

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

NURSING

SUMMER 2016

The Path Forward

*UTHSC
Nurse Leading
Health Department*
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Mapping Out Our Strategic Vision



Communications Team

Writing, Editing and Design DAVID MEYER, Editor
TIM BULLARD
AMBER CARTER
JACKIE DENTON
JANE PATE
PEGGY REISSER WINBURNE

Art Direction and Illustration DAVID MEYER

Photography THURMAN HOBSON

Additional Photography JAY ATKINS
TIM BULLARD
DANIEL MCGARRY
JANE PATE
JON SPARKS

Chancellor STEVE J. SCHWAB, MD

Vice Chancellor for Development and Alumni Affairs RANDY L. FARMER, EdD

Associate Vice Chancellor for Development and Alumni Affairs BETHANY GOOLSBY, JD

Director of Development C. ADELE HIXON-DAY

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Alumni Affairs TIM LANIER

Director of Alumni Programs LIBBY WYATT

Senior Director of Annual Giving/Advancement Services JADA WILLIAMS

Senior Director of Philanthropy Communications JOSIE BALLIN

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR



The University of Tennessee Health Science Center is working diligently to make a difference in the community on the local, state, national and global stage. This magazine will show you how we are accomplishing that, and how the College of Nursing is playing a big role in our effort.

You'll read how as an institution:

- We secured one of the largest philanthropic gifts in our history in conjunction with Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare for our Methodist University Hospital Transplant Institute. This gift will enable us to transform the current Transplant Institute from a leading transplant program to a world-class research program. (page 7)
- We ranked as one of the Top Workplaces in Greater Memphis for the second year in a row. (page 8)

- We celebrated with our Methodist Healthcare and West Clinic partners on the opening of new headquarters for the UT-West Cancer Center, a comprehensive cancer center committed to leading-edge clinical trials and research. (page 6)
- We applauded as Le Bonheur Children's Hospital, our pediatric clinical partner, received Magnet designation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center for demonstrating excellence in nursing practice. (page 10)

You'll also see how your college:

- Joined with the College of Medicine to battle stroke in the Mid-South with the UT Mobile Stroke Unit. Stroke-fellowship-trained, doctorally prepared nurses certified as advanced neurovascular practitioners will help staff the unit, which is equipped to reduce time to treatment for stroke victims. (page 4)
- Trained nurse leaders like Dr. Alisa Haushalter, a UTHSC College of Nursing faculty member, who recently took the helm of the Shelby County Health Department. (page 35)
- Led the charge to raise the profile of all health care professionals, as Dr. Diane Pace did when she successfully took on Pfizer Pharmaceuticals and won. (page 16)

We are proud to see all the good work by the College of Nursing, and thrilled that others are recognizing the achievements. Dean Wendy Likes was recently inducted into the Fellows of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners for having made significant contributions to clinical practice, research, education and policy. (page 8) She was also appointed by Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey to serve on the Healing Arts Scope of Practice Task Force. (page 34) Congratulations, Dean Likes!

As the University of Tennessee Health Science Center continues its mission of educating and training the health care leaders of tomorrow and improving the health of our community today, it is important to take a moment to acknowledge outstanding efforts by our faculty, staff and students.

The entire UTHSC administration is grateful and proud of what we have accomplished together, and look forward to outstanding results, as the College of Nursing maps its plan for the future. Many thanks for all you do to support UTHSC.

Steve J. Schwab, MD
Chancellor

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

WENDY LIKES, PHD, DNSC, APRN-BC, FAANP



The field of Nursing is changing rapidly, and our College of Nursing is leading the way.

We've always been on the forefront of our profession. Our college was an early adopter of nurse practitioner education. (page 39) We have continually trained nurse leaders who set the standard for practice across many specialties. And we have a history of educating talented health care professionals who care for individuals locally, nationally and globally.

But we do not rest on our laurels. We are moving strategically into the future, with the goal of raising our profile as a leader in education, research, clinical care and community service – the four missions of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center.

In this magazine, read how we envision the UTHSC College of Nursing of tomorrow – as a trendsetter, a thought leader, a center of excellence. And learn about our strategic plan to get there. (page 11) We have set up implementation teams led by key faculty members to help us. Dr. Susan

Jacob will work to increase faculty and staff effectiveness, to ensure our precious resources are optimally maximized and our processes most efficient. Alise Farrell will concentrate on new and innovative strategies for improving our curriculum and best educating future nurse leaders. Dr. Carolyn Graff will strive to increase research in our college, placing our CON at the front lines of developing the science that leads our profession. Dr. Melody Waller is evaluating strategies to most help our students be successful. In building the college of the future, we must be strategic not only in the mission, but the messaging. We must make a conscious effort to let the world know what we do. To that end, Dr. Stephanie Nikbakht will work to increase engagement and branding for the college.

We look ahead with anticipation, but we must also take a moment to acknowledge the best of the present. We are proud of our colleagues who are collaborating with the UTHSC College of Medicine to staff the new Mobile Stroke Unit, key to the fight against stroke in the Mid-South. We salute faculty member Dr. Susan Jacob and alumna Dr. Barbara Cherry for producing a textbook that has been used to train nurses around the country for years. (page 20) And we acknowledge our alumni, who are former members of the UT Nurses basketball team, for representing us so well on the court and in their years as nurses. (page 24)

As I stood at the podium during our commencement ceremony in May and looked at the bright faces of our 81 graduates, I was struck by the thought that the future of nursing was standing before me. We are committed to shaping each new class to meet the demands of the ever-changing health care environment, leading the way for these nurses to take on a greater role as health care providers and leaders. And we are grateful for all that you, our distinguished alumni, do to help us in that effort. I hope you read with excitement about our current endeavors and our future direction. As always, we invite you, our alumni and friends, to visit and engage in our CON and assist us in leading our nursing profession forward.

Wendy M. Likes, PhD, DNSc, APRN-BC, FAANP
Dean and Associate Professor

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Finishing Strokes

Dr. Anne Alexandrov is Taking the Battle to the Streets in the World's Most Comprehensive Mobile Stroke Unit

left to right) Joe Rike, director of the Mobile Stroke Unit; Dr. Andrei Alexandrov; Dr. Anne Alexandrov; and Graduate Research Assistant Mary Grove

By Jon Sparks

History was made this year in more than one way when the UTHSC College of Medicine unveiled the world's most comprehensive Mobile Stroke Unit. The remarkable, ultra-sophisticated ambulance has the most advanced CT capabilities in a mobile setting and can save precious minutes in getting treatment for patients.

The high-tech, high-capability unit is leading edge in stroke treatment, but the operational aspect is also ground-breaking. The mobile unit is the first that is led by stroke fellowship-trained, doctorally prepared nurses certified as advanced neurovascular practitioners.

"This is clearly the future of what nurse practitioners are in this country," said Anne W. Alexandrov, PhD, RN, CCRN, ANVP-BC, NVRN-BC, FAAN. She is a professor in the UTHSC College of Nursing and is responsible for staffing the Mobile Stroke Unit.

The unit is staffed by an advanced EMT and a paramedic as required by the state of Tennessee, and a CT scan technician. Running the operation is a highly credentialed nurse practitioner who works with

a physician in person or by telephone or radio. "The nurse practitioner is the lead person when it comes to treatment decision making," Dr. Alexandrov said. "We collect data to understand how quickly we can treat from the time the stroke first occurred."

There are 88 of these expert nurses in practice around the country, and four of them have been recruited for the Memphis Mobile Stroke Unit.

Memphis is practically the buckle of America's Stroke Belt. The disease is the fifth leading cause of death for Americans, and in the South, a number of reasons are often cited as contributing to the high stroke rate, including hypertension, high cholesterol, diabetes, poverty and diet. Additionally, the risk of having a first stroke is nearly twice as high for African Americans than for whites, and African Americans are more likely to die following a stroke than are whites. The Centers for Disease Control says the stroke rate in Shelby County is 37 percent higher than the national average.

In order to be as near as possible to where strokes happen, the Mobile Stroke Unit is kept at Memphis

Fire Department station No. 14 in South Memphis, close to ZIP codes 38109 and 38106, which have the highest incidences of stroke.

"When someone has a stroke, it takes a while for someone to call," Dr. Alexandrov said. "It typically takes a few minutes to get there and then a few more to get to the hospital." She said responses are faster than they used to be, but the mobile unit is making a significant dent in speeding up the process.

The mobile unit's medical director is Dr. Andrei V. Alexandrov, MD, Chairman of the Department of Neurology at UTHSC and Semmes-Murphey Professor as well as the husband of Dr. Anne Alexandrov. Both are stroke experts who came to UTHSC in 2014 and have worked and collaborated together for several years.

"Time is brain," said Dr. Andrei Alexandrov. "The longer a blood clot is there, the more brain cells die. If you're having a stroke, you only have one hour to decide to do something, and that hour will largely determine how you are going to spend the rest of your life. Our hypothesis is that we will deliver hospital-level standard of stroke care faster, equally safe, but with better outcomes due to the ability to intervene much earlier."

A significant part of making that possible – and one of the reasons the Mobile Stroke Unit is the most advanced anywhere – is the capability of the CT scanner. It not only does brain imaging, but also high resolution imaging of

blood vessels in the brain, and by using a dedicated gantry, it automatically moves the patient instead of the team having to do so.

With the nurse practitioner as the eyes and ears and front line decision maker, the patient can be quickly examined, scanned and assessed. After discussion with the physician, the next step is decided and may involve starting tissue plasminogen activator (tPA) treatment and administering the blood pressure drug nicardipine within the first hour.

"We're creating a super nurse who is a nurse practitioner already, and who is willing to commit to about two years of education taught at the level of a vascular neurology fellowship – physician level, beyond master's or doctorate as a nurse practitioner."

Dr. Anne Alexandrov

All this, which has typically been done after the ambulance arrives at the emergency room, allows the unit to bypass the ER and take the patient directly to endovascular suites, operating rooms and stroke or neurocritical units.

Having nurse practitioners take the lead in mobile stroke unit operations is a matter of logic and sustainability. Vascular neurologists are in relatively short supply and it's not practical for them to commit

to a daily presence on the mobile stroke unit. On the other hand, specifically trained nurse practitioners have the skills and leadership to run the operation and call on the physician as needed.

While there are only 88 of them in the nation, the numbers will increase, and that's thanks to the NET SMART program developed in part in 2007 by Dr. Anne Alexandrov, Dr. Andrei Alexandrov and Dr. Marc Malkoff, MD, who is Vice-Chairman of the Department of Neurology and also works with the Mobile Stroke Unit. NET SMART stands for Nurse Education and Training in Stroke Management and Acute Reperfusion Therapies, and it is at the core of producing the fellowship-trained, doctorally-prepared nurses who are certified as advanced neurovascular practitioners.

"We're creating a super nurse who is a nurse practitioner already," Dr. Anne Alexandrov said, "and who is willing to commit to about two years of education taught at the level of a vascular neurology fellowship – physician level, beyond master's or doctorate as a nurse practitioner."

She said it involves 1,000 hours of clinical time just working with stroke and doing focused assignments. When the nurse's local partner is a vascular neurologist then that physician will be confident about the nurse practitioner's research, knowledge and willingness to ask questions, she said. "One thing we always emphasize is that you are always a nurse and when you don't know, you don't step across boundaries – you ask."

The UT Mobile Stroke Unit is the first of its kind to be led by doctorally-prepared nurse practitioners.





New West Cancer Center Brings Comprehensive, Multidisciplinary Cancer Care to Mid-South

“Four years ago, we came together to give world-class cancer care to Memphis, the region and the nation,” Lee Schwartzberg, MD, FACP, executive director of West Cancer Center, said at the opening ceremony for the new East campus location facility on Nov. 17, 2015. “We provide everything in this building.”

The \$65 million, 23,251-square-foot building is the product of an innovative collaboration between West Clinic, Methodist Healthcare and UTHSC to bring comprehensive cancer care, education and research to the region and beyond.



- treat 35,224 patients*
- deliver more than 18,000 radiation treatments*
- treat more than 10,000 with chemotherapy*

* Source: Erich Mounce, West Cancer Center Chief Executive Officer

In 2016, the West Cancer Center is expected to



The partnership, which began in 2012, magnifies the strengths and expertise of each of the institutions to improve patient care, elevate training for the next generation of clinicians, and aid in recruiting research leaders from all over the country to Memphis.

“This is the beginning of a new day for cancer care in the Mid-South,” Gary Shorb, chief executive officer of Methodist Healthcare, told the elected officials, health care professionals, cancer survivors and community members attending the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The new center brings together multispecialty services – including medical, surgical, diagnostic and radiation oncology, genetics, pain management, nutrition, palliative care, clinical research and others – under one roof for the first time in Memphis. The collaborative environment is designed to make cancer care more accessible, organized and easier for patients, enabling them to stay in Memphis for treatment instead of traveling to institutions in other cities.

The new West Cancer Center lobby

Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare and UTHSC Receive \$40 Million Gift

On Nov. 15, 2015, Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare (MLH) and UTHSC announced the receipt of a \$40 million gift. The anonymous gift will be used to transform the current Methodist University Hospital Transplant Institute (a partnership between MLH and UTHSC) from a leading transplant program to a world-class research program and a progressive, healing environment for patients and families alike.

quality of life and the life expectancy of transplant patients. We will use this generous donation for groundbreaking research centered on further improving the outcomes for transplant patients and providing a world-class patient and family-centered care experience. This gift is a testament to the great work being done in Memphis.”

The Methodist University Hospital Transplant Institute has been recognized for its success with kidney, liver, kidney-pancreas

and pancreas transplants, ranking among the top 10 liver transplant programs and top 15 overall transplant programs (by volume) in the nation. The Transplant Institute is known for its innovative steroid-free liver transplantation. The program offers hope to patients with conditions such as kidney failure and end-stage liver diseases. More than 6,000 transplants have been performed at the Institute. More than 1,000 liver transplants and 1,000 kidney transplants have been performed at Methodist UT Hospital and Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital under Dr. Eason’s leadership since 2006.

