

# NURSING

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE  
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

SPRING 2010



## **Nurse Anesthetists Meet Rural Health Care Needs**



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# Dean's Message



This spring's edition of Nursing takes a broad view at our college's contributions to health care. From professional entry through doctoral education, from operating rooms to primary care clinics, and from rural communities to big cities; our students, alumni and faculty are forging new pathways in the delivery of health care.

Our feature article tells the story of how four nurses from across the United States came together through our CRNA program and remained in Tennessee to serve the anesthesia needs of the Dyersburg community. That alone makes a compelling story, but what makes it unique is that this rural community will have four doctorally prepared nurse anesthetists available who have completed the highest level of educational preparation available for CRNAs.

Of course, the national reputation our college has for preparing top-notch practitioners and integrating practice as a key element of our mission cannot rest on only a few programs or individuals. Several other stories provide only a glimpse of some additional leading-edge practice activities that are responsible for our college's national reputation. Our unique integration of MSN-entry Clinical Nurse Leader students on Dedicated Education Units earned us a place as the only program on the American Colleges of Nursing Wall of Fame; and of course the accomplishments of our nurse practitioner graduates, only two of which are highlighted in this edition of Nursing, continue to have a profound influence on health care in their communities. Last, but certainly not least, our expanding faculty practice enterprise makes it possible for our faculty to remain at the leading edge of their specialties while serving the needs of our communities and being exemplars for our students.

A commitment to practice is deeply embedded in the fabric of our college and the few examples highlighted in these pages illustrate that this commitment is as strong as ever. As more nurses earn practice doctorates (DNP degrees), as our faculty practice enterprise evolves, and as health care reform becomes a reality; who knows what will be next!

Donna Hathaway, Dean  
UT Health Science Center  
College of Nursing





# Be More.

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center  
College of Nursing

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# From the Chancellor

The UT Health Science Center is approaching its 100th year of graduating health care professionals to serve the needs of Tennessee and our region. The Health Science Center's six colleges remain the primary source for health care professionals in the state. Despite the economic downturn and substantial budget reductions, we remain true to our four-fold mission of education, research, clinical care and public service.

Over the past three years, the Health Science Center has emerged as a statewide institution. Our educational, clinical, research and service mission spans the state as our students and residents live, work and contribute in our three major campus locations – Memphis, Knoxville and Chattanooga – as well as in more than 100 clinical and educational sites across Tennessee.

Notable achievements include a continued expansion in the education of health care professionals. The College of Medicine has extended its entering class size to 165 students from 150, and the College of Pharmacy to 175 students from 150. Nursing is shifting its focus to an intensive entry-level master's degree (MSN-Clinical Nurse Leader) for second-degree students, while Allied Health Sciences has extended its program offerings and absorbed a major audiology and speech pathology unit into its portfolio. Dentistry is undergoing a facility and faculty facelift with major development drives. Additionally, our College of Graduate Health Sciences continues to provide high-quality, practical preparation for advanced-degree students in close association with local partners like St. Jude.

Our advanced health care training is intact with greater than 1,100 residents and fellows in 84

accredited medicine training programs, as well as pharmacy and dental resident programs. We serve as a key training center for advanced nurse specialists and allied health practitioners.



Steve J. Schwab, MD

Research success has been achieved with greater than \$25 million in new stimulus research grant awards to date. This performance reflects our new approach to thematic across-campus/ across-college efforts in scientific discovery. We are building a new translational thematic research building on campus adjacent to and structurally similar to the current Cancer Research Building to house our expanding research initiatives. A new College of Pharmacy building housing research and educational programs is nearing completion. Our NIH co-funded Regional Biocontainment Laboratory is nearing certification and operation. Major research growth is under way on our campus.

Our faculty practice plans continue to grow on all campus locations as do our relations with our affiliated partner hospitals. Notably, our University of Tennessee-Methodist Transplant Institute has performed its thousandth transplant, sustaining its status among the top 10 in the nation based on volumes and outcomes. Our Hamilton Eye Institute and trauma surgery programs continue to be nationally ranked. Emerging national prominence is occurring in children's services, especially children's cardiovascular care.

The Health Science Center remains focused on its mission with an unwavering commitment to growth. Our goal and expectation is to enter top quartile status in all segments of our mission.

Sincerely,  
Steve J. Schwab, MD  
Interim Chancellor  
The University of Tennessee Health Science Center

## New Faces



**Aaron R. Ketcher,**  
MSN-CRNA  
*Instructor*



**Donna Lynch-Smith,**  
MSN, RN  
*Assistant Professor*



**Risa Dawn Ramsey,**  
PhD  
*Associate Professor  
& Director*



**Jacqueline Sharp,**  
MSN, RN  
*Instructor*



**Melody Norris  
Waller, MSN, RN**  
*Instructor*

The College of Nursing has welcomed a number of new faculty in the past few months. The five faculty members listed above all work within the Department of Acute and Chronic Care.

## Web, E-Mail Addresses Change to UTHSC.EDU

The UT Health Science Center has changed its domain name to [uthsc.edu](http://uthsc.edu). A domain name is essentially the electronic address that identifies an organization throughout the Internet. The most commonly known uses for a domain name are for Web page and e-mail addresses.

"The change to [uthsc.edu](http://uthsc.edu) synchronizes our electronic identity with the official name of our institution," said Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD, executive vice chancellor and chief of staff at UTHSC.

Effective March 1, [utmem.edu](http://utmem.edu) is no longer operational and none of the e-mail or Web addresses that use [utmem.edu](http://utmem.edu) will connect. All addresses including [utmem.edu](http://utmem.edu) must be changed to [uthsc.edu](http://uthsc.edu). For additional information about the domain name change, visit [www.uthsc.edu/domainchange](http://www.uthsc.edu/domainchange).

## UTHSC Raises \$17,000 for Haiti Relief Efforts

The UT Health Science Center has raised nearly \$17,000 for relief efforts in Haiti. More than \$10,100 was raised during a one-day fundraising drive on the main campus. Faculty, staff and students brought cash and checks to three different campus locations between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. UT Cancer Institute (UTCI) raised nearly \$6,900 for Haiti relief efforts over the course of a week, most through payroll deductions.

"The faculty, students and staff of the Health Science Center have truly shown, once again, the difference that each of us can make when we work together," said UTHSC Interim Chancellor Steve J. Schwab.

In addition to helping those who are suffering in Haiti, members of the UT Health Science Center community continue to reach out to those in need locally.

In December, UTHSC collected and donated more than 5,794 pounds of food, supplies and converted monetary donations. The nearly three tons of food collected will create 4,635 meals for the hungry, who are fed through the Mid-South Food Bank. The campus also raised more than \$12,000 for the American Heart Association Heart Walk in October 2009.



Third-year dental student Valentine Emechete is interviewed by Earle Farrell of FOX13's "Good Morning Memphis" during the campus fundraising drive for Haiti relief.





## We're Turning 100!

As UTHSC approaches its centennial year in 2011, the university is in the early stages of planning for this momentous occasion. Special events, a commemorative Web site, and coffee table book are just a few of the items slated for this year-long celebration.

Be a part of this celebration by contributing any historical photos, personal reflections, or artifacts that you may have from your time at UTHSC. Alumni are also needed as volunteers to search local library files for data pertinent to UTHSC history.

Please contact Richard Nollan in the Health Sciences Historical Collections at (901) 448-6053, rnollan@uthsc.edu.

## DEU Models Open at Le Bonheur

The College of Nursing has expanded its Dedicated Education Unit (DEU) by opening two additional units at Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center. On November 16, clinical teachers (CTs) and students gathered to unveil two units, which will be the source of clinical study for the new leadership course this fall.

These units model the first DEU at Methodist University Hospital (MUH). At the DEU, experienced nurses serve as CTs who lead by example, providing UTHSC students with a richer, more intensive, real-world clinical experience. The hospital established the new model of clinical nursing education through the collaboration of nurses, faculty and management.

As in the MUH DEU, six clinical teachers, who are staff nurses on the patient unit, will train 12 students in the nursing practice of children during an average 10-week rotation. This two-to-one ratio will provide the personalized instruction needed to create an optimal learning environment for the students, and a College of Nursing faculty member will work closely with the clinical teachers to mentor, coach and support them in this new role.

"Our DEU was developed with our Methodist practice partners to provide exemplary educational opportunities for students who will quickly become strong clinicians ready to assume the critical responsibilities of registered nurses immediately upon graduation," said Donna Hathaway, PhD, FAAN, dean of the UT College of Nursing. Dean Hathaway learned about DEUs from Terry Misner, PhD, who was dean at the University of Portland.

Dr. Misner had imported the idea of DEUs from Australia, implementing the first one in the United States.

For more information, contact Sherry Webb, UTHSC College of Nursing assistant professor of acute and chronic care, at (901) 448-4148.



In November 2009, the College of Nursing celebrated the opening of two more Dedicated Education Units, bringing the total to three.



Administrators and nurses from Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center and the UT Health Science Center College of Nursing gathered in November 2009 to unveil two new Dedicated Education Units.



# College Runs, Wins Accreditation Marathon

Hosting four accreditation site visits in two years may sound like an academic marathon. And if it were, it would have been a race that the UTHSC College of Nursing won.

The College of Nursing recently received final notification of successful accreditation from four different organizations. The accrediting bodies include the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs, American Nurses Credentialing Center, and the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc.

College of Nursing Executive Associate Dean Susan Jacob, PhD, RN, chaired the accreditation task force and expressed her feelings on the efforts: "Although the lengthy self-assessment process required for each of these accreditations was very labor intensive, it is very rewarding to know that our programs have undergone rigorous review and have not only met the accreditation standards, but are viewed as very high quality."

The preparation for these evaluating visits spanned three years and entailed thorough self-assessment of curriculum, resources and outcomes of graduates. Three of the four reviews occurred in 2009, while the visit from the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care took place the year before.

Each of the accrediting bodies reviewed a specific area of the College of Nursing. The exact areas of accreditation are explained in more detail:

## Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)

The CCNE has reaccredited the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) for 10 years, the maximum period allowed.

In addition, the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program has earned initial accreditation, also for the maximum period, five years. This practice doctorate program, which began in 1999, was one of the first DNP programs in the country, as well as one of the first to earn accreditation.

