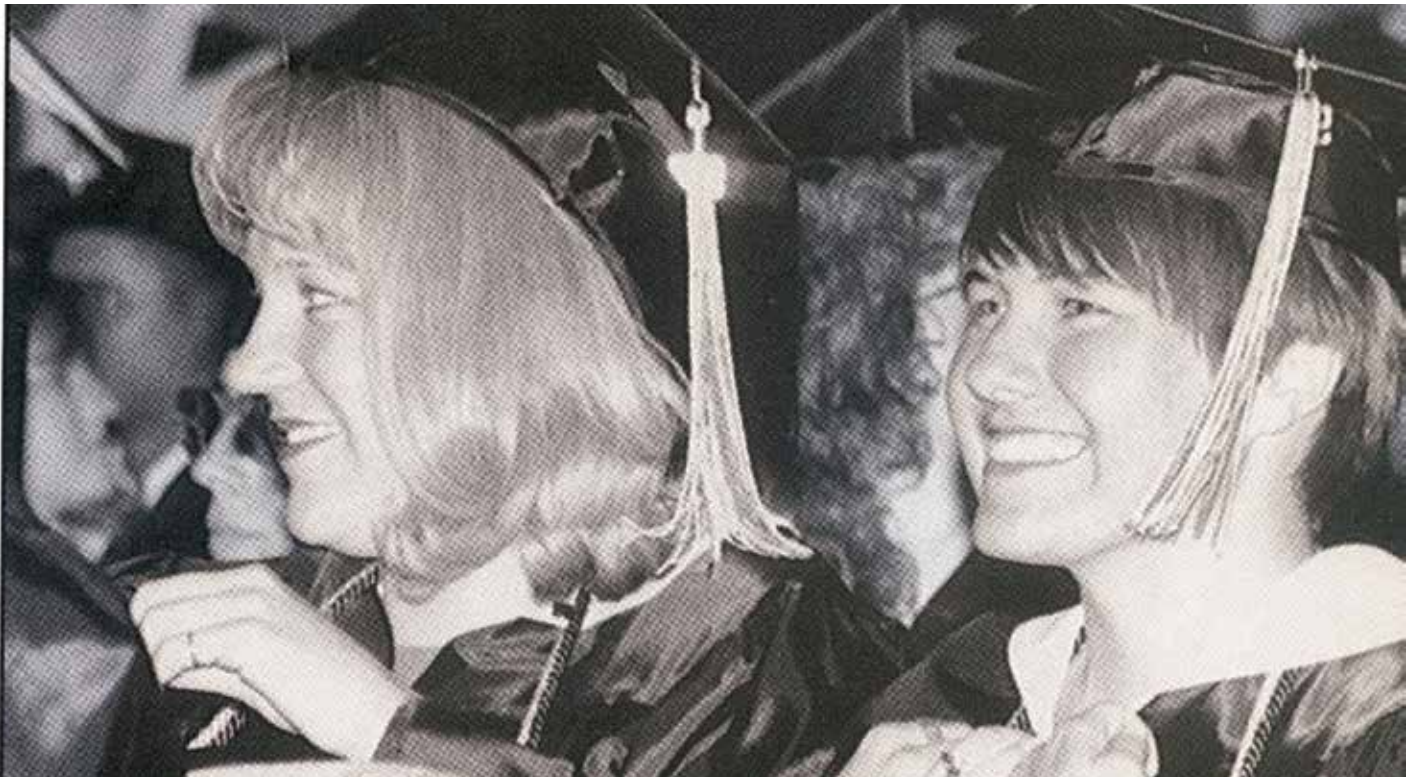
The Board of Curators in a historic vote on Dec. 14, 2000, approved the request to become an autonomous academic unit,

and the School of Health Related Professions became the School of Health Professions. Oliver, who had risen through the ranks as a student advisor, instructor and program director, was named its first dean.

The new academic unit had an enrollment of 629 students and offered degrees at bachelor's, master's and doctoral levels.

Oliver recalls that Hugh Stephenson, former head of surgery and interim dean of medicine, supported the new status. "He was on the Board of Curators and a real champion for our proposal," Oliver said. "I still remember him giving great verbal support at the Curators meeting in the Mizzou Alumni Center when our proposal was approved."

The newly created autonomous School of Health Professions graduated 149 students from its first class on May 19, 2001.



Newly minted 1997 School of Health Related Professions graduates enjoy their big day. *Savitar* photo

Part Two

NEW

ENERGY





Associate Dean Kristofer Hagglund, top left, with Dean Richard Oliver at a charity golf tournament, 2008. Bottom row: UM administrator Steve Graham, nursing Dean Judith Miller and donor Rodger Howell. SHP photo

NEW ENERGY

The School's independence quickened the pace of change. Oliver said the new status made sense because the School was a key part of MU's academic health center.

"Doors opened for us," Oliver said. "We got firsthand information from the provost's office due to being a member of the Council of Deans. Our profile suddenly was enhanced on campus. We had equal status with the schools of medicine and nursing. We ceased being viewed as a vocational program and instead were recognized as a school with solid academic programs, great faculty and fantastic students and alumni."

"Our enrollment took off, and the growth curve was simply unbelievable," Oliver said.

Also in 2000, a new Department of Health Psychology was formed with psychology faculty from the MU Department



Kristofer Hagglund, then associate dean, discusses his Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellowship in Washington, DC, 2001. *Connections* photo

of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. One such faculty member was Kristofer Hagglund, who has made a profound impact on the School from the moment of his arrival.

Prior to joining the School, Hagglund was the principal investigator for a five-year cycle of the Missouri Model Spinal Cord Injury System. He also was the attending psychologist on the physical disabilities team at Rusk Rehabilitation Center. He then was selected as a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellow in Washington, D.C. The fellowship was implemented by what is now the National Academy of Medicine. Hagglund accepted a fellowship position in the Office of Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) for the 107th Congress, where he worked on health care legislation for the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee and the Appropriations Committee. Upon completing his fellowship, he was named associate dean for health policy for the School of Health Professions. In this role, he focused on bringing a policy and community focus to teaching and research.

"It was a great opportunity to have a group of neuropsychologists and rehabilitation psychologists who were providing independent practice, doing research, and training interns and postdoctoral fellows," Hagglund said. "They helped set the tone for the future in terms of research at the School of Health Professions."

The Health Psychology faculty and their research gave the young School a boost: In 2001, the School

of Health Professions ranked No. 14 nationally in National Institutes of Health research funding for schools of allied health. The Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions ranked it among the top 10 percent of all member institutions in external research funding. Total research expenditures went from \$530,000 in FY2001 to \$1.73 million in FY2002.



Marybeth Brown brings strong research credentials to the School in 2001, as the PT Health South Professor. SHP photo

Faculty research became a key element in elevating the new School's status on a research-intensive campus. An Office of Research was established with a full-time grants and contracts officer. The year 2002 marked the School's first research retreat. The event offered faculty with strong research interests an opportunity to network and present their research. A keynote speaker from the University of Alabama-Birmingham, a leading research-oriented health school, discussed the process of developing research programs.



OT student Maggie Allee Morris helps Jill McClintock modify her apartment for accessibility, 2007. Cheri Ghan photo

Based on recommendations from the retreat, the School's research committee developed a strategic plan and resolved to target three areas:

- Service delivery, health promotion and health policy for rural/underserved communities.
- Disability and rehabilitation issues, including community participation.
- Neurosciences and lifespan development, and educational innovation.

The effort resulted in an increase of grant and contract applications. From FY 1998 through FY 2002, there was a more than tenfold increase in sponsored program awards for research and instruction, from \$131,203 in FY 1998 to \$1,731,283 in FY 2002.

Faculty development and expansion also contributed to the School's growing research accomplishments. The period saw an intentional culture shift toward research. Department chairs and new or replacement faculty

members were hired with an eye toward the role research would play in the success of individual departments and the School as a whole.



Nuclear Medicine student Garrett Holzum, 2007. SHP photo



Commencement, 2000



Student working with client in Tiger OT, 2007



Student ambassadors meet Gov. Parsons, 2019

2000

The UM Board of Curators votes to establish the School of Health Professions as an autonomous academic unit. Enrollment stands at 509 students.

2007

RehabCare Group Inc. of St. Louis donates \$1.3 million to advance education in occupational therapy and physical therapy.

2013

Dean Oliver retires. Kristofer Hagglund, who had served as associate dean since 2001, takes the reins. Enrollment totals nearly 2,700 students.

FILLING GAPS IN HEALTH CARE

One of Oliver's early initiatives as dean was to add a baccalaureate program in Diagnostic Medical Ultrasound to address the severe shortage of practitioners. Only a few DMU certificate programs were offered by Missouri community colleges or hospital-based programs at the time.

After a nationwide search, the program director position was offered to Moses Hdeib, a physician who led the ultrasound program at a West Virginia university. The Board of Curators and Coordinating Board for Higher Education approved the degree. Mizzou's charter cohort of Diagnostic Medical Ultrasound students began classes in January 2002.

