



Nursing Notes - Summer 2018

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[Click here](#) to follow us on Facebook to stay up-to-date with the latest happenings within the department.

Letter from the Chair

Every semester, the Department of Nursing releases a new edition of Nursing Notes. It is through this newsletter that I have the opportunity to share the exciting activities and accomplishments of our faculty, staff, and students. I hope you enjoy this format of our newsletter using the Sway platform.

In May of 2018, we recognized more than 60 students who graduated from programs within the Department of Nursing. This groups represents one of our largest graduating classes. We wish all of these graduates the best of luck in their future endeavors.

Our nursing faculty are experts in nursing education, dedicated teachers, and have years of clinical practice experience to share with students. Together, we are embracing and developing further expertise in cutting-edge teaching strategies, including the use of simulation throughout our curriculum. We are also excited to announce that the Department of Nursing has been able to offer our students a unique "study-away" experience which occurred in Nashville! You will be able to learn more about what this experience was able to offer our students within this issue.

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. Each of you are the key to our success in the Department of Nursing.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jennifer W. Twaddell

Department of Nursing Graduates 66 Students

In May 2018, the Department of Nursing graduated 46 pre-licensure students, 12 RN-BSN students (3 RIBN students), and 8 MSN students. This is one of our largest classes to graduate from programs within the department. We are proud to have been able to provide a ceremony to celebrate the achievements of student nurses at all levels. Many of our students have already secured jobs in the local area and we look forward to seeing what they achieve in the future!

Photos of the Pinning Ceremony are available by [clicking here](#)!

RN-BSN CANDIDATES

MSN CANDIDATES

Tandi Botzenhart, RN

Jessica Canady, RN

Jenna L. Cavanaugh, RN

Kimberly Cooper, RN

Kathryn Hunt, RN

Sue Morrison, RN

Johanna Poole, RN

Samantha A. Rosol, RN

Carol Canady Smith, RN

Regina Snodgrass, RN

Lonna Marie Strider, RN

Dana S. Wolfe, RN

Christopher N. Arori, PhD, MA, BSN, RN

Paige Marchand Blais, BSN, RN

Timeka C. Brown, BSN, RN

Karen E. Carlisle, BSN, RN*

Terika L. Jones, BSN, RN, CNL

Melissa Roberts, BSN, RN

Jennifer Stuber, BSN, RN

Linda Tew, BSN, RN

1 - RN-BSN:

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Jennifer Stuber, BSN, RN

Linda Tew, BSN, RN

PRELICENSURE BSN CANDIDATES

Shalisa L. Aiken	Jacqueline L. Iocona
Emily R. Andrews	Kevin L. Kim
Elizabeth Marie Axelberg	Candice Little
Mary Catherine Axelberg	Lakeshia N. Locklear
Caroline Ball	Shakelah Locklear
Natalie M. Benjamin	Tiffany S. Lofton
Monica B. Brooks	Jessica Raye Lowery
Brianna N. Carter	Ashlev McCranev
Courtney L. Chavis	Camillia Elizabeth McLean
Megan Brooke Chavis	Sarah Elizabeth McRae
Lauren Paige Clark	Cody F. Norris
Kaitlyn M. Crockett	Jessica Nicole Oxendine
Prateeksha Dhakal	Tiffany Peacoe
Molly D. Dudney	Dorinda J. Phillips
Brittany Nicole Edwards	Ildaura Tanisha Sluss-Cohen
Suzanna D. Emanuel	Savanna B. Stiles
Kayla Kay Ferguson	Kelli M. Strickland
Hannah M. G'alan	Holly Thatcher
Sirfiati Garcia	Natalie Mulungi Tita
Melenie I. Guess	Kanthony Marez Wilkerson
Seneca Hagen	Stefannie Wilkes-Pounders
Kaitlyn Brown Hammond	Naia Z. Williams
Andrea Nicole Hollis	Peyton Crouse Wood