The CCNE recognition validates the academic quality and high standards of the master's and doctoral programs in the College of Nursing.

## Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA)

The COA has granted continued accreditation for the MSN for the maximum period allowed, 10 years.

In addition, the COA has granted the accreditation for the DNP entry into nurse anesthesia practice program the maximum period allowed of 10 years. The COA noted that very few programs are granted accreditation with no progress report required and that even fewer programs have achieved maximum accreditation of

**"It is very rewarding to know that our programs have undergone rigorous review and have not only met the accreditation standards, but are viewed as very high quality."**

*Susan Jacob, PhD, RN  
College of Nursing executive associate dean &  
chair of the accreditation task force*

10 years.

## American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)

The Continuing Education Provider Unit in the College of Nursing was granted reaccreditation by the ANCC.

## Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc. (AAAHC)

In 2008, the AAAHC awarded UTHSC's University Health Services an initial three-year term of accreditation (2008-2011). Granting accreditation reflects confidence that UHS meets and continues to demonstrate the attributes of an accreditable organization as reflected in the standards found in the Accreditation Handbook for Ambulatory Health Care. The compliance with those standards implies a commitment to continual self-evaluation and continuous improvement.

Participating in these voluntary accrediting processes ensures quality and integrity of academic and continuing education programs, as well as prepares the CON for future requirements.

One such example of this is the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's recommendation to move the current level of educational preparation for advanced nursing practice from the master's level to the doctoral level by 2015. This means that the standard for advanced practice becomes the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP). The PhD in Nursing will remain the accepted degree for nurse researchers.

## DEU Makes Wall of Fame

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing has created an online "CNL Wall of Fame" to showcase career achievements of Clinical Nurse Leaders, their programs, and clinical partners. The only partnership to make the elite list was the UTHSC College of Nursing's Dedicated Education Unit at Methodist University Hospital.

"This is a real tribute to our work and to the UTHSC faculty and MLH staff who have made this happen," stated Nursing Dean Donna Hathaway, PhD.

To read what was written on the "CNL Wall of Fame," visit: <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/CNC/WallofFame.htm#POP>

## NIMS Receives \$1 Million

A \$1 million federal grant has been awarded to the Nursing Institute of the Mid-South (NIMS) and will be used to help develop better clinical nurses.

As a collaborative of local hospital and schools of nursing, the NIMS plans to use the grant on a new continuing education program titled, "Developing Clinical Nurses in Medical Surgical Units: Accountability and Responding to the Challenges for Today and Tomorrow."

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration awarded the three-year, \$1 million grant in January.

## Committee Begins Search for New UTHSC Chancellor

A committee to direct the search for the next chancellor at the UT Health Science Center has been established and began work at its first meeting on Dec. 18.

An external consultant was hired to work with the committee to recruit candidates, narrow the candidate field, and vet candidates.

The new chancellor will serve as chief administrative officer of the Memphis campus and its satellite locations in Chattanooga, Knoxville, Jackson and elsewhere in the state. UTHSC enrolls more than 2,700 students and has more than 4,000 employees.

Partnerships UTHSC has across the state involve health care providers such as Methodist University Hospital, Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center, The Regional Medical Center at Memphis, University Health System (Knoxville), Erlanger Health System (Chattanooga), Baptist Memorial Health System, West Tennessee Health Care (Jackson), St. Francis Hospital, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Memphis. The Health Science Center also has affiliations with Memphis Bio-works Foundation and Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

"The university is eager to find a highly qualified and dynamic individual to lead the Health Science Center during this critical time and beyond," Interim UT President Jan Simek said. "The chancellor will help the university pursue its goal of increasing UTHSC's research efforts and continuing to improve upon providing the best training and education for the health care professionals in Tennessee."

Dr. Simek has appointed William Evans, director and chief executive officer of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and Linda Hendricks, chief human resources officer for the UT System, as co-chairs of the committee.

### UTHSC Chancellor Search Committee

**Kennard D. Brown**, Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff, UTHSC

**Phillip Burns**, Chair, UTHSC College of Medicine, Chattanooga

**George Cates**, UT Trustee

**Barbara Connolly**, Interim Dean, UTHSC College of Allied Health Sciences

**James Eason**, Professor of Surgery and Program Director of the Methodist University Hospital Transplant Institute

**Dick R. Gourley**, Dean, UTHSC College of Pharmacy

**Monice Hagler**, UT Trustee

**Margaret "Peg" Hartig**, Department Chair, UTHSC College of Nursing

**Timothy Hottel**, Dean, UTHSC College of Dentistry

**J.R. "Pitt" Hyde**, CEO, J.R. Hyde III Family Foundations

**Robert Kaplan**, Dermatologist, Assistant Professor, UTHSC Alumnus

**Joseph R. Landsman Jr.**, President and CEO, UT Medical Center, Knoxville

**Melaina Perry**, President, UTHSC Student Government Association

**Karl Schledwitz**, UT Trustee

**Gary Shorb**, President and CEO, Methodist Healthcare Foundation

**Lacey Smith**, Interim Dean, UTHSC College of Medicine (Memphis)

**Cheryl Stegbauer**, Associate Dean, UTHSC College of Nursing

**Parker D. Suttle**, President, UTHSC Faculty Senate





From left to right: David Dobie and Aaron Ketcher check-in on a patient, while Vaughn Jones and Ben Parker review a chart.

Clinical photos by: Victor Pike

# Nurse Anesthetists Meet Rural Health Care Needs

Anesthesia is derived from the Greek words an-, “without” and aisthēsis, “sensation.” The term was coined by Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr. in 1846. For more than 150 years nurse anesthetists in the United States have functioned as a crucial health care link, serving as the primary anesthesia caregivers in medically underserved, rural areas.

Practitioners who specialize in nurse anesthesia offer access for obstetrical, surgical and trauma stabilization services that would otherwise not exist for millions of patients who reside far away from metropolitan areas. The CRNA program was re-established on the Memphis campus in 2000.

“We have an entry into practice program for certified nurse anesthesia MSN and DNP candidates where registered nurses are educated to become nurse anesthetists,” explained Jill Oswaks, CRNA, DNSc, director of the Nurse Anesthesia Option at UTHSC. The program is approved by the Council on Accreditation for Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs.

“The toughest challenge for the entry into practice curriculum is insuring quality in both didactic and clinical education,” Dr. Oswaks stated. With three decades of experience in CRNA (Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist) education, she possesses insight and judgment that’s based on experience. Dr. Oswaks earned her DNSc from UTHSC in

2002 and has served on the CON faculty for nearly seven years.

“Nurse anesthesia is a rigorous program that is so demanding for the students that working during their education is impossible. These students give up so much to be successful, but the good news for them is the high demand for their services upon graduation,” Dr. Oswaks noted.



Jill Oswaks, CRNA, DNSc, director of the Nurse Anesthesia Option at UTHSC

By: Thurman Hobson

Dyersburg Regional Medical Center (DRMC) is serving as the clinical training ground for four UTHSC CRNAs: David Dobie, Vaughn Jones, Aaron Ketcher and Ben Parker. Each completed his entry into practice education prior to enrolling in the Acute Care DNP Program for the already certified practitioner. All four DNP students are about two semesters into the program. They anticipate graduating in May 2011. Upon completion of the program five of the nine CRNAs currently employed at DRMC will have doctorates.

“These DNP students are exemplars of nurse anesthetists as they are working in a rural, medically underserved area. Without them, the people of Dyersburg would have limited access to anesthesia care,” Dr. Oswaks stressed. “Additionally, these individuals believe increased education will allow them to better address the needs of their community and improve the quality and cost of care,” she continued. “The projects or areas they are studying for

the DNP are directly related to the quality of care for their community.”

Dyersburg Regional Medical Center is a 225 bed, acute care hospital located in Dyersburg, Tenn., and is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. The facility is also certified by the American Heart Association as a Get with the Guidelines facility, which recognizes hospitals for care of patients with coronary artery disease.

DRMC opened an emergency department addition in April 2006 where 24-hour emergency care is provided, including a fast-track service for patients seeking non-emergency care. In May 2009, the hospital opened a new cardiac catheterization lab. DRMC offers a full range of services including intensive care, medical/surgical care, cardiology, orthopedics, gastroenterology, OB/GYN, urology, E.N.T. (ear, nose and throat), endocrinology, and diagnostic imaging.

“It is a unique practice when a rural hospital with a small anesthesia department will have all four full-time nurse anesthetists with doctoral degrees,” Dr. Oswaks said. “They will be able to evaluate the practice for quality in partnership with other health care professionals. That’s a wonderful gift to the practice and an opportunity to improve patient outcomes!”



From left to right: David Dobie, Ben Parker, Aaron Ketcher and Vaughn Jones

## David Dobie, CRNA

*Hometown:* Mt. Hermon, La.

*College:* University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Miss. – BS, business & finance  
William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Miss. – BSN

*Experience:* Practicing CRNA – 10 years

Dyersburg Regional Medical Center  
– 6 years

“I had difficulty finding gainful employment with my business degree so I went back to college to study nursing. Nurse anesthesia was always an interest but initially, it didn’t seem to be a realistic goal for my wife and me. Somehow things just fell into place and the timing was perfect for both of us to attend Charity Hospital/Xavier University anesthesia school together.

“One of the most challenging aspects of nurse anesthesia today is balancing expectations about the volume of our work assignments with limited available personnel. Some of these issues can be attributed to reductions in insurance reimbursement.

“Even so, the CRNA field is strong and only getting stronger. As we are facing some aspect of health care reform, the most cost-effective method to deliver anesthesia is through a CRNA. My ideal career path is to eventually join and become a partner in a CRNA group.

“Training and finally becoming a CRNA is the best possible thing I could have ever done. The field of nurse anesthesia is challenging but rewarding at the same time with many job opportunities available. I encourage all



David Dobie, CRNA



nursing students that I encounter who are interested in becoming an advanced practice nurse to consider anesthesia.

"I am in my second semester at the University of Tennessee DNP program and anticipate completing the program in May 2011. It is a very challenging program and has tested my abilities because of the computer skills necessary to participate. Still, with perseverance and diligence, I am learning the necessary skills very fast."

