

Nursing

AT TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Spring 2013 Nursing

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House Calls

An Interdisciplinary Program designed to improve communication between health care professionals



Truman Nursing student **Elizabeth Hoffman '13** (far right) assesses the blood pressure of a senior volunteer while interdisciplinary student team members from Truman Communication Disorders and ATSU School of Osteopathic Medicine look on and document the findings during a home visit.

House Calls is a cooperative interdisciplinary clinical education experience between Truman and A.T. Still University. The program, which began in 2002, provides Truman Nursing students the opportunity to collaborate with students and faculty from other healthcare disciplines including Osteopathic Medicine, Communication Disorders, and Health Sciences. A team of three or four students, each from different health professions, make four team visits to the home of an elder volunteer. The team provides the client with physical assessment, health education, home safety information, and social interaction. The House Calls program assists the students in improving their communication skills, learning to work together as professionals, and gaining a respect for the knowledge and expertise each discipline brings to the team. These are key components in reducing errors and improving the quality of health care.

Truman Nursing Students participate in the House Calls program during junior year (as part of Adult Health Nursing) and in the fall of the senior year.

Poor communication among health care professionals has been found to be a major contributor to health care errors. Interdisciplinary programs such as "House Calls" play a role in helping students have a better understanding of the role of other health care professionals. This improves communication and teamwork between them.

Brenda Wheeler
Nursing Faculty



An interdisciplinary team of health care students from Truman and A.T. Still University presented a program on House Calls to the Truman Nursing Advisory Council. L-R: **Madeline Cummings** (Health Science), **Courtney Brandt** (Nursing), **Jennifer Bubel** (Osteopathic Medicine), **Bridget Donnelly** (Communication Disorders), and **Caitlin Schmitt** (Osteopathic Medicine)

The House Calls program showed me the importance of taking an interdisciplinary approach to providing care. I gained so much appreciation for the work of other disciplines and I feel much more confident in my role as a nurse within the healthcare team.

Cathy Fienup '13



News in Nursing

We are at the beginning of a chilly Spring Break. Kirksville is still thawing after several major snow storms during the winter. The president thoughtfully closed campus for one day so snow could be cleared. Students described traveling over Spring Break to climates warmer than Kirksville. Others reported plans to apply for summer internships or positions as graduate or registered nurses. Regardless of their plans, students are considering how to address new challenges as future professional nurses. Best wishes to our graduating seniors as they consider employment and/or graduate education.

The spring semester has been very busy for faculty and students. The senior class and five faculty visited Missouri's Capitol in February to speak with legislators about funding for education and removing barriers to practice. The students advocated for the profession and access to nursing care. Several students made plans to attend the National Nursing Student Association spring meeting in North Carolina; they have been raising funds to provide support for their trip. Nursing students also organized and offered a campus health fair and several screenings for early detection of disease.

With financial assistance from a Missouri Board of Nursing grant, faculty and staff have been preparing for students in the first accelerated BSN cohort. Faculty will offer three online foundational courses. After completion of pre-requisite courses, students with a previous bachelor's degree may complete a BSN degree in 15 months of study, starting in May 2013.

We are waiting for the final accreditation report from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) in late April 2013. Thanks to our faculty, staff, students, administration, and alumni for providing such excellent outcomes. Faculty, staff, and students recently celebrated the good news of Truman's

NCLEX® pass rate of 97% during 2012.

Faculty and staff continue to utilize technology to improve teaching/learning in classrooms, clinical, and the nursing simulation center (NSC). Faculty, staff, and students appreciate and learn from building scenarios, recording patient care between students and manikins, and discussing how to improve patient care.