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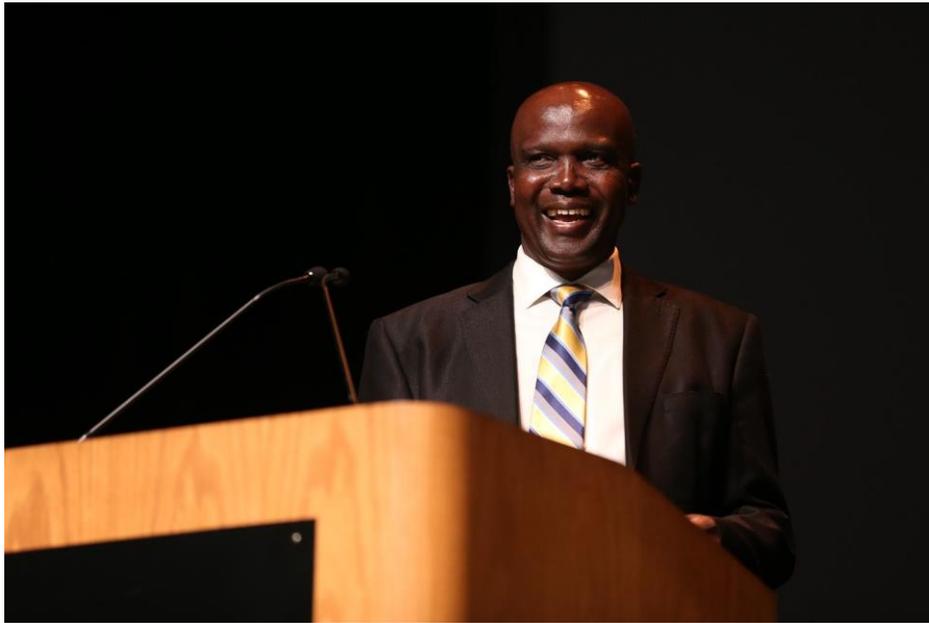
Stefannie Wilkes-Pounders

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Peyton Crouse Wood



3 - Christopher Arori, PhD, MA, BSN, RN, provides words of wisdom on behalf of the graduate class.



4 - *Samantha A. Rosol, RN, speaks of the RN-BSN perspective representing the cohort.*



5 - *Andrea Hollis recalls challenges and achievements of her class's journey through the pre-licensure program.*



6 - Pre-licensure students clap at the end of one of the speaker's presentations.



7 - MSN students and faculty pose after the Pinning Ceremony.



8 - Pre-licensure students stand outside GPAC before the Pinning Ceremony.



9 - A group of students pose inside the GPAC lobby after the pinning ceremony.



10 - A group of students pose inside the GPAC lobby after the pinning ceremony.

UNCP Health Study Moves Forward



Originally published on March 24th at <https://www.uncp.edu/news/uncp-health-study-moves-forward>

A study outlining the positive impacts of a College of Health Sciences at UNC Pembroke is headed to the General Assembly after being approved by the UNC Board of Governors on Friday, March 23, 2018.

The state budget adopted in 2017 provided up to \$100,000 to perform a study on the feasibility of establishing the college at UNCP. The legislatively-directed study charged the Board of Governors with considering the health care needs of the region as well as the economic benefits in its review.

“We are appreciative of the General Assembly’s passion for improving the health outcomes of our region, and in the implied confidence in UNC Pembroke’s ability to be the driving force to address these needs by forming a College of Health Sciences,” Chancellor Robin Gary Cummings said while addressing the Board of Governors’ Educational Planning, Policies and Programs Committee.

The study includes an in-depth look at the region, possible health care programs, and a potential approach to the establishment of a College of Health Sciences.

The Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research at UNC and Consulstart led by Dr. John Ruffin, founding director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities at the National Institutes of Health, both evaluated options and concluded a College of Health Sciences at UNC Pembroke could be transformative for health outcomes and serve as an economic engine in southeastern North Carolina and beyond.

Dr. Aaron Vandermeer, faculty senate chair, said he was pleased to learn of the Board of Governors’ approval.

“The potential for its impact on our region is enormous, for our students, the community, and the university alike. I cannot imagine a better locus for the creation of a community to focus on the practice, pedagogy, and promotion of health.”

Southeastern North Carolinians have significantly less access to health care providers in every measureable health profession, and Robeson County is recognized as having some of the worst population health outcomes.

As one of the most rural areas in the second most rural state in the country, the counties in proximity to UNC Pembroke face staggering conditions of high obesity, heart disease, diabetes, cancer, infant mortality, and death rates for minors.

For the last eight years, Robeson County has been ranked between 95 and 100 out of the state’s 100 counties in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s health outcome measurements. Two separate studies indicate that, on average, a person born in Robeson County lives 7 to 8 years less than a person born in Wake County.

Rural health care shortages are persistent throughout North Carolina, and are particularly prevalent in southeastern North Carolina. Fast-growing professions like nursing, nurse practitioner, occupational therapy, and optometry are too often in short supply in the region.

Data shows North Carolina’s health workforce is significantly less diverse than the state’s population. The study concludes that as one of the most ethnically diverse institutions in the south, a College of Health Sciences at UNC Pembroke would be uniquely positioned to address diversity challenges present in the workforce.

UNC Pembroke, already known for access, affordability, and a diverse student population, could “grow their own” workforce, an approach championed by researchers.

Evidence from UNCP’s current health care programs in nursing, counseling and social work shows graduates tend to stay in the region to practice at a rate of 80 percent or more.

Health care partners in the region support the establishment of the new college at the university.