Pharmacists also were in shortage in Missouri and nationwide in 2001. Seeds of an innovative solution were planted that year when Hagglund was preparing for a U.S. Senate hearing on the issue. He shared new information with Oliver and suggested adding a pharmacy program to SHP. Oliver noted that the University of Missouri-Kansas City had a pharmacy program and recommended pursuing an affiliation with UMKC.

"I cold-called the UMKC School of Pharmacy Dean, Bob Piepho," Oliver said. "We hit it off pretty well. We then engaged in a series of faculty exchanges to get to know each other. Then we put together a proposal for UM System President Elson Floyd, who liked the idea."

Kevin Rudeen, another associate dean at the School, spearheaded the effort to connect with the UMKC Pharmacy program,

and on Sept. 22, 2004, Oliver, Piepho and Floyd signed an agreement to establish a distance learning version of the UMKC Doctor of Pharmacy program. Under the arrangement, some students took pharmacy classes at Mizzou, either with a professor in the classroom or through a distance-learning arrangement. Thus, the UMKC PharmD satellite program at Mizzou was born.

The following year, Oliver dealt with a shortage in medical technologists, the field in which he had practiced.

He reactivated the Mizzou Medical Technology Program in 2005 through a partnership with the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha and renamed it Clinical Laboratory Science. Students admitted to Clinical Laboratory Science spent their first summer in the program studying in Omaha then returned to the MU campus for the



Mizzou and the University of Missouri-Kansas City sign PharmD partnership agreement, 2005. UMKC photo

New programs address provider shortages, reinforcing the School's responsiveness to societal needs.

remainder of their coursework and clinical rotations.

Also during this decade, Hagglund helped create degrees that eventually became the basis for two new departments in the School of Health Professions.

The School's growing undergraduate population consisted primarily of students wanting to get into professional programs with small cohort sizes. The demand for seats in the programs was greater than the supply, forcing many students to look for other options. Hagglund's response to this need was to propose a new degree, the Bachelor of Health Science in Health Science, which could serve as a pipeline to a variety of graduate programs. The new

degree launched in 2008 and took off fast. By 2015, it was the most popular degree at Mizzou.

Hagglund was inspired by a 2004 university strategic plan presentation by Chancellor Brady Deaton, who suggested that the university pursue the emerging area of public health.

"My first interest in public health stemmed from health policy and was piqued when I was preparing for a Senate hearing on public health needs for Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa," Hagglund said. "And I had heard this before, but it became very apparent that, in health care, public health addresses communities, not just individuals. So, a public health policy or a program can make a big difference for a whole population."

Hagglund approached Deaton immediately after his presentation along with Kay Libbus, a nursing professor; and Margie Sable, School of Social Work director. Deaton asked the trio to form a committee and consider what such a program could look like.

The Master of Public Health degree officially launched in 2007 and was accredited in 2010. Administratively, it was housed in the MU Graduate School with Hagglund as its director, though he also remained associate dean of health professions. It was a master's program because that was the entry-level degree and because graduates of numerous bachelor's programs could progress to the MPH. During the planning process, the MU College of Veterinary Medicine joined the group, and a concept took shape of an interdisciplinary program with

Autism researcher Janet Farmer works with Lora Hinkel and her son Blake, 2007. Steve Morse photo



faculty members from multiple colleges teaching students in a variety of emphasis areas.

Public Health continued to grow at Mizzou, adding a bachelor's degree in 2016 and a Master of Public Health degree with an emphasis in veterinary public health in 2018. It was the first fully online program of its kind in the nation. The program

administration moved to the School of Health Professions in 2017, and Provost Latha Ramchand announced the creation of the Department of Public Health in 2019, with Lise Saffran as director, faculty member and interim chair.

The new department retained its home in the School of Health Professions, and the College of

Veterinary Medicine became an administrative partner.

“Our public health program and our public health department have not reached their potential by any means,” Hagglund said. “There is so much research to be done, and there’s so much demand for public health that I think it could be one of the next transformative degrees that we have.”



Health Sciences student Belle Salak volunteers during School of Health Professions Service Days, 2022. CJ Harris photo



Communication Science and Disorders students work with children in the Combs Language Preschool, 2007. SHP photo

LEARNING AND SERVING THROUGH CARE

The School of Health Professions has practiced hands-on teaching and learning since its inception. Students in professional programs have had clinical rotations and applied classroom knowledge to real patients. Clinical rotations benefited the community by taking place in hospitals and clinics at Mizzou, throughout Columbia and eventually across the country.

The School's oldest clinic, the MU Speech and Hearing Clinic, has been operating since its founding in 1938. It serves students and community members with speech or communication problems.

When the Department of Health Psychology was created in the new School of Health Professions in 2001, it brought its clinics in adult neuropsychology and pediatric neuropsychology. The clinics offered neuropsychological and diagnostic evaluations, research, and support for patients such as veterans and those with spinal cord and other injuries who needed vocational rehabilitation. Although the department did not offer degree options, its faculty engaged in clinical and research education not only through an accredited psychology internship program in collaboration with the Truman Veterans Affairs Hospital but also by offering clinical and research postdoctoral fellowships.

The next clinic to be created was the Robert G. Combs Language Preschool, which gives senior speech pathology

students hands-on experience with preschool-age children who have speech and language delays. The preschool opened in 2000 under the direction of Dana Fritz, BHS '87, MS '90, PhD '00.

The speech department also opened an Accent Modification Program for non-native English speakers. It has been renamed the Accent Expansion Program.

Hands-on learning strengthens the student experience while serving the community.

Occupational Therapy faculty member Lea Ann Lowery, BHS '88, collaborated with Fritz in 2005 to create an OT pediatric clinic where OT students work directly with children who have special needs. The following year, the department opened a similar clinic for adults. Other clinics followed, adding services for people with vision impairment, free home safety and assistance assessments for multiple sclerosis patients, and adapted swimming lessons for children with neurodevelopmental disorders. These clinics are now known as Tiger OT.

After participating in clinical rotations outside the School, two class of 2012 physical therapy doctoral students proposed that their department open a free clinic where fellow students could gain

hands-on clinical experience. The idea evolved into PhysZou, which became one of the nation's largest curriculum-based physical therapy clinics. The department also offers a clinic where faculty members treat clients to hone skills and stay abreast of new trends in care. PT students can work with older adults through the Mizzou Steps program, where they lead twice-weekly groups and individualized exercise classes for residents of a skilled nursing facility. Other PT outreach programs have been added through the years to assist patients with neurological conditions such as Parkinson's disease.

Medical students working in the MedZou Community Health Clinic observed a growing number of patients exhibiting anxiety and depressive symptoms around this time. In response, MedZou leadership collaborated with Social Work faculty to create the Integrative Behavioral Health Clinic in September 2014.



Social Work student Maddie Gajdosik Jessen leads a virtual group therapy session for the Integrative Behavioral Health Clinic, 2021. Sam O'Keefe photo

LEADERSHIP CHANGE

After 42 years of employment at the University of Missouri, Oliver retired in 2013, leaving the School with approximately 2,500 students and 170 faculty and staff members. Hagglund, who had been associate dean since 2001, became dean.

Hagglund had three priorities for growth: academic program offerings, student enrollment and research productivity. Because he had vacated the only existing associate dean position, the School needed more administrative leaders to meet his goals. His first appointment was Stephanie Reid-Arndt, who had been serving as chair of the Department of Health Psychology since 2011.

“Stephanie was a natural for this position. She is an excellent clinician, solid researcher and an effective administrator,” Hagglund said. “So what did I do? I asked



Kristofer Hagglund — pictured with Stephanie Reid-Arndt in 2024 — becomes dean in 2013. Abbie Nell Lankitus photo

her to take on student affairs in addition to serving as the administrative utility infielder! Stephanie quickly proved herself as a highly effective promoter and problem-solver and a valued resource for our chairs and faculty members. Her leadership in student services was critical to our program growth and rapid student enrollment increase.”

“There was an obvious desire among students and employers and even our clinic clients to

have more of our disciplines in the workforce,” Hagglund said. “That was very apparent. So, we needed to grow. We needed to expand our research and show the contributions we could make to scholarship and to improving the world through new knowledge.”

Hagglund bolstered the research enterprise by naming Janet Farmer as the School’s first associate dean for research. Nationally renowned for her studies of autism and pediatric psychology,



With national momentum growing to move physical therapy education from the master’s to doctoral level, MU follows suit. The first Doctor of Physical Therapy class graduates in 2010. SHP photo

The new dean prioritized growth in academic program offerings, student enrollment and research productivity.

she worked with faculty to strengthen their research programs and articulate career goals. Farmer also tweaked the grant submission process to facilitate the submission of research proposals, especially to federal agencies.

Research productivity improved markedly during Farmer's first three years from 2013-16:

- Research faculty increased from 18 to 33.
- Postdoctoral research fellowships grew from zero to 7.
- Total annual publications in academic journals nearly tripled from 27 to 74.
- External funding proposals

submitted each year grew from 54 to 96.

