

# Nursing

at Truman State University

Spring 2010  
Nursing  
Truman State University  
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## Seniors on capitol steps with Rep. McClanahan

### Front Row, L-R:

Rep. Rebecca McClanahan, Suong Nguyen, Kongkeo Vorachack, Amelia Ousley, Megan Campbell, Barbara Selvy, Christina Roybal. **2nd Row:** Jennifer Jackson, Emily Schroeder, Jessica Evelsizer, Elizabeth Brink, Emily Reinart, Dr. Stephanie Powelson. **3rd Row:** Karen Wollberg, Loren Lally, Kristin Kimrey, Lindsay Walsh, Bryan DeGuzman, Theresa Weinhold. **4th Row:** Dr. Stephen Hadwiger, Alyssa Canfield, Megan Laughter, Sarah Delaware, Kelsey Mason, Corrie Willis.

**5th Row:** Pam Melvin, Emily Bonser, Kathryn Hinrichs, Kristen Nissen, Jamie Menown. **6th Row:** Benjamin Hainline, Britney Snodgrass, Melissa Brockman, Sarah Thompson. (Not pictured: Hayley Hamlin, Karli-Rae Kerr, Erin Herbst, Alyssa Lewellen, Ashley Swain, and Lauren Wilson.)



**A**lthough the temperature outside was still chilly, the warm reception indoors offset the cold as 37 Truman nursing students and faculty descended upon the Missouri State Capitol in Jefferson City on Feb. 24th. Nurse Advocacy Day sponsored by the Missouri Nurses Association (MONA) encouraged current and aspiring nurses to become more active in legislative issues affecting their role in healthcare. District 2 State Representative and keynote speaker, Rebecca McClanahan '75, presented "Advocating through Legislation:

One Nurse Can Make a Difference". She stressed how important and powerful nurses' opinions are to the legislative process and encouraged other nurses to seek political office to assure that the voices of patients as well as the nursing

profession are represented. McClanahan was honored with the Excellence in Health Care Legislation Award. As one of only two nurses in the Missouri House of Representatives, McClanahan serves as a voice for all nurses in the state of Missouri. "I stress how important and powerful nurses' opinions are to legislation. Nursing has been a highly trusted profession for many years, and their voices are valued but are not loud enough."



**Rachelle Collinge '99** connected with Truman faculty at Nurse Advocacy Day. She is a public health nurse currently pursuing a Masters Degree in Public Health at the University of Missouri. Pictured L-R: Stephen Hadwiger, Collinge, and Stephanie Powelson.



**State Rep. Rebecca McClanahan** receives Excellence in Health Care Legislation Award from the Missouri Nurses Association (MONA) at Nurse Advocacy Day on Feb. 24, 2010. L-R: Jill Kliethermes (MONA CEO), Jennifer Gwin (MONA President), Rep. McClanahan, and MaryAnn Coletti (MONA Government Affairs Chair).

# News in Nursing



**G**reetings to our alumni and friends of nursing! We are enjoying cool spring weather and preparing for the end of the semester (final exams and graduation). Congratulations and best wishes to our senior students and soon-to-be alumni! We hope you will enjoy this newsletter with updates from and about our students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

We are working on plans for new space in Pershing Building. At present, the construction workers are pouring the foundation for the new wing. The Department will move into a new nursing lab, classroom, and faculty/staff offices during Summer 2011.

We have greatly appreciated the first of three years of “Caring for Missourians” funding for health professions. Nursing received funds for additional faculty members, students, equipment, and other support. Most recently, we added a computerized system for medication dispensing. We hope to replace our critical care monitoring equipment. With the assistance of a part-time grant writer, we have submitted several grant proposals for new lab equipment and greater student capacity. We appreciate your support of the nursing lab fund and contributions to nursing scholarship and development funds.

We recently met with the Nursing Advisory Committee and provided a report of the last year. Our faculty, staff, and students have been active and productive. Teak Nelson and two students presented research in Ottawa, Canada. Seven faculty/staff attended Sigma Theta Tau International and presented several posters at the conference. Kit Hadwiger is on sabbatical this spring for her research project in the Philippines. Seven nursing students were selected for Who’s Who among Students in American Universities and Colleges. Current students number ~180 with 34 seniors, 43 juniors, 50 sophomores, and 60 freshmen. The Nursing Admissions Committee continues to review applications and invite students to become a nursing major during Fall 2010.

I appreciate the work of the faculty, staff, alumni, and students and their contributions to the health of communities, families, and clients. We hope to see you at Homecoming in the fall! Please let us know if you can visit us. We would love to see you or hear from you.