“This school would provide an opportunity to grow a stronger, highly educated, and qualified health care focused workforce in southeastern North Carolina,” wrote Joann Anderson, Southeastern Health president and CEO, in a letter of support.

“The ability to educate and train young people from [this region] close to home will increase the likelihood they will remain in the area after completion of the program. This improved workforce will have an overall positive impact on the local economy.”

A similar sentiment was shared by Gregory Wood, president and CEO of Scotland Health Care System, in his letter of support.

“Recruiting and retaining quality health care professionals in a rural area like ours is quite challenging,” Wood wrote. “Individuals who are from our region or want to work in rural environments greatly increases our long-term retention rates.”

Anderson and Wood were among the 81 regional health care professionals that participated in five focus groups led by Dr. Jeff Frederick, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. It was clear that health care partners in the region support the establishment of a new college at the university and its potential to help transform health outcomes.

The study concluded that a College of Health Sciences could build on the success of existing health-related programs – nursing, social work, clinical mental health counseling, athletic training, exercise/sports science, and school counseling.

A proposed three-phased approach would add additional bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral programs such as nurse practitioner, optometry, occupational therapy, physical therapy, public health, nutrition and dietetics, health informatics, health administration, and a two-year degree completion program in rural health equity for individuals in a patient support role transitioning to leadership roles.



11 - Students performing a health assessment.

Beginning in 2018, the three phases would extend through 2027, ending with a sweeping assessment to identify additional opportunities.

The study suggests UNC Pembroke could build on existing core competencies in programs and construct inter-professional course structures, something that experts say can break down silos between providers, and educate a team-oriented health care professional more prepared to meet the increasingly complex healthcare needs of a diverse, rural population.

“Creating a workforce that understands and appreciates rural environments, that receives an affordable education for health professions that are both in demand and in short supply in southeastern North Carolina, a workforce that appreciates the growing racial, economic and geographic diversity of the state, and a workforce that can help drive a more resilient regional economy, this is a win for our region, our state and its taxpayers, and especially for low income and rural students who deserve access to higher education and its benefits,” said UNCP Provost David Ward.

The study also discusses the establishment of a clinical research program, designed to invite external funding and key personnel attracted by the opportunity to study health conditions resistant over decades to intervention, in an economically challenged, clinically diverse environment.

The chancellor emphasized that the university is well poised to implement a College of Health Sciences given the experience and expertise of its leadership. Dr. Cummings is a former cardiothoracic surgeon and served as North Carolina Medicaid director.

Dr. Ward has served as dean of college of health sciences at two previous institutions. UNCP Board of Trustees Chairman Jim Jones, a medical doctor, is the founding chair of the Family Medicine program at ECU’s Brody School of Medicine and is past president of the National Academy of Family Physicians.

“We know a thing or two about health care because we’ve done a thing or two in health care,” said Cummings.

“For UNC Pembroke, this study and its actions are visceral,” said Cummings. “These are our neighbors and our children. We see the need every day. Our commitment to this study and its full implementation is born of a sense of mission and duty. We will be accountable, collaborative and focused on results.”

Inaugural Student Study-Away Experience

In May, nine junior-level nursing students left Pembroke and flew to Nashville, Tennessee to engage in a variety of learning activities. Students spent four days in Nashville and were able to visit and tour the Vanderbilt School of Nursing, experience an 8-hour observation at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, volunteer at the Monroe Canrell Children’s Hospital, volunteer at the Ronald McDonald House, and much more. Students were accompanied by Ms. Misty Stone and Ms. Melonie Moody.



12 - Students and faculty prepare to depart from RDU to Nashville!



13 - Students pose for a photo outside Vanderbilt University!



14 - Students pose for a photo before boarding a plane.

Nursing Honor Society Holds Spring Induction Ceremony



15 - Ms. Debbie Locklear and Cody Norris shake hands during Cody's induction.



16 - Dr. Julie Harrison-Swartz hugs a student as she is inducted in the Nursing Honor Society.



17 - All inductees for 2018 posing for a photo.

On March 21, 2018 the third annual induction ceremony was held in the University of North Carolina at Pembroke UC Annex Building. Nine undergraduate senior nursing students, three graduate students, and one nurse leader were inducted into the Nursing Honor Society. Dr. Ulrike Wiethaus provided a keynote address on the topic of “Therapeutic Touch: A Focus on Healing”.

The Nursing Honor Society at the University of Pembroke was established in the fall of 2016 with the goal of applying for chapter charter status with Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing (STTI). STTI, the only international nursing honor society worldwide, is a global community of nurse leaders with members belonging to more than 486 chapters who live in over 90 countries. This process typically takes between 2-3 years from the time of the first induction. Membership is by nomination only. Eligible members are chosen from undergraduate nursing students, master's students, and professional nurse leaders who meet the rigid requirements established by the board of directors of STTI.