“This gift will further our vision of Memphis being a health care hub not only for the Southeast, but for the entire United States.”

Dr. James D. Eason

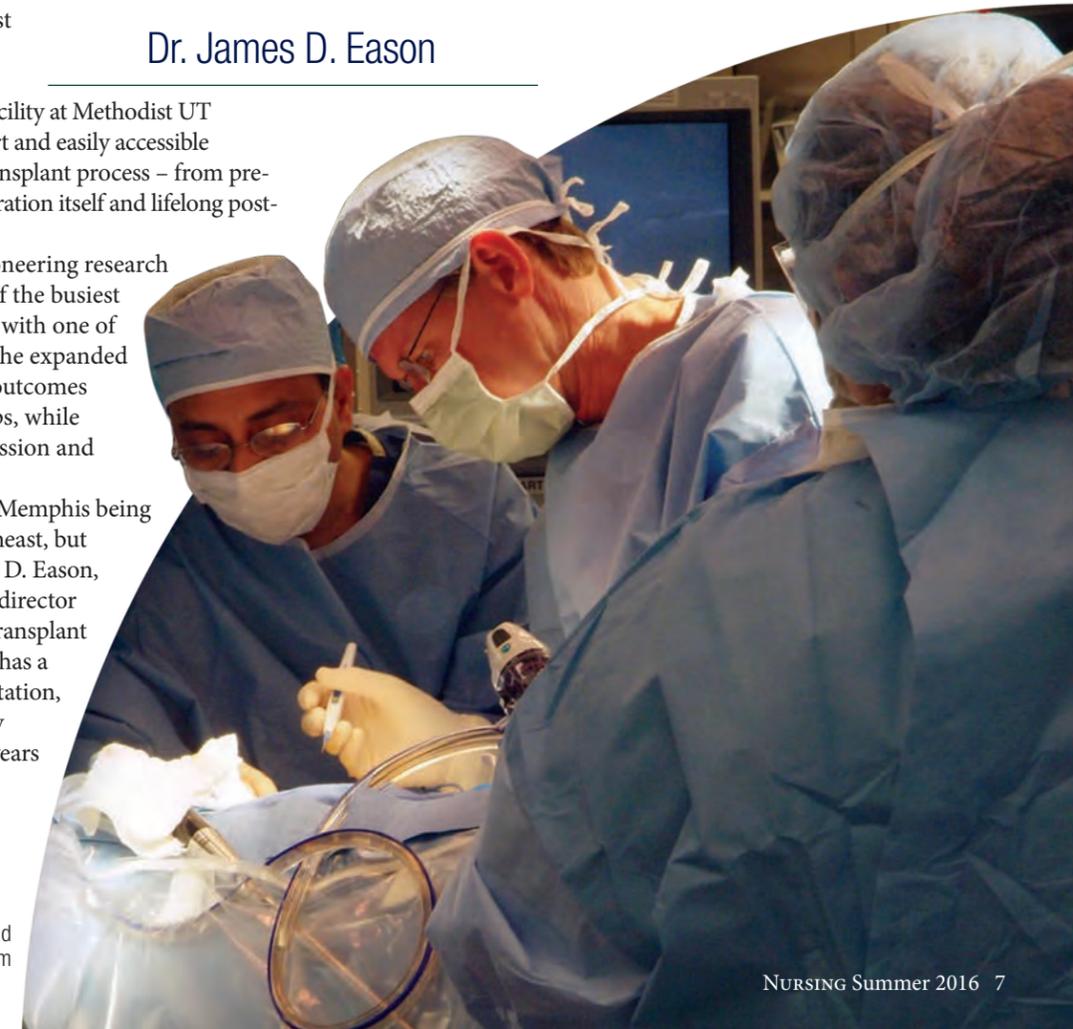
“This generous gift will greatly impact the scope and level of care provided by our transplant program,” said Gary Shorb, CEO of Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare. “Since 2006, we’ve been on a journey to achieve national excellence for our transplant efforts, and this gift will serve as a catalyst to not only transform our Transplant Institute, but all of Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare. “Our mission at Methodist Le Bonheur is to serve all areas of Memphis, regardless of a patient’s ability to pay, and philanthropic gifts such as this provide the bridge between what we can afford and what we can envision. We are honored to receive this gift – the largest ever in our nearly 100-year history.”

The gift will be used for a new, innovative, comprehensive transplant facility at Methodist UT Hospital that will provide state-of-the-art and easily accessible accommodations for all stages of the transplant process – from pre-transplant testing, to the transplant operation itself and lifelong post-transplant care.

The funds will also be used for pioneering research in conjunction with UTHSC. As one of the busiest transplant centers in the United States with one of the most diverse patient populations, the expanded research will be critical in examining outcomes across racial and socioeconomic groups, while further building upon our research mission and improving patient care and outcomes.

“This gift will further our vision of Memphis being a health care hub not only for the Southeast, but for the entire United States,” said James D. Eason, MD, UTHSC professor of Surgery and director of the Methodist University Hospital Transplant Institute. “The University of Tennessee has a long history with solid organ transplantation, successfully performing the first kidney transplant in Tennessee more than 40 years ago. Our vision is to expand upon that success, while further developing the research mission and improving the

Dr. James Eason, center, and his team in the operating room





Still *UTHSC Voted Top Workplace* on *by Employees for Second Year* Top

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center was named one of the 2015 Top Workplaces in Memphis by The Commercial Appeal daily newspaper. This is the second year in a row that UTHSC has made the list.

“It is wonderful to be named a top workplace by our employees at UTHSC where we aim to improve health care for Tennesseans and the region by focusing on integrated programs in education, research, clinical care and public service,” said Chandra Alston, associate vice chancellor for Human Resources.

“Our survey scores improved from 2014 to 2015, and this lets us know that we continue to make a positive difference in the lives of the people we work with and improve the work culture. Our culture is far from perfect, but I think our employees see that the leadership is working to develop a culture where employees can thrive, be fulfilled and maximally contribute to our mission. Thank you again to our wonderful employees for recognizing our efforts.”

The distinction, given to a total of 50 large, medium and small workplaces, is based solely on surveys completed by employees. The newspaper partners with WorkplaceDynamics, a survey firm based in Philadelphia, to identify the best places to work based on factors including how employees feel about their job, training, direction, retention, motivation, benefits and pay.

More than 800 companies were invited to participate, and almost 19,000 employees responded on paper or online to the 22-question survey. The results indicate that feeling appreciated and doing meaningful work is important to job satisfaction, according to WorkplaceDynamics.



Still *Nursing Ranks as Most Trusted* Number *Profession for 14th Year in a Row* One

According to the 2015 Gallup Honesty and Ethics Poll, the profession of nursing has earned the top ranking for the 14th consecutive year.

Hallie Bensinger, DNP, APN, FNP-BC, assistant professor and director of the BSN/MSN Program in the UTHSC College of Nursing, believes the accolade is warranted for a couple of reasons. “Many nurses get into nursing in order to feel like they are making a difference and they do,” she said. “They care for patients 24/7, meeting their needs when they are the most vulnerable. I believe that this is why nurses are the most trusted professionals. Patients have to depend on them, and nurses come through for them. The other reason that it is a top profession is the variety of things you can do in nursing.”

“These polls are instrumental in recruitment of nurses who share our values and ideals,” said Dean Wendy M. Likes. “It is a noble profession. It is well-known we have a nursing shortage, so we need to get the best, brightest and most compassionate into our nursing programs.”

Aside from the overall sense of purpose that the profession brings, another aspect that makes nursing so rewarding is

its many subspecialties. The possibilities within nursing are almost limitless. A nurse can specialize in any body system, any age group, any gender, community health or many different specialties in intensive care. Nurses can go into academia, research, travel nursing or patient education. If a nurse gets tired of one area, he or she can go into many other things. The job never gets boring.

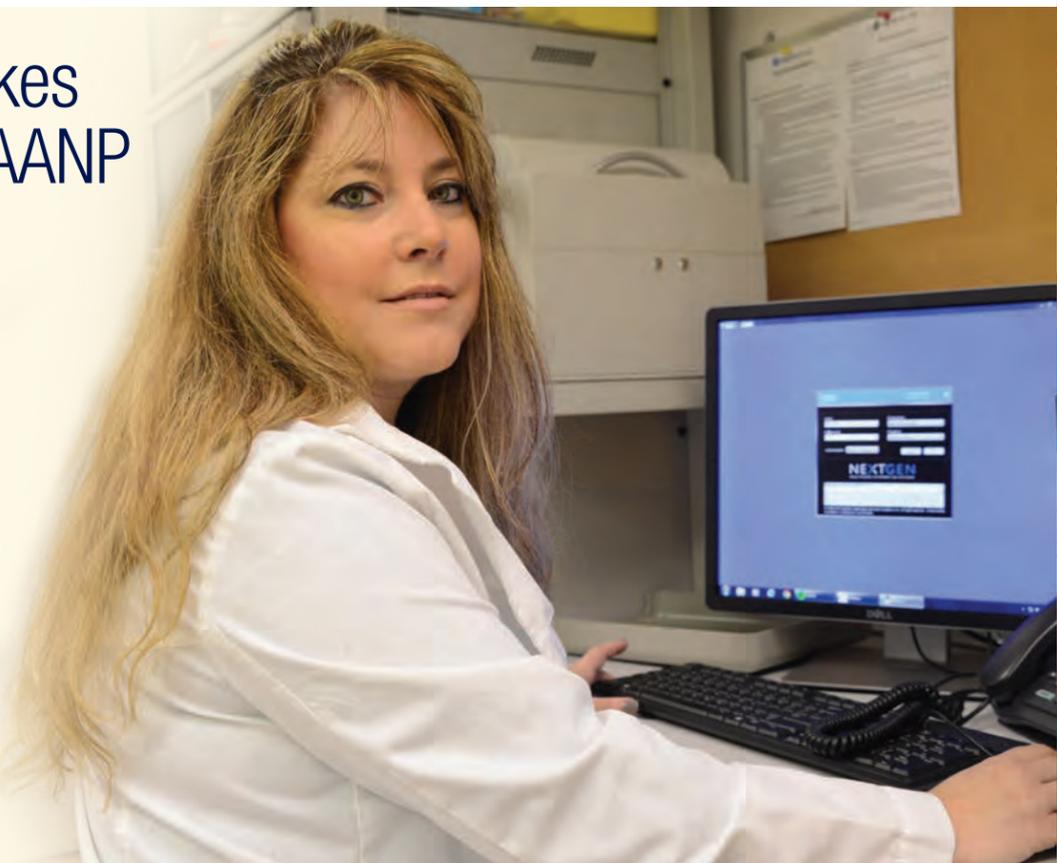
Susan Jacob, PhD, RN, interim dean of Academic Affairs, particularly enjoys being of service to patients at the end of life. “My clinical and research background revolve around hospice and support of patients and families during the dying process, and then supporting families after death during the bereavement process.”

For Dean Likes, this recognition is a precursor to the future. “My ultimate hope is that this is heard by health care policy makers and health care organizations,” she said. “Nursing has had a presence in policy, but we need to be more interwoven into guiding the future direction of health care and serving on the boards making decisions impacting health. The public trusts nurses because we have the best interest of not only our patients at heart, but also the health of our nation.”

Dean Wendy Likes Inducted into FAANP

Dr. Wendy Likes, dean of the UTHSC College of Nursing, was among 88 nurse practitioners inducted into the Fellows of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (FAANP) at a ceremony held in San Antonio, Texas. The program recognizes nurse practitioners who have made significant contributions to clinical practice, research, education or policy that complements the vision of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP). Selections are based on individuals who strive to advance the nurse practitioner’s role in health care.

The purpose of the AANP Fellows is to impact national and global health by engaging nationally recognized nurse practitioners to lead new initiatives.



Le Bonheur Children's Hospital Achieves Magnet Status

Le Bonheur Children's Hospital has received Magnet designation by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). Le Bonheur is among only 7 percent of hospitals in the country to have earned the distinction of Magnet status.

Le Bonheur serves as a primary teaching affiliate for UTHSC. Nationally recognized, Le Bonheur is ranked by U.S. News & World Report as a Best Children's Hospital.

"This achievement is a testament to the exceptional care we provide to patients and families every day," said Nikki Polis, chief nursing officer of Le Bonheur Children's Hospital. "We are incredibly proud of our Le Bonheur family for achieving this momentous goal. Magnet is evidence that each and every one of us is committed to providing a higher standard of care for all children in need."

Directed by the ANCC, Magnet recognizes health care organizations for quality patient care, nursing excellence and

innovations in professional nursing practice. Le Bonheur is one of four hospitals in the state of Tennessee to receive the honor. Consumers rely on the designation as the ultimate credential for high quality patient care.

"Our Magnet journey will continue as we improve upon the care and devotion we show to patients, to families, and to one another," Polis said.

The ANCC Magnet Recognition Program designates health care organizations that demonstrate excellence in nursing practice, adherence to national standards for improving patient care, leadership and sensitivity to cultural and ethnic diversity. Hospitals undergo a rigorous evaluation that includes a document submission and an on-site evaluation of patient care and outcomes. Magnet hospitals must provide an annual status report on their progress and must undergo re-evaluation every four years to retain the designation.

Dr. Diane Pace Named an Outstanding Professor of Women's Health Nursing by NursePractitionerSchools.com

Diane Pace, PhD, FNP-BC, NCMP, CCD, FAANP, associate professor and director of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program in the College of Nursing at UTHSC, has been recognized as one of 20 Outstanding Professors of Women's Health Nursing by *NursePractitionerSchools.com*.

According to the website, those chosen are teaching, published, providing thoughtful leadership, and actively involved in the profession.

"I am honored to have Dr. Pace on faculty and as a leader in our college," said Dr. Wendy Likes, dean of the UTHSC College of Nursing. "This is a well-deserved recognition for the contributions she has made in not only teaching and preparing the nurses of the future, but impacting the health care of women on a national scale."

Currently providing primary care and menopausal health care at the Methodist Teaching Practice as a family nurse practitioner, Dr. Pace obtained her initial preparation as a registered nurse from the Methodist Hospital School of Nursing in 1971. In 1976, she completed a certificate in the nurse practitioner program at the University of Arkansas Center for Health Sciences. She completed a BSN from Union University in 1995, an MSN from UTHSC in 1996, and her PhD in nursing from UTHSC in 1998. She also has obtained non-nursing degrees: bachelor's degree in general studies/health care administration in 1982 from Arkansas State University and an MS in curriculum and instruction from Memphis State

University, now the University of Memphis, in 1984.

Dr. Pace is a certified menopause practitioner and the first nurse practitioner to serve as president of the North American Menopause Society (NAMS). She also serves on the organization's Scientific, Consumer Education, Technology, and Membership committees. Dr. Pace has published on menopause and is a contributor to NAMS's "Menopause Practice: A Clinician's Guide," "The Menopause Guidebook," and the NAMS MenoPro app.

She is the only non-physician to serve on a menopause curriculum task force to develop a curriculum for residents and other clinicians for the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics. Additionally, she serves as a reviewer for the Journal of Menopause, and co-editor for a women's health focus publication for the Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. She contributed to the development of a national continuing education program on osteoporosis. She has been inducted as a Fellow in the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, honored with the Tennessee State Award for Excellence, and presents annually at their national conferences. Dr. Pace was awarded the 2014 Inspiration in Women's Health Award by

the National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health, is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society and many other organizations.

Dr. Pace is active in health care informatics and has served on many state e-health committees, including five years on the ANA Nursing Practice Committee on Information Infrastructure. In 2011, Dr. Pace obtained the newly developed prestigious federal certification: Health Information Technology Pro Clinician/Practitioner Consultant Health Information Technology Professional.



Dr. Diane Pace offers instruction to DNP student Deanne Tole.

Transforming nursing education is more than a slogan. It's an imperative, according to Wendy Likes, PhD, DNSc, dean of the UTHSC College of Nursing. Between demographic trends and new laws, including the Affordable Care Act, nursing is changing rapidly. So is nursing education.

The UTHSC College of Nursing has traditionally been ahead of changes in the health care environment, the dean said, and will strive

to stay out ahead, taking a leadership role.

At a strategic planning session in December, the dean challenged the College of Nursing faculty and staff to focus on transforming nursing education, expanding the college's research capacity with a strong focus on community participation, rebuilding the college's clinical enterprise, strengthening its local, regional and national presence, and building a sustainable development plan.

The Path Forward

By Tim Bullard



Mapping Out Our Strategic Vision

The college has formed implementation teams each led by an appointed faculty leader and composed of faculty and staff. Each team is tackling one of the following areas over the course of this year.

- Optimize Staff and Faculty Effectiveness
- Implement Innovative Strategies for Course Delivery
- Enhance Student Success
- Increase Engagement and Brand our Presence
- Increase Research and Scholarship Productivity and Funding

Dean Likes said, "These groups have been very active in determining action plans for each one of these areas to lead the College of Nursing forward, building and evolving an integrated model to sustainably develop nurse leaders. In this magazine, these areas are highlighted and the leaders of these groups share the vision for each of these priorities."



Besides these long-range goals, the College of Nursing has been tasked with leading the way at UTHSC in the university's own commitment to interprofessional collaboration. "This is a great opportunity to demonstrate our expertise and leadership in making a significant contribution to UTHSC and our health care community," the dean said, calling interprofessional teamwork "critical."

All of that is a tall order. To accomplish all of this, the college needs a clear strategy – what she called "big thinking." It will require synergies with other partners, from the community to hospitals and physician partnerships to the college's own alumni.

Above all, she said, the college needs to cultivate areas of excellence within itself.

The College of the Future

What will the College of Nursing of 2025 look like?

- Pioneers.
- Ground breakers.
- Visionaries.
- Trend setters.
- Progressive.
- In other words, leaders in health care.

The College of Nursing in 2025 will be a "thought-leader" in both the delivery of health care and education of nurses. It will be well-known for specific, patient-centered areas of excellence. It will be an active participant in shaping public policy and a strong advocate for fully leveraging the highest levels of nursing skill. It will be recognized nationally for its innovative expertise and excellence.

The College of Nursing in 2025 will provide lifelong nursing education, clinical practice and public service. It won't simply educate nurses. Instead, it will develop nurse leaders, adding value through an interprofessional approach.

The trend in the nursing profession is toward an increasingly holistic patient experience, Dr. Likes continued, particularly for the aging population. That means a "bundling of services" and a team approach – nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, physicians and pharmacists – with nurses being seen as full partners in the practice of health care rather than simply as subordinates to physicians. The focus is on results, with a special focus on community-based outcomes.

The clear trend is toward a greater coordination of care.



Quite simply, nurses today find themselves with an expanding role. In response, the scope of nursing education is expanding. The nursing education curriculum will have to change.

It will be important to ensure that nurses work at the highest level to which they were educated. That will mean increasing the emphasis on advanced education. The college will be required to adapt constantly to maintain its relevance, especially with regard to psychiatric and substance abuse. It will also have to integrate a population health perspective.

In the future, the dean said, there will be a need for more effective integration of didactic and clinical aspects of nursing education. The emerging health care model is mandating this.



Alise Farrell

Alise Farrell, MSN, RN, is tasked with "Implementing Innovative Strategies for Course Delivery."

"We've come up with a working definition of innovations, and we're partnering closely with the Teaching and Learning Center here at UTHSC, working to get our faculty to integrate new technologies into their teaching," she said.

Farrell is a clinical instructor in the BSN program. A native of Memphis, she received her BSN from UTHSC and her MSN from Union University with a concentration in nursing education.

With more than 27 years of experience as a nurse, predominantly in pediatrics at Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center, she also has experience in clinical nursing administration, critical care and staff development.

She has been a nurse educator for 10 years, serving on the faculty of Methodist School of Nursing where she taught pediatric and adult health nursing courses. She also served as a clinical development specialist for Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare.

Her teaching responsibilities at UTHSC include didactic and clinical instruction for Introduction to Professional Practice and Pediatric and Adolescent Health. She also assists with clinical practicum for the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) and works in the skills lab and simulation. She is on the board for the local chapter of Society of Pediatric Nursing.

INNOVATE

OPTIMIZE

Susan Jacob, PhD, MSN, is responsible for "Optimizing Staff and Faculty Effectiveness."

That means looking at the organizational chart for the College of Nursing in a process that could be described as "review, revise and recommend."

Dr. Jacob and her team are reviewing and revising job descriptions (called PDQs, for Position Description Questionnaire). "We're analyzing roles for maximum effectiveness," she said. They are also reviewing the reporting structures – who reports to whom. "Our goal is clear reporting structures, with a lack of duplication," she said.

When this process is complete, she'll make recommendations to the dean. "Our ultimate goal is no overlap, no duplication and no gaps," she said.

Currently, she said, "Nobody knows who to go to for what." The reasons behind this, she explained, are twofold: There has been a great deal of change in the college over the last few years, and there are a lot of new people. "It's important that each employee understands his or her own role, and knows whom to go to for what."

As a metric for quantifying the success of the process, employees eventually will be given a survey about job descriptions in the college – their own and others. Hopefully, everyone will score 75 percent or above, Dr. Jacob said.

Dr. Jacob joined the faculty in the UTHSC College of Nursing in September 2003 to lead efforts toward the reestablishment of the baccalaureate nursing program. In the role of executive associate dean, her focus was on strategic planning, accreditation, and outreach and globalization.

Before joining UTHSC, she was tenured professor on the faculty of the Lowenberg School of Nursing at the University of Memphis and dean of the School of Nursing at Union University.

Dr. Susan Jacob

ENGAGE

The UTHSC College of Nursing has a long record of excellence, innovation and leadership. Its DNP program was the second accredited DNP program in the country, and its BSN program was one of the first accredited BSN programs in the state as well.

Finally, the college benefits from the vigorous support of its own alumni.

At the same time, with all those assets at its disposal, the college needs to strengthen its research program and its clinical base to remain competitive.

The dean asked the college to consider fully a publication by the Institute of Medicine, titled, "The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health." The report was produced in 2010 by the Health and Medicine Division of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. (Until 2016, the division was known as the Institute of Medicine.)

The report, which is available at <http://nationalacademies.org/hmd/Reports/2010/The-Future-of-Nursing-Leading-Change-Advancing-Health.aspx>, recommended the removal of the scope of practice barriers, the expansion of opportunities for nurses to lead, and the implementation of nurse residency programs.

It also called for increasing the percentage of nurses who have a bachelor's degree to 80 percent by 2020, doubling the number of nurses with a doctorate by 2020, and ensuring that all nurses, regardless of their degree, engage in lifelong learning.

Finally, the report called the building of an infrastructure for the collection and analysis of interprofessional health care workforce data.



From this, the college identified its own top clinical areas of expertise – the college's commitment to addressing health disparities, in both rural and urban settings; prevention; innovation and technology in the classroom, including the training of faculty and staff to use those new technologies in teaching; distance education and virtual classrooms; interprofessional education; and interprofessional simulation.



Areas of Excellence

The centerpiece of the college's long-term plan is the adoption of an "areas of excellence" approach. This will require integrating the curriculum across programs, the dean said, as well as integrating the curriculum with research, clinical care and service. It will mean an ongoing alignment with the priorities of UTHSC and the university, including the creation of synergy with UTHSC's research agenda. This must be an increasing focus on grant development.

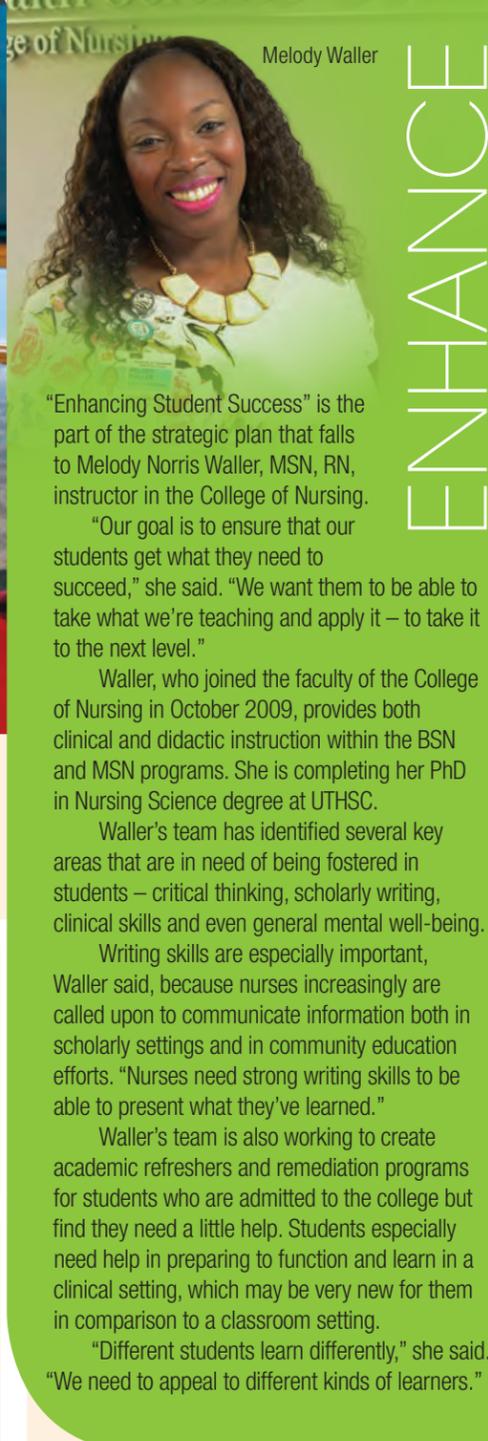
It also will require the building of broad and deep strategic partnerships, and having a compelling value proposition for those partners. These partnerships will have to go beyond mere financial

arrangements. An "areas of excellence" approach will require full participation from the faculty and from the board.

However, while focusing on areas of excellence, it is also important to not lose sight of other needs, such as the development of residencies and practice partners, the importance of community outreach, and preceptor development.

Finally, to successfully build and sustain an "areas of excellence" approach, the college needs to create a task force of faculty leaders, UTHSC partners and other key stakeholders.

"The College of Nursing is marching forward with a clear vision and purpose," Dean Likes said.



Melody Waller

ENHANCE

"Enhancing Student Success" is the part of the strategic plan that falls to Melody Norris Waller, MSN, RN, instructor in the College of Nursing.

"Our goal is to ensure that our students get what they need to succeed," she said. "We want them to be able to take what we're teaching and apply it – to take it to the next level."

Waller, who joined the faculty of the College of Nursing in October 2009, provides both clinical and didactic instruction within the BSN and MSN programs. She is completing her PhD in Nursing Science degree at UTHSC.

Waller's team has identified several key areas that are in need of being fostered in students – critical thinking, scholarly writing, clinical skills and even general mental well-being.

Writing skills are especially important, Waller said, because nurses increasingly are called upon to communicate information both in scholarly settings and in community education efforts. "Nurses need strong writing skills to be able to present what they've learned."

Waller's team is also working to create academic refreshers and remediation programs for students who are admitted to the college but find they need a little help. Students especially need help in preparing to function and learn in a clinical setting, which may be very new for them in comparison to a classroom setting.

"Different students learn differently," she said. "We need to appeal to different kinds of learners."

INCREASE



The part of the college's strategic plan entrusted to Carolyn Graff, PhD, RN, FAAIDD, is "Increasing Research and Scholarship Productivity and Funding."

Her approach to realizing this can be summed up in four parts: results, key steps, deadlines and clear accountability.

Her first task is to see that grant submissions to the National Institutes of Health, the Health Resources and Services Administration and private foundations are increased. As a metric of success, Dr. Graff plans to count the number of grants submitted, using 2015 as a base year.

Dr. Graff also plans to track the number of faculty manuscript submissions, faculty publications, faculty presentations, faculty abstracts submitted, faculty abstracts accepted and book chapters published.

Dr. Carolyn Graff

She will apply the same to students, with the number of student manuscripts submitted, student publications, student presentations, student abstracts submitted and student abstracts accepted also being tracked.

Dr. Graff said she wants to make sure that the college's culture supports scholarship by actually allotting time to scholarship. The plan is to have faculty members discuss the time allotted to scholarship during their annual meeting with their department chair.

Dr. Graff joined the University of Tennessee Health Science Center faculty in 2001. Currently, she is a professor in the College of Nursing, director of the PhD program in Nursing Science, and chief of nursing in the Boling Center for Developmental Disabilities, a University Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD).

Scene from a training video for Premarin Estrogen Cream. Pfizer Pharmaceuticals asked Dr. Diane Pace to participate as the health professional in the vignette.

Diane Pace, PhD, APRN, FNP-BC
Assoc. Prof., UT Health Science Center/College of Nursing

Disquiet on the Mind Set

Mind
By Tim Bullard

“Take 4! Quiet on the set! Ready! Action!”

Nurse practitioners do a lot of different things, but they usually don't hear these words during the course of their day. But Diane Pace, PhD, APRN, FNP-BC, NCMP, FAANP, did recently, in a studio in New York City. She had served for two years as an advocate for nurse practitioners (and indeed, all health care professionals who weren't physicians) with the senior marketing department of Pfizer Pharmaceuticals. Dr. Pace had asked them to change the tag at the end of their commercials for Premarin Estrogen Cream from “Ask your doctor” to “Ask your health care professional.” After two years, they had not only heard her, they had asked her to be the health care professional in a video.

It wasn't quite a new television commercial, but it was a video that would run on Pfizer's website and be used for training. She had to memorize lines and be filmed by a professional movie company along with an actor who was playing the role of a patient.

The Commercial

It all started more than two years ago, when Dr. Pace was watching TV. A commercial came on for Premarin, a vaginal cream produced by Pfizer.

Dr. Pace is an associate professor and director of the Doctor of Nursing Practice program in the UTHSC College of Nursing. She is also a long-time member of Pfizer's panel of experts on Premarin, and has spoken extensively about the product to conferences of her peers. She is also a family nurse practitioner providing primary care and menopausal health care at the Methodist Teaching Practice.

Naturally, she was excited to see the new television commercial for Premarin.

“So here we had one of the first commercials for Premarin vaginal cream, and it's on TV!” Dr. Pace said. “And they actually said the word ‘vagina.’ So we were all rejoicing.

“Until they got to the end of the commercial. “And it said, ‘Ask your doctor.’”

“Oh my – I went from being thrilled at the commercial to being quite upset at Pfizer,” Dr. Pace said.

Ask Your Doctor?

What about nurse practitioners? Nurses? Physician assistants?

They're all health care professionals, Dr. Pace said, who play an increasingly important role. In fact, women – especially older women – may feel more comfortable talking to one of these clinicians, especially if that professional is another woman. Why not say, ‘Ask your health care professional,’ she wondered.

“We know from two large trials that providers have not initiated discussions with their patients about topics such as vulvovaginal atrophy,” Dr. Pace said. “Less than seven percent of women talk to their providers about vaginal issues.

“And their providers don't bring it up, either,” she continued. “Women want to bring it up but they don't.”

It's hardly an uncommon problem. As women age, Dr. Pace explained, they have less estrogen. As a result, they have more symptoms such as burning, itching, irritation, and pain with intercourse. If anything, these problems have become more prevalent, she said, because less systemic estrogen is being prescribed today, due primarily to concerns that centered around the results that were reported from a large study (The Women's Health Initiative) in 2002. Even though data have shown that for most women under the age of 60 and fewer than 10 years from menopause risks are very rare, providers and women are still often confused about the risks and benefits of menopausal hormone therapy. And topical vaginal estrogen, the product in the commercial, has fewer risks than systemic estrogen and helps with the prevention of these symptoms. With decreasing estrogen, an increasing number of older women are being diagnosed with vaginal atrophy. A new term – genitourinary syndrome of menopause – is the correct name for the condition.

“Their vaginas aren't getting taken care of,” she said. “And no wonder. We aren't even using the word ‘vagina.’ We are saying all sorts of weird words instead of ‘vagina.’”

That's why Dr. Pace was so excited to see Pfizer produce a new commercial.

“Until the last tag line,” she said with a laugh.

What made it all the more surprising and disappointing to her, she said, was that Pfizer had a history of “provider-inclusive language.”

“When they released Zithromax – the antibiotic – they were one of the first pharmaceutical companies to say, ‘Ask your health care professional’ in an ad. So

I went to them and said, ‘Why would you do this, particularly important with a product that nurse practitioners already are very involved in? You already had a history of saying, ‘Ask your health care professional.’”

“I love my physician colleagues. I love my relationship with them. But I daresay you probably have as many or more nurse practitioners entering into the conversation about healthy vaginas than many of my physician colleagues.”

Background

Dr. Pace has considerable experience in health issues surrounding menopause (See page 10). “This year, I will have been a nurse 45 years, so I'm all seasoned,” she said with a laugh. “I've been in many, many roles in nursing. Some of my early years were in reproductive health, in labor and delivery, but when I came to UTHSC to do my PhD in 1996, my research mentor had just gotten involved in the North American Menopause Society. She asked me if I might be interested in that for my dissertation.

“My mother had never really talked about menopause,” she said. “No one really talked about it in the 90s. But I thought, ‘Well, I'm at mid-life, so it might be good to know something about it.’”

After attending a national meeting of the North American Menopause Society, she was excited about the topic, and became increasingly involved in the society.

She learned more than a little something about it.

Not only did she eventually become one of the first Certified Menopause Practitioners, passing her exam in 2002, she became the very first nurse practitioner to serve as president of the North American Menopause Society, which is primarily a physician-based organization. She has also been named by NAMS as the 2016 NCMP Menopause Practitioner of the Year.

Pfizer

So after watching the commercial and hearing “Ask your doctor,” Dr. Pace met with a team of marketing experts from Pfizer to voice her concerns.

The Pfizer team said the wording of the commercial had been an oversight.

“We value our relationship with Dr. Pace. She brought to our attention the importance and need for a more consistent use of provider neutral language. We hope to continue our partnership for years to come.”

Amy Kreisberg, Pfizer

They had used the tagline, “Ask your doctor,” simply out of habit, they said, and admitted they need to change the wording. They warned her, however, it wouldn't be a speedy process.

“Being the shy person that I am, I asked, ‘Well, when can you do it?’” she said with a laugh.

She told Pfizer that she was speaking at two conferences – one to 400 people, and one to 700 people – and was considering telling her audiences that “Pfizer doesn't support provider-neutral language.”

Pfizer responded by promising to change wording on their website and printed materials but warned that shooting a commercial would take time. And money.

Dr. Pace promised to tell her audiences that Pfizer was aware of its problem and working to fix it, and she did.

After a year, however, there still was no new commercial. In another meeting with Pfizer, she pointedly told them that

she was going to speak to 600 nurse practitioners in a menopause workshop. “And they're gonna hear about it,” she warned. “A year later, and you haven't done what you told me. I told them that I was a very patient person, but in a year I should have seen some changes.”

Yet another year went by with no new commercial.

Victory

Finally, in October, 2015, Pfizer came back to Dr. Pace. Not only were they ready to make training videos to use on their web site, using the phrase, “Ask your health care professional,” but they wanted Dr. Pace to be in the vignettes.

At first, she balked, insisting she was a nurse practitioner, not an actor. “This is what I did not expect. I told them I'd never done commercials before, that I did not know how to do that.”

Pfizer insisted, however.

“They said, ‘We'd like to ask you because you've been such a strong advocate. We'd like you to be the real health care professional in these vignettes.’”

They would hire a professional actress to play the patient but promised to fly Dr. Pace to New York in January, 2016 for the making of the vignettes. Dr. Pace agreed to be in the vignettes, though she added with a laugh, “I'm not going to quit my day job.”

The new video is available at www.premarinvaginalcream.com/video-library

FROM YOUR ALUMNI BOARD PRESIDENT



JAMES A. HUTCHESON IV, RN, APN, CPNP-AC

Fellow Alumni,

As I begin my term in office, I am struck by the exceptional team of professionals who are dedicated to nursing education, practice and ongoing research in the UTHSC College of Nursing. The alumni board meeting held during our Nursing Alumni Reunion in May was full of enriching discussion surrounding the passion we all have for our college and the nursing profession in general. I am honored to lead and serve with this group of individuals.

There are exciting things happening in the College of Nursing and campuswide. I hope that you, our alumni, stay in touch and get involved with the college. It is my hope that the alumni continue to provide us with the most current contact information so that we can keep you informed, whether it is through emails, our online e-newsletter, Vital Signs, or this magazine. Please remember that giving is paramount as well. Your support helps the college be the best it can be for our students, faculty, staff and alumni.

Thanks for all that you do to make the UTHSC College of Nursing better.

Sincerely,

James A. Hutcheson IV, RN, APN, CPNP-AC '07
President, UTHSC College of Nursing Alumni Association Board of Directors

New Faces in the Office of Alumni Affairs

Tim Lanier
Assistant Vice Chancellor for Alumni Affairs

Tim Lanier has assumed the position of assistant vice chancellor for Alumni Affairs at UTHSC.

He manages the Office of Alumni Affairs, which coordinates alumni engagement efforts for all six colleges at the UT Health Science Center.

"I am excited to join a great team in the Office of Alumni Affairs," says Lanier. "And we are fortunate to have very supportive alumni who make us the best that we can be."

Before his appointment in Alumni Affairs, Lanier served as director of Development for the College of Dentistry for 19 years. He came to the UT Health Science Center from UT Martin, where he served as assistant director of Development from 1994 to 1997.

Lanier received a BA in Communications from Lambuth University and an MS in Communications from the University of Tennessee. He and his wife, Blair, have two daughters, Mallory and Grace.



Libby Wyatt
Director of Alumni Programs

Libby Wyatt joined the UTHSC Alumni Affairs team in early 2016 as director of Alumni Programs. She has a history of experience in higher education, serving as Reunion Program and Gift Officer at Rhodes College. There she worked with class volunteers to arrange reunion events, manage reunion annual fund campaigns, solicit support for the Annual Fund and develop stewardship initiatives to advance donor relationships. Before joining UTHSC, Wyatt worked as the development operations supervisor at the Church Health Center.

As director of alumni programs, Wyatt will work with the board of directors for the College of Nursing and the College of Pharmacy, as well as create alumni programs to engage these colleges. She will also work to promote student engagement for all six colleges.

Wyatt acquired her Bachelor of Social Work degree from Middle Tennessee State University and Master of Science of Social Work from UT.



Where would you be without UTHSC?

Sara W. Day, PhD '10, RN, FAAN

Hometown: Memphis; Current Hometown: Lexington, Tenn.; Family: Married with four children
Certifications: Board Certified Nurse Executive, Fellow in the American Academy of Nurses

Dr. Sara Day is the Director of Nursing Education at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Dr. Day is also an associate professor at the School of Nursing at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Before her current position, she was the director of Nursing for St. Jude's International Outreach Program and the Director of Patient Care Services for St. Jude's Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center. Dr. Day received her BS and MS in Nursing from Union University and her PhD from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center.

Why did you select UTHSC College of Nursing?

I selected UTHSC College of Nursing based on its reputation for excellence. Several of my colleagues strongly recommended UTHSC, and two of my close friends had already completed the Nursing PhD Program. Also, before I applied, I had the opportunity to work closely with faculty members on an international project, and I realized how much I could learn from their expertise.

What are your notable memories from your time spent at UTHSC?

Even though it was six years ago, I remember every minute of my dissertation defense. I remember specific times the faculty provided support and encouragement when it was most needed. I also remember almost every statistics class, but please don't give me a test!

What are your career highlights?

I have focused my career on the development, implementation and management of nursing programs and models to improve the care of children with cancer and sickle cell disease. These programs and models have improved the outcomes of underserved children and have been implemented nationally and internationally in nine countries. I have worked to empower nurses in developing countries to provide quality pediatric oncology nursing care and created programs to advance the nursing work environment through education and improvement in quality standards. I have worked with nationally recognized pediatric centers of excellence, including Boston Children's Hospital, Cincinnati Children's Hospital and Rady Children's Hospital to implement my program models in additional countries. The results of my research have affected policy at local, national and international levels by providing step by step guidance for implementation of quality care and improvement in outcomes into diseases that lead mortality and morbidity rates around the world.

I have 32 publications in peer reviewed medical and nursing journals and have traveled to 14 countries to present or directly implement programs. My work in the development of baseline standards for providing pediatric oncology nursing care in low and middle income countries has recently been published in Lancet Oncology and Cancer Control. In 2014, I was inducted as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing for my contributions to nursing and health care.

How have you been involved with UTHSC?

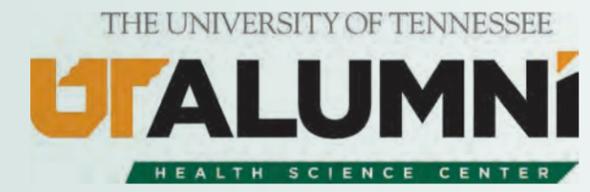
I am currently a volunteer associate professor at UTHSC, and I am working with Dean Likes to build collaborations with nurses at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. This year I had the great honor of speaking at the College of Nursing Award and Pinning Ceremony.

Why do you give back?

Continuing to work closely with UTHSC provides an ongoing learning experience for me. I consider myself a part of the school and always will.

What is your advice to other alumni about getting involved?

Stay connected and continue to advance your career with the many educational opportunities the college provides.



BOOKSMART

Textbook by UTHSC Faculty and UTHSC Alumna Goes into 7th Printing

By Jackie Denton

When Barbara Cherry attended the UTHSC College of Nursing for her Doctorate of Nursing Science, she was not only learning as a student – she was also playing a role in other students’ studies. What began as a collaborative project between an alumni and a faculty member in 1997, is now a seventh edition leading issues text book – “Contemporary Nursing: Issues, Trends, & Management.”

Susan Jacob, PhD, RN, professor and interim associate dean of Academic Affairs in the UTHSC College of Nursing, and Barbara Cherry, DNSc, RN, associate dean and department chair in Leadership Studies at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, didn’t know each other when they were approached by book publisher Mosby Elsevier, (now Elsevier), to co-author a unique issues text. Both were selected after many peer recommendations to the publisher.

“Frankly, we both said to ourselves, I don’t know what it would be like to work with someone I don’t know, but our work styles are so complementary. They flew each of us to St. Louis to meet each other, and we immediately connected and began collaborating at a distance,” Dr. Jacob said.

“The collaboration between Dr. Jacob and me is the primary key to the success of the book. We bring vastly different nursing experiences as a foundation for the book. However, we also come together with very similar work styles,

which is a commitment to excellence and to ensure that we are offering new nurses the most important information needed for successful nursing practice,” Dr. Cherry said.



(left to right) Dr. Barbara Cherry and Dr. Susan Jacob

“Contemporary Nursing: Issues, Trends, & Management” has 28 chapters that prepare future nurses for an ever-evolving career in nursing. Topics range from safe and effective decision making to preparing for the NCLEX-RN exam. Dr. Jacob was able to bring her expertise in general issues trends in areas such as legal, ethics, culture and theory, while Dr. Cherry brought her expertise in management and leadership content to the book.

With each new issue, changes are made to reflect new trends in nursing. The seventh edition

includes a new chapter on palliative care, which is specialized care for people with a serious illness and providing relief to improve quality of life for both patient and family.

“This year, each chapter is started with a professional, ethical issue because a trend across the country, including in our program, is we have a hard time getting across the concept of professionalism to our students because our students are coming into a health care profession maybe from another career with no knowledge of the professional aspect of it,” Dr. Jacob said.

Over the years, the book has benefited from the help of many contributors from UTHSC, such as the development of the online course to complement the fourth edition of the book by Jacqueline Berchum, DNSc, FNP-BC, APN, CNE, associate professor in the Department of Advanced Practice and Doctoral Studies, and Cindy Russell, PhD, RN, associate vice chancellor in Faculty Affairs, and director for the Center for Instructional Innovation within the Office of Academic, Faculty, & Student Affairs. Tommie Norris, DNS, RN, associate dean of Evaluation and Effectiveness, developed the test bank for the students’ resources and writes two chapters for the book, “Preparing for the NCLEX” and “Making the Transition from Student to Professional Nurse.”

The book is currently being used in the Professional Issues course at UTHSC, which is taught by Loretta Williams, PhD, RN, and Tara O’Brien, PhD, RN, CNE. Sherry Webb, DNSc, RN, CNL, NEA-BC, used it when she taught the Leadership course for eight years. It is also used in more than 800 schools across the country, including local nursing programs at Southwest Tennessee Community College, University of Memphis, and Baptist College of Health Sciences.

Dr. Cherry, who serves as a member of the UTHSC College of Nursing alumni board of directors said, “It is incredibly humbling to know that major schools across the nation use our book to educate their nursing students, but to know that UTHSC uses the book is simply amazing. Knowing that our book contributed to the students’ education keeps Dr. Jacob and I very focused on creating a book that contains the most up-to-date and current information necessary for new nurses to enter practice, prepared to work effectively in today’s evolving health care system.”



Thank you to our Golden Graduates

who were able to attend the 2015 event October 14-16!

We hope you can join us again in 2016 ...

Once a Golden Graduate, always a Golden Graduate.

Photos from the 2015 Golden Graduates event can be found in Vital Signs at www.uthscalumni.com/2015gg.

We are planning the following events just for you:

- Dinner at the Rendezvous
- College Open Houses
- Breakfast with Chancellor Schwab
- Golden Graduate Ceremony and Dinner

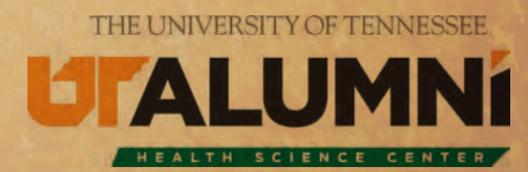
All class years prior to 1966 are invited to attend. Once a Golden Graduate, always a Golden Graduate.

Please watch your mailbox for a detailed event brochure. Call (901) 448-5516 or visit or visit uthscalumni.com for more information.

You're Invited to the 2016 GOLDEN GRADUATE HOMECOMING

OCTOBER 19-21, 2016
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HONORING GRADUATES OF 1966 FROM ALL SIX UTHSC COLLEGES

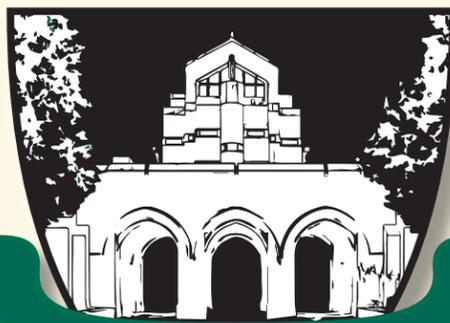


Thank You for Your Membership in the 1911 Society

The UT Health Science Center Office of Development and Alumni Affairs is pleased to record a successful year for the 1911 Society. The society recognizes annual supporters of the College of Nursing, who are critical to our mission of educating some of the best minds, conducting innovative research, and improving health. The listing is available through the 1911 Society Members link at uthscalumni.com/1911.

"The gifts we receive go a long way toward helping our students, faculty, programs, and facilities. To each of you who has given, thank you," said Randy Farmer, vice chancellor for Development and Alumni Affairs.

"From recent graduates to alumni, friends, faculty, and staff, we are honored to extend 1911 Society membership to our annual donors," Farmer added. Named for the year of the Health Science Center's founding, the 1911 Society recognizes and



1911 Society

celebrates total giving by donors who make their gifts between July 1 and June 30 each year.

Membership levels are based on total contributions during the year to any college, program or fund at UTHSC. Gifts can be renewed annually to retain membership.

"Private donors to our campus are the leaders of our past, present and future," Farmer said. "Members of the 1911 Society demonstrate an

extraordinary level of interest, involvement, and dedication through their generous financial support."

Your loyalty matters to us, to our students, and to you.

For more information on how to make a gift and become a member of the 1911 Society, please contact the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs at (901) 448-5516 or visit online at uthscalumni.com/1911.

- 1911 Milestone Member \$100 - \$249
- 1911 Visionary Member \$250 - \$499
- 1911 Dean's Alliance Member \$500 - \$999
- 1911 Chancellor's Circle Member \$1,000 - \$2,499
- 1911 Patron Member \$2,500 - \$4,999
- 1911 Hyman Associate Member \$5,000 +

1911 Society

1911 Society Benefits	Milestone	Visionary	Dean's Alliance	Chancellor's Circle	Patron	Hyman Associate
	\$100 - \$249	\$250 - \$499	\$500 - \$999	\$1,000 - \$2,499	\$2,500 - \$4,999	\$5,000 +
1911 Society Decal <i>FY13 and FY14 members are identified as Charter Members</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•
Recognition in annual Roll of Honor <i>Collegiate and campus publications</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•
Communication from UTHSC Students <i>Email, letter and/or postcard contacts</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•
Communication from UTHSC Dean <i>New year correspondence, update after board meetings</i>		•	•	•	•	•
Special Invitations to Campus Events			•	•	•	•
1911 Society Lapel Pin				•	•	•
Annual VIP Communication from the Chancellor				•	•	•
Special Recognition at Events <i>Note on rosters, note on name tags, recognized from the podium when possible</i>				•	•	•

A Gift in Memory of Carol Esser Francisco

by Josie Ballin

Carol Esser entered the UTHSC Nursing School in 1952 and graduated in 1956. During those impactful four years, she met and married her husband, Dr. Jerry Francisco (Medicine, 1955), and developed many life-long friendships.

"We met on a blind date at a dance in the old Student Center," her husband said, "I was set up with Carol by my fraternity brother, Ed [Alley] (Medicine 1955). He knew Carol and she set him up with her friend, Vashti 'Ti' Jessup," (Nursing, 1956). Both couples hit it off and married within six months of each other.

Carol was employed as a nurse only three months when she decided to stay home and raise a family. "Carol and I were both pregnant when we graduated and we went to work at the John Gaston Hospital. We worked until fairly close to our delivery dates," says Ti. "Her favorite part of nursing was taking care of patients, and now she was going to take care of her family using many of the same skills which made her a dedicated nurse. Carol was so meticulous and could listen with such empathy."

The Franciscos had three daughters: Lisa Abitz, Tabitha McNabb and Dr. Susan Francisco (Medicine 1986). "It makes me a little bit sad that mom chose us over a career because when we were all on our own paths, she went back for recertification and so many things had changed in terms of computers and technology," says Susan.

"Mom was really good at direct patient care," says Lisa. "She was one of the kindest people you have ever met. While she wasn't the most gregarious person, she could talk to people."

Carol died in 2015, but in the nearly 60 years between her enrollment at UTHSC and her death, she never lost contact with her dear friends, the university or the College of Nursing. Carol was voted 'Most Supportive Alumni' by the College of Nursing Alumni Board in 2002. Carol enjoyed keeping up with the news of the college and served on its Alumni Board. Dr. Francisco, now retired, was a faculty member in the College of Medicine for 40 years. He and Carol were loyal annual donors to the College of Nursing.

Upon her death, Lisa, Tabitha and Susan wanted to honor their mother with a gift to the university. "We knew our mother's dedication to UT Nursing was lifelong and that it was a gift mother would want us to make," says Susan.

Carol's daughters made a generous gift to the College Fund for Nursing. If you would like to support nursing education, contact Adele Hixon-Day, Development Director, at chixon@uthsc.edu or 901-448-2076, or go to www.uthscalumni.com/give.

Carol Esser Francisco Professional Photo 1956



Most Supportive Alumna 2002 (left to right) Donna Hathaway, Carol Francisco, Carolyn Moran DePalma ('56)

Francisco Family Nursing Alumni Awards (left to right) Lisa Abitz, Susan Francisco, Carol and Jerry Francisco, Tabitha McNabb



Carol and Nursing School Alumnae 2002 (left to right) Patty Fuqua Walker, '56, Dorothy "Dot" McCarley Martin, '56, Sylvia Reece Jackson, '56, Mary Carolyn "Dixie" Moran DePalma, '56, Vashti (Ti) Jessup Alley, '56, and Carol Francisco

Alumni 2016 Weekend



The Reunion dinner brought together UTHSC College of Nursing alumni who all share fond memories of their time playing for Coach Stockdale and cheering on the UT Nurses Basketball Team.



Team huddle, 2016



Coach Stockdale and his wife Dorothy (left) with Dean Wendy Likes



Coach Stockdale and Laura Lee Nichols Lipscomb ('74) at the College of Nursing's trophy case



All basketball alumni present for the reunion weekend signed a basketball, which was presented to Coach Stockdale at the basketball reunion dinner on Thursday, May 4.

The College of Nursing held its annual Alumni Weekend May 5-6, 2016. The weekend included a Basketball Reunion Dinner, College of Nursing Open House, Nursing Alumni Board of Directors Meeting, and the College of Nursing Awards Luncheon, followed by basketball reunion activities in the Student Alumni Center Gym.

Most hadn't played a game of basketball in decades, but when members of the UT Nurses basketball team stepped onto the court in the UTHSC Student-Alumni Center gym in early May, it was as if time had melted away.

Fresh from a luncheon and still dressed in their party clothes, several team members were coaxed to show their skills on the court during the College of Nursing Alumni Weekend festivities.

Tentative at first, it didn't take them long to cast off doubts in favor of smiles and high-fives, as they went from near misses to baskets.

From 1950-1985, the UT Nurses team proudly represented the UT College of Nursing on the basketball court. Jim Stockdale coached the team from 1955 through 1981. The team generally had about 10-15 members and would play about 20 games a year, 12 in a Memphis Park Commission Nurses League, a few with nursing schools in other cities, and at least two to four in the Cotton States Nurses Tournament at the end of the season. During the 26 years Stockdale coached, the team had 333 wins with 151 losses. During its entire history, the UT Nurses had 390 wins, 209 losses and two ties.

The Cotton States Nurses Tournament lasted 29 years, from 1957 through 1985. During that time, it had participants from 37 teams from 10 states: Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Missouri, Kentucky, Indiana and Kansas. All players were nursing school students, and it was co-sponsored by the Memphis Park Commission and the four Memphis nursing schools. Stockdale said the first Cotton States championship trophy is now on display at the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in Knoxville, as are pictures from the 1960 and the 1980 tournaments.

The UT Nurses won the Memphis Nurses League 15 times (12 times under Coach Stockdale's leadership) and the Cotton States Tourney eight times, he said.

by Peggy Reisser



1962



1966



1967



1974

ALUMNI AWARD WINNERS

2016

Most Supportive Award**James E. Stockdale**

James E. 'Jim' Stockdale was born in Columbus, Ohio, but grew up in Knoxville, Tennessee. He graduated from Bearden High School in Knoxville, received his bachelor's degree from Oberlin College in Ohio, spent two years in the U.S. Army, and received his master's degree from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

On the UTHSC campus, he is known by College of Nursing alumni simply as "Coach", yet his mark extends far beyond the College of Nursing. Jim Stockdale was hired by the University of Tennessee Medical Units in Memphis in 1955 as assistant director of Student Welfare, which was the beginning of a career with the university that lasted 37 years. Jim shortly became director of Student Activities and had responsibility for the intramural athletic program, the management of the University Center, the logistics for commencement, the orientation of incoming students, and just about anything that affected students outside the classroom.

He and lifelong friend, the late Bill Robinson, were responsible for the design and construction of the Randolph Student-Alumni Center, completed in 1969. Also, in 1969 he became the first personnel director of the UT Medical Units with responsibility for creating and designing the first personnel program on campus which included the task of integrating the non-academic work force. Jim was one of four people who wrote the personnel policies for the entire University of Tennessee in the 1970's. Jim finished his career with the University as assistant to the Vice Chancellor, retiring in 1992. He is active with the UT Retirees Association and has served as its president.

Stockdale was a pioneer in women's basketball, serving as coach of the UT Nurses basketball team for 26 years, from 1955 through 1981. He was a volunteer in this endeavor for the University as he coached a team of students from the University of Tennessee College of Nursing that played in



Coach Jim Stockdale

the Memphis Nurses League and also traveled throughout the Southeast and Midwest playing other nursing schools. He was instrumental in starting the Cotton States Invitational Nurses Basketball Tournament which was played in Memphis from 1957 through 1985 and during its lifetime involved hundreds of nursing student basketball players from a total of 37 schools from 10 different states. During his coaching career, Jim coached 174 women playing for the UT Nurses, and during this time they won 333 games and lost 151 against nursing schools. They also captured seven Cotton States Tournament titles and won the Memphis Nurses League 12 times. Upon his retirement as coach, Jim was inducted into the Memphis Amateur Sports Hall of Fame. Fittingly his former UT Nurses players have endowed two scholarships in his name, one for a student at the UT College of Nursing, and one for a player on the Lady Vols women's team in Knoxville.

Upon retirement from UT, Jim continued his love of women's basketball as he and his wife, Dorothy, have had season tickets to the Lady Vols in Knoxville since 1993 and have never missed an SEC Women's Tournament or a trip to the Final Four when the Lady Vols were there. Jim and Dorothy Ashford, have been married 63 years. They have three daughters, one son, ten grandchildren and fifteen great grandchildren.

Outstanding Alumna Award**Susan Stone, DNSc, CNM, FAAN, FACNM**

Dr. Susan Stone is committed to improving health care outcomes, education and access, and has carried this commitment throughout her career. She credits her UTHSC College of Nursing education for moving her career forward as a leader.

Dr. Stone began her career as an obstetrical nurse and quickly realized that she could impact care in a more meaningful way by becoming a certified nurse-midwife. She practiced full scope midwifery care from 1991 through 1998. During this time, she precepted nurse-midwifery students and developed outreach clinical education sites for nurse-midwifery students in Upstate New York.

Believing that having more nurse-midwives would ultimately serve the goal of safer, more satisfying birth experiences for women, she shifted her focus to the education of nurse-midwives and relocated to Kentucky as the Program Director of the Frontier Nursing University's nurse-midwifery education program.

Dr. Stone realized that more education would help her move into higher levels within her career. So, in 1999 she enrolled in the DNSc program at University of Tennessee Health Science Center. Shortly after graduating from UTHSC, she was appointed president of Frontier Nursing University.

For the past 15 years, Dr. Stone has served as the president of Frontier Nursing University (FNU). Under her leadership, FNU moved from a very small school (with an enrollment of about 200) educating certificate prepared nurse-midwives to a fully accredited, independent, single purpose university offering the MSN and DNP degrees with specialties in nurse-midwifery, family nursing, women's health and psychiatric nursing. FNU is a nonprofit, private university founded within the vision of Mary Breckinridge, a pioneer in health care. Currently, over 1,600 students are enrolled at FNU and graduates are in



Dr. Susan Stone

every state in the U.S. and seven foreign countries. The programs are delivered through a combination of distance learning courses, on-campus sessions and experience in clinical sites around the country. Dr. Stone has kept FNU on a path of commitment to the mission of educating nurses to serve in rural and underserved areas. The majority of students and alumni live and serve in rural and/or medically underserved areas.

Dr. Stone leads Frontier Nursing University with a goal of improving health care through increasing the number and quality of nurse-midwives and nurse practitioners to serve mothers and babies and the families who care for them.

Recent Alumna Award**Mayola Rowser, PhD, DNP, FNP**

Dr. Mayola Rowser received her Doctor of Nurse Practitioner, PhD and certificate of Family Nurse Practitioner and certificate of Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. She holds an associate's degree from the University of Evansville and bachelor and master's degrees from the University of Southern Indiana. She holds certifications and licenses from the American Nurses Credentialing Center, Indiana State Board of Nursing, and the Indiana Controlled Substance Regulation.

Dr. Rowser previously served the UTHSC Colleges of Nursing and Health Professions as assistant dean and chair of the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, associate professor of nursing, and as project coordinator, project director, and principal investigator for a Health Resource Services Administration grant.

Dr. Rowser joined the University of Southern Indiana (USI) in 2002 and in May 2015 received the appointment of director of Graduate Studies there. In this position, she is responsible for overseeing university-wide graduate program development and reports directly to the provost.

She is the 2005 recipient of the Academic Excellence and Community Service Award from UTHSC, the 2003 recipient of the Distinguished Nursing Alumni Award from USI's College of Nursing and Health Professions, and a 2002 recipient of a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Doctoral Fellowship.

Dr. Rowser holds professional memberships in various organizations; she works two days per month as a PMHNP and has publications on mental health disorders; and is a regular presenter at regional, national, and international conferences and events. She also has been instrumental in securing numerous grants for USI, has served as PI for several HRSA grants and is currently the PI of a \$1.3 million HRSA grant for our nurse managed health centers.



Dr. Mayola Rowser

Now Accepting
Nominations for
2017 Nursing
Alumni Awards

www.uthscalumni.com/nominate

Bold. Family. Innovative. Those were the words Shawn Boyd, CON coordinator of Student Affairs, used to describe his fitness and inspirational collective known as TeamFit. Just a couple of years old, the collective now has over 600 members and is making a big splash in the community. However, before one can truly understand the essence of a group, they must first understand its leader.

The extraordinary concept of TeamFit arose from an ordinary circumstance. Boyd was getting ready for his day when he discovered that the suit he was planning to wear no longer fit. "It was at that point that I knew I had to do something," he said. "I've never been a big guy, but I knew I wasn't at my best." Boyd then began going to the gym and eating healthier. Shortly after, he began seeing results and others took notice as well. They began asking him what he was doing and for tips on how they could better themselves. Boyd then decided to make it a group activity. A simple solution turned into a vital resource.

"When you have group involvement, it's pretty hard NOT to reach your goals," Boyd explained. "Groups are so vital in getting tasks done. You have people in the group that are from so many different walks of life. The experience and expertise that they bring to the group is priceless."

When asked about his favorite aspect of TeamFit, Boyd shared, "I love how we hold each other accountable when it comes to our fitness goals. No one in the group is perfect. We all fall off at times. It's amazing how when someone falls off the group is there to help them get back up and cheer them on."

The biggest activity TeamFit participates in is its monthly fitness challenges throughout the community. For instance, in

March, participants ran 31 miles in 31 days. They went on to post pictures and write about their journey on social media.

It was only natural for Boyd's TeamFit movement to follow him to UTHSC. "My coworkers in the College of Nursing heard about it, and were excited to join in," he said. "They even ordered T-shirts. People from other colleges have joined in as well."

Working in the College of Nursing has definitely influenced and motivated Boyd to advocate more for health and fitness in general. "It has made me more aware of health issues in the community and on a national basis," he said. "I get to sit in with faculty on a number of conferences and even on presentations that they make. It amazes me how many health issues are affecting so many people. So, I think now more than ever, we must educate so people will know how important it is to really take care of themselves."

Daniel McGarry, educational technology coordinator for the College of Nursing, shared his TeamFit experience, saying, "I've been a member for a little over a year and the biggest thing that I have learned from Shawn is that nothing is easily gained," he

said. "Fitness requires work. I've also picked up Shawn's secret tip of how to handle desserts while trying to stick to a healthy diet. Desserts are enjoyed by the forkful. Just one. Eat just enough to get a taste but not so strict that you have to skip dessert."

To date, Boyd has lost 38 pounds. His ultimate hope for the group is for participants to be a shining example of health to others in the community. "Having good health is so important," he said. "If you are sick, you can't reach any of your goals. "We want people to say, if they did it, so can I."

“When you have group involvement, it’s pretty hard NOT to reach your goals.”

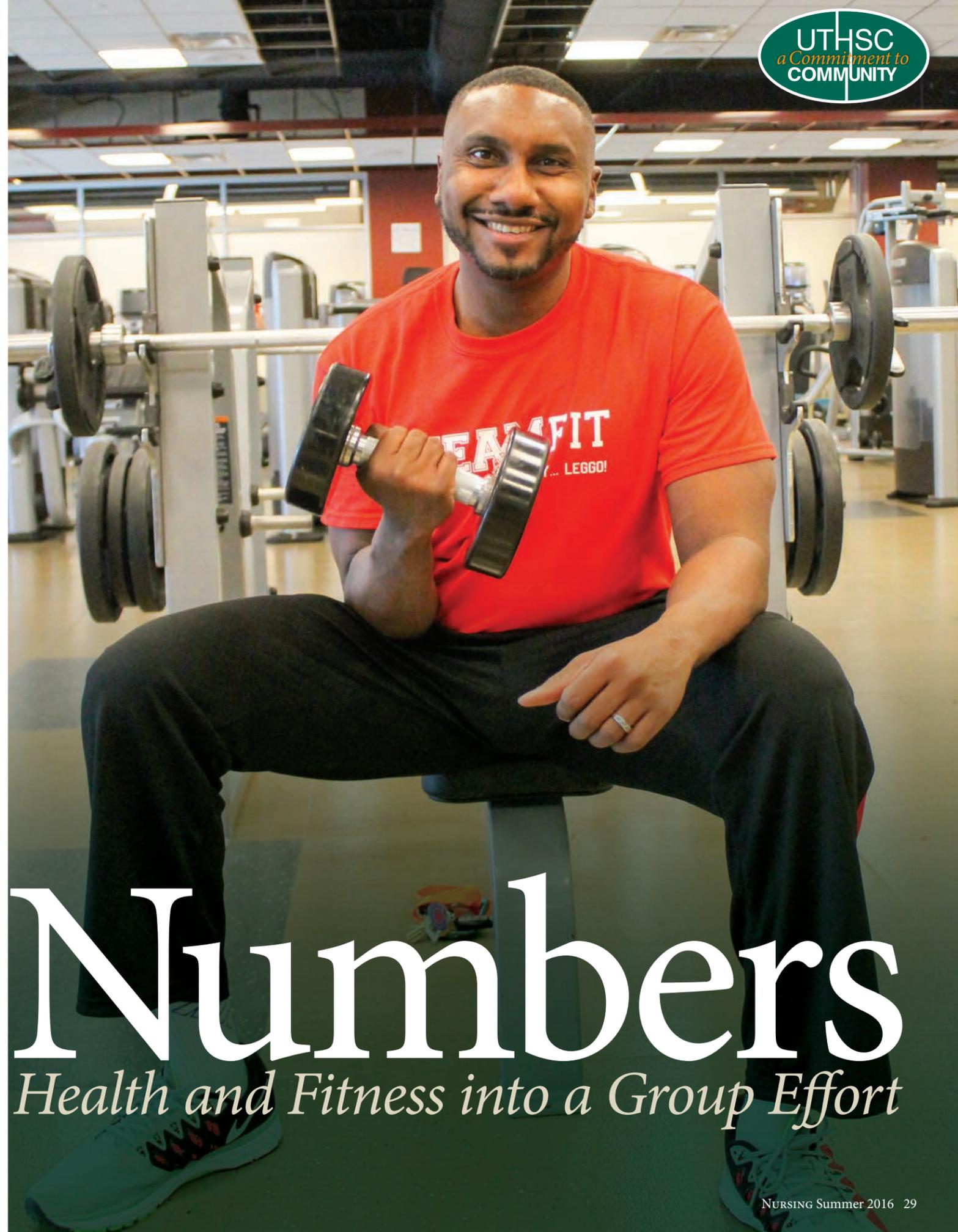
Shawn Boyd

For more information about TeamFit, go to www.theshawnboyd.com.

By Amber Carter

Strength *in* Numbers

Shawn Boyd Turns His Quest for Health and Fitness into a Group Effort



Going Public

By Jon Sparks

Last year, the Shelby County Health Department was looking for a director who embodied a passion for public health, a commitment to innovation, a taste for change and well-honed leadership skills to do the job.

The county got that in January when Alisa Haushalter, DNP, began her new job heading up the agency that has an annual \$48,973,709 budget.

Dr. Haushalter isn't new to Memphis. She earned her Doctorate of Nursing Practice at UTHSC in 2007. Chosen by Shelby County Mayor Mark H. Luttrell, Jr. and Tennessee Department of Health Commissioner Dr. John Dreyzehner, she's the first director with a nursing background to run the 550-employee agency that has a broad mandate from epidemiology to environmental health to restaurant inspections.

After a three-year stint in the private sector, she was eager to get back to public health. Shelby County, which Dr. Haushalter believes is on the cusp of change, was the ideal place. "I went to school here, and I know the area," she said. "I also know the history of the department and all the great work that has already happened. I know Mayor Luttrell has been a champion for health and I know the academic institutions are focused on community health."

Dr. Haushalter earned her undergraduate degree in Nursing from Belmont University in Nashville in 1982 and a Master's Degree in Nursing with a specialty in Family Practice from Vanderbilt University in 1997.

From 1983 to 2012, she was with the Metro Public Health Department in Nashville serving most recently as director of the Bureau of Population Health Programs and project director of Communities Putting Prevention to Work as well as other positions in the agency. From there, she joined the Nemours Health and Prevention Services in Delaware where she was senior director of the Department of Population Health and

project director of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation Grant.

When Dr. Haushalter decided to go for her doctorate in 2004, she considered several options, but kept coming back to UTHSC with its specialty in public health nursing leadership.

"I thought that I would be challenged there," she said. "I felt that I would learn things that I didn't already know or hadn't already experienced by being in the field for so many years."

When she began, the program was for a Doctor of Nursing Science that later changed to the newer degree of Doctorate of Nursing Practice. She was particularly interested in the leadership aspect and she was deeply influenced by R. Craig Stotts, RN, DrPH, who was the program head. "He had an exceptional track record as a public health nurse and a public health leader," she said, "so it was a really good match for me."

In taking the Health Department position, she also received a faculty appointment at UTHSC.

College of Nursing Dean Wendy M. Likes is pleased that a nurse is directing public health for the community. "From our perspective, the relationship will be good for elevating the presence of nursing within our community," she said. "Having a nurse lead will allow us opportunities to help lead initiatives to improve health in the community."

Most health departments around the country are headed by physicians, but there are increasing opportunities for nurses to take leadership roles in public health. Nursing, Dr. Likes said, has a unique view on prevention and wellness.

Dr. Haushalter said the broad scope of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) is key to expanding the role of nurses in many aspects of health care.

"There's an opportunity for us actually to shine in the area of public health and population health management," she said. "We have skills in that area. We frequently have been trained in population management where oftentimes physicians

have not, so now there's an opportunity for us to step forward and lead and use the information, knowledge and skills we have gained over time."

As more and more nurses are getting advanced degrees, they're getting more training in leadership and population health improvement. Finding new ways to connect the community and the clinical is opening the way to greater participation by nurses.

"Also through ACA, there's an emphasis for us to practice at the top of our license," Dr. Haushalter said, "and there's encouragement for others to give us opportunities to do that and to know that we do have the skills to lead. We just need to seize those opportunities."

She said that nurses have always been patient advocates and family advocates and will continue to bring that forward but in more effective ways, and that nurses will be more engaged in traditional research as well as community-engaged and community-participatory research.

UTHSC Nurse Takes Helm of Shelby County Health Department

"Nurses are trained to work in teams and trained to work with different disciplines and bring the expertise of all those together whether we're the convener, the collaborator or the leader," Dr. Haushalter said.

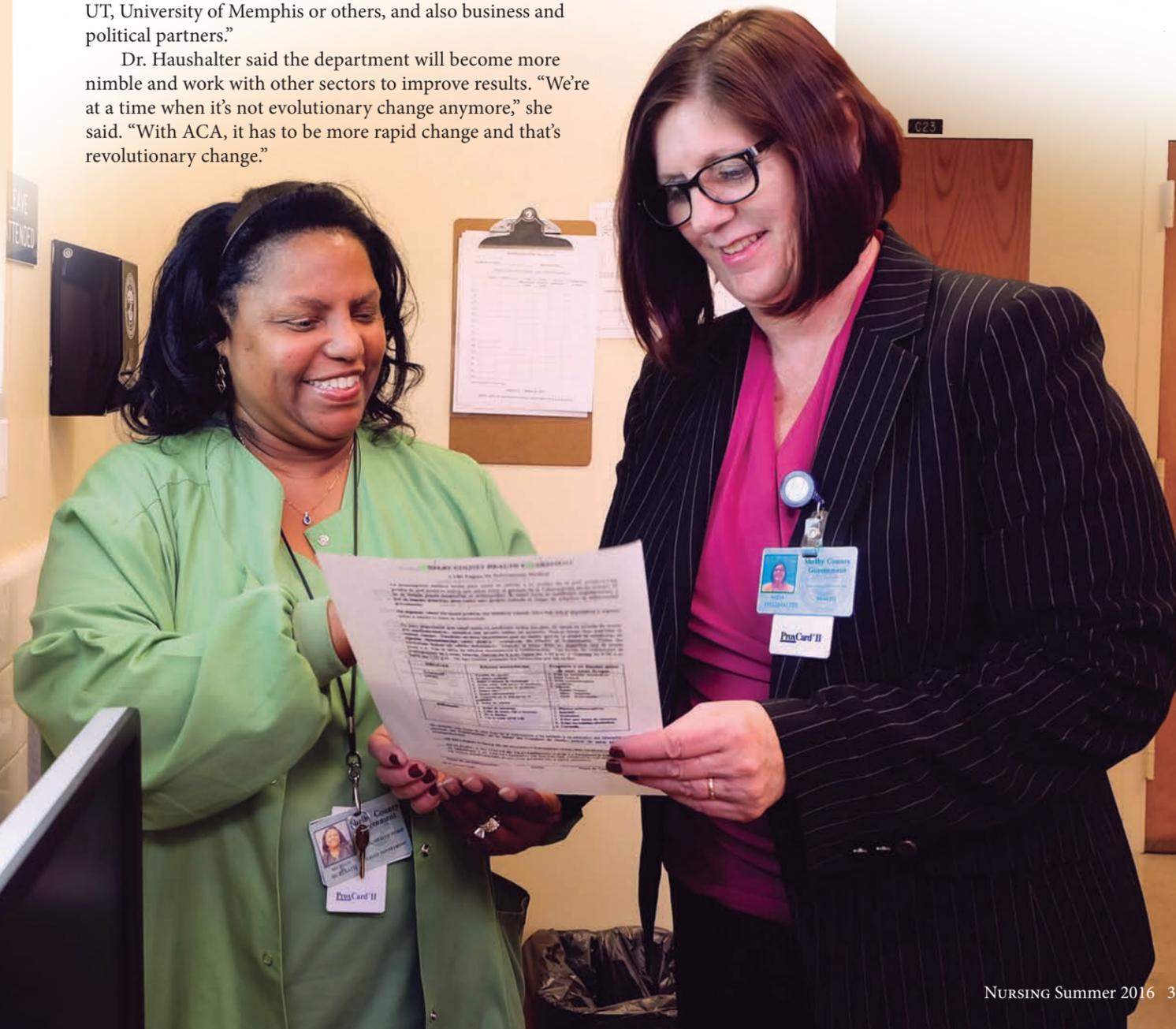
She says the Health Department has a long history of service to the community and partnering with others, so she is looking at how that can go to the next level. "How do we continue to build our partnerships and take initiatives to scale so that we have improved outcomes at a community level," she said. "That has to be done with partners – academic partners, whether it's UT, University of Memphis or others, and also business and political partners."

Dr. Haushalter said the department will become more nimble and work with other sectors to improve results. "We're at a time when it's not evolutionary change anymore," she said. "With ACA, it has to be more rapid change and that's revolutionary change."

And while she's doing all this, she'll be working with students and other faculty at the College of Nursing. "I'm excited about the opportunities for grooming students to come into public health and the research potential opportunities as well," she said.

Dean Likes agrees. "We'll have more students getting exposure within different operations, but there's also the ability to have doctoral students work with Dr. Haushalter on specific quality initiatives and support the mission of the Health Department."

Dr. Alisa Haushalter (right), Shelby County Health Department director and UTHSC College of Nursing faculty member, with Michelle McElrath, Public Health Nursing Supervisor



Dr. Shelley Hawkins Appointed Associate Dean for Academic Affairs



Dr. Shelley Y. Hawkins

Shelley Y. Hawkins, PhD, FNP-BC, GNP, FAANP, began her role as associate dean for Academic Affairs in the College of Nursing June 1. As a part of the College's main leadership team, her duties include providing day-to-day oversight of the operation of established academic programs within the College to confirm program requirements are met, ensuring that academic programs operate according to set standards, and facilitating recruitment of high quality applicants to all College programs that results in successful matriculation and graduation. Dr. Hawkins also advises Dean Likes on matters related to program curricula, admission standards, and proposals for new academic programs.

This position is integral in furthering my career goals," said Dr. Hawkins. "There is a legacy of leadership and innovation in the UTHSC College of Nursing that resulted in a national reputation for high quality nursing education especially at the advanced practice level. There have been many distinguished nursing leaders in the College of Nursing that affirm the commitment to developing nursing leaders in administration, education, and practice which is clearly central to the College of Nursing's mission and vision."

Before coming to UTHSC, Dr. Hawkins was a member of the administrative team at the University of San Diego as the director of Advanced Nurse Practice and DNP Programs and associate professor in the Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science. She has also held nurse faculty positions at Yale University, the University of Alabama at Birmingham, the University of Virginia, and Auburn University. Additionally, Dr. Hawkins was employed in a corporate position with All About Advanced Health as senior director of Clinical Services in association with her research, which focuses on using various telemedicine devices to promote health and prevent disease of older adults through delivering behavioral and clinical interventions.

Dr. Hawkins received her BSN, MSN, and PhD at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Additionally, she completed postgraduate certificates as an FNP at the University of Virginia and a GNP at the University of Texas Medical Branch. Dr. Hawkins also completed a postdoctoral research fellowship at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She has extensive experience in the areas of curriculum development and teaching/learning in both the classroom and clinical settings at the undergraduate and graduate levels of nursing. For the past 15 years, she has specialized in the educational preparation of advanced practice nurses providing the leadership in her faculty roles to develop and operationalize Doctor of Nursing Practice programs.

"Fair, student-centered guidance and mentoring are central to my interactions with students," Dr. Hawkins explained. "My experience in the successful development of training grants for advanced practice nursing students and faculty along with leadership in assuring that accreditation and approval processes are successful has provided high quality nursing education for numerous nursing students. My professionalism continues to be centered on integrity, morality, and credibility which has been consistently nurtured by multiple nursing leaders in several of the finest universities in the country."

Advancing Advanced Practice at the Ballot Box By Amber Carter



Dr. Tommy Cooper

Thomas "Tommy" Cooper, DNP, ACNP, FNP, has a love and passion for health care and the community that extends beyond the confines of academia in a unique way. The assistant professor in the CON Department of Advanced Practice and Doctoral Studies has been a candidate for the Tennessee House District 94 in the 2016 Republican primary election. District 94 includes all of Fayette and McNairy counties and extreme southern

Hardeman County. One of Dr. Cooper's top priorities was to fight for more advancement in the world of nursing. He understands the battle all too well, as he is dual certified as both a family nurse practitioner and an acute care nurse practitioner.

Dr. Cooper feels that more advanced nursing professionals are needed as opposed to the traditional registered nurse and licensed practical nurse. "The youngest of the baby boomer generation is approaching 60 years of age with many having multiple chronic health conditions and very complex acute health issues," he said. "Physicians are not choosing to go into primary care or family practice. We already have an extreme shortage of primary care providers across Tennessee as well as the United States. Advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) are educated and nationally certified to help fill this shortfall."

Nurses are not currently empowered to make autonomous patient care decisions at the point of care. "To fully practice as professional nurses, we must be empowered to implement care within our autonomous scope of practice, determine the best care plan for the patient, and then advocate for the needs of that patient," said Dr. Cooper. "This was identified in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Interdisciplinary Nursing Quality Research Initiative."

Dr. Cooper ran for office with a clear plan of action – his goal being to expand the scope of practice for APRNs, create sustainable economic growth, and improve access to quality, affordable and accessible health care. Dr. Cooper believes that allowing APRNs to practice to the full extent of their education, training, and certification will increase the availability of accessible primary care. They would also be able to go to underserved areas and establish primary care practices. "The current laws requiring APRNs to have a supervising physician creates voids in care because, in some areas, there are no available physicians willing to supervise," he explained.

Additionally, third-party payers, including insurance companies, Medicare, and TennCare, are attempting to use mandated length of stays and door-to-discharge times to base reimbursements to facilities and independent health care providers. "They are taking these policies to our legislators and attempting to influence legislation. These practices are creating increased risks for our patients by decreasing the time allowed for nurses to provide high quality patient care," Dr. Cooper stated.



Dr. Cooper on the campaign trail

Although he has a full plate, Dr. Cooper still finds time to be involved in his personal and professional communities. He is currently the president of the Greater Memphis Area Advanced Practice Nurses, founding member of the American Academy of Emergency Nurse Practitioners, chair of the Advance Practice Council of Tennessee Nurses Association, a continuing education reviewer for Tennessee Nurses Association, and a professional legal nurse consultant.

F A C U L T Y N O T E S

Dr. Peg Hartig is the co-principal investigator for a two-year \$350,000 grant awarded to the Common Table Health Alliance by the Avon Foundation for Women.

Dr. Donna Lynch-Smith had her manuscript "Effects of Patient-Ventilator Synchrony Education on Clinician's Knowledge Level and Average Ventilator Length of Stay" accepted for publication in the American Journal of Critical Care.

Ricketta Clark, APRN, DNP, joined our faculty in November. Dr. Clark is a CON alumna.

Dr. Diane Pace presented at the National Conference for Nurse Practitioners held in May at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort in Orlando, Florida. The audience of over 1,000+ clinicians included Nurse Practitioners in both the Primary and Acute Care settings.

Dr. Tara O'Brien has been elected to the SNRS Succession Planning & Nominations Committee. Her term of office started in February.

Marcy Purnell, MSN, FNP-C, had her publication "Bioelectrodynamics: A New Patient Care Strategy for Nursing, Health, and Wellness" selected as the feature article in the 30th anniversary edition of Holistic Nursing Practice.

Dr. Alexia Williams successfully completed the PhD in Nursing Science program in December 2015.

Dr. Carolyn Graff was selected to receive funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for the Future of Nursing Scholars program. This money goes directly to one PhD student and one DNP student, both of whom will be chosen as Future of Nursing Scholars.

Dr. Anne Alexandrov was invited to be a part of the Neurocritical Care Society International Guideline Writing Group for Reversal of Coagulopathic ICH, an interdisciplinary group of physicians, pharmacists and Dr. Alexandrov was the only nurse.

Dr. Jennifer Hitt has been awarded a 2016 Giving Circle Grant from the UT Alliance of Women Philanthropists.

Dr. Shaquita Starks successfully defended her dissertations, "Predictors of Quality of Life in African-American Women Caring for Persons with End Stage Renal Disease" in January, and "Examining the Associations between Depressive Symptoms, Body Mass Index, and Physical Activity Self-Efficacy in African-American Mother-Child Dyads" in March.

Dr. Starks was featured in an article from the Minority Fellowship Program – an ANA Program, and also won first place for her poster "No Stress? Analysis of the Psychological Health and Well-Being of Black Women Who Provide Care to Persons on Dialysis," presented in March at the Mental Health Services Administration Minority Fellowship Program Winter Intensive Training Institute in Boca Raton, Florida.

Dr. Tara O'Brien received the nomination for the UNC-Charlotte Chancellor's 2014-2015 Senior Survey for the person who made the most significant and positive contribution to student education.

Dr. Tommie Norris has been selected to serve as an Advisory Group member for the American Nurses Association Palliative & Hospice Nursing Professional Issues Panel.

Crystal Martin Walker, PhD, MSN-CNL, RN, joined the College of Nursing as an assistant professor in February.

Dr. Melody Waller successfully defended her dissertation "Factors Associated with Sexual Health and Risk Behavior in African-American Women: A Mixed Methods Study" in February.

Michelle Rickard, DNP, joined the College of Nursing as an assistant professor in January.

Ansley Stanfill, PhD, RN, joined the College of Nursing as an assistant professor in March.

Drs. Trimika Bowdre, Ragan Johnson, and Keevia Porter had their podium presentation, "The feasibility of a sexual health promotion program for African-American male youth in a barbershop," accepted at the National Black Nurses' Association's 44th annual conference in August in Memphis, Tennessee.

Dr. Jami Smith Brown and the UTHSC Student Nurses Association have been selected as a Stellar School Chapter of the National Student Nurses Association. Dr. Smith Brown and our NSNA School Chapter President, Kayla Armstrong, were recognized at the NSNA 64th Annual Convention in April in Orlando, Florida.

Dr. Brown also presented "The Importance of Preventing and Managing Sepsis Associated Acute Kidney Injury" at the 47th Annual Symposium of the American Nephrology Nurses Association in May.

Dr. Nina Sublette was invited by the Southeast AIDS Education & Training Center to be the speaker for their webinar "HIV and Pregnancy" in February. The online event was attended by over 250 participants from nine different states.

Dr. Crystal Martin Walker had her manuscript, "Risk of Anal Cancer in People Living with HIV: Addressing Anal Health in the HIV Primary Care Setting," accepted by the Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care.

Dr. Amy Koehn had a poster presentation accepted for the National Association of Neonatal Nurses conference in October.

Dr. Koehn also spoke at a breakout session at the Florida Association for Neonatal Nurse Practitioners Clinical Symposium and Update, held in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Dr. Melody Waller was awarded the Sigma Theta Tau International, Beta Theta Chapter at Large research grant for her project entitled "Factors Associated with Sexual Health and Risk Behavior during Emerging Adulthood: A Mixed Methods Study." This grant recognizes outstanding research proposals by nurses or nursing students that will advance knowledge in the area of nursing science and practice. Dr. Waller defended her dissertation in January.

Dean Wendy Likes was appointed by Lt. Governor Ron Ramsey, Tennessee Speaker of the Senate, to serve as a member of the Healing Arts Scope of Practice Task Force.

SGAEC Honors Faculty and Student Leaders

On May 3, UTHSC faculty members were honored with one of the most prestigious awards that can be granted from students to a faculty member, the Student Government Association Executive Council (SGAEC) Excellence in Teaching Award. The honorees were recognized at this year's SGAEC Awards Banquet.

The annual awards ceremony recognizes two faculty members from each college the students feels meet the following criteria – demonstration of outstanding teaching ability, presentation of materials in a way that sparks interest and independent thought, effective organization and communication of the subject, responsiveness to students inside and outside of classrooms, and genuine concern for students' learning.



(from left) Dr. Tommie Norris and Lindsey Webber



(from left) Kathy Putman and Lindsey Webber

The winners from the College of Nursing were Tommie L. Norris, DNSc, MSN, professor and associate dean of Evaluation & Effectiveness; and Kathy A. Putman, MSN, instructor.

During the ceremony, the Imhotep Society also inducted new members. The Imhotep Society is an invitational society established by the SGAEC to recognize students who have shown dedication in service, leadership and student life.

The inductees from the College of Nursing were Kayla Armstrong, Lauren Chyann Coffey, Caroline Tullos, Lindsey Webber and Sara Wilkinson.



UTHSC Graduates 779 Health Care Professionals

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center graduated 779 new health care professionals at separate ceremonies for each of its six colleges during May.

The 779 graduates included:

- 123 from the College of Dentistry
- 77 from the College of Graduate Health Sciences
- 188 from the College of Health Professions
- 158 from the College of Medicine
- 81 from the College of Nursing
- 152 from the College of Pharmacy

This spring's graduating class was comprised of 462 women and 317 men. Reflective of the diversity in Tennessee, 20 percent of the graduates are from underrepresented groups. The class includes 197 graduates who came from out of state to study at UTHSC.

"We're proud of our graduates," said Lori Gonzalez, PhD, vice chancellor for Academic, Faculty and Student Affairs. "We know that these individuals will positively impact health care as they become practitioners or providers."

Dr. Gonzalez noted that this year's graduating class of 779 is a significant increase in number over last year's class of 698 graduates. "UTHSC is committed to improving the health of Tennesseans, as evidenced by the increased number of graduates – an increase of roughly 10 percent over last year," she said.

"Our mission is to improve the health of the citizens of Tennessee, and these graduates are not only going to do that, they're going to become leaders in their communities."



College of Nursing Dean Wendy Likes

CON Awarded \$20,000 Grant from Jonas Center for Nursing and Veterans Healthcare to Fund Doctoral Nursing Students

Grant is part of a national initiative to support 1,000 nurse scholars in all 50 States

The UTHSC College of Nursing has received \$20,000 from the Jonas Center for Nursing and Veterans Healthcare, and matched it with an additional \$20,000, to fund the scholarship of two doctoral nursing students for two years. As a recipient of the Jonas Center grant, the UTHSC College of Nursing is part of a national effort to stem the faculty shortage and prepare the next generation of nurses. This is critical, as a clinical nurse shortage is anticipated just as an aging population requires care.

The UTHSC College of Nursing Jonas Scholars join more than 1,000 future nurse educators and leaders at 140 universities across all 50 states supported by Jonas Center programs, the Jonas Nurse Leaders Scholars Program and Jonas Veterans Healthcare Program (JVHP). These scholarships support nurses pursuing PhDs and DNP's, the terminal degrees in the field.

"Each year in our country, thousands of potential nurses are turned away due to the faculty shortage," said Dean Wendy M. Likes. "We are pleased by the efforts The Jonas Center is putting forth to address the shortage of nurses through increasing the number of doctoral-prepared nursing faculty. We are honored to be the recipient of this prestigious award to assist us in continuing to develop the next generation of nurse leaders."

As the nation's leading philanthropic funder of graduate nursing education, the Jonas Center is addressing the critical need for qualified nursing faculty. U.S. nursing schools turned away nearly 70,000 qualified applicants from baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs in 2014 due in large part to an insufficient number of faculty. Further, nearly two-thirds of registered nurses over age 54 say they are considering retirement.

"In 2008, we set an ambitious goal to support 1,000 Jonas Nurse Scholars. This year, on our center's 10th anniversary, we celebrate this achievement and are amazed by the talent of this cohort of future nurse leaders," said Donald Jonas, who co-founded the center with his wife, Barbara. "In the decade to come, we look forward to continuing to work with our partner nursing schools, and to the great impact that the Jonas Scholars will have on improving health care around the world."

The UTHSC College of Nursing Jonas Scholars will begin their graduate careers in the fall and will be supported through 2018, as they focus on such critical health priorities as education, research, clinical care, and public service.

College of Nursing Sponsors SNRS's New Member Doctoral Student Reception

In February, the UTHSC College of Nursing sponsored the Southern Nursing Research Society's (SNRS) New Member Doctoral Student Reception. The event was a part of the organization's 30th annual conference held in Williamsburg, Virginia. More than 658 medical professionals were in attendance. Members of the society represent schools and colleges of nursing from 14 states in the southeastern U.S. and include schools and colleges in the Caribbean, Latin America and the Bahamas.

The goal of SNRS, along with the three other U.S. regional nursing societies, is to provide a national and international voice for nursing science, provide funding for nursing research, and conduct and disseminate research findings while facilitating lifelong learning opportunities for nurse scientists. The work of these societies is pivotal to the advancement of nursing research and remains a vital part of the ongoing success of the nursing profession.

"During the event, graduates of the UTHSC College of Graduate Health Sciences' Nursing Science PhD Program and the College of Nursing's Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program shared their pride in UTHSC as they saw the recognition that was given to UTHSC for sponsoring this event for students and new members," said Dr. Carolyn Graff, professor in the College of Nursing and program director for the Boling Center for Developmental Disabilities.

Cathy Pantik, who is in the process of completing a dual PHD/DNP degree through the Colleges of Nursing and Graduate Health Sciences, was not only in attendance for the event, but is also an SNRS board member. She reflected on her experience, saying:

"Regional nursing research societies such as these provide the foundation of nursing research and professional development. My experience as a board member has been invaluable. In addition to chairing the student network committee, I served on the program development committee, membership committee, and finance committee. Through this involvement, I have had the opportunity to work closely with other board and committee members from across the country. As a PhD student, I have appreciated the ability to network with and learn from established nurse leaders, while being able to give back to the SNRS in particular and the nursing profession in general. In addition to the personal benefit of my experience as an SNRS Board member, I believe that faculty and student involvement in professional societies is important to bringing recognition to our universities in the highly competitive landscape of academia. Furthermore, the opportunity to discuss the successes and struggles of universities in our region provides a framework for effective program evaluation and development."

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Three recent graduates of the UTHSC College of Nursing's DNP program faced an unexpected test and passed with flying colors, saving a man's life in Chicago's O'Hare airport only 10 days after they graduated. In this letter, they are commended for their quick action.



Chicago Heartsave™ Program

CPR ~ Put Your Heart Into It!

Dr. Donna Lynch-Smith
University of Tennessee Health Science Center
AG-ACNP Concentration Coordinator
920 Madison Avenue
Suite 944
Memphis, TN 38163

May 31, 2016

Dear Dr. Smith,

On behalf of the Chicago Heartsave™ Program and the Chicago Airport System, we would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for the outstanding performance by three of your staff members during a medical emergency at O'Hare Airport on May 30, 2016.

Kortney Stinson, Kelsey Matheny and Amy Kaiser were instrumental when their Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) skills were needed.

All three ladies responded to a medical emergency when a man collapsed, as they were exiting the airport, after de-boarding their flight to Chicago. Without hesitation, they instinctively began assessing the situation and immediately rendering aid. They performed compressions while an AED was attached; two shocks were delivered, ultimately saving his life. Kortney, Kelsey and Amy all continued performing CPR and following directions given by the AED, until the arrival of the Chicago Fire Department (CFD).

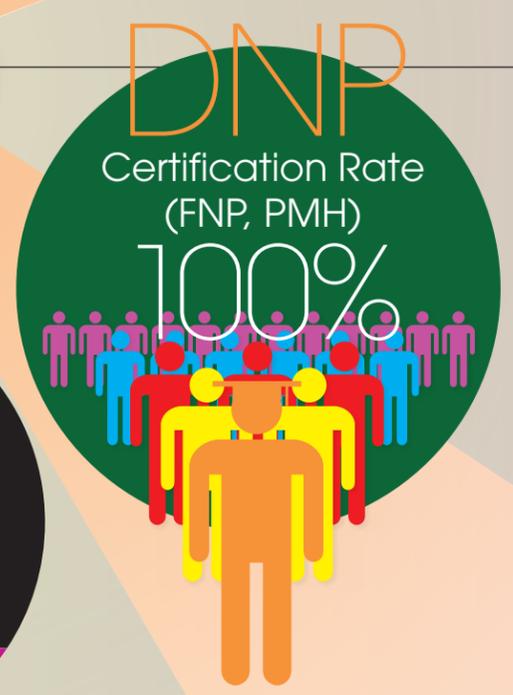
Please pass along our personal gratitude for the professionalism shown by Kortney Stinson, Kelsey Matheny and Amy Kaiser. They truly represented the field of medicine in a most positive light. They are the epitome of their chosen fields.

All three ladies gave this gentleman his best and only chance of surviving. The Chicago Heartsave™ Program is grateful for the wonderful care they provided.

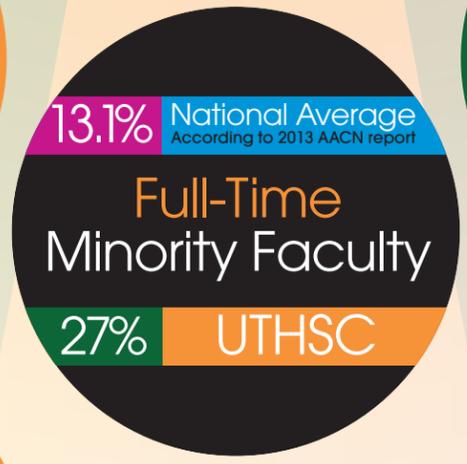
Sincerely,
Ellen Demertsidis
Ellen Demertsidis
Turnkey Training
Chicago Heartsave™ Program
O: 773-894-5396
Turnkey9710@gmail.com

Lourdes A. Rodriguez
Lourdes A. Rodriguez
Turnkey Training
Chicago Heartsave™ Program
O: 773-686-6211

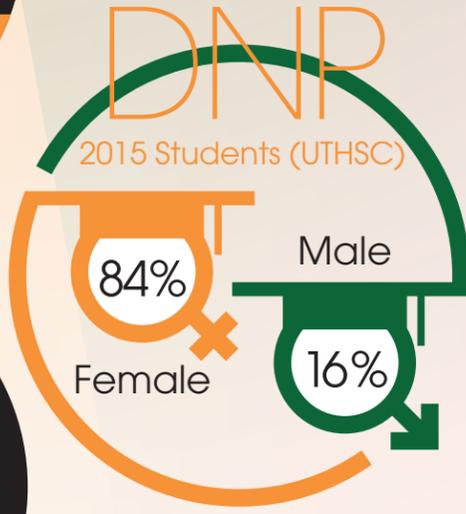