- Externally funded grants increased from \$180,823 to \$1,492,216.

"Janet leaned into our priority goal of increasing the School's research productivity," Hagglund said. "That was a hard road to travel, but we have succeeded through the work of a lot of people."

The three deans met regularly to strategize goals and next steps, making the early years of Hagglund's tenure an active and eventful period.

- The School of Health Professions took over a

substantial amount of square footage in Clark Hall when both Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy moved all offices to the 8th floor.

- Physical Therapy added classroom, lab and student study space on the 6th floor of Clark Hall.
- Occupational Therapy took over former PT classrooms in the basement of Lewis Hall.
- PT housed PhysZou in the far west end of the Clark basement while OT had a pediatric clinic in the Clark basement and an adult clinic in the Lewis Hall basement.
- Department of Health Sciences faculty, who had been in various locations throughout the two buildings, consolidated on the 5th floor of Clark Hall.

As programs moved to new quarters, their spaces were renovated and took on a fresh look.



Student ambassador Allan Foster talks with high school students at a college fair in St. Louis, 2018. Cheri Ghan photo



Student Ambassadors serve as enthusiastic representatives of the College of Health Sciences. This group from 2022 gathers at the Columns. Mizzou Visual Productions photo

NEW PROGRAMS SERVE STUDENTS

Academic programs were getting an update as well, with name changes and additional degrees designed to meet the needs of patients and of health care professionals wanting to enhance their skills and preparation in the industry.

- In 2014, the Department of Cardiopulmonary and Diagnostic Sciences changed its name to the Department of Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences. A Master of Health Science in Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences launched in 2019.
- The Department of Communication Science and

Disorders was renamed the Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences in 2018. The new name more accurately reflects the department's academic work and research.

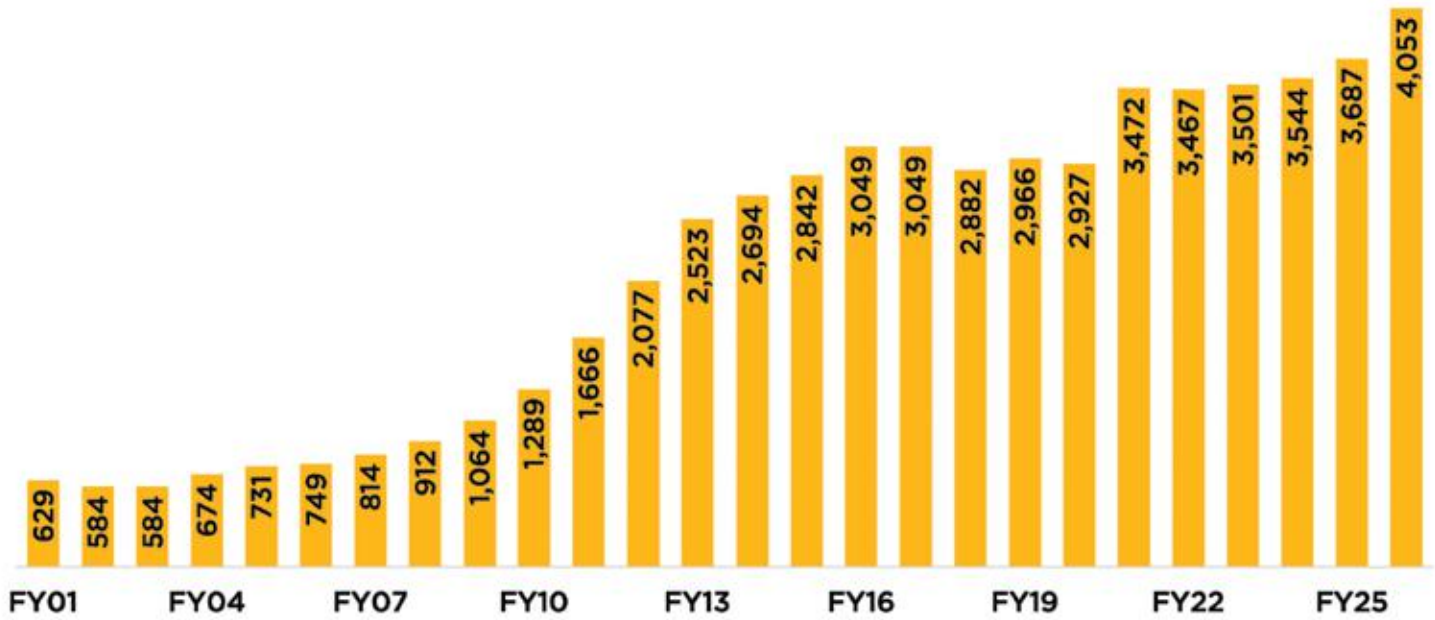
- In 2019, the Department of Occupational Therapy announced the conversion of the Master of Occupational Therapy to the Occupational Therapy Doctorate. The last master's degree class graduated in 2022, and the first doctoral class graduated in 2024. Also in the works was a post-professional OTD and a bachelor's degree in Occupational Therapy Assistant. The BHS in Occupational Therapy Assistant became one of the first such programs in the nation; its first

cohort started in August 2021 and graduated in December 2023.

- Also in 2019, the School launched an interdisciplinary research-focused doctoral program in Health and Rehabilitation Science — the only one of its kind at a public institution in Missouri. “These programs are responding to needs in the workforce for professionals focused on well-being and community health,” Reid-Arndt said. “They provide direct pathways to career opportunities, and they also offer opportunities for professionals in health care to continue their education in pursuit of career advancement.”

The offerings also help boost the research agenda. “The doctoral program facilitates our

ENROLLMENT STEADILY INCREASES



contributions to the science of our disciplines and to the academic community,” Reid-Arndt said. “While learning from their mentors’ research activities, doctoral students also contribute to that work and expand what faculty can accomplish in their research programs. Additionally, our programs meet the need for doctorally-trained researchers

in our disciplines, as many will become faculty who are pursuing their own research and educating health care providers.”

Reid-Arndt’s responsibilities included overseeing Student Services, where she developed an effective platform of services to benefit students. This included dedicated offices for recruitment, advising and a suite of other

programs including career services.

The enhanced Career Services office offers students professional development assistance for activities ranging from applying for part-time student jobs to professional programs or their first post-graduation positions and beyond.

“We have been a leader on campus in providing this scope of support for our students, and I believe it has contributed to the popularity of our majors and the growth in our student numbers,” Reid-Arndt said.

Increasing the number of academic advisors helps ensure students’ access to professional guidance in planning their schedules. All these offices were moved to the first floor of Lewis Hall to make it easier for students to access the services.



Academic Advisor Thuy Guess helps a student plan his degree program, 2025. Abbie Nell Lankitus photo



Occupational therapy students Caroline Thompson, left, and Victoria Trost Dos Santos help a child with sensory issues learn to swim. SHP photo.

GROWTH ACCELERATES

In 2020, one of the oldest programs at Mizzou, the School of Social Work, moved from the College of Human Environmental Sciences to the School of Health Professions.

Social Work had been housed in Clark Hall for many years, and there were compelling reasons for the merger, including that social workers perform critical roles in health care, social justice and community welfare. The two schools' faculty members had a long history of collaboration, and the move opened up even more such opportunities. The School of Social Work offered bachelor's

and master's degrees and added another doctoral program to the School of Health Professions.

The following year, when the College of Human Environmental Sciences was dissolved, 10 of its MU Extension faculty members joined the School. These included nutrition and exercise physiology professor Steve Ball, who had been developing a new degree program, the Bachelor of Science in Fitness Programming and Management. Campus administration soon approved the degree, and the School began offering it in 2022.

The School's 2022 enrollment stood at 3,467 students. Since 2015, tenured and tenure-track faculty had increased nearly 30 percent to 41, and teaching,

research, clinical and extension faculty had increased nearly 50 percent to 80. The School boasted 16,000 alumni.

Fiscal year 2022 saw landmark accomplishments. SHP faculty taught more than 59,000 credit hours. Research, which explored emerging topics such as health disparities, language development, autism interventions and stroke rehabilitation, had grown significantly as well. Research expenditures had more than doubled since FY 2020, reaching a total of \$5.5 million.

Health Science student Yoseph Gebrehiwot, center, at the Health and Wellness Career Fair, 2024.
Abbie Nell Lankitus photo





Health Sciences faculty member Molly Vetter Dreier teaches in the Nancy Toedebusch Fay classroom, 2025. Gretta Cohoon photo

BIG CHANGES ANNOUNCED

The School of Health Professions in 2023 became home to the health administration program, now a master's degree; a graduate certificate in informatics for public health; and two research centers: the Missouri Cancer Registry and Research Center and the Center for Health Policy.

The Centers for Disease Control funds the Missouri Cancer Registry and Research Center, a partnership between the University of Missouri and the State of Missouri. The

registry has collected statewide cancer surveillance data since 1996 as it provides population-based cancer incidence for local cancer control and prevention programs as well as other national and international registries. The center is an important source of information for health care providers, public health officials and administrators.

