

# Nursing

*at Truman State University*

Fall 2009  
Nursing  
Truman State University  
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*Left: Uniforms then and now.*

*Below: Northeast Missouri State University Nursing Pin and Cap.*



## Homecoming 2009

**T**ruman State University celebrated homecoming on October 10th by welcoming alumni to the campus for a weekend of fun. Following the parade the Department of Nursing hosted their annual Alumni Reception in the Student Union. Sarah Delaware decorated and equipped the room with yearbooks, composites, photo albums, and student uniforms from years past. The alumni and faculty enjoyed renewing friendships and reminiscing about their days at Truman.



*Above: Sarah Delaware goes through the 1969 yearbook with 40th anniversary alum, Jo-Nell Tucker Falcon from Wentzville, MO and Jane Zentz Buskey from Etna, NH.*



*Left to right: Jennifer Jacobi '08 and Alison Richards '08, recent grads return to Truman for a weekend of fun.*

# News In Nursing



**H**ello and best wishes! We just finished homecoming last weekend. While the weather was cool and windy, we were happy to see several alumni from the classes of 1969, 1972, 1983, 1984, 2008, and a few others. Thanks to Mrs. Sarah Delaware, we enjoyed looking at old yearbooks, photos, and uniforms.

Our exciting news for the fall was Governor Nixon's allocation of "Caring for Missourians" funding for health professions. Nursing and Communication Disorders received over \$750,000 to be used over a

three year period for additional faculty, equipment, and other forms of support. In response to the funding, the freshman class was increased to 65 incoming students with an ultimate goal of 10 more graduates per year. We hope Governor Nixon will fund this program in future years to continue a trend of greater numbers of faculty and students. Nursing faculty hours have been increased by Pam Melvin, (Class of 1984), Sally Carlisle (Class of 2004), as well as Kelly Freeland (adjunct faculty).

Pershing Building plans for renovation continue. We anticipate groundbreaking for the new wing during Fall 2009 and a possible move-in date of Spring/Summer 2011. The Department will have a new nursing lab and faculty/staff offices to accommodate the needs of the students. Decisions for equipment and space now center on the much anticipated move to Pershing Building.

The existing nursing lab continues to be a focus for improvement. We have added new patient simulators and equipment for an updated learning lab. Recent additions include the arrival of a simulation baby and several skills modules. We plan to add critical care equipment. If you have been considering making a contribution to the Department, we would welcome your support of the nursing lab fund. Please accept my appreciation for contributions to any of the nursing development funds.

Our faculty and graduates have been very busy with exciting work. Teak Nelson and two students just returned from a research presentation in Ottawa, Canada. Steve Hadwiger was recognized as research mentor of the year at Truman's student research conference. Kit Hadwiger is preparing to collect data as part of a research project in the Philippines. Our nursing graduate, Jenny Dine (Class of 2008) was featured for her research as a PhD student at MU. We are proud of our faculty, staff, and students for the contributions they make to the health of others, locally and globally.

We would be happy to see you at Truman. Please stay in touch!

Best wishes,  
Dr. Stephanie Powelson  
Chair, Department of Nursing

# Then and Now:

**C**ecelia Roark Donelson '83 returned to Truman 26 years after her graduation. "Attending Homecoming and the nursing reception brought back many memories including how much I enjoyed attending Northeast MO State University and how much colder the weather really is in Kirksville!" Since her days at Truman she has held a variety of nursing positions both in and out of the military, and obtained a Masters in Health Administration degree from Chapman University. "I have been working for DeSpain Dermatology Center for the past 4 years. This summer I received my certification in Dermatology Nursing." She and her husband, Tery, live in Columbia, MO and have two daughters, Samantha and Kathleen. Kathleen is a student at Truman State University.



1983 – Cecelia (Roark) Donelson during a clinical experience at Kirksville Osteopathic Medical Center (now Northeast Missouri Regional Medical Center)



2009 – Cecelia Roark Donelson (right) at the alumni reception with Pam Melvin (left) and Sharon McGahan (center).