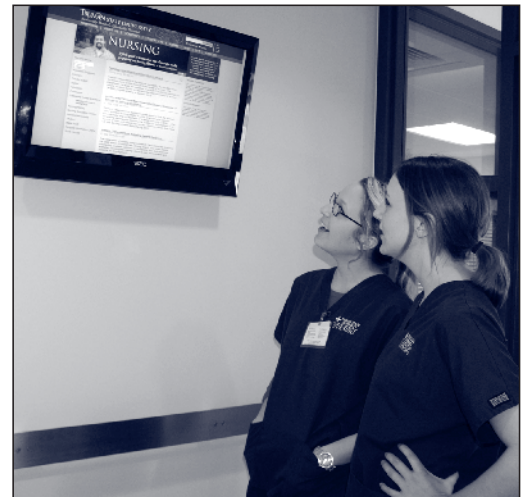
If you are searching for additional information about the nursing department, please feel free to visit our website at *nursing.truman.edu* or email or call us. I hope you will consider visiting the department during homecoming weekend (October 18-20, 2013).

Please enjoy your spring/summer, and stay in touch!

Best wishes,

Dr. Stephanie Powelson,
Chair, Department of Nursing

Thank You Class of 2012!



Seniors **Megan Howe** and **Taylor Chambers** take a moment to view information on the monitor (a gift from the class of 2012) which was installed on the wall near the entrance to the department. The monitor shares announcements and pictures to inform students, faculty, and visitors about activities in the nursing department. It is a nice addition to our new building.

Homecoming
2013
Oct. 18-20



Nurse Advocacy Day at the Capitol

Truman Nursing faculty and senior students attended Nurse Advocacy Day in Jefferson City on Feb. 20 to advocate nursing issues at the state level. They had the opportunity meet with various state officials including State Representative Nate Walker. L-R: **Stephanie Powelson**, **Pam Melvin**, **Alycia Preston '13**, **Walker**, **Emily Garlock '13**, **Jessica Greenwood '13**, **Brenda Wheeler**, and **Sharon McGahan**.



1961 Homecoming Float--- Anyone you know???

This "UP TO THE FUTURE" homecoming float sponsored by the Student Nurse Association (SNA) was pulled by a Baiotto Concrete truck. **Sarah Wimp** was the Director of the Nursing Program and **Myra Baiotto** was an instructor at the time. The back of the photo reads 1961 but does not identify any of the students. These students were probably members of the first graduating class of 1964. If you have information to share about this picture, we would enjoy hearing from you. (sriley@truman.edu)

Mark the Date for HOMECOMING 2013!

Truman will celebrate Homecoming during the weekend of Oct. 18-20. Events will be held on campus for alumni, students, and community members. For a full schedule and more information, visit alumni.truman.edu/Homecoming.asp

Student Life



(top left) **Abigail Howe '15** and **Nicole Miller '15** assist with registration during Health Awareness Week.

(top right) **Erin McAndrews '13** assesses a patient during a clinical rotation at Northeast Regional Medical Center.

(above left) **Alycia Preston '13** hands newborn Hayden over to mother, Kate, on the Obstetrics Unit at Northeast Regional Medical Center. (Kate and Hayden are the daughter and grandson of **Shirley Riley**.)

(above right, L-R) Seniors **Rachel Luttbeg**, **Hannah Schulte**, **Briana Keller**, and **Audrey Adams** organize medications for a home health client in Rural Public Health Nsg. clinical orientation (NU485).

(right.) **Allison Daraban '14** cares for a child in the Nursing Simulation Center (NSC). Actress Hannah Patterson plays a hospitalized 10 year old in sickle cell crisis. This simulation exercise is to assess the student's ability to prioritize care during a sickle cell crisis and provide care in a safe and effective manner. (NU385 Child/Family Nsg)



Accelerated BSN Program begins Summer 2013

Truman's first cohort of 10-15 students will begin the ABSN program this summer. This new program is designed for individuals with a previous bachelor's degree seeking a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. This program was made possible by a \$150,000 grant awarded by the Missouri State Board of Nursing and the Missouri Department of Higher Education. The second cohort will begin in the summer of 2014. The goal is to graduate 10-15 additional students each year in order to meet the growing demands for nurses.