Hagglund and physician Karen Edison cofounded the Center for Health Policy with the School of Medicine in 2002. The center aims to improve Missourians' health by increasing awareness and understanding of health policy and

health care delivery. It provides high-quality, unbiased health care information and facilitates the participation of stakeholders in dialogue about health, health care and health policy.

Hagglund's 2023 State of the School address included news that the School's name would change to the MU College of Health Sciences. "In higher education, the term 'school' has traditionally meant an educational training unit with a single discipline or limited disciplines, whereas the term 'college' is applied to academic units with multiple disciplines,



Contemporary Health Issues class, 2021



School of Social Work in Homecoming parade, 2022



Donors Barbara and Leonard Bush, 2024

2021

The School of Health Professions is growing, with an enrollment of more than 3,400 students and 16,000 alumni.

2023

The School of Health Professions is renamed the College of Health Sciences following a Board of Curators vote in September 2022.

2024

Leonard and Barbara Bush pledge \$4.4 million. It is the largest-ever gift to the College of Health Sciences.

levels of degrees and a broader scope of mission,” Hagglund said. “Over the past few decades, we have expanded to become a comprehensive academic unit with a full complement of higher education missions: teaching and training, research and scholarship, clinical service, extension and engagement. This name change positions us for future growth.”

A new name reflects a broader mission and a growing role.

The speech also announced a major renovation to Clark Hall’s lobby and first floor. The new design would better accommodate the College’s student enrollment growth, attract top-tier research faculty, facilitate student success and improve accessibility at entrances. Reid-Arndt, who had managed the College’s space issues since becoming senior associate dean, led the project.

“We’re fortunate that our clinical programs hold many of

their classes within Lewis and Clark halls. However, most of the courses offered by the Department of Health Sciences, which has the largest major on campus, were being taught in classrooms elsewhere on campus. Our goal was to provide classrooms and study spaces that would bring students into our buildings. Our thinking was that this would not only increase the likelihood that they’d utilize services like Career Services, it also offered opportunities to engage with other Health Sciences students and build a sense of community.”

Construction commenced in August 2023 and wrapped up the following May. The summer of 2024 saw finishing touches and furnishings added. A grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony took place on Sept. 20, 2024. For the first time, the College of Health Sciences could seat a 100-student class or three simultaneous 50-student classes in its own buildings.

The first floor included:

- A new accessible entrance facing Providence Road.
- Hagglund Gathering Area — a donor-funded small-group

study area inside the new entrance.

- A main lobby with more room for study and for groups to gather, fresh paint and wall signage, and new restrooms, including a family restroom with changing table.
- Two new classrooms that can be combined into one room to seat 100 people. The classroom was named in honor of Nancy Toedebusch Fay, BS MT '69. The Nancy Toedebusch Fay classrooms were made possible by contributions from her family members: Elton Fay; Shirley, BS MT '73, and Larry Ostmann; and Bill and Vicki Toedebusch.
- A new classroom, funded by and named for Dr. Barbara Carr and Michael Carr, BHS RT '87, featured movable tables for collaborative and interactive coursework.
- The west lobby contains individual and small-group study areas plus five reservable study rooms. The original acoustic wood panels were left in the ceiling area to maintain the architectural integrity of the mid-century building style.
- A 28-person conference room available for use by all College of Health Sciences programs.

“This renovation is transformative,” Hagglund said. “The students are here, and they’re energized, and the faculty are energized because they see the students, and I see them working down there all the time. They feel comfortable. They like the space. It just brings a new dynamism and positive vibe to the building.”



Students exit College of Health Sciences, 2025



TV Screen welcoming students to CHS, 2026

2024

The College of Health Sciences completes a \$6 million renovation of Clark Hall.

2025-26

The College of Health Sciences celebrates 25 years as an autonomous academic unit. Dean Hagglund announces his retirement.



Janet and John Farmer are longtime supporters of the College. Photo courtesy of the Farmers

DONORS ADVANCE THE MISSION

Philanthropic support has been critical to the growth and development of the College of Health Sciences. It began in 1999 with a gift of \$650,000 from HealthSouth (later renamed Encompass Health) to establish the first endowed faculty position, the Encompass Health Professorship in Physical Therapy.

RehabCare Group Inc. of St. Louis pledged \$1.325 million in 2008 to advance education in

occupational therapy and physical therapy. Meichele Foster, then Health Professions advancement director and later assistant vice chancellor for MU Advancement, secured the gift.

The first significant estate gift, in the amount of \$675,000, arrived in 2012 from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous.

Under Hagglund's leadership, philanthropy began a steady growth. In 2020, donors funded the design and construction of the Inclusive Playground, which opened in 2022. Multiple clinics and classes get clinical experience

using the playground, which sits on the former site of a swimming pool between Lewis and Clark halls. Each piece of equipment, including picture communication boards and a large alphabet chart, was designed to help stimulate the vocabulary and communication exchanges of preschoolers who use them.

In 2022, fundraising reached the \$1 million single-year total for the first time since the RehabCare gift. That total doubled to over \$2 million in 2023.

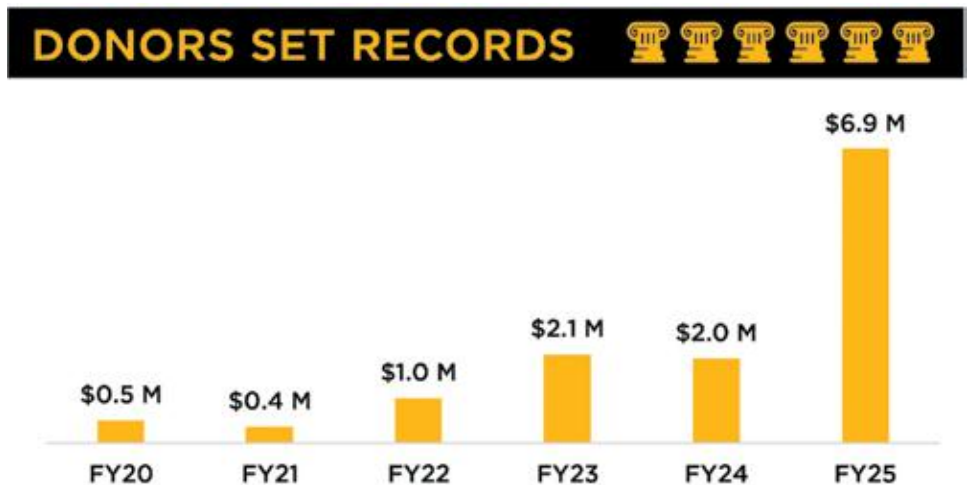
In September 2024, the College of Health Sciences received its



Top: Gifts fund an inclusive playground for the College in 2020. A ribbon cutting was held in 2022. CHS photo
 Middle: The Fay family funds the Nancy Toedebusch Fay Classroom in 2023. From left: Erin Fay, Whitney Fay, Shirley Ostmann, Garrett Fay, Bill Toedebusch and Elton Fay. Abbie Nell Lankitus photo

largest gift to date. Thanks to the efforts of Senior Advancement Director Todd Pridemore, Leonard, BHS MT '82, and Barbara Bush pledged \$4.4 million to provide scholarships for students with financial need, an endowed professorship and an unrestricted support fund for the dean.

In FY 2025, the College of Health Sciences received \$6.9 million in fundraising and sponsored support, making it the most successful year to date.





The National Institutes of Health funded research by Health Science faculty member Idethia Shevon Harvey to study the relationship between stress and diabetes management. Abbie Nell Lankitus photo

TACKLING THE UNKNOWN

Since becoming dean in 2013, Hagglund has tapped three faculty members with strong research histories to serve as associate dean for research — Janet Farmer, Judith Goodman and Tim Wolf.

From FY 2019 to FY 2024, research proposals went from \$29 million to nearly \$69 million, awards jumped from \$2.3 million to \$17.5 million, and grant expenditures increased from \$1.9 million to \$10.4 million.

“Tim Wolf’s leadership in his roles as associate dean and department chair has been excellent,” Hagglund said. “Tim understands both the art and

science of securing external funding for critical research. Our research faculty have thrived with his support and guidance.”

Research funding surges as faculty confront urgent health and social challenges.

Wolf, chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy, won a 2018 NIH R01 grant of \$2.8 million to improve activity and motor impairment for stroke survivors. This was in addition to a 2016 NIH

award of \$1.6 million he received regarding technology to improve quality of life for stroke survivors.

Two more Department of Occupational Therapy faculty members recently obtained NIH R01 funding. Rachel Wolpert received \$2.1 million in 2021 from the National Institute on Aging to install in-home sensors that monitor the movement, sleep quality and vital signs of older adults in rural Missouri. Anna Boone received \$2.8 million in 2024 from the National Institutes of Health to explore ways of helping stroke survivors improve their confidence, daily activities and overall health.