Dr. Oswaks explained that in his DNP project, "Mr. Dobie is looking at protocols for emergency airway management by other health care providers such as respiratory therapists and emergency room physicians who are in the hospital. It is not cost effective to staff the hospital 24 hours a day, 365 days a year with a nurse anesthetist for the occasional patient who needs emergency airway management.

"He is developing a plan to teach theory and technical skills, create protocol and then evaluate the provider's competency. His goal is to develop a system that will improve outcomes for the patient while simultaneously managing costs more efficiently," she said.



Vaughn Jones, MSN-CRNA

### **Vaughn Jones, MSN-CRNA**

*Birthplace:* Mildura, Victoria, Australia

*College:* Boise State University, Boise, Idaho – BSN  
The University of Tennessee Health Science Center – MSN-Anesthesia

*Experience:* Practicing CRNA – 1 year  
Dyersburg Regional Medical Center – 1 year

"My father is a Registered Nurse (first assistant) and has always been a role model in my life pursuits. It was my father who first spoke with me about becoming a CRNA.

"The current CRNA program director, Dr. Jill Oswaks, challenged me in a way I had not been challenged before. She provided a powerfully rich learning environment allowing for the acquisition of knowledge required to be confident and successful in an independent anesthesia practice. Dr. Oswaks worked hard for us and took a vested interest in our future and success. She involved herself in our lives both inside and outside school. She really cares and fights for her students.

"The notion which gives me the greatest pause is the potential I have to permanently alter someone's life. The risk of death or detrimental outcome for my patient at my hands always gnaws at my stomach. Whenever I am rolling with my patient down the operating room (OR) corridor and as we come to the OR doors my stomach always feels tight and uneasy. I suppose it's a healthy feeling to have. The gnawing sensation is reassuring and heightens my mind's sense so I can focus on my patient and what I have to do to ensure a successful outcome.

"Dyersburg is small enough that on occasion I run into a patient [outside of the hospital setting] for whom I provided anesthesia. It's a little unsettling at first but by the end of the conversation they are thanking you and wishing you the best. The ability to practice anesthesia is truly a blessing to my family and me. I definitely get more out of it than my patients do!

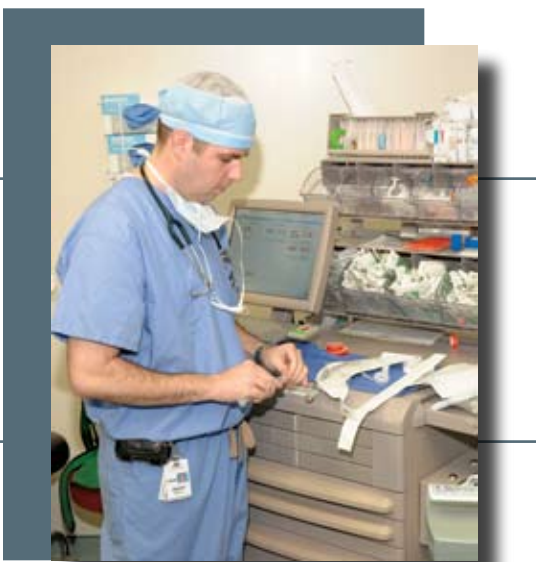
"While the advertised CRNA job pool has dried up to some degree lately, it is still a great time to be in anesthesia. Hospital ORs are continually scheduling surgical cases and the need for anesthesia services remains strong. I love what I do. Work does not feel like work.

"Nursing continues to be a wide open field allowing for diverse practice settings and opportunities to specialize with expanded autonomy. My advice for anybody considering a career in anesthesia is jump in with two feet and hold on! Look into and understand the requirements for admission and scout which schools will be a good fit for you and, if applicable, your family. Advance preparation will afford an easier transition from a bachelor's degree into any CRNA program. Competition is stiff and admittance tight but the rewards are exhilarating and fantastic!"

For his DNP project, Dr. Oswaks noted, "Mr. Jones is working on management of epidurals for obstetrical patients in labor."



Aaron Ketcher, MSN-CRNA



**Aaron Ketcher, MSN-CRNA**

*Hometown:* Merced, Calif.

*College:* Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah – BS in psychology

Rush University, Chicago, Ill. – BSN

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center – MSN-CRNA

*Experience:* Practicing CRNA – 1 year

Dyersburg Regional Medical Center – 1 year

“When I was 19, I went on a mission trip to Montreal, Canada. That helped influence me to pursue a career in the medical field but I wasn’t sure where I fit. While finishing my undergraduate degree, I decided to pursue nursing. Then my father called me out of the blue one day and mentioned that he knew a guy who was a CRNA. I did a little research into the field and knew this was the job for me. I researched what it would take to become one, and six years later, I graduated from UTHSC as a CRNA.

“UT has impacted my career on a daily basis. I went from school straight into a very autonomous practice setting. Without the training I received from UT, I doubt I would have had the ability to really thrive in this type of setting. Although nervous as a new grad, I was well prepared to meet the challenges of independent practice and have since been grateful for the clinical experiences UTHSC afforded me. My fellow UT classmates, and now co-workers, and I have discussed this preparation many times.

“I have been a CRNA for a little over a year now. I love being able to help people to feel comfortable about

their upcoming anesthetic experience. It’s a challenge to help people to feel this way in the five minutes we spend with them before surgery. Surprisingly, most people aren’t scared of surgery, they’re scared of anesthesia. One of the most challenging aspects of anesthesia is knowing all about a patient’s pathology, the upcoming surgery, and how you can tailor an anesthetic to meet the needs of the patient and surgeon for the best possible patient outcome.

“When things go wrong, it is up to us to maintain our composure and work quickly to keep the patient safe. I must make decisions quickly and accurately to maintain this safety. There is a lot to keep up to date on, including new drugs and procedures, and anesthetic techniques. I love this job.

“After some clinical experience, my long-term goal is to get into education. I have always wanted to give back in the form of teaching and mentoring other students. The UT College of Nursing has helped me with regard to this goal in two ways. First, it has taught me how to be a great clinician. And second, it has given me the examples of what type of teacher and mentor I want to be. There are great faculty members at this school. I have already had opportunities to teach and mentor students in my current work environment.

“Nursing is a great profession. I would advise those interested in nursing to shadow a nurse one day, and on various units if possible. See if that is what you want to do. If you are interested in anesthesia, you definitely need to shadow a CRNA before becoming a nurse or applying to anesthesia school. This profession is not for everyone. If you don’t handle stressful situations well and if you have trouble making important decisions quickly, this may not be for you.

“Dr. Oswaks has been instrumental in my success as a CRNA. She didn’t prepare me just for graduation and boards. She prepared me for a lifelong career. She taught me how to teach myself, so that as questions arise in my practice, I know how to find answers, which helps me to grow and develop. She really helped my critical thinking skills, and continues to do so. She is a great mentor and friend. I have enjoyed the DNP Program so far, and I am excited for the opportunities that will be afforded to me when I complete it.

“I truly love being a CRNA; the challenge of the work, the skills, the peers and the opportunities to serve patients. I love teaching people about our profession, and I am grateful for my education at UTHSC. I know that it was this program that is responsible, in large part, for who I am professionally and for the foundation upon which I will build my future in this field.”

To complete his DNP studies, Dr. Oswaks said, “Mr. Ketcher is working on making the Dyersburg Regional Medical Center anesthesia department a Center of Excellence.”



Ben Parker, MSN-CRNA

### **Ben Parker, MSN-CRNA**

*Hometown:* Meridian, Miss.

*College:* Mississippi College, Clinton, Miss. – BSN  
The University of Tennessee Health Science Center – MSN-CRNA

*Experience:* Practicing CRNA – 1 year

Dyersburg Regional Medical Center  
– 1 year

“After undergrad, I worked for two years at the VA in Jackson, Miss., before feeling compelled to join the U.S. Air Force after 9/11. While in the Air Force, I was stationed in San Antonio, Texas, for four years. I spent five months in Germany working in the ICU where we saw every critical patient before they were transported back to the United States.

“I chose anesthesia because of my enjoyment of managing critical patients and the challenges they present. I knew anesthesia would challenge me and help me reach my self-actualization point. As I was approaching my high school graduation, I knew nursing offered endless options and specialties that would allow me to find an area I would be happy with and grow in.

“The education I received at UT has prepared me to face the daily challenges of being a nurse anesthetist. When I graduated I felt very ‘professional.’ I felt I had the tools to be very successful. I also felt a great sense of responsibility to nursing. I think being challenged daily while in the anesthesia program prepared me to

handle any situation I would face while practicing as an advanced practice nurse.

“In the setting at Dyersburg Regional Medical Center, the challenges I face are defining my scope of practice and responsibility to team members who may be MDs. Because there is not a full-time anesthesiologist, I am the decision-maker for the patient when it comes to the anesthetic plan. I must be prepared to clearly express and justify my decisions. The most satisfying aspects of my job materialize when I have a challenging patient and I have to make decisions that my education has prepared me to make. Decisions that can’t be wrong.

“During my first year as an anesthesia student I had several conversations with Dr. Jim Pruett. He was very influential in my success in the anesthesia program. Whether it was words of advice or just an ear I could fill, he was always available.

“The UT College of Nursing is helping me achieve my career goals. They include obtaining a doctorate and gaining clinical experience that will help me become a confident, competent and influential instructor.

“Nursing is not simply a job, it’s a profession: a profession that will hold you accountable and reward you greatly. If someone wanted to go into anesthesia, I would let them know it is a commitment and responsibility that cannot be outweighed by monetary compensation.

“The DNP program courses have been challenging and rewarding. As each week passes I feel more prepared to practice as a doctorate prepared nurse.”

In his DNP project Dr. Oswaks noted, “Mr. Parker is working on temperature management protocols peri-operatively, i.e., during surgery, as surgical patients can become very hypothermic, which has negative effects on the patients’ outcomes.”

Many of the challenges that exist for nurse anesthesia mirror those faced by other health professions including economic issues, competition for services, right to practice issues and uncertainties about the long-term impact of health care reform.

