



Nursing *Notes*

HEALTH SCIENCES BUILDING

FEATURES

Letter from the Chair

Welcome to the Team

Crawford Presents Senior Thesis

Updates from Faculty, Staff, and Students

Letter from the Chair

Dear Colleagues, Students, Alumni and Friends of the Department of Nursing,

Every semester, the Department of Nursing releases a new edition of Nursing Notes. It is through this newsletter that we have the opportunity to share the exciting activities and accomplishments of our faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

Our department is currently conducting a nationwide search for a new department chair to lead and guide the department into the future. As interim chair of the Department of Nursing, it is important to recognize that the department is a center of activity in the midst of growth and change. During this transition period, faculty and staff are continuing to focus on program quality and student success.

The department's commitment to public health and safety through preparation of skilled nurses and leaders for the nursing profession remain strong as evidenced through many of the accomplishments that have occurred over the past few months. As you will learn, our faculty have been busy presenting at national conferences, preparing a new Nursing Education Post-Master's Certificate program, as well as partnering with local organizations to offer assistance to

victims of Hurricane Matthew.

This year we welcomed one of our largest cohorts with 87 students enrolling in the pre-licensure program, 42 students enrolling in the Master of Science in Nursing program, and 18 students enrolling in the RIBN program. Additionally, the department welcomed two new faculty members and the department received a generous donation of a high-fidelity simulation manikin, nicknamed Za Gracious, from the State Healthcare Association and Mr. Craig Souza.

Lastly, I would like to thank our donors, alumni, community partners, and friends for their support of the Department of Nursing. To our alumni, I encourage you to share your story with us and let us know of your personal and professional accomplishments and achievements. I hope each of you experienced a joyous holiday season and I wish you all health and happiness in 2017. Enjoy this edition of Nursing Notes!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Twaddell, Ph.D., RN
Interim Chair



Welcome to the Team



Anna Bryan

Mrs. Anna Bryan grew up in Bladenboro, N.C., and has served the Robeson County community as an acute care nurse for over eighteen years at Southeastern Health. She has experience in critical care, interventional cardiology, care management and utilization management.

She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree from UNC Pembroke in 2013 and Master of Science in Nursing from UNC Pembroke in 2016. She joins the Department of Nursing as a clinical assistant

professor and is certified as a Clinical Nurse LeaderSM. She is also a member of the Nursing Honor Society of The University of North Carolina at Pembroke, American Nurses Association, and the Association of Clinical Nurse Leaders. Mrs. Bryan's research focus has been on health literacy and heart failure in rural Robeson County in conjunction with Duke University's research study of *Improving Outcomes for Chronic Kidney Disease in Southeastern, North Carolina: An Evaluation of the individual- and community-level responses*. This is a retrospective case controlled study to prove that there is a relationship between heart failure readmission rates and health literacy levels.

Julie Harrison-Swartz

Julie joined UNCP in August 2016. She has an Associate Degree in Nursing from Wallace State College (Dothan, Alabama) a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of South Alabama (Mobile, Alabama) a Master of Science in Nursing (nurse educator focus), and a Doctor of Nursing Practice (family nurse practitioner track) from George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. She is currently completing a post-doctoral certificate as a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner at George Mason University.



Julie has been a registered nurse since 1998 and has worked for 12 of her practice years as an emergency department nurse. She also has experience in cardiac step-down care, hemodialysis, school nursing, and as a forensic nurse examiner. In addition, she taught anatomy and physiology for five years and designed and piloted a forensic science elective course for high school juniors and seniors. Her research interests include the significance and cost effectiveness of Vitamin D deficiency screening and post-traumatic stress disorder. Julie and her husband Alfred, have two daughters, Elizabeth and Sarah, and a son-in-law, Cody. She also has a new sweet puppy named Marbles. Her husband is an active duty Army soldier of 25 years and he is also a registered nurse. Julie enjoys spending time with her family, attending Auburn University football games, reading, running, and sewing.

Association of Nursing Students host a donation drive for Hurricane Matthew victims

Throughout the month of November, the Association of Nursing Students (ANS) held a donation drive for Hurricane Matthew victims that were still in need of canned goods and hygiene items. To get the entire campus involved, students decorated boxes with wrapping paper and placed two boxes in the University Center, two boxes in the Health Sciences Building, one box in Student Health Services, as well as flyers throughout campus advertising the drive. They also contacted the athletic director and were able to set up 14 boxes, one for each sports team, in the Jones Center. To increase participation, the students set an incentive for the teams by rewarding a prize for the team who collected the most items.