Department of Health Sciences researcher Kate Trout has received \$4.2 million from the National Science Foundation since 2022.



Tim Wolf



Rachel Wolpert



Anna Boone

Her projects include developing new technology to rapidly detect and mitigate salmonella and other foodborne pathogens throughout the poultry supply chain.

Aaron Thompson, professor and director of the School of Social Work, studies ways of helping school-aged children with social, emotional and behavioral health concerns. He founded the Family Access Center for Excellence of Boone County and has received \$16 million in funding since 2021.

Teresa Pitts, who joined the Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences as chair in 2023, is co-principal investigator on a \$2.7 million National Institutes of Health study of how opioid use compromises airways and induces aspiration. Opioids often are prescribed to older adults who are particularly at risk of developing aspiration pneumonia due to impairments in airway protection.

The two research centers that joined the College of Health

Sciences in 2023 have contributed over \$7 million in grant awards to improve data assisting analysis of health care outcomes and workforce. The Center for Health Policy partnered with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services to conduct the Missouri Public Health and Health Care Workforce Analysis Project, receiving a \$4.4 million award in 2024. The Missouri Cancer Registry and Research Center, under the direction of Iris Zachary, has received \$2.8 million from the Centers for Disease Control since 2023.

In 2024, Kelli Canada, a School of Social Work faculty member, received a \$2.9 million grant from Arnold Ventures to transform the ways people live and work in Missouri prisons. Canada and her team developed the Missouri Innovation Network, which brings together prison staff members and residents to discuss and implement ways of improving conditions.



Kate Trout



Aaron Thompson



Teresa Pitts



Iris Zachary



Kelli Canada

RESEARCH SPENDING GROWS 





Radiography student Elsie Villmer uses new equipment in Clark Hall, 2023. Ragan Manis photo

PROGRAMS EVOLVE

Prospective Mizzou students had long asked for a criminal justice degree, and the UM Board of Curators approved a new Bachelor of Science in Criminal and Justice Studies in 2024. The School of Social Work developed the program, building on the success of its criminal justice minor. Faculty members hail from disciplines including social work, law, public affairs and sociology. Approved by the Missouri Department of Higher Education in January 2025, the first students enrolled that fall. People who are or have been arrested, charged, convicted or incarcerated can experience significantly higher

rates of physical illness, mental health disorders and substance use issues. Hence, the degree focuses on theory and trauma and the economic and social effects of crime.

The Clinical Laboratory Science bachelor's degree program became the Bachelor of Health Science in Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences with an emphasis in Medical Laboratory Science in 2025. Its first class graduates in 2027. The program will become fully taught and housed in the College of Health Sciences, ending its 20-year partnership with the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

During the 2025-26 academic year, the College of Health Sciences began to develop a proposal for a new graduate certificate in health

and wellness coaching. "Health care is a dynamic enterprise," Hagglund said. "Technology, research discoveries, changes in lifestyle, and state and national policies significantly influence health care needs and the way such services are provided. It is our responsibility to adapt to the changing needs of our patients and meet evolving workforce demands."



Students get research experience in the Motion Analysis Center, 2024. Sam O'Keefe photo



Occupational Therapy students Daja Neal, left, and Skylar Walk work with children at the Nora Stewart Early Learning Center in Columbia, 2023. Abbie Nell Lankitus photo



Marlusa Amarante, a research scientist for the Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences, examines samples at the Dalton Cardiovascular Research Center, 2025.
Abbie Nell Lankitus photo

FORWARD THINKING

The College of Health Sciences has become MU's third largest academic unit in enrollment, with 23 degree programs, most requiring accreditation. The College also offers an interdisciplinary doctorate in Health and Rehabilitation Science.

In September 2025, Hagglund announced plans to retire from the university, effective August 2026.

"The thought of retiring from the College and Mizzou is bittersweet because both are experiencing tremendous success and recognition," Hagglund said. "I value my work and our team and am committed to our success. And yet, I want to see where someone new will guide the College."

His "do you remember where you were" moments include the College receiving autonomous unit status; launch of the interdisciplinary doctoral program; addition of the School of Social Work, the research centers, Extension faculty members and

their community programs; and the Clark Hall renovations. But one stands out.

"I remember where I was when Steve Graham [UM System senior vice president for academic affairs] called to tell me that the Board of Curators had approved the BHS in Health Science degree," Hagglund said. "I was standing downtown across the street from Lakota Coffee Company with my cell phone thinking, 'This is a transformational moment.'"

By Fall 2025, College of Health Sciences student enrollment totaled 4,053. The College employed 138 faculty members, 107 staff members and nine postdoctoral fellows.

Faculty from more than 25 disciplines lead cutting-edge research in language development, stroke and cancer rehabilitation, technology in health care, criminal justice reform and health disparities. Working alongside faculty in outpatient clinics, students get hands-on experience and conduct their

own research while providing much-needed services to the community. Alumni become leaders in their fields and help shape the future of health care delivery in Missouri and beyond.

As the College moves into the future, its mission is to improve the health and well-being of individuals and communities through excellence in teaching and learning, scholarship and discovery, health care and service. By capitalizing on resources and collaborative networks at MU and elsewhere, the College will be a model of excellence among university programs of its kind, with international recognition for its research, teaching and health service delivery.

"I think we get credit for having high quality work in whatever we do and for having remarkable growth," Hagglund said. "All of our leaders — staff leaders, chairs, faculty leaders — are solid. We're a resource for others to learn from. We are recognized as innovators and collaborators." ♦



S P O T light

Stories





Occupational Therapy faculty member Anna Boone and a student demonstrate virtual reality goggles for an anatomy dissection table in the OT classroom, 2024. Abbie Nell Lankitus photo

THE FUTURE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

By Dean Kristofer Hagglund, as told to Tony Rehagen for a College of Health Sciences
25th anniversary special section in MIZZOU magazine, Spring 2025

When people think about the future of health sciences, they generally think small. Technology today, in general, is all about smaller, faster, better. Medical technology is no different. We have laser-focused innovations such as precision medicine to personalize care based on genetic markers, bioinformatics that help us predict and diagnose disease based on molecular factors, and nanotechnology that enables us to assess and treat patients at the cellular level. Faculty and students at the College of Health Sciences are well-versed in these exciting advancements, but we also strive to look at the panorama of health and well-being. At Mizzou, we're always thinking bigger.

Humans are complex, and so is their health. Precision medicine is beneficial: There are some diseases that are caused by one type of bacteria that we can fix with a single



antibiotic and some ailments we can fix with one targeted surgery. But usually, the challenges we struggle with come from multiple sources. There are also intricate social and spiritual networks at play. There's plenty of indication among youths and adults that we, as a society, are experiencing an increase in emotional distress as well as physical ailments.

As a health care provider, you can't just home in and treat the physical concerns of a person. You must consider

each element of their wellness: physical, emotional, social, behavioral and spiritual. We now understand that health care isn't just about mending injuries and ridding the body of viruses and chronic disease; it's also about addressing the mind, the spirit, and looking at the social and environmental factors that affect the way in which we live our lives.

In other words, we don't simply want to keep you alive. We also want to enhance your life, keep you happy and productive, and empower you to live it to the fullest.