Nevertheless, Dr. Oswaks sums it up emphatically, “Nurse anesthetists are leaders and important partners on the health care team. Our heritage for providing care dates back to the Civil War and we currently provide hands-on care for more than 32 million anesthetic cases per year. We provide anesthetics in every setting and for every type of case in which anesthesia is needed. We are providers and patient advocates, and we are on the front line in the military and rural areas.”

## Nurse Brings Experience to New Clinic

By: Cindy Kahler Thomas

Special to the Times Record News - January 11, 2010

(Reprinted with permission from the Times Record News, Wichita Falls, Texas)



Debra Walker opened Quality Express Clinic on Dec. 1.

(Photos Courtesy of the Wichita Falls Times Record News)

Debra Walker, FNP-BC, DNP, wanted to be a nurse at the age of 6. She achieved and surpassed that goal and opened a business that celebrates her knowledge. Walker, a doctor of nursing practice and a family nurse practitioner, opened Quality Express Clinic in the University Village on Midwestern Parkway on Dec. 1.

Walker did not get an early start in her nursing career. She went to college as she raised five children with her husband, Garry. In fact, she graduated with an undergraduate degree the same year that one of her sons graduated from high school.

But she didn't let other obligations stop her from achieving her goals.

"I started as an LVN in 1986. I graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1991. My family nurse practitioner came from the University of Texas in Arlington in 1996, and my doctorate came from the University of Tennessee in 2007," she said.

"I have been teaching at Midwestern State University as faculty in the nursing department since 1998."

She also worked at Bethania Hospital in the emergency room from 1985 until the merger with United Regional in 1998.

"I really loved my experience in the ER," she said. "I wouldn't trade those years and hours and night shifts. It was life changing. In the ER you get to see the best of people and the worst of people in the same day. You get to see the start of life and the end of life in the same day. I don't think there is any place else that I could have gotten that kind of experience."

That experience and compassion pays off for her patients.

"I think there is a lot of philosophical talk about whether health care is a right or a privilege. In my opinion, health care is a right, and I feel privileged to be able to care for people and to be able to be a provider for health care," Walker said.

"If you don't have insurance, and you pay for your own health care, there is a reduction of fees," she said. "Most exams are about \$60.

"Some of the reasons why I wanted to open a clinic are because I felt that there is a need in Wichita Falls for a place where people could afford to go without an appointment when they are sick or injured. I want to greatly reduce their wait time, because their time is valuable in today's society ... and it should be respected," she said.

The clinic has flexible hours for appointments made after regular hours.

"Scheduled time for after hours or on a weekend is a possibility that we can do that for you with no added fee," she said.

Walker said another focus of the clinic is to provide health care screening and counseling for chronic diseases such as diabetes, hypertension and high cholesterol.

The clinic also provides routine physicals, camp and school physicals, as well as women's exams such as pap smears and other cancer screening. They see all ages and provide immunizations. For urgent things like a urinary tract infection or something small like wart removal, Walker and her staff are ready and able to solve problems.

Walker was born in Cyril, Okla., and was raised in Santa Maria, Calif. She moved to Lawton as a high school sophomore in 1971. Her husband works for the City of Wichita Falls. He is retired from the Postal Service.

Quality Express Clinic is located at 2301 Midwestern Parkway in the University Village at the corner of Taft Boulevard and Midwestern Parkway. Hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. The telephone number is (940) 696-6977.



Debra Walker (right) talks with Shirley Maberry during Maberry's visit to the Quality Express Clinic. Walker owns the clinic.



**Partial Summary of Services:**

Advanced Cholesterol Testing, Digital X-ray Technology, House Calls (for selected populations), Laboratory Testing, Licensed Clinical Psychologist\*, Physical Therapy\*, Sleep Services\*, Web-based Arterial Testing, Weekly Weight-loss Meetings

(\*Denotes services available in the office complex, which can be arranged through the clinic.)

Vanderbilt and UT Health Science Center (Memphis) Supported Practice



John Michael Briley, DNP

## Spreading A Philosophy of Wellness

Ask John Michael Briley, DNP, APN, about the clinic he established in Bemis, Tenn., 16 years ago and you'll learn quickly that for him, Primary Care Specialists-South is more than a clinic: It's a philosophy.

"Many people have the understanding that health is simply the absence of disease. For the past 16 years, I have proposed that wellness and the prevention of problems is indeed the key to a better, richer life," Dr. Briley said. "At Primary Care Specialists-South, this philosophy is fundamental to the practice. The idea hearkens back to those basic principles I learned at Vanderbilt University and the University of Tennessee Health Science Center."

Nationally board certified in primary/family health care by the ANCC (American Nurses Credentialing Center), Dr. Briley received his MSN from Vanderbilt University and DNP from UTHSC. He was named One of the Top One-Hundred Leaders for the First One-Hundred Years of Vanderbilt in 2009, as well as Most Supportive Alumnus from UTHSC that same year.

Traditional medicine has often downplayed the value of primary care, focusing instead on subspecialties. Today's shortage of primary care physicians serves as evidence of this modus operandi. For this reason, Dr. Briley saw the role of the advanced practice nurse as important in filling the need for quality, primary care in the Jackson area, which has a population of almost 60,000.

Founder, owner and president of the Primary Care Specialists-South practice, Dr. Briley is understandably proud that in 2009 he and his team of 12 employees provided care for more than 7,000 patients at their Twelve Oaks office complex in Bemis. His team includes nationally board-certified clinicians, registered nurses, licensed and certified X-ray technicians, patient representatives, APNs who specialize in advanced lipid testing, and "a curious 8-year-old nephew who helps the patients feel more comfortable while in the clinic," he noted with a smile.

"We serve all patients across the life span – from birth to senior citizens," Dr. Briley observed. "We are honored to participate in the TennCare programs, CoverTN, and other state-sponsored programs. We also are paneled with numerous private insurers as well as Medicare."

The clinic fills needs that range from prevention of disease through screening tests such as advanced lipid

testing, women's annual exams, men's prostate screenings, vision tests, and heart testing. The clinic has also contracted with Medical Center Laboratory to provide excellent laboratory testing with a fast turn-around time.

When it comes to business challenges, Dr. Briley readily points out the tensions that exist between traditional medicine with its emphasis on the physician as the leader of the health care team, and the practical application of the talents and training of advanced practice nurses. "My hope is that one day medicine will see the world with a global vision and realize that we all share similar goals. The fear of competition from APNs should not guide their objectives," he stated, "... nor should it limit the role of APNs in caring for our citizens."

In 2009, a major goal for the clinic was realized with the construction of the new Bemis facility next door to a nationally named drug store. "Our plans are to complete the transition to electronic medical records in 2010 and continue to utilize our technology acquisitions to better serve our patient community," Dr. Briley said. "We are also very interested in teaming with local employers to provide prevention services for their employees and to engage them in a discussion about the advanced practice nursing model as their choice for health care."

For Dr. Briley, defining success is not a difficult task. "Without a doubt, our greatest business successes are those people who have chosen to take control of their lives through health modifications and avoided heart attacks, strokes and other problems. Also, those who had the courage to initially seek someone to help them and chose our office to be their health care partner."

He emphasized, "There is no greater honor or joy to us than to have the confidence and support of people in need. Our day is spent in service to others and when joined with a sound Vanderbilt and UT education, the chance for quality outcomes is much greater."

Dr. Briley is most proud of the fact that he is a "Vanderbilt and a UT Man" and has at his disposal those tools which enable him to serve the community in such a way that will make a difference!

# Faculty Practice: A Glance Back and Plans to Move Forward



Diane Todd Pace, PhD

Amazing! As I look forward to this year's alumni meeting, I realize I have been in the position of assistant dean of faculty practice at UTHSC College of Nursing for more than a year. And what an incredible year it has been as my faculty colleagues have continually strived to orient me to academia and help me integrate my "practice knowledge and skills" into this new environment.

The UTHSC College of Nursing has been a leader in academic faculty practice for more than 20 years. The college was recognized for this leadership role when they were awarded the very first Faculty Practice Award from their academic colleagues within the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties. Having a commitment and clear consensus in sustaining a successful and active practice is a tribute to the college, beginning at the dean's support and continuing through the practicing faculty.

There are many challenges to integrating practice within the traditional roles and demands of teaching, research and service – the core missions of the university. The college supports faculty who are involved in clinical practice by providing 20 percent of their work assignment attributed to meeting their practice goals. To maintain their certifications in various clinical specialties, more than 92 percent of the faculty who have advanced practice credentials meet the requirements for recertification through direct practice roles. Our practice serves as one of the foundations for our academic scholarship, meets our professional quest for maintaining clinical skills and acquiring new knowledge and skills, fosters an environment for providing student learning and mentoring, and of course generates income for the college.

Faculty are involved in challenging, novel and scholarly roles. On the next page as you read the spotlight on new practices, you will see the creativity of clinical opportunities and diversity of sites. Faculty may work in a CON managed clinic such as University Health Services, Methodist Teaching Practice, Airport Station, or CSI (Consolidated

Systems, Inc.), or they may provide contracted services to facilities such as the Methodist Emergency Department, anesthesia practices, Ob-Gyn practices, or behavioral care facilities.

Patient outcomes in diverse populations have been positively impacted because of integration of faculty into the environment where they receive their health care. There also is a focus in this edition of the magazine on current students and graduates who have assimilated the education acquired at the college and are now changing lives, legislative policies, and the role of advanced practice nursing.

As the college commits to the next five year strategic plan, practice is an important component. We look forward to seeing the Health Science Center achieve its goal of building a clinical practice site for all faculty practices across the campus.

I can just imagine the improvements in the quality of care and patient care outcomes as multi-professionals across nursing, medicine, dentistry, pharmacy and other allied health professions collaboratively manage the care for the diverse population who will seek care at this site.

We will be focusing on further development of evaluation of practice and promotion of scholarly outcomes, as well as building a practice model that will be innovative, sustainable and will impact nursing care and legislative change in the coming years of implementing health care reform. The next five years shall provide the same opportunities for achieving outstanding outcomes as have been achieved in the 2010 plan.