The results were outstanding! In first place, the Spirit Squad collected over 545 canned goods, hygiene products, school supplies, and clothes. In second place, the football team collected 498 canned goods and hygiene products. The men's basketball team collected 163 canned goods. With participation from all athletic teams, well over 1,000 canned goods and hygiene products were donated.

In combination with the nursing students who donated, as well as others on campus, several ANS members and Ira Locklear were able to deliver over 1,500 items to the Robeson County Church and Community Center. The drive was a huge success and the students are extremely grateful to the faculty and staff who helped with this event, as well as the students who donated and offered to deliver these donations to the center.

MSN Students Attend Conference

Clinical Nurse Leader MSN students in NUR 5110, Policy, Organization and Financing of Health Care, attended the North Carolina Nurses Association Convention in Winston-Salem on September 29, 2016.

They spoke with Dr. Pam Cipriano, President of the American Nurses Association, after her keynote speech, *Changing the Climate: Creating a Culture of Safety*.



(L-R) Nathan Njaramba, April Edwards, Dr. Pam Cipriano (President of the American Nurses Association), Karen Carlisle, Terika Jones, Timeka Brown, and Melissa Roberts.

Dr. Jennifer Twaddell was appointed interim chair of the Department of Nursing.
Ms. Pamela Morgan was appointed director of Undergraduate Programs.

Faculty News and Announcements

Dr. Jennifer Johnson is attending the University of Massachusetts Amherst to obtain a doctoral level transcribed certificate in Higher Education Leadership and Management from the College of Education. Dr. Johnson will complete this certificate during the summer of 2017.

A manuscript titled *Caring for Refugee Youth in the School Setting*, prepared by Dr. Jennifer Johnson, Dr. Dena Evans, and Mrs. Joyce Beard was accepted for Spring publication in NASN School Nurse journal.

Mrs. Astrid Oviedo and Dr. Jennifer Johnson presented a poster titled *Using Jurisprudence to Teach Legal Concepts in Nursing Practice* at the Baccalaureate Education Conference sponsored by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing in Anaheim, California, on November 17. Selection for the poster session was highly competitive with only 75 accepted posters from a pool of hundreds of abstracts. A photo from the conference is on the top right.

Dr. Cherry Beasley, Dr. Jennifer Twaddell, and Mrs. Melonie Moody provided a tour of the Clinical Learning Center (CLC) to the Durham Chapter of the International Order of the King's Daughters and Sons. A photo from the tour is in the middle right.

Melonie Moody, MSN, RN, CNE, was accepted into UNC-Greensboro's Ph.D. program beginning August 2017.

Kathy Locklear was nominated and elected by the Student Government Association as the 2016-2017 faculty conciliator. She will be responsible for undergraduate grade appeals. A photo of Kathy Locklear is on the bottom right.

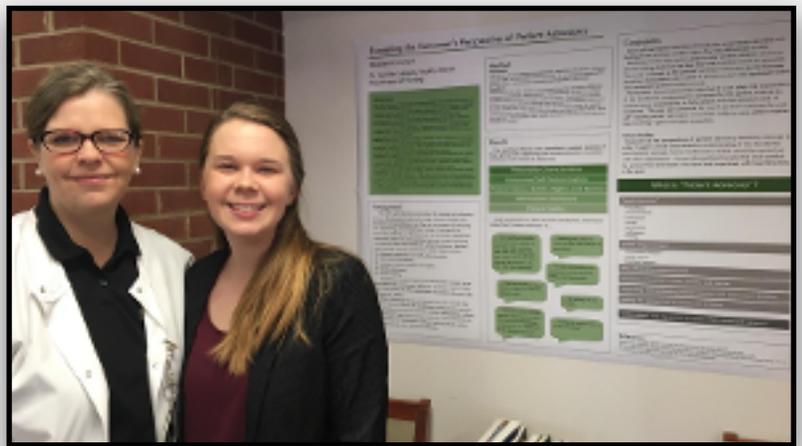
Dr. Julie Harrison-Swartz spoke to DNP students at George Mason University regarding their Practice Inquiry Projects.



Crawford Presents Senior Thesis

Entitled "The Consumer's Perspective of Patient Advocacy," senior nursing student Elizabeth Crawford undertook a senior thesis project as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Maynor Honors College. Through recent personal experiences, she has acquainted herself with the understanding that when a patient is provided a nurse who is competent in providing advocacy, patient health and wellbeing outcomes are more positive. This developing passion toward patient advocacy inspired her development and implementation of the research design.

At the onset of her research, she found that much of the current research fails to examine the patient's perception of the concept. She decided to undergo a research design which explored perspectives of university students not affiliated with the nursing program in order to generate a more comprehensive understanding of the concept. The entire research process took approximately eight months to complete and included two student focus group sessions.