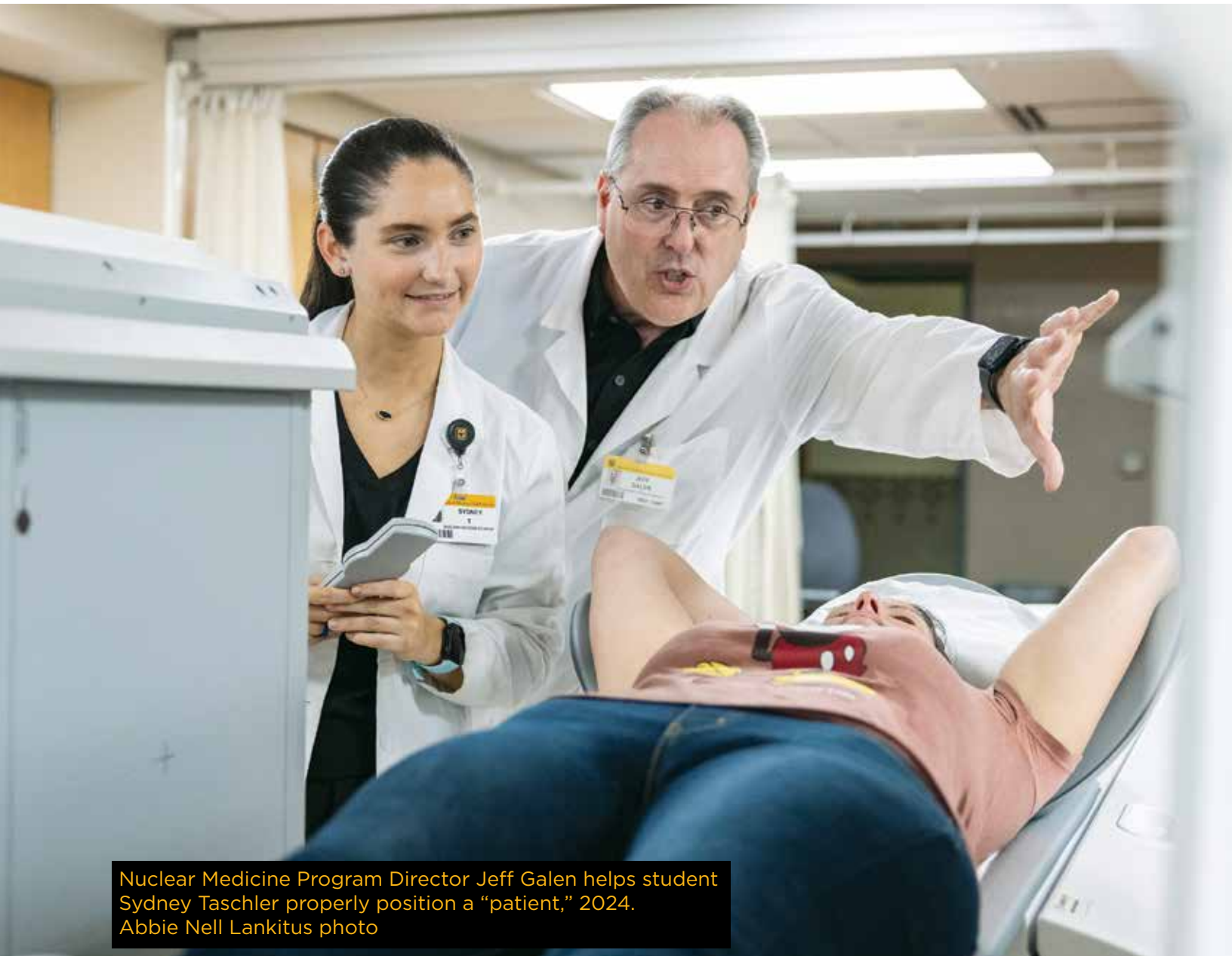
There's no better setting for this interdisciplinary approach than the College of Health Sciences at the University of Missouri. Under this one roof, we teach 23 degree programs, and our faculty represent more than 25 different disciplines, covering every angle of human wellness, from public health policy and social work to health psychology and diagnostic sciences to epidemiology and beyond. And with MU Extension, MU Health Care, and partners such as the Brightli health system, we are ideally situated to explore and advance this holistic approach to wellness and touch the lives of people throughout Missouri, the U.S. and across the globe.

SPOTLIGHT — HAGGLUND ON THE FUTURE

One example of this effort is our Interprofessional Education Initiative. This program breaks down the traditional silos of education and encourages students in different disciplines to work side by side with each other and with professionals out in the community. Increasingly, health care is a team effort composed of doctors, nurses, technicians, therapists, case workers and policy experts, among others. This initiative encourages communication and collaboration among the departments, while

also teaching valuable skills such as conflict resolution and leadership. The central idea is to create educational experiences for students that meet the requirements of accreditation in each program while also fostering an appreciation for each member of the health care team and what they bring to each patient. This creates a sense of community and respect for each role, and, perhaps more important, will result in integrated, higher quality care for our patients both now and in the future.

Technology is certainly the future of health sciences, not only in terms of personalized medicine, precision diagnostics and nanotechnology, but also the pervasive use of Big Data and artificial intelligence. AI algorithms can process vast amounts of genomic information, health records and lifestyle factors to help pinpoint the risk of everything from diabetes to heart disease to cancer. Machine learning models are being trained to analyze X-rays and CT scans



Nuclear Medicine Program Director Jeff Galen helps student Sydney Taschler properly position a “patient,” 2024. Abbie Nell Lankitus photo



with exponentially increased speed and efficiency. Neural networks offer real-time recommendations for diagnosis and treatment and establish predictive models for the potential outbreaks of infectious diseases — helping us prepare for and hopefully prevent the next pandemic. We are moving quickly in that area to ensure our faculty and students are fundamentally well-trained in the use of the technology and the science behind the latest AI applications.

But here again, the College of Health Sciences emphasizes the importance of the human element when using AI. We understand that these models are trained

by humans on the selective data that we provide, all reflecting our own human errors and biases. Although AI is a tremendous tool to help locate, process and evaluate information quickly, we still need to train providers to view each patient as more than a mere data point. To look at each individual with our own set of eyes and those of our colleagues in other health sciences. To develop the right diagnosis, treatment and preventive measures for that person’s physical, mental and social circumstances. To treat the whole person — mind, body and spirit — and help them live their best life. ♦



Top: Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences student Kate Parrish helps a client with word recognition in the MU Speech and Hearing Clinic. Abbie Nell Lankitus photo

Above: Health Sciences faculty member Jason Semple teaches Health Care in the U.S., 2026. Eric Kiekeben photo



Health Science students are ready to take on the world, 2024. Grad Images photo

CREATING THE BHS IN HEALTH SCIENCE

Mizzou's most popular major prepares graduates for a range of health careers.

The School of Health Professions (SHP) during the early 2000s had a growing undergraduate student population, most of whom aspired to professional programs with small cohort sizes. Not all were accepted, which presented a problem for them and the university. Although some of the students switched

to majors elsewhere at MU, about 30 percent left altogether. The Bachelor of Health Science in Health Science degree was created in 2008 to solve the problem. This undergraduate degree positioning students for a range of health careers became the most popular major at the University of Missouri within a few years. Kristofer Hagglund, then an associate dean, observed that the Bachelor of Health Science was an emerging degree program nationwide. Based on his investigation of the various models, he designed MU's degree to target primarily four categories of students:



Students gain hands-on learning helping kids with special needs during an internship at an equine therapy program, 2022. Abbie Nell Lankitus photo

- Those who wished to find employment in one of the many health-related fields upon graduation from the program
- Nontraditional students who had an associate's degree in a health field and were working in an entry-level position
- Graduating community college students seeking to pursue a bachelor's degree in a health field
- Students preparing to apply to graduate professional programs for which a baccalaureate degree is required (e.g., physical therapy, exercise physiology, occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, public health)

Hagglund designed an interdisciplinary degree to educate students in foundational sciences, human function, as well as health research, service and health policy. Science and other coursework provide students with a balanced education in the fundamentals of health and health care.

"Many graduates will enter graduate professional programs, such as physical therapy, or graduate programs such as public health," Hagglund wrote in the proposal

submitted to campus and the Board of Curators. “Other graduates will find employment in such areas as medical case management, health and wellness, corporate wellness, human services, consulting, medical sales, insurance, and pharmaceutical manufacturing and distribution.”



Rosemary Hogan serves as the first chair of the Department of Health Sciences. CHS photo

PROGRAM LAUNCHES

When the Curators approved the BHS in Health Science, Rosemary Hogan, BS RT '77, Respiratory Therapy program director, was tapped to lead it.

“I was excited to start a brand-new program in SHP and wanted to ensure it had value to the students, whether they went on to professional programs or the BHS in Health Science became their terminal degree,” Hogan said. “Starting out, everything was a big challenge. I had somewhat of a plan that may have worked if the student enrollment matched the projections. We were always reacting to the challenges, and the

proposal projections flew out the window very early on.”

Hagglund’s proposal projected 100 Health Science students in FY 09 with growth up to 270 students for FY 13. As it turned out, the fall 2009 enrollment of 227 more than doubled projections, and the FY 13 enrollment was nearly five times what the proposal foresaw. Within another five years, it was solidly established as one of the most popular undergraduate majors on campus. The Department of Health Sciences was created in 2011, and Hogan was named the first chair.

The new degree also attracted a new and diverse range of faculty, who brought their own research and teaching approaches.

“The disciplines included medical anthropology, social and behavioral health, psychology, sociology, clinical medicine, education, nursing and community leadership,” Hogan said. “I learned so much from their research and admired the value added by each of their backgrounds and experiences and what that diversity of thought and experience brought to the classroom for our students.”

Hogan retired in 2018, and Enid Schatz served as chair for the 2018-19 academic year. In 2019, when Schatz was named chair of the newly created Department of Public Health, Hogan returned to serve as interim chair, sharing that role with Judith Goodman, who had retired from her position as associate dean for research.

PROGRAM EVOLVES

Botswana Blackburn became chair of Health Science in 2022 and set

about helping the popular degree grow even more with a series of major updates:

- Development of the Health Science minor. This program offers students from various disciplines opportunities to gain foundational knowledge in health science, preparing them for careers at the intersection of health care, policy and public health.
- Expansion of Honors offerings to provide more chances for high-achieving students to engage in advanced coursework, research and leadership initiatives. This enriches the academic experience for top students and enhances the department’s overall academic rigor.
- Introduction of the Person-Centered Care requirement across the curriculum. In response to the growing demand for patient-centered approaches in health care, this requirement ensures that all students understand and prioritize the needs of individuals seeking care.
- Addition of the Master of Health Administration. This graduate program was housed in the School of Health Related Professions when it was still in the School of Medicine. It returned to the College of Health Sciences in 2023 and is part of the Department of Health Sciences.
- Expansion of study abroad and internship opportunities, giving students experience in health care settings. These



Health Sciences students, from front left, Alana Hatanaka and Aliyah Ouedraogo collaborate during a course in clinical ethics, 2022. Sam O’Keefe photo

opportunities broaden students’ cultural perspectives and provide real-world context for working in health care.

Blackburn said more changes are planned for the department, including expanding degree offerings.

“Students appreciate the BHS in Health Science for its interdisciplinary nature, the variety of courses offered, and the strong foundation it provides for a wide range of careers,” Blackburn said. “The degree’s emphasis areas help narrow a student’s focus, preparing them more intently for career and educational opportunities in the growing field of health care.”

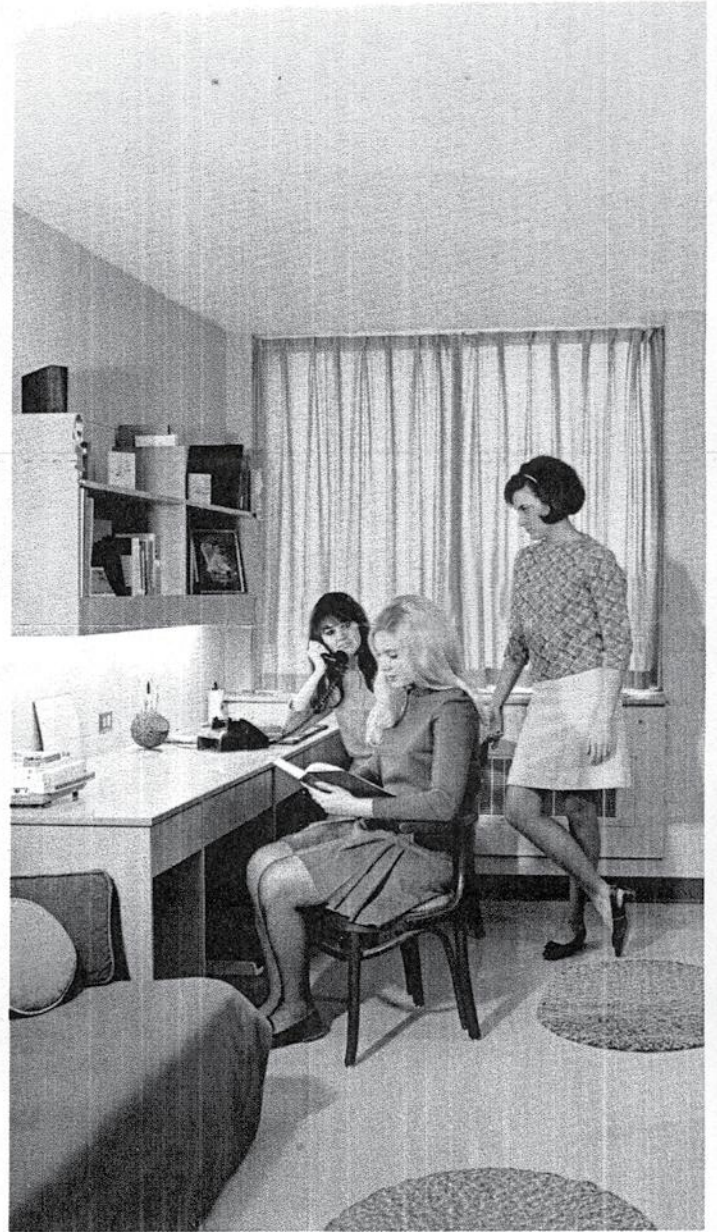
Right: Botswana Blackburn is named department chair in 2022. University photo

Hagglund describes the Health Science major as a classic example of being responsive to students’ needs and the world of work they will inherit.

“The university should always look for degrees that fit the needs and desires of students,” Hagglund

said. “And that may mean we have to give up some degrees over the years or reduce the numbers of students in them, but we have to allow ourselves to be flexible in that regard, to meet the students where they are and where their careers are going to be.” ♦





Above: When they open as dormitories in 1965, Lewis and Clark halls are billed as “upscale” living options for students.

Opposite page: The Clark Hall lobby serves as a dining room for students living in the Lewis and Clark complex as well as for Mizzou athletes. University of Missouri Archives photos

THE HOME OF HEALTH SCIENCES

The College of Health Sciences gives new life to Lewis and Clark halls.

Lewis and Clark halls opened in 1965 as upscale, modern-concept student dormitories. A local company, Missouri Associates, owned the buildings and leased them to the university. Promotional materials touted air conditioning, semiprivate baths, soundproof rooms, as well as recreational facilities such as lounges with televisions, a billiards room, card rooms, parking and a swimming pool.

Lewis Hall offered social areas on each floor featuring sliding doors leading onto balconies that overlooked the pool. Special study and typing rooms were located on each floor, and a social director planned entertainment for students. Motown recording stars Martha Reeves and the Vandellas performed there in 1968, by which time the all-female trio already had hits such as “Heat Wave” (1963), “Dancing in the Street” (1964) and “Jimmy Mack” (1967).

Lewis Hall originally housed male graduate and undergraduate students over the age of 21. Clark Hall housed coed undergrads. With a larger meeting space that could be reserved for a fee, owners billed it as “Missouri’s newest conference center.”



DORMITORY DAYS

Undergraduates worked in Lewis and Clark in various roles during the late 1960s and early 1970s. Two of them graduated from programs in what would become the School of Health Professions, later the College of Health Sciences. They also would figure prominently in its history.

In the summer of 1971, Winnie Wiese Dunn was a resident assistant, and in 1969 Richard Oliver worked in the dining hall. Both were undergraduates at the time. Dunn graduated in 1972 with the second Occupational Therapy class. After several years as an OT faculty member at the University of Kansas, she joined the School of Health Professions faculty in 2017. Oliver graduated from the Medical Technology Program in 1971 and became its director in 1978, interim director of the School of Health Related Professions in 1985, director the following year, and the first dean of



the School of Health Professions when it became an autonomous academic unit in 2000.

Dunn recalls that the university experimented with coed living arrangements during her undergraduate years, placing men and women on different floors in the same building. In her position as a resident assistant, she was responsible for two floors and the central gathering space. She remembers about summer sessions that resident students were older — either graduate students or what are now called “nontraditional” students taking courses related to their current careers.

Above: Winnie Dunn, a graduate of the second occupational therapy class, is now a faculty member in the Department of Occupational Therapy.

Right: Lewis and Clark residence halls in the 1960s. University of Missouri Archives photos

“It was the summer, so the students were of varying ages, and it may have worked a little differently than the administration had imagined,” Dunn said. “They were a little more worldly, so they had a lot more interactions.”

Dunn said the setting was unusual for its time but would feel familiar to today’s students, noting recently built apartments immediately north of Lewis and Clark that include a pool, designated parking and gathering spaces.

Oliver worked in the kitchen of Lewis and Clark in 1969. “You worked a meal and then got to eat a meal,” Oliver said. “Lewis and Clark were the sister dorms to Mark Twain Hall, which also was a private dorm. I worked on the serving line and in the dishwasher room. I picked up several skills.”

Dunn said she benefitted from being around more experienced students. “Even though the students were older, since I was there all the time, I knew about things, so they didn’t think of me

as younger but rather saw me as a resource,” she said. “I learned a lot from them about transitioning to adulthood. They had already started their adult lives, and this gave me the opportunity to see my life in a bigger way and plan for the future. It was probably more helpful than I realized at the time.”

Lewis and Clark halls also served as the dormitory and dining hall for many Mizzou athletes.

In 1969, the University Development Foundation, a nonprofit organization formed to support the university, bought Lewis and Clark halls from Missouri Associates for \$15 million. The foundation then leased the buildings to the University, which prepared to move various offices into them.

The change angered some students living in the dorms, so Missouri Associates leased two floors in Clark Hall from the foundation where students wishing to finish their housing contracts could do so.



OFFICE SPACE

Some program directors moved their offices into Clark Hall in 1978, when the School of Health Related Professions was created as a school within the School of Medicine. The first were Mary Sebacher, BS '70 of Radiography, and James Whitacre of Respiratory Therapy.

"I didn't really like being in Clark Hall at first," said Roger Harting, noting that Lewis and Clark's oddly shaped offices were in fact former dorm rooms. "You could hardly get a desk in them. Also, they were housed kind of back behind other spaces and seemed like cubby holes," said Harting, who co-wrote the proposal to create what later became the College of Health Sciences and served as its second director. "Later, however, I came to appreciate just the fact that we had some space."