Muthiah P. Muthiah, MD

## Outstanding Preceptor

Muthiah P. Muthiah, MD, FCCP, associate professor in pulmonary medicine, has been named the 2010 Outstanding Graduate Clinical Preceptor. This award provides students an opportunity to highlight an individual who has taken significant measures to lead, guide and mentor in the clinical setting. Having served several years as a preceptor for Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (ACNP) students in the intensive care unit, Dr. Muthiah is just such a teacher.

“Dr. Muthiah incorporates students into the team while individualizing their assignments,” stated Dr. Carol Thompson, acute care option coordinator, as she described the clinical experience at the Memphis Veterans Affairs Medical Center. “He consistently challenges them to higher performance; they achieve with excitement. Evidence-based practice is expected daily while he mentors students in the art of complex care management.”

Dr. Muthiah is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine with a subspecialty in pulmonary medicine and critical care medicine. Both of his students this year were senior clinical nurse specialists preparing as ACNPs. Dr. Muthiah incorporated the strengths of their experiences as he tailored learning to the new role at a doctoral level.

## CON Provides Two New Venues for Faculty Practice Services

By Kelley Evans

It's only in select schools of nursing that you'll find active faculty practices, and the UTHSC College of Nursing is not only one of them, but is one that has a national reputation for its leadership in this area. Because diverse opportunities have to be considered in order to accommodate faculty, new venues for practice have recently been initiated — one with the Methodist University Teaching Practice and the other with Consolidated Systems, Inc. (CSI).

Working in partnership with attending physicians and UTHSC internal medicine residents at the Methodist University Teaching Practice, faculty nurse practitioners provide acute and chronic illness management, health evaluation and lifestyle promotion, and disease risk reduction to a diverse population of Shelby County citizens.

Faculty practice is a critical element for nursing programs with a strong mission and commitment to advanced practice nursing. “Various clinical sites serving diverse populations provide opportunities for advancing practice opportunities for APRN faculty and providing a multi-professional learning environment for students,” says Donna Hathaway, PhD, FAAN, dean and professor, College of Nursing. “Having faculty actively engaged in practice enables them to maintain their advanced practice credentials, provide exemplary mentorship for our students, and contribute to health and well-being of the citizens of our community.”

The Methodist University Teaching Practice provides a venue for direct patient care services and establishes a clinical site for research and education. It also focuses on the theory and practice of adult health maintenance, and

the assessment and management of common ailments facing many adults. In addition to providing primary care, faculty nurse practitioners also bring extended expertise in speciality care. “They take good care of me here,” said patient Daniel Norphlet as he completed his clinical visit and offered an assessment of the services he received.



The Methodist University Teaching Practice is available to the community four days a week and walk-ins are welcome. Appointments can be made at (901) 516-8785 and a variety of payment options are available.

While the Methodist University Teaching Practice is open to the public, the other new faculty site targets employees of the steel company CSI. One day a week, a CON faculty member, who collaborates with a UTHSC physician, visits the site to treat minor work-related injuries, as well as to help manage more chronic illnesses, such as diabetes and hypertension.

Working on the assembly line, these dedicated employees, who often find it difficult to leave their post, have welcomed these weekly visits that offer continuity of care as the faculty member collaborates with the worker's primary care physician.

Episodic care and health promotion at the site also help the workers stay healthy and on the job. After the sudden death of the company's owner and founder, the need for a health station, focused on maintaining a healthy lifestyle through proper diet and exercise, became even more apparent. And that is what the UTHSC Faculty Practice Program does; it takes a proactive approach in breaking down patient barriers – reaching into the far corners of the community to promote health, reduce risk of disease, and to care for the chronically ill.



# Breaking the Cycle of Crime: Part 1

*Improving support for early childhood is best way to deter crime, expert says*

*(Reprinted with permission from The Commercial Appeal. Original article appeared in its Jan. 3, 2010, issue.)*

Can Memphis ever hope to solve its crime problem?

As a followup to The Commercial Appeal's recent "True Crime" series, which explored how the legacy of crime has been handed down from one generation to the next in Memphis, editor Chris Peck asked three experts about innovative approaches that hold the promise of helping to break that cycle.

Dr. Patricia M. Speck, forensic nurse and public health nursing option coordinator for the University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Nursing, believes focusing on early childhood development will be the best way to reduce crime in Memphis over the long term. Here are highlights of Speck's question-and-answer session with The Commercial Appeal:

**Q: You say that criminal behavior has its roots in childhood?**

Yes. I see it in my practice and the research is very clear. The common link is what researchers at the Centers for Disease Control call "adverse childhood events." The impact is not only biological, but emotional and psychological.

Such traumas may include an infant who watches his/her mother be abused; a child who is whipped, shaken or slammed to the floor for crying; a toddler who is beaten for wetting the bed. Children who survive these traumas often suffer additional events of rejection and are then unable to trust or love. These traumas are cumulative and affect the brain's ability to learn. As victims, such children adjust to a narrow, isolated dysfunctional view of the world. Without intervention, they often turn their anger inward and self-medicate, or outward with physical violence.

**Q: So how does this violence and abuse at home affect Memphis?**

When children are affected by violence and chaos, many act out by inviting trouble or seeking affection outside the family unit. Children learn how to hit or be hit and may later be arrested for that type of violence. If a family is morally corrupt, it will teach corruption. In such families, anger becomes the acceptable response along with lashing out at those trying to help or get close. Children who are sexually harassed often engage in early sexual experiences. Those who are sexually abused

can end up in prostitution. In many cases, these children become pregnant as teens, which may contribute to high infant mortality rates, and the cycle starts again.

Children who witness more than their young eyes should see often combine their anger with "errors in thinking" over issues of entitlement and power. They may think, "I deserve this and you have to give it to me," or "You've got this and I want it," or "It's my way or the highway."

**Q: Do you have any suggestions on how we could break this cycle of repeat offenders?**

Yes. We must pull the repeat offenders out of their chaotic community and place them in therapeutic environments. For example, the drug court model teaches self-help and accountability. This model explores trauma and possible reasons for criminal choices through acceptance, love, patience and understanding.

Also, there are specific skills all adults need – the ability to read, write and do simple math to handle basic necessities. These activities must be mandated in jails for all inmates, because many Memphians have not developed specific job skills, which should be taught in structured intervention programs. Through careful, evidence-based guidance and mentoring, these programs can build knowledge and confidence.

Men coming out of prison need to be mentored in the same way. And these men need jobs because work provides an opportunity for self-approval and a level of contentment in the mastery of a skill. Work ethic is necessary for personal satisfaction in life. Employment is one of the main variables related to recidivism in drug court populations.

There are organizations in Memphis making a difference each day such as the Literacy Council, the Exchange Club Family Center, ArkWings and faith-based programs like STARS and DADS. Lea Robinson of the Second Chance program works hard to provide the most vulnerable women coming out of prison the skills needed to emerge empowered and able to function without committing crimes.

**Q: But aren't you just advocating going softer on criminals?**

Not really. If a person is truly incorrigible or com-



Patricia Speck, DNSc

mits heinous crimes (as defined by society), jail is the answer. Locking up sex offenders away from vulnerable persons is a primary prevention strategy and reduces the number of victims considerably.

But, there are many other tools that we must use before the person chooses to become incorrigible. Preventing victimization in childhood through adult supervision is a strategy for reducing the number of children who choose to identify with their assailant and become offenders in late childhood and adolescence.

Another strategy for surviving the victim experience is to teach methods for healthy recovery, such as fair play, right and wrong and forgiveness. You can also encourage a victim to hold a person's choices to blame, yet still love the person.

In addition, catching and holding offenders accountable during the victim's childhood promotes resolution of past traumas, and is important for steering him/her toward healthy, nonviolent choices. Teachers and principals can be informed regarding a vulnerable child to implement successful evidence-based interventions within a supportive environment.

Families are still the most important teachers for lessons learned, but fractured families may not have the knowledge, skills or abilities to break the cycle.

**Q: If you could wave a wand, how would you start to change the Memphis cycle right now?**

Get a coordinated plan and stick with it. For at least two or three generations in Memphis, the root causes of violence will need to be addressed by all systems in our city. A fully coordinated response isn't occurring now.

Right now, help is hard to find when resources are scarce and narrowly defined in silos. Prevention and intervention systems mostly act independently. Local, state and federal governments, the criminal justice system, social programs, physical and mental health care services, and faith-based organizations each operate in their silos with federal dollars supporting designated programs, not coordinated efforts.

A significant way to reduce crime in Memphis would be to coordinate all the components of the crime-prevention efforts. Service providers should come together to address the comprehensive needs of children and their families with histories of adverse childhood events. This should be done before the children or their parents reach the criminal justice system. This change will require innovative models of care and new requirements for collaboration that should be attached to federal dollars.

If the entire Memphis community cannot come together on what is important to our community – the values of honesty, integrity and compassion, among others – nothing will truly work.

We, all of us in Memphis, also need to recognize that "their" problems are "our" problems. The consequences can affect quality of life for everyone. The stigma associated with victimization must be removed and people need to know they can ask for help and get it.

We have the talent and tools in Memphis, and our silos of service may be beginning to collaborate in response to violence. We can prevent violence through our current services – we simply need to use them collectively.



Diane Todd Pace, PhD

## Pace Joins HIP TN

Diane Todd Pace, PhD, FNP-BC, NCMP, CCD, FAANP, assistant dean for faculty practice in the College of Nursing, has been invited to join the board of the Health Information Partnership for Tennessee (HIP TN), a statewide committee charged with implementing the

secure exchange of health information.

Dr. Pace is the first nursing expert on the 12-member board. The addition of Dr. Pace rounds out a mix of public/private health care leaders from across the state and ensures that patient-data needs are covered.

From a nursing perspective, Dr. Pace will serve as a board member until September 30, 2010, when she is eligible for re-appointment.

## Wicks Named to National Review Group

Mona Newsome Wicks, PhD, RN, professor and associate dean for research in the College of Nursing, has accepted an invitation to serve on the newly created Health Disparities and Equity Promotion (HDEP) study section of the National Institutes of Health through December 2012.

The HDEP Study Section reviews research applications from across the nation where the primary purpose is to address, reduce or eliminate disparities and improve equity related to health risks, access to care, treatment, or health and health-related outcomes. These applications focus on systematic factors contributing to health disparities, as well as those specifically aimed at health equity improvement in a particular sub-population.