Dr. Jennifer Johnson (left) and Elizabeth Crawford (right) at Crawford's presentation at the Maynor Honors College.

Findings from the study reflected much of what was discovered in the recent literature. When asked, "what is patient advocacy," study participants focused on themes associated with good character, fully informative communication, patient empowerment, supporting and defending the patient's desires and autonomous decisions, and making the patient feel as if they are at home. Elizabeth remains very thankful for this opportunity to indulge in the world of research and truly appreciates all the guidance and encouragement from both the honors college faculty and the nursing school faculty, including her faculty mentor, Dr. Jennifer Johnson.



**Stay up-to-date with the latest happenings within
the Department of Nursing by "liking" us on
Facebook!**

[Facebook.com/UNCPNursing/](https://www.facebook.com/UNCPNursing/)

Congratulations Graduates!

RN - BSN

Angel Adkins, RN
Gene Dial, RN
Steven Jernigan, RN
Catherine Johnson, RN
Andrew Lindsey, RN
Brittney Nelson, RN
Deanna Thomas, RN
Paula Tyler, RN

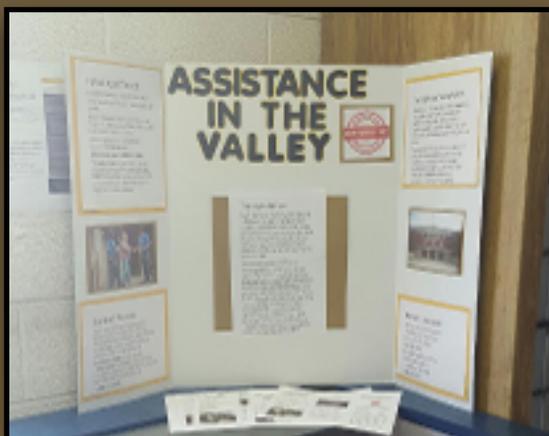
In December, the Department of Nursing had eight undergraduate RN-BSN students graduate. We wish these graduates the best of luck and we look forward to seeing what their future holds!

Post-Master's Certificate Approved

This fall the department was approved to offer the university's first Post-Master's Certificate in Nursing Education. This three course, nine-credit hour curriculum will allow registered nurses with a master's degree in another area to be eligible to teach nursing in the state of North Carolina. Registered nurses wanting more information on the program should contact the department at 910-521-6522. This program will begin Spring 2017.

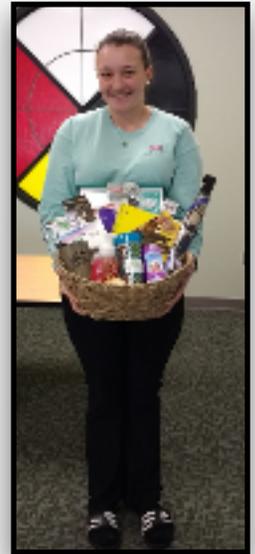
Students in Community Health Nursing

Senior students in Community Health Nursing had a busy and productive semester. Focusing on the impacts of Hurricane Matthew, students worked in small groups to assess local communities and design population focused nursing interventions to enhance community response to the disaster. Students completed community assessment projects in Robeson, Hoke and Columbus counties focusing on environmental controls, access to recovery resources, mental health, and community education. During the semester, students participated in activities to learn about the scope of practice as a public health nurse including practicing political advocacy through communication with NC legislators, home visit simulations in the Clinical Learning Center to learn about multi-problem families, touring sewage treatment facilities, and attending local board of health meetings.





DNL3C students sold raffle tickets for a “goodie basket” in order to raise funds to purchase t-shirts and have an end-of-semester event. Andrea McDowell (right) was the winner of the basket which included school supplies, hygiene items, gift cards, and lots of fun stuff from the bookstore! Students who sold 20 or more tickets were placed in a drawing to win more great items from the bookstore. Jada Walker (left) was our DNL3C Winner!



DNL3C students hosted a hotdog fundraiser in September sponsored by Carpenter Contractors of America. They raised \$163.70!

The DNL3C hosted an end-of-semester event for students to enjoy a break from studying. Students enjoyed hot chocolate, homemade desserts, and fun and games. Faculty and staff from the Department of Nursing were in attendance to wish the students good luck on their exams and to offer their congratulations for a semester well-done! Photos from the event are below!





The vision of the Department of Nursing is to achieve regional distinction as a leader of excellence in our nursing educational programs and in scholarship, service, and community engagement. The faculty would like to thank our students, alumni, community partners, donors, and friends for helping us achieve our vision. We are most appreciative.

Nursing
Notes
uncp.edu/nursing
nursing@uncp.edu