A host of campus and University of Missouri System programs occupied office space in Lewis and Clark Halls from the 1970s through 2020 when the last one, Mizzou Online, exited. These included:

- Campus Computing and Management Info Systems
- Fire and Rescue Training
- Labor Education Extension
- Management Consulting
- McNair Program
- Medical Informatics
- Missouri Kidney Program
- Mizzou High School
- Mizzou Online
- Patent Development
- University of Missouri System University Relations

"It was full of orphan units like us," Harting said. "The School of Social and Community Services



Richard Oliver, right, SHRP director, meets in Lewis Hall with Tyrone Pretorius of South Africa's University of the Western Cape, 1992. SHP photo

was on the sixth floor. There were some nursing school faculty, and a number of universitywide people also had offices. I also remember the correspondence study people. There was constant movement in and out of the building."

The arrangement presented other challenges as well.

"There was a private swimming pool, which promoted a lot of noise and wet trails to the bathrooms," Harting said. "Then, we had a lot of problems with the air conditioning going out and no one claimed responsibility for fixing it. I wrote a lot of memos and did a lot of hollering into the telephone about that."

The Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy programs in 1984 were the first SHRP units to move to Lewis Hall.

The basement of Lewis Hall was identified as a site for the programs. The space brought programs together under one roof, and University Hospital administration had grant money to help cover expenses to renovate and equip classrooms and clinics. A laundry room went into the former swimming pool pump room

where Physical Therapy students could wash linens used in their clinics. Classes were held in Lewis Hall starting with the 1984-85 academic year.

Over time, more SHRP faculty and program offices moved to the building. After the School became an autonomous academic unit in December 2000, the rest followed.

Former dormitory rooms were turned into clinics where students could care for clients and hone skills they learned in class. The apartment of the "Dorm Mom" became the first home of the Combs Language Preschool. The dining hall became the lobby for the two buildings, with part of it serving as the home of Mizzou Online. The swimming pool was filled in to make a courtyard and later a playground for use by the preschool and other clinics.

MAJOR RENOVATION

The College slowly took on space in Clark Hall over the years. The year 2020 saw the largest non-College space holder, Mizzou Online, leave the building. When Mizzou North on Business Loop 70 in Columbia was scheduled for



demolition in 2023, the last two College programs located apart from the rest, the Department of Health Psychology and a Radiography Program student lab, moved “home” to Clark Hall.

With the College of Health Sciences as the sole occupant of Clark Hall, renovation discussions could proceed. In December 2022, CHS Dean Kristofer Hagglund requested and received funding from campus administration to launch a major renovation of the complex.

“The School of Health Professions has inadequate facilities to reach its full enrollment potential, optimize student success, attract top-tier research faculty, or

maximize fundraising,” Hagglund wrote in a memo to President Mun Choi and Provost Latha Ramchand. “The main level and south side exterior of Clark Hall are ugly and nonfunctional. Nearly 14,000 square feet of space on the main level of Clark Hall (the old cafeteria) remains empty because of the need for renovation.”

The project would cost \$6 million. Phase 1 renovated 14,000 square feet of unused office space and the cafeteria to create three classrooms, one meeting room, quiet study areas and spaces for student organizations. Phase 2 created a new south entry to Clark Hall and improved

the complex’s visual appeal from Providence Road. It also included site improvements and interior renovations for better functionality and accessibility of the first floor. A separate construction project simultaneously renovated 2,400 square feet for the Combs Language Preschool.

In making the case for the funding, Hagglund told the chancellor and provost the improvements would help maximize student potential, and the new entrance would address accessibility and aesthetic concerns, as more than 35,000 vehicles pass Clark Hall on Providence Road daily.

Right: Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences student Aubrey Meyer helps a Combs Language Preschool client on a slide in the College’s inclusive playground, 2021. Sam O’Keefe photo

Opposite page, top: A 1960s brochure promotes Lewis and Clark halls as “Missouri’s Newest Conference Center.” University of Missouri Archives photo

Opposite page, bottom: Balcony banners on Lewis Hall welcome visitors to the College of Health Sciences, 2024. CHS photo



Then



Now



“Creating a vibrant and attractive presence along this major corridor will elevate the University of Missouri brand,” Hagglund wrote. “Improving the functional and aesthetic features of the south side of Clark Hall will also dramatically improve its accessibility. Having an accessible entrance is critical to the School’s clinical programming and the revenue that flows from client and patient care.”

Donors, administrators, faculty, staff, students and Chamber of Commerce ambassadors attended the grand opening Sept. 20, 2024. Today the entire Lewis and Clark complex serves the College of Health Sciences. ◆



Above: A new conference room featuring Zoom technology is part of the 2023 Clark Hall renovation project.

Right: Dean Kristofer Hagglund speaks during the September 2024 Clark Hall renovation grand opening and ribbon cutting. Students enjoy one of the new Clark Hall study areas. Mizzou Visual Productions photos



Then



Now

Then



Now

Top: Lewis Hall entrance in 2007 compared to 2024. SHP photo. Abbie Nell Lankitus photo

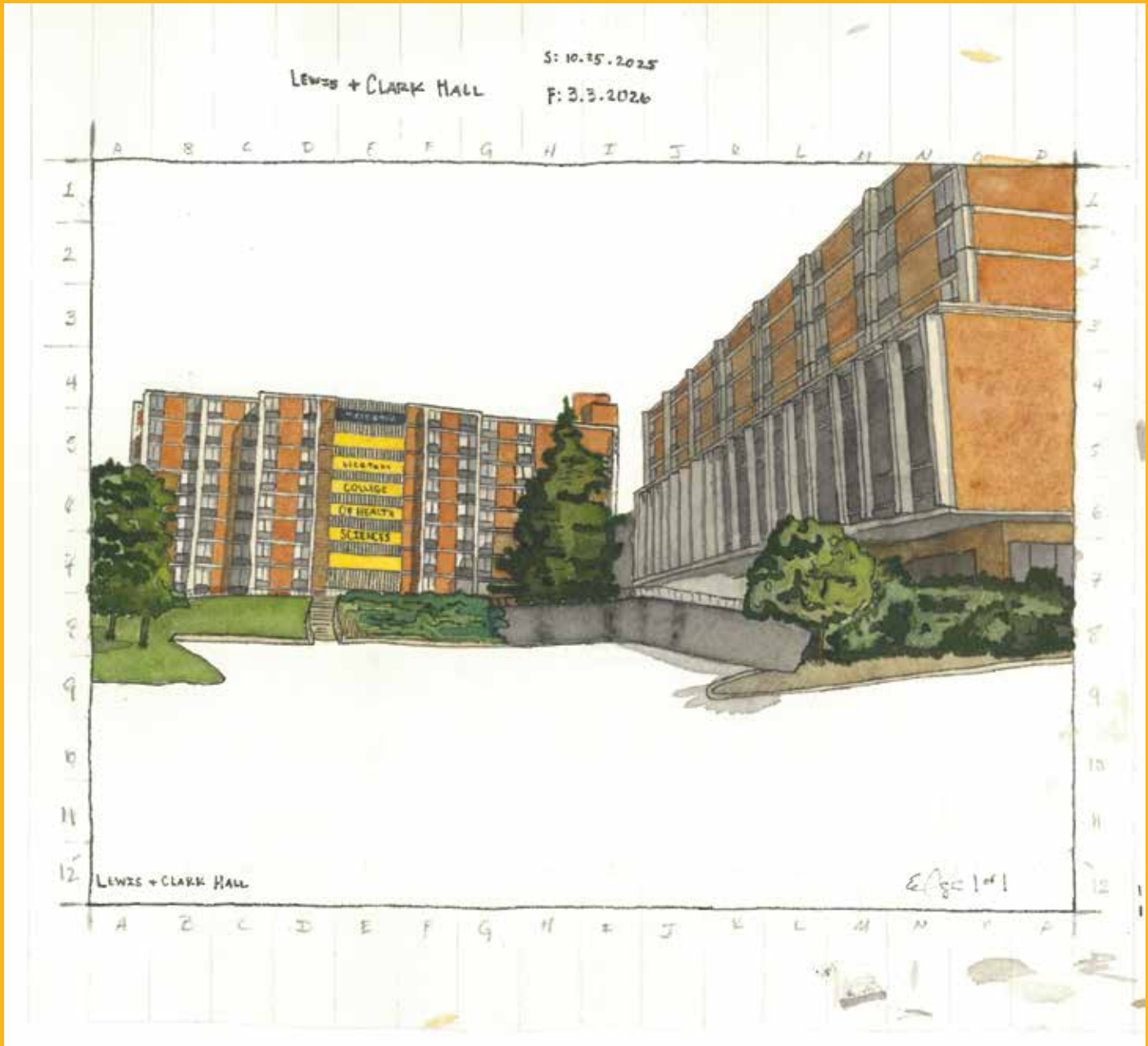
Bottom: The renovation updates the Lewis entrance and creates modern classrooms from space formerly used as the dormitory kitchen and Mizzou Online. CHS photos

Then



Now

The Clark Hall renovation turns the former loading dock into a beautiful, accessible entrance to the home of the College of Health Sciences, 2024. CHS photos



Lewis and Clark Hall, 12"x12", watercolor on paper, by Mitchell Edge



College of
Health Sciences
University of Missouri

Celebrating
25
years