Mona Wicks, PhD



## Telling Our Story



Continuing media coverage has highlighted the College of Nursing's programs and practices. Here Dean Donna Hathaway, PhD, is being interviewed by a Channel 3 reporter, while nursing students practice their skills in the simulation lab and are filmed by a cameraman for the evening news.



## Le Bonheur Tower

Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center is set to open its new hospital this summer. The \$340-million, 610,000-square-foot hospital will double Le Bonheur's current space for patient care, research and teaching. Construction began in February 2008, and everything from interior design to state-of-the-art technology is focused on one thing — providing exceptional care for children.



## Right Here In Memphis Marketing Campaign

In February 2009, the UTHSC Communications and Marketing Department launched a new marketing campaign titled "Right Here In Memphis." The campaign's goal is to promote awareness of the university's presence in and impact on the Memphis community. Below is an ad highlighting technology used by the College of Nursing; the ad appeared on billboards, online and print, as well as in radio executions.



## Pharmacy Building



Construction of UTHSC's new pharmacy building continues as it nears completion. It is scheduled to open this fall.

## A Special Nursing White Coat Ceremony

On October 19 the College of Nursing held the MSN-CNL Professional Entry Program White Coat Ceremony. This celebration allowed 57 students to take the International Nurses pledge, which will start them on the path that leads to their clinical rotations.

The keynote speaker was Michael Briley, DNP – Family Nursing Practice from the 1996 graduating class.

This formal observance was special to this class; it marked the first white coat ceremony for the College of Nursing. Reinforcing the responsibility of professionalism and patient care, the white coat will continue to remind students of their pledge throughout their clinical training.



## CON Fall 2009 Graduation

On December 11, the UTHSC College of Nursing graduated 103 students in the BSN, MSN, PhD and DNP programs. The graduation was held at Lindenwood Christian Church, and John C. Preston, CRNA, DNSc, senior director of education and professional development for the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, served as commencement speaker. The December graduation represented the last graduating class of the BSN program. The faculty, staff and students took pride in celebrating the graduates.





## December 2009 Nursing Graduates

### Doctor of Philosophy, Nursing

Cecile Blanche Evans

### Doctor of Nursing Practice

Donna J. Lynch-Smith  
Carol Lynn Thompson  
Lorena Marie Thompson

### Master of Science, Nursing

#### *Adult Critical Care Nurse Practitioner*

Jennifer Hannah Koonce  
Michael Christopher Marinaccio I  
Paul Timothy Tidmore

#### *Family Nurse Practitioner*

Julie Douglass Holt  
Ann Elizabeth Horn  
Charlynn Flowers Johnson  
Miranda Lee Johnson  
Melissa Lamar Mayse  
Jennifer Lyn Rendon  
Nancy Yvonne Seal  
Teresa Lynn Wallace  
Barbara S. Woody  
Alison Leigh Young

#### *Nurse Anesthesia*

Christa Ann Avenell  
Susan Butcher Barnett  
Robert Steven Chamblee  
Angela Wilbanks Duncan  
Jessica Erin Ginn  
Diana Carolyn Hunt  
Maricela S. Kolbeson  
Angela Price  
Gisella Paola Puga  
Robert Samuel Reynolds  
Antonnie LaShae Shingles  
Charlotte Stephanie Simmons  
Michael Wayne Sims

### *Neonatal Nurse Practitioner*

Jane Guidry Hood  
Elaine Mary Mohaupt  
Meghan Rae Teel  
Allison Thornell West

### *Bachelor of Science, Nursing*

Christopher Glenn Adcock  
Astara Estella Barker  
Sarah Ellen Baymiller  
Attiya Ondreis Berryhill  
Matthew James Bishop  
Connie Matlock Blabey  
Nathan Clark Border  
Magen Leigh Brunson  
Lauren Beth Bryant  
Cali Danielle Cano  
Mary Meagan Cariker  
Britni Faye Cartillar  
Kathryn Elizabeth Chipman  
Carrie Beth Cole  
Mary Grace Castillon Collado  
Sydney Lea Cronin  
Heather P. Cumming  
Lisa Amy Davenport  
Sage M. Dunham  
Jennifer Rebecca Emo  
Anissa Danielle Evans  
Alicia Rochelle Felix  
Jennifer Christine Feuerbacher  
Michael Andrew Fisher  
Merry Jean Fontenot  
Sarah Frank  
Teresa Marie Ginski  
Elizabeth A. Goldstein  
Mary Helen Green  
Halle Weber Hampton  
Louis D. Hamric  
Ballina S. Haney  
LaTonya Simone Hardy  
Michelle Marie Hazlewood  
Ebony LaShay Hazzle  
Cillora Hicks  
Kate L. Holmes  
Danielle Renee Howard  
LaShanda Denise Ivy  
Fatima Jabr  
Blake Cole Jeffries

Mary Morgan Johnson  
Chastity Odom Keenan  
Linda C. Kilmer  
Katherine Anne King  
Kathryn Michelle Lammel  
Jeri J. Lawson-Pennel  
Steven Michael Link

Sarah Eva Lipsey  
Mary Elizabeth MacInnis  
Amy P. McDaniel  
Emily Kate Mewborn  
Marliatou Balde Mohammad  
Donald L. Neilson  
Josiah John Newton  
Melissa Ann O'Neal  
Heather Marie Perry  
Terrica Taneishea Ragland  
Rebel Mary Reavis

Mona Evette Jones Roberson  
Felisha Renae Robinson  
Ashley Lynn Sanford  
Jetal Shukla  
Ashley Price Staggs  
Amethyst Chrysanthemum Stevenson  
Jennifer Michele Weaver  
Mary Evelyn Wilson  
Carey Lynne Wright  
Catherine Michelle Young





## UT Nursing Scholarships: Your Passport to the Future

*(Reprinted with permission from Grace Magazine.)*

By Sheila Champlin

Malcolm X once said, “Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.” For minority students, getting that passport stamped isn’t always easy. The journey takes money, perseverance and plenty of moral support.

This year, 20 students who have committed to pursuing advanced degrees in nursing at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis campus, begin their journey by dividing \$200,000 – \$10,000 each. For the second consecutive year, the UT College of Nursing received funding to award scholarships from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation through the RWJF New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program.

The grants build on the UT Health Science Center’s efforts to increase the number of students enrolled in its accelerated, entry-level master’s degree (MSN) Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) nursing program and to diversify its student base. The scholarships are directed to minority students who are underrepresented in nursing (African-Americans, Hispanics, Asians and men), as well as to those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

“Our CNL program targets second-degree students who already have bachelor’s degrees in other, non-nursing disciplines. The program gives students the opportunity to obtain a master’s degree in nursing and to gain practical work experience while they complete their studies,” said Dean Donna Hathaway, leader of the UT College of Nursing. “Students must take science prerequisites and can then begin our CNL program. In about two years, almost the same amount of time that it takes to earn a bachelor’s in nursing, they can graduate with a master’s degree instead.”

The scholarship program is a significant national initiative, launched in 2008 by RWJF and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN). The program aims to help alleviate the nation’s nursing shortage by dramatically expanding the pipeline of students in

accelerated nursing programs. As part of this initiative, the UTHSC College of Nursing has increased minority enrollment to 50 percent in the entry-level nursing program.

In addition to financial support provided by the RWJF scholarships, students participate in weekly mentoring, leadership and academic support activities to facilitate success in the program. Retention rates are 100 percent. Fifty percent of RWJF scholarship recipients serve in leadership roles within the college and university, and 90 percent of these students indicated a desire to go to graduate school within five years of completing the entry-level nursing program.



Pictured are UTHSC MSN-CNL students Carissa Jamison, Crystal Martin and LaKisha Washington. Of the 20 UT Health Science Center MSN-CNL students who received \$10,000 each in RWJF scholarships, 12 were African-American, 2 Asian, 1 Middle Eastern, 1 Hispanic male and 4 other males.

Grant funding is also used by schools to help leverage support for new faculty resources plus provide mentoring and leadership development resources to ensure successful program completion by scholarship recipients. The RWJF New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program supports accelerated programs, which offer the most efficient route to licensure as a registered nurse for second-degree students who are new to the nursing profession.

Although enrollment in advanced degree nursing programs has steadily increased over the past few years, many potential students are unable to enroll since already having a college degree disqualifies them from receiving most federal financial aid for entry-level students. The New Careers in Nursing scholarships address this problem, and will also ease the overall nursing shortage, by enabling hundreds of students to launch their nursing careers through accelerated education not otherwise possible without scholarships.

“This scholarship is a blessing to me and my journey to become a nurse,” said MSN-CNL student Carissa Jamison. “It alleviates the financial burden of nursing school, allowing me to focus on learning how to be the best nurse I can be. The foundation also provides unique emotional support that is essential to my academic success.”

MSN-CNL student Crystal Martin observes, “Exposure through this program will develop my leadership

skills, which will enhance my ability to seek and achieve excellence in the health care setting. I am forever grateful for the opportunity to learn more about myself and more about the nursing profession through this scholarship program."

"Deciding to continue my education, has placed a financial burden on my family, even though the outcome of graduation will be beneficial," stated LaKisha Washington, MSN-CNL student. "Being a recipient of this scholarship, has relieved many stressors – such as purchasing books, uniforms, supplies, health insurance,

gas for transportation to clinical sites and food. As a recipient, I am empowered to give back to the community and help those who would like to fulfill dreams of becoming a nurse."

With more than 5,100 alumni, the UT College of Nursing has prepared about 2,000 nurses now practicing in Tennessee and is the leading producer of graduate nurses and nursing faculty for the region. For more information about nursing and your passport to the future, visit the UT College of Nursing at [www.uthsc.edu/nursing](http://www.uthsc.edu/nursing).

## Pass Rate on National Exam Deserves Congratulations

After all the course work, research and clinical hours, students may often wonder if they are ready for the real test – national certifying exams. Class of 2009 students in both the nurse anesthesia program and professional entry (BSN) program answered that question with flying colors, offering a testimony to their ability and the training provided at the UTHSC College of Nursing.