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



## Service Learning Research Presented

**T**eak Nelson, along with **Emily Reinart '10** and **Rebekah Weicken '11** presented their research, “Service Learning: The Secret Ingredient for Critical Thinking and Community Engagement” at the International Research Conference on Service Learning and Civic Engagement in Ottawa, Canada October 9-12, 2009.

## Nursing Pictures from the Past



Who is this young nurse receiving her pin from Division Head, Dr. Grace Devitt at the Northeast Missouri State University pinning ceremony in 1982? (Answer inside!)

# Student Life



*Brenda Wheeler* assists *Alex Sievert '11* as he inserts a venous catheter into classmate, *Elizabeth Miller '11*.



*Pam Gardner* looks on as *Samuel Neudecker '12* prepares to take a temperature.



*Britney Snodgrass '10*, *Karen Wollberg '10*, and *Loren Lally '10* set up home care medications during a simulation experience.



Seniors *Jessica Evelsizer*, *Elizabeth Brink*, *Emily Schroeder*, and *Erin Herbst* count pop bottle tabs.



Juniors *Mary Allemang*, *Caleb Hulsey*, *Karrie Evens*, *Clinton Narayan*, *Becky Beitling*, *Jessica Reynolds*, and *Karlie-Rae Kerr* enjoy Pediatrics at the Teak Nelson Farm. In addition to getting away from campus for a couple of hours, they heard from guest speaker, *Randall Bacon*, about his personal experiences growing up with Cerebral Palsy.



*Elizabeth Brink '10* checks a crash cart during clinicals at Northeast Regional Medical Center.

# “Caring for Missourians” Program Enables Truman to Add Faculty and Purchase Needed Equipment

**T**he state of Missouri is providing Truman and 25 other public institutions in the state with \$40 million to increase enrollment in health care programs. The Department of Nursing is receiving approximately \$600,000 to be utilized over a three-year period. In response to the funding, the freshman nursing class of 2013 was increased to accept 65 incoming students with the ultimate goal of graduating 10 additional students per year. “Caring for Missourians” money has allowed for us to:

- ❖ Add full and part time faculty
- ❖ Add a part time grant writer
- ❖ Purchase equipment to facilitate education and enhance student learning
- ❖ Increase the use of technology in the learning lab
- ❖ Increase the number of students enrolled
- ❖ Improve student retention strategies



## SimNewB — an interactive newborn simulator

Seniors **Lauren Wilson**, **Amelia Ousley** and **Kristin Kimrey** practice their neonatal care skills. Realistic newborn traits and lifelike clinical feedback makes this simulator ideal in training students for the specific needs of neonates.

## 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.

## medDispense® — A Simulated Medication Dispensing System

**Melissa Holcomb**, **Pam Melvin**, and **Sarah Delaware** set up and practice with the new medDispense® following their orientation to this new addition to the learning lab. This computerized system replicates a “real” hospital medication delivery system and will help prepare students for medication administration in the hospital setting.



## VitalSim Nursing Kelly

**Jamie Menown '10** listens for breath sounds on the adult manikin which simulates heart sounds, breath sounds, bowel sounds, blood pressure, and pulses.

<http://nursing.truman.edu>

# IN THE Spotlight...



## *Rho Omega Induction*

**R**ho Omega Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society inducted seventeen new members on October 3, 2009. **1st Row:** Emily Reinart, Jamie Menown, Karen Wollberg, Theresa Weinhold, Jennifer Jackson, and Jessica Evelsizer. **2nd Row:** Elizabeth Brink, Greg Wisa, Kristen Nissen, Megan Laughter, Cindy Carter, Benjamin Hainline, and Kelsey Mason. **Not pictured:** Emily Schroeder, Laurie Brooks, Mandy Doumitt and Mousumi Mukherjee.



## *Outstanding Nursing Student of the Year*

**C**ongratulations to **Kristen Nissen '10** for being selected as Outstanding Nursing Student of the Year. Besides being an outstanding nursing student, Kristen is an outstanding athlete and played both volleyball and basketball for Truman State University. She is a member of the Rho Omega

Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Kristen is getting married this summer and plans to find a nursing job in her hometown of Lincoln, Nebraska. She would like to work in Intensive Care or Pediatrics and has dreams of continuing her education and becoming a Nurse Anesthetist.