**Mark your calendars for Homecoming next year – October 16, 2010!  
Hope you can join us.**

# Student Life



**Class of 2009** *Thirty-two senior nursing students were honored at the Nursing Recognition Ceremony that took place May 8 in the Baldwin Hall Auditorium. First row (left to right): Emily Newsham, Katherine Hamer, Stephanie Kettmann, Michelle Hernandez, Lisa Saubert, Lindsey Fraticola, Katie Cleaveland, Amy Taggart and Khristin Hinson. Second Row (left to right): Mindy Cole, Erin Randall, Emily Tobias, Courtney Wallace, Camilla Kropf, Heather Rush, Amanda Martin and Patricia Kreikemeier. Third Row (left to right): Andrea Showalter, Julie Finazzo, Bethany Allemang, Christine Molinar, Meagan Batson, Samantha Leone and Jessica Austin. Fourth Row (left to right): Caitlin Cummings, Cora Van Aken, Robert Massop, Lauren Hohnstein, Kristen Fanger, Ben Snyders, Emily Greenwood and Jennifer Oliver.*



**Scholarship Recipients 2009-10** *Pictured from the left: Dr. Stephanie Powelson, Mary Allemang '11 (Nancy Lee Lindsey Memorial Scholarship), Laura Groebl '11 (Nursing Alumni Scholarship), Jennifer Jackson '10 (Barb and Bill Steen Memorial Scholarship), and Rebekah Weicken '11 (Pete and Gretchen Cornell Scholarship). Not pictured: Loren Lally (Sarah Grim Wimp Scholarship) and Ben Hainline (Lu and Bill Heilman Scholarship).*

# McGahan Fund Sends Students to Conference

**T**hree Truman students attended the National Student Nurses' Association 57th Annual Convention thanks to the help of a former University professor.

Kristin Kimrey, Loren Lally and Ashley Swain participated in the NSNA conference in Nashville, Tenn., April 15-19. Their trip was made possible by \$500 from the McGahan Family Nursing fund.

Sharon McGahan, assistant professor emerita of nursing, established the fund in 2006 in honor of her family and in support of the Nursing Students Association. McGahan graduated from Truman in 1986 with an education specialist degree and had three siblings who also graduated from the University. She became a faculty member in the nursing department in 1977 and served as an advisor for the Nursing Students Association for many years.



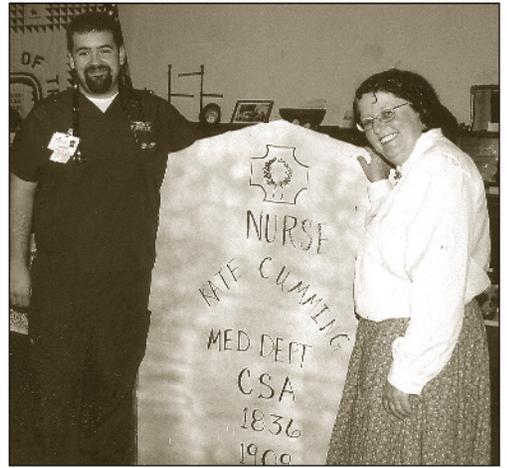
*Pictured from left, Ashley Swain, Loren Lally, Kristin Kimrey and Kit Hadwiger, faculty advisor NSA.*

## Ways to keep in Touch... Browse our Web Site

1. Visit our Web site at <http://nursing.truman.edu>
2. Become our friend on Facebook and join our group: Friends and Alumni of the Department of Nursing at Truman State University.
3. Read the Newsletters cover to cover.
4. Come see us at Barnett Hall.

Yes, that is right. Several faculty members have joined facebook and we have developed an alumni group. By joining this group you can maintain contact with fellow alumni and faculty. It also provides us a way of communicating with members quickly and easily regarding future events. For example, you might read about Homecoming and learn who is planning to attend. Please consider joining our group so that you can keep in touch and invite others to join. If you are not yet on Facebook it is simple to sign up. Just go to facebook.com and follow the sign up instructions.

<http://nursing.truman.edu>



## Nursing in the Civil War

**A**ssociate Professor Pam Gardner and senior Ben Hainline participated in the Putnam County Historical Society's summer series on the Civil War. They presented a vignette on "Nursing: Then and Now" which highlighted the life of the first female confederate civil war nurse, Kate Cumming.