All 13 nursing anesthesia students who graduated in December passed the National Certifying Exam on the first attempt, and students in the BSN class achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the NCLEX (RN licensure exam).

"This is an outstanding achievement on the NCE and was particularly impressive due to its recent revision for increased complexity," stated Jill S. Oswaks, CRNA, DNSc, director of the Nurse Anesthesia Option.

The BSN graduates also made quite an achievement. The pass rate for the 2009 graduates including students from previous classes was 97 percent, while the national pass rate for the NCLEX in 2009 was 88.42 percent.

Dean Donna Hathaway, PhD, added her congratulations, "A 100 percent pass rate on the first attempt is an outstanding achievement and says a great deal about the quality of our students, and of our faculty and staff. I am very proud of you all."

### Scholarships Distributed 2009-2010

Scholarship	Distribution
Andrew Holt.....	\$ 8,000
Brenda Mills.....	\$ 1,500
Chancellor's Diversity Scholarship .....	\$ 124,147
Dorothy Martin.....	\$ 1,000
Elizabeth Club .....	\$ 3,000
Faculty Minority.....	\$ 6,000
Grace Wallace.....	\$ 6,000
HRSA Grant - NAT (Nurse Anesthetist Traineeship)	\$ 14,025
HRSA Grant - AENT (Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship) .....	\$ 98,897
Josephine Circle .....	\$ 3,000
Marie Buckley .....	\$ 2,000
Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare (Miss.).....	\$ 1,000
Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare (Student Services Fund).....	\$ 3,000
Roane County Medical Society .....	\$ 6,000
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation .....	\$ 200,000
Ruby Stephenson.....	\$ 8,000
Trentham – Washburn – Absher.....	\$ 9,000

**TOTAL..... \$494,569**

\*193 graduate students received scholarship funds during the 2009-2010 distribution.

## Tragic Loss

On December 21, 26-year-old Chaundra Sanders passed away in a fatal car accident. Chaundra was a native Memphian who received her Bachelor of Science degree in biology from the University of Tennessee Chattanooga. She made a decision to join the health care industry and entered the MSN-CNL program to start her career in nursing. She took the International Nurses Pledge in October with the rest of her classmates at their White Coat Ceremony. She will be remembered throughout the campus for her smile and warm personality.

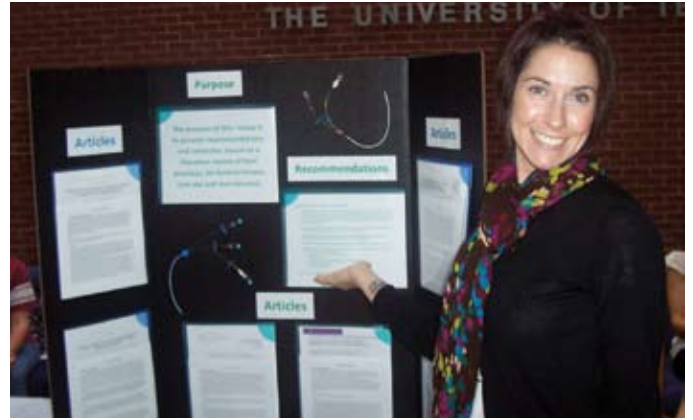


Chaundra Sanders



## BSN Symposium

Students in the BSN program participated in an Evidence-Based Practice Symposium last fall. The symposium gave students the opportunity to prepare and display findings. During the poster sessions, students were able to discuss their area of study with faculty, staff and fellow students.



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Doctor of Nursing Practice



## 2010 Alumni Award Winners

### 2010 Outstanding Alumna Award Winner Betty Sue McGarvey, DSN, RN



Betty Sue McGarvey,  
DSN, RN

Dr. Betty Sue McGarvey is a 1978 graduate of the Baptist Memorial Hospital School of Nursing. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from Memphis State University in 1985 and spent the majority of her clinical career in emergency and cardiovascular nursing. In 1990, Dr. McGarvey completed her Master of Science degree in nursing administration from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center and has held various educational and administrative positions, including director of cardiovascular services for Baptist Memorial Hospital. She returned to nursing education in 1994 as an instructor at Baptist Memorial Hospital School of Nursing and served on the initial planning team responsible for establishing Baptist College of Health Sciences in 1995.

Dr. McGarvey served as director of planning and institutional effectiveness at the college while re-

maining in the classroom as an assistant professor.

In addition to planning responsibilities, she led the college in the process of accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. In 2002, she received her Doctorate of Science degree in nursing from the University of Alabama at Birmingham where she received a NIOSH research fellowship. She was promoted to provost and chief academic officer in 2003 to oversee academic and student services. After a national search process, Dr. McGarvey was appointed president of Baptist College of Health Sciences in August 2005.

Dr. McGarvey is a member of Beta Theta Chapter-at-Large of Sigma Theta Tau and the American Nurses Association. She was selected as a Fuld Leadership Fellow in 2002 by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. In 2007, she was recognized by Memphis Woman magazine as one of the "50 Women Who Make a Difference." She is an active member of the Memphis Rotary Club. Dr. McGarvey serves on the board of directors for the Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association and is chair of the board for the Memphis Medical Center Advisory Board.

### 2010 Most Supportive Alumna Award Alice P. Nunnery, BSN, BA, MA, PhD



Alice Nunnery, PhD

Dr. Alice Nunnery is a 1971 graduate of the College of Nursing. While a nursing student, she served as class president her junior year and was a member of the student council for the Health Science Center (then called the UT Medical Units).

After graduation, she received post-graduate training in cardiac care and worked in the Coronary Care Unit at William F. Bowld Hospital from 1971-1972. When her husband was stationed at Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, Japan, from 1972-1973, Dr. Nunnery worked as a school nurse for the Department of Defense. Upon returning to the states in 1973, she worked in the Cardiac Surgical Intensive Care Unit at Tampa General Hospital until 1975. Dr. Nunnery developed a program of cardiac rehabilitation services at Theracare, Inc. in Murfreesboro, Tenn., in 1986, and served as nurse coordinator for the program until 1988.

While working at Tampa General and Theracare, she acquired advanced degrees (MA, PhD) in Eng-

lish. She taught English at Middle Tennessee State University and Cumberland University for a total of 14 years before retiring in 2004.

Since her retirement, she has been involved in various volunteer activities. She received training to become a Court Appointed Special Advocate volunteer, and is generally assigned cases that involve medical issues. Dr. Nunnery also serves on the board of directors of The P.E.T. Project of Middle Tennessee, an organization that builds handoperated wheelchairs for persons in developing countries. She has participated in medical mission trips to Nicaragua and Mexico and has volunteered at a local free clinic, doing preliminary physical examinations. In addition, she teaches ESL (English as a second language) as a volunteer and does adjunct teaching at Cumberland University.

It has been her privilege to serve on the Alumni Board of Directors for the College of Nursing for eight years. Dr. Nunnery states, "I am deeply grateful for the honor of being named Most Supportive Alumna, and though I do not count myself worthy to be in the company of those who have won this award in the past, I am committed to continue to do all that I can to support the extraordinary faculty and students who make the University of Tennessee one of the best schools of nursing in the country."

## Alumni Board of Directors

### President

Madge Richbourg Saba (2010) '66

### President-Elect

Sam Maceri (2010) '01, '02

### Vice President

Alice Parham Nunnery (2010) '71, '95

### Secretary

Sari Bledsoe (2010) '64

### Tennessee Representatives

#### West

Michael Briley (2012) '05

Sam Maceri (2012) '01, '02

Tammara H. Beard (2012) '94, '98, '03

#### Middle

Alice Parham Nunnery (2010) '71, '95

Betty Witherspoon (2011) '71

Janice Shelley Ledbetter (2011) '71

#### East

Cathy Hammons (2010) '03

Patti Ketterman (2010) '06

M'Liss Darr Mather (2011) '78

### Out-of-State Representatives

Sherry Barry (2010) '73 - Tampa, Fla.

Sari Bledsoe (2012) '64 - Marion, Ark.

Elizabeth Fuselier Ellis (2012) '93, '95,

'05 - Houston, Texas

Mayola Rowser (2012) '05 -

Evansville, Ind.

### Representatives-at-Large

Paula Spears (2012) '84, '02

Charmin Thomas (2012) '93, '98, '01

Johnneene Whitmore (2012) '93, '01

James "Hutch" Hutcheson (2012) '07

Claudia Patricia Neira (2012) '06

### Sigma Theta Tau

Dianne Greenhill (2011) '62

### Immediate Past President

Rita Kimbro Miller, '71

### Past Presidents

Irma Jordan, '97, '98

Janet McMurray (Jan) Johnson, '76

Carolyn Moran DePalma, '56

Alice Upchurch Warren, '65

Areti Tina Moskos Klein, '86

Carol Denise Graham, '86

Patricia Fuqua Walker, '56

SuAnne Cobb, '76

Terri Boyd Jacobs, '74

Jo Ann Kyle, '54

## Alumni Day Speaker Elinor F. Reed Distinguished Visiting Professor



Julie Morath, RN, MS

This year we are excited to have with us Julie Morath, RN, MS, chief quality and safety officer at Vanderbilt Medical Center. She will address "Ensuring Patient Safety in Health Care Organizations" during our continuing education portion of Alumni Day.

A health care safety and quality expert with broad operational experience, Morath was previously chief operating officer at Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minneapolis. She is a member of the National Quality Forum clinical best practices committee and sits on the board of governors of the National Patient Safety Foundation and the board of directors of Virginia Mason Medical Center in Seattle.

Morath's books include "The Quality Advantage: A Strategic Guide for Health Care Leaders" and, co-written with Joanne Turnbull, "To Do No Harm: Ensuring Patient Safety in Health Care Organizations," both from Jossey-Bass Publishing.

Morath states that building and sustaining an infrastructure of quality is a challenge that every hospital faces. Improving the quality and value of patient care isn't just part of her job — it's her life's work. As she leads VMC's quality and safety efforts, Morath is directly responsible for the Center for Clinical Improvement, Infection Control, and Accreditation and Standards.

In order to maximize and increase your understanding and knowledge on this topic, please join us for Alumni Day at the Hilton Memphis.

You will not want to miss this continuing education session!