### **Nursing Picture from the Past Answer:**

*It is Lou Heilman '82, who with her husband Bill '83, went on to establish a scholarship at Truman State University for Nursing majors. She and her husband live in Durham, North Carolina and work at Duke University Medical Center.*



*Sharon McGahan pauses with seniors **Elizabeth Brown, Emily Reinart, and Emily Schroeder** prior to viewing "My Sister's Keeper" Feb. 23rd. McGahan facilitated discussion following the movie.*

## Take Note....

- **HOMECOMING 2010** Mark your calendars for Homecoming 2010: Oct. 15-17. Plan to attend the nursing alumni reception immediately following the parade in the Student Union for punch and cookies. It is a great time to reconnect with former classmates and faculty. Special guests: Classes of 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, and as always, our latest graduates, 2010. All alumni and friends welcome.
- **THE PROUD HISTORY OF OUR NURSING PROGRAM** Sarah Delaware is working with a group to document and preserve our history. If you have memorabilia or stories from years past that you think that they might be interested in please contact Sarah. We will have more about this in future newsletters.
- **"COMING OUT" PARTY** As we prepare to move to a new building next year we hope to refurbish all graduating class composites and have an area where all can be displayed. Many of our older alumni are stuck in the closet and it is time for a "Coming Out" Party. Unfortunately, this will take funding as some of the composites need to be resized, refreshed, etc. We plan to start a drive soon to raise the funds to get everyone out of the closet.

# Gift/Change of Address

Send this form to **Truman State University  
Office of Advancement  
100 East Normal  
Kirksville, MO 63501-4221**

New Address  Name Change

Name (First, Last, Grad Name) \_\_\_\_\_ Grad Year \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

## Comments and News

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- Please include this information in the *Truman Review*  
 Please send me the online newsletter, *News@Truman*.

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

- \$1000  \$500  \$100  \$50  \$25  Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check  Discover  MasterCard  VISA

Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to **Truman State University Nursing Program**

Please direct my gift to:

- McGahan Family Nursing Fund  
 Nursing Skills Lab  
 Nursing Foundation Fund  
 Scholarship  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 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

**S**hare 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**, or by postal mail.

**Heidi Hays Lutz '83** attended Albany Medical College for nurse anesthesiology and became a CRNA in 1988. She is currently working as a nurse anesthetist in Charlotte, NC.

**Michelle Murphy Cadice '89** is coordinating the 20 year reunion of the Nursing Class of 1989. Contact her at [cadicefamily@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cadicefamily@sbcglobal.net)

**Rachelle Collinge '99** connected with Truman faculty at the Nurse Advocacy Day in Jefferson City, Mo. She is a public health nurse currently pursuing a Masters Degree in Public Health at the University of Missouri.

**Misty Collins '99** has served 6 years in the army and is still part of the inactive reserve. She is a captain and eligible for major this spring. She lives in San Antonio, Texas and is working as a civilian in the PACU. She is in the process of building a new house.

**Joan Hunsaker '99** and her husband, Dave, relocated from Olathe, Kan. to Dallas last August. Joan works part-time with Planned Parenthood, enabling her to spend time with 5-year-old Caroline and 3-year-old Lauren.

**Gina Fettig Joslin '05** works at the Children's Hospital in Omaha, Neb. as a nationally certified NICU Nurse. She is married and has a one year old son, Nolan Alan. (Omaha has the most NICU beds per capita in the entire U.S.)

**Gregory Nurrenbern '05** went to work in the CCU at Truman Medical Center in Kansas City following graduation. In 2007, he and his wife, Maggie, joined the US Peace Corps and worked as Rural Public Health Volunteers in Ecuador for 27 months. In 2009, Gregg returned to Truman Medical to work in the Float Pool. In June he will start studies for his MSN as a Family Nurse Practitioner at UMKC.

**Michelle Hernandez '09** has accepted a job on a telemetry unit at St. Clare Hospital (Franciscan Health System) in Lakewood, Wash. Her fiancée is currently serving in Iraq and will join her when he returns next year.

**Katie Cleaveland Garcia '09** has just relocated to Fairbanks, Alaska with her new husband and is back in the process of finding a new job. (Thanks for the wedding pics, Katie!)

**Erin Randall '09** recently became engaged to Bryan De Guzman (class of 2010) who she met 4 years ago in Chemistry class at Truman. She works as a psych nurse for St. Luke's Hospital in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and plans to pursue graduate school at UNC-Chapel Hill next fall.

**Robert Massop '09** works as a circulating nurse in the operating room at Wausau Surgery Center in Wausau, Wis. He has been taking classes and plans to take the MCAT in May. His future plans might include either Medical School or CRNA School.

*Thanks for your e-mails and notes.*