## New Faculty: Sally Carlisle



**T**ruman Nursing welcomes Sally Carlisle '04 as a new full time faculty member. Sally graduated with a BSN from Truman in May 2004 and will graduate from the University of Missouri in December 2009 with an MSN in Nursing

Education- Adult Health. Her master's thesis is on the use of service-learning to develop cultural competence in nursing students. Her background is in Burn/Pediatric intensive care and most recently Hospice Case Management. Sally and her husband, Patron Adovor, have two children Dionne, 9 years and Adrian 2 years. She will be teaching Adult Health I & II didactic and clinical.

# IN THE Spotlight...

## 22nd Annual Student Research Conference



**C**ongratulations to Dr. Steve Hadwiger (left), who was selected as Truman's Outstanding Research Mentor by a student committee and the Provost's Office. He received a plaque and a stipend at the 22nd Annual Student Research Conference.



**M**elissa Blagg Holcomb's '96 poster presentation (above right) on "Transcultural Nursing Experience in the Philippines as a Postcolonial Project" was selected for exhibition at the 35th annual national conference of the Professional Nurse

Educators Group in October 2008.

## 9th Annual Capstones of Nursing



*Keynote speaker  
Martha Gragg '81*

**T**he 9th Annual Capstones of Nursing was held April 30, 2009 at Truman State University. The Capstones Day is co-sponsored by Truman State University Nursing Program and Rho Omega Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing in order to promote nursing scholarship. Keynote speaker Martha Gragg '81, Vice President of Missouri Foundation for Health challenged the students to be change agents in healthcare. The following awards were presented to nurses during the luncheon:

- **"NEMO Nurse" Award:** Critical Care Nurse Sue Prather (Northeast Regional Medical Center)
- **Preceptors of the Year in Acute Care Settings:** Critical Care Nurse Grace Six and ER Nurse Susan Jones (Northeast Regional Medical Center)
- **Preceptor of the Year in a Community Setting:** Sharon Johns (Schuyler County R-I School Nurse)

The Nursing Department at Truman selects highly qualified registered nurses to serve as role models, mentors, and supervisors for senior nursing students in selected clinical areas of interest. These RN preceptors assist the faculty and students in meeting the course objectives.



*Grace Six, Preceptor of the Year in Acute Care Settings, is honored by Caitlin Cummings and Katherine Hamer.*



*Sharon Johns, RN, Community Preceptor of the Year 2009, is honored by Meagan Batson, Amy Taggart, and Kristen Fanger.*



*Susan Jones, Preceptor of the Year in Acute Care Settings, is honored by Samantha Leone and Lisa Saubert.*

# Gift/Change of Address

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## Comments and News

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I would like to make a tax deductible donation to the Truman State University Department of Nursing:

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Please make checks payable to **Truman State University Department of Nursing.**

Please direct my gift to:

- McGahan Family Nursing Fund  
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 My employee will match my gift. The appropriate form is enclosed.

**Thank you for your generous support—your help does make a difference!**

**Drive Code 74**

# Alumni News And Notes

Share with us your news, accomplishments, plans, travels, marriage, births, etc. Don't forget address changes so the newsletter can keep up with you. Please send updates and notes to **Shirley Riley**, [sriley@truman.edu](mailto:sriley@truman.edu), or to [nursing@truman.edu](mailto:nursing@truman.edu), or by postal mail.

**Katharine Block Scheusner '02** completed her masters in nursing last spring at Wright State University, passed her boards in July and is now a Family Nurse Practitioner. She works part time at two local hospitals in Kettering, Ohio. Katharine and her husband John have two sons, Matthew (22 months) and Caleb (4 yrs.) [kscheusner@gmail.com](mailto:kscheusner@gmail.com)

**Merielle Hobson '05** is a Family Nurse Practitioner who works as a charge nurse at Missouri Baptist on postpartum and nursery, GYN, antepartum and special care nursery. She also works at St. Louis Children's Hospital on the pulmonary floor (with Sarah Pleiness). "I love working with all ages."

**Jamie Weninger '08** went on a mission trip to Ghana this summer. She graduated in August and took her Women's Health Nurse Practitioner boards in September. She is currently living in Wisconsin, while she is applying and interviewing for a position in an OBGYN clinic. She is looking at Nashville, Chicago and Milwaukee. [jamieweninger@gmail.com](mailto:jamieweninger@gmail.com)

*Thanks for your e-mails and notes.*