### UT Nurses Basketball Reunion at Alumni Day (all years)

#### Class Chairs:

Sari Semmer Bledsoe '64

Joyce Burgess Coats '77

Lois Burgess Shaver '77

Coach Jim Stockdale

**Cost:** \$15/per person - per reunion event  
RSVP to the Office of Alumni Affairs at  
(901) 448-4974.

• **Friday, May 21** - After Reunion Luncheon: Return of Lost Basketball Trophies to Campus

• **Friday, May 21** - Reunion Dinner at 6:30 p.m.: At the home of Jim and Dorothy Stockdale, 5052 Waldrup Street, Memphis, TN 38116

• **Saturday, May 22** - Reunion Brunch at 10 a.m.: At the home of Elinor F. Reed, 2479 Monroe, Memphis, TN 38112

### Alumni Day - May 21 Shuttle Leaves for Campus Tour at 3 p.m.

A special feature of Alumni Day this year is a tour of the nursing facilities. So, if you haven't been to the UT Health Science Center campus in a while, come check it out.

Sign-up for the tour and shuttle when you register for Alumni Day.

For more information, call:  
800-733-0482 or (901) 448-4974.



## Development & Alumni Affairs Welcomes Two New Faces



Amanda Lane

The UTHSC Office of Development and Alumni Affairs has recently welcomed two new staff members who are closely connected to the College of Nursing.

Amanda Lane serves as a director for alumni affairs, and Nell Blair works as a director on the development team. Both will become familiar faces as they reach

out to alumni and help the college fulfill its mission.

Lane, who joined UTHSC in February 2009, has primary responsibilities in the Colleges of Nursing and Pharmacy to plan their annual board meetings, alumni weekends, and class reunions. She also manages Web site updates for the Office of Alumni Affairs.

Lane graduated with highest honors from the University of Southern Mississippi in 2002 with a BA in public relations. She has a strong background in public relations and event planning. Her last position was event manager with the Castle Rock Chamber of Commerce in Castle Rock, Colo. Prior to that, she worked



Nell Blair

six years as the senior events manager at the DeSoto Civic Center in Southaven, Miss., and as director of PR and events for Bonne Terre Country Inn and Café in Nesbit, Miss. She and her husband Jim reside in Hernando, Miss.

Blair joined the development team in December 2009 and is working directly with the Colleges of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences. She is a 1991 graduate of the University of Alaska Fairbanks and is currently working on her master's in public administration.

With 18 years of experience in development and non-profit management, Blair most recently served as director of development for the College of Arts & Sciences at the University of Memphis. Blair is a member of CASE District III (Southeast) and the Association of Fundraising Professionals Memphis Chapter.

As a sixth generation Tennessean, she enjoys being back in her home state with family and participating in community events and various volunteer activities.

### College of Nursing Alumni Day ~ May 21, 2010 Hilton Memphis

#### Continuing Education Program

"Ensuring Patient Safety in Health Care Organizations," featuring Julie Morath, RN, MS, chief quality and safety officer at Vanderbilt Medical Center.

#### Panel Presentation

Representatives from local health care facilities and educational institutions will respond to Morath's presentation. The panel will illustrate local practices that contribute to quality and safety, as well as discuss their opportunities and challenges.

#### Silent Auction

#### Alumni Awards and Reunion Luncheon

#### Special Recognition of the Golden Graduates of 1960

#### Class Reunions: Class of 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995 and 2000.

If you would like assistance in coordinating a special event for your class, contact the UT Office of Alumni Affairs.

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center Office of Alumni Affairs  
62 S. Dunlap, Suite 520, Memphis, TN 38163  
(800) 733-0482 or (901) 448-4974  
alane23@uthsc.edu  
<http://www.uthsc.edu/nursing>

The Hilton Memphis – 939 Ridgeland Blvd. ~ For reservations call (800) 445-8667 or (901) 684-6664.





## Generous Gift Helps Address End-of-Life Care

The William T. Cashdollar Distinguished Visiting Professorship is a dedicated lecture series created to help health care providers minister to the needs of dying persons and their families, as well as to their fellow professionals who provide the care. The University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Nursing is able to offer this exceptional series of lectures devoted to end-of-life care because of the generosity of William Cashdollar's wife Kathy Cashdollar.

Mrs. Cashdollar, through her caring concern, observed the extreme difficulties involved in communication as she experienced the death of her husband William. She played an integral role in the creation and direction of this important lectureship. It was her dedication and concern that enables UTHSC to continue this lectureship in end-of-life care.

Mrs. Kathy Cashdollar passed away in 2007 after dedicating nearly 20 years of her life to this important endeavor. She was able to see, first hand, the interest in end-of-life care continue to grow until it has now become a national priority, not only for nursing, but health care in general.

Please join us, and members of Kathy Cashdollar's family, for this year's William T. Cashdollar Lecture. For more information, contact: Jada Harding, continuing education coordinator, (901) 448-2358 or jhardi16@uthsc.edu.

**The William T. Cashdollar  
Distinguished Visiting Professorship**

**Cashdollar Lecture**

**When: Friday, November 5, 2010  
8 – 11:30 a.m.**

**Where: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital  
St. Jude Auditorium  
ALSAC Tower 2nd Floor**

**Topic: Family-Centered End-of-Life Care**

**Distinguished Visiting Professor:  
Jim Conway, senior fellow  
Institute of Healthcare Improvement (IHI)**

### Bowns DVP

Diana J. Mason, RN, PhD, FAAN, DHL (Hon.), will be the Beverly H. Bowns Distinguished Visiting Professor on August 5.

Dr. Mason is the Rudin Professor of Nursing at the Hunter College-Bellevue School of Nursing of the City University of New York, where she directs a Center for Health, Media, and Policy.

"Nurses Reforming Health Care: Answering the Challenge to Lead" will be the topic of her address.

For more than 10 years, she served as editor-in-chief of the American Journal of Nursing, and continues in an emeritus capacity. While there, she developed numerous grant-funded projects to disseminate cutting-edge information on a variety of topics, including a print and video series on nursing care of older adults, a print series on palliative nursing and chronic kidney disease, and a series of articles and videos on assessing older adults.

Watch for more information on the Bowns DVP in the coming months.



Diana Mason, RN, PhD

### Cashdollar DVP

Jim Conway, senior fellow of the Institute of Healthcare Improvement (IHI), will be the featured speaker at the 2010 William T. Cashdollar Visiting Professorship this November.

Conway is an adjunct faculty member of the Harvard School of Public Health and a senior fellow at IHI. He holds a master's degree from Lesley College, Cambridge, Mass.

He served IHI as senior vice president from 2006-2009. From 1995-2005, he was executive vice president and chief operating officer of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Prior to joining DFCI, he had a 27-year career at Children's Hospital, Boston, in radiology administration, finance and as assistant hospital director. His areas of expertise and interest include governance and executive leadership, patient safety, change management, and patient-/family-centered care.

The lecture will be held on Friday, Nov. 5, at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.



Jim Conway, MS

# Legacy Society

Another wonderful Hershel P. Wall, M.D., Legacy Society dinner was held this past fall, and the next is already scheduled for October 2010.

This past year UT Interim President Jan Simek, PhD, joined the celebration at the University Club to recognize those who are including the UT Health Science Center in their estate plans. Legacy gifts are made by naming UT as a beneficiary of a will, charitable trust, gift annuity, insurance policy, or retirement plan.

To find out how you can become a member of the Hershel P. Wall, M.D., Legacy Society, contact Bethany Goolsby at (901) 448-4941 or bgoolsby@uthsc.edu.



**Hershel P. Wall, M.D.**  
**Legacy Society**



Cheryl Stegbauer, PhD, associate dean in the College of Nursing, and student ambassador



Dr. and Mrs. Pat Wall and UT Interim President Jan Simek

## In Memoriam

**1942** - Marie H. Street, 88, a longtime Memphis resident, died at home on February 28. Preceded in death by her husband of 56 years, David Elton Street, she is survived by her son, David E. Street Jr.; daughter, Judith Conley of Memphis; and their families.

**1944** - Helen R. Sousley, 86, died suddenly at her home at the Villas at Riverplace senior retirement community in Boise, Idaho, on November 17, 2009, of natural causes. She is survived by her husband, USAF Colonel Retired Roy J. Sousley, Jr., their three daughters and their families.

**1947** - Hannah Hylton Pedersen, 92, of Dandridge formerly of Knoxville passed away November 7, 2009. She served as a public health nurse in Knox County for many years completing her tenure as head nurse at the Knoxville Health Department. She was known in Knoxville and Dandridge for her civic and philanthropic involvement.

**1948, 1961** - Barbara June Sloan died November 9, 2009, at Forest Cove Health Center, Jackson, Tenn. For 13 years she served at John Gaston Hospital in Memphis as charge nurse in labor and delivery, as well as in public health for 19 years in Memphis and Shelby County. She also served in the 330th General Hospital unit of the U.S. Army Reserve, attaining the rank of colonel.

**1966** - Donna P. McLeary McRae, 65, of Dekalb, Miss., died Jan. 9, at Anderson's Regional Medical Center in Meridian, Miss. Survivors include her husband, Frank E. McRae of DeKalb; three sons, and their families.

**Friend** - Wilma R. Lasslo, a former librarian at UT Medical Library, died March 3. She retired in 1990 and was the widow of Andrew Lasslo, who died in 2005 and who prior to his retirement was chairman of the Department of Medicinal Chemistry.

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Office of Development and Alumni Affairs  
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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**May 21, 2010**

**2010 Alumni Day: “Ensuring Patient Safety in Health Care Organizations”**

**August 5, 2010**

**Beverly H. Bowns Distinguished Visiting Professorship:  
“Nurses Reforming Health Care: Answering the Challenge to Lead”**

**November 5, 2010**

**William T. Cashdollar Distinguished Visiting Professorship:  
“Family-Centered End-of-Life Care”**

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## **NURSING APPLICATION DEADLINES 2010 - 2011**

**Master’s Entry CNL**

**Rolling Admissions - Deadline January 3, 2011**

**DNP CRNA Entry into Practice**

**September 1, 2010**

**DNP**

**December 15, 2010**

**PhD**

**February 1, 2011**