IN THE Spotlight



Sharon McGahan (left) and Emily Fahey '13 prepare for Critical Care simulations. McGahan is teaching NU 475 while Dr. Stephen Hadwiger is on sabbatical. Fahey is a Nursing Simulation Center peer assistant.

William O'Donnell Lee Advising Award Recipient



Dr. Teak Nelson, Associate Professor of Nursing received the 2012 William O'Donnell Lee Advising Award. This award honors outstanding academic advisors by recognizing their dedication and exemplary advising skill, paying tribute to past achievements and potential for future growth. Recipients of the Lee Advising Award are nominated by students and colleagues and are ultimately selected by a committee.

We enjoy alumni visits!



L-R: Kit Hadwiger, Pam Melvin, Caitlin Cummings '09, Teak Nelson, Bethany Allemang Shipman '09 with daughter Aubrey, and Brenda Wheeler.



L-R: Melissa Holcomb, Kit Hadwiger, Christine Trucke '12, Lindsey Mollick '12, Pam Melvin, and Brenda Wheeler.

Bussineau Accepts Admission Coordinator



The Department welcomes Nancy Bussineau, Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (ABSN) Admission Coordinator. Bussineau is employed under the Nursing Incentive Grant for an accelerated (second baccalaureate) degree in nursing. Her principal responsibilities include recruitment of students and development of new clinical sites.

Gift/Change of Address

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

Drive Code 74

Alumni News/Notes

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

Kathy Taylor '83 retired Jan. 1, 2012 after 29 years as a nurse manager/director of Critical Care Units (Kirkville Osteopathic Medical Center and Liberty Hospital) and various other units. She earned a Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Missouri in 1991. Following retirement, she began a part time position as adjunct faculty, clinical instructor for Avila University School of Nursing. "I went to a local academy that teaches the role and since then have had at least 6 contacts from schools looking for clinical faculty. It really is a great job for a retired nurse!" Kathy lives in the Kansas City area and is married with three grown children and two teenage grandchildren.

Diana Agboada '07 works in a telemetry and progressive care unit in Jacksonville, Fla. She is preparing to apply to graduate school. Dyna755@yahoo.com

Samantha (Leone) Emerson '09 received her Master of Science in Nursing degree with an emphasis in midwifery from Columbia University this October and accepted a full scope CNM position at Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York. Samantha lives with her husband in New York City. samantha.n.emerson@gmail.com

Trish Kreikemeier '09 "I am starting a Master of Science in Nursing leadership program at Webster University this month. I have been developing my leadership skills through various patient safety initiatives at St. Louis Children's Hospital over the past three years and I finally feel ready to pursue formal leadership training at Webster. Although I have not decided exactly what I hope to do down the road, I am confident that I will learn the necessary skills to achieve great things! Truman State University's nursing program laid a wonderful foundation to continue my studies as a graduate student." trish.kreikemeier@gmail.com

Cora (Van Aken) Snyders '09, moved to Philadelphia, Penn. in June 2011. She is currently working in the Emergency Department at Pennsylvania Hospital.

Thiky Vorachack '10 has been accepted into graduate school for MSN, Adult Nurse Practitioner program.

Jackie Ross '11 will be attending Creighton University School of Medicine (Class of 2017). She is still employed full time in the Cardiothoracic ICU at University of Missouri Hospital.

Amber Wates '11 is starting a master's degree in nursing education at Missouri State University.

Katie (Hamilton) Jolliffe '11 has been accepted into the CRNA (nurse anesthetist) program at Louisiana State University and will start in May 2013.

Elisa Coleman '12 spent the summer after graduation as a camp nurse in the mountains of North Carolina. In October she accepted a position in a nurse residency program on a medical floor in San Antonio, TX. Sweetsshoes2012@yahoo.com

Jessica Wehner '12 was accepted into the DNP program at the University of Missouri Sinclair School of Nursing. She plans to begin course work this summer. jtwehner@gmail.com