Clinical Learning Center Participates in Self-Assessment



The Department of Nursing participated in Laerdal's Simulation Education Solutions for Nursing (SESN) Assessment during the spring semester. This 3 year recommendation plan will allow the department to increase simulation within our program, with hopes of accreditation and site recognition in the future. Major recommendations within the study included: full-time simulation faculty with IT support, faculty certification in simulation, simulations incorporated within the curriculum, and an update of our Clinical Learning Center (CLC) Policy and Procedure Manual. Our Simulation Task Force, along with faculty, developed a CLC mission and vision statement, prebriefing checklist, and adopted the Debriefing for Meaningful Learning Debriefing Model to be utilized in the clinical and simulation settings.

Alumni News

Denis Rodo, BSN Class of 2015, has been accepted into the MSN-Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Program at Vanderbilt University. He will begin his studies this fall.

Heather Scott, BSN Class of 2015, has been accepted into the DNP Program at the University of Louisville. She will begin her studies this fall.

Congratulations!



18 - Denis Rodo, Class of 2015



19 - Heather Scott, Class of 2015

Student Announcements

- UNCP's Association of Nursing Students set an all-time record for their annual fundraising events. The organization donates money to the community and this year the selected recipient was My Refuge in Lumberton.
- In February, students in Family Nursing I held a "Be The Match" Bone Marrow drive. The students were able to add 211 names to the registry! Thanks to everyone for supporting this worthy cause.
- Students in Family Nursing I also held a Pregnancy Health Fair through a partnership with Healthy Start at ComTech in Pembroke. Students provided education on a variety of pregnancy topics such as newborn care/safety, pregnancy induced hypertension, exercise during pregnancy, etc.



20 - Nursing students review paperwork at the Be The Match Drive.



21 - All of the students who assisted with the Be The Match Drive.



22 - Students pose outside ComTech after their Pregnancy Health Fair.



23 - Students presenting their project.

Faculty and Staff Announcements

Dr. Cherry Beasley has been appointed to the Board of Trustees at Southeastern Health.

Dr. Cherry Beasley and Dr. William Puentes provided a presentation at the AHEC and NC Council of Governments.

Ms. Anna Bryan has been accepted in the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program at UNCG for fall 2018.

Mr. James Crouch graduated in May 2018 with his MA in Health Education. He has been accepted into Appalachian State University's Higher Education, University Leadership, Education Specialists (EdS) Program for fall 2018.

Mr. James Crouch completed the Advisor Development Series offered by the Center for Student Success.

Dr. Deborah Hummer and Ms. Melonie Moody presented at the 2nd Annual UNCP Research Showcase, along with a podium presentation at the 9th Annual Beyond the Manikin Conference. Their presentation was titled: *Implementation of Virtual Reality Simulation into a Pre-licensure Health Assessment Course to Enhance Skill Set and Engagement.*

Dr. Deborah Hummer and Mr. John Toth provided a presentation at National Chemistry Week.

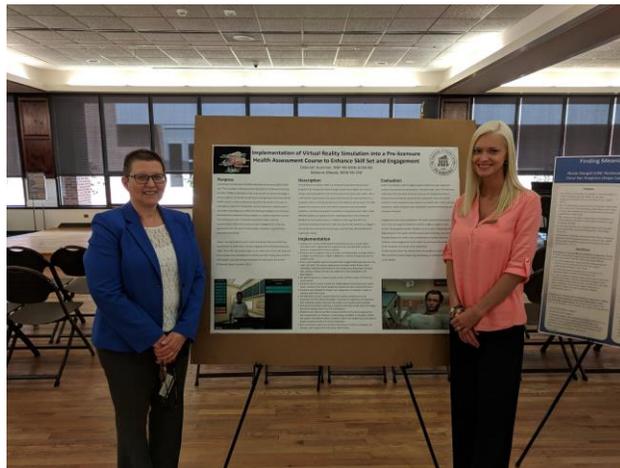
Ms. Kathy Locklear served as a judge at the Syringe Bowl held at Robeson Community College.

Ms. Kathy Locklear and Dr. Jennifer Twaddell has been appointed to Sandhills Community College's Nursing Advisory Committee.

Ms. Rosemarie Pilarczyk completed the Safe Zone Training offered by the Office for Diversity and Inclusion.

Ms. Misty Stone is performing a directed research project over summer 2018. The purpose of this study is to provide preliminary data to support further research on supporting nurses' who experience sentinel events as well as healthcare system factors needed to prevent such events from occurring.

Mr. John Toth was inducted into Phi Lambda Theta at Fayetteville State University.



24 - Dr. Deborah Hummer and Ms. Melonie Moody stand next to their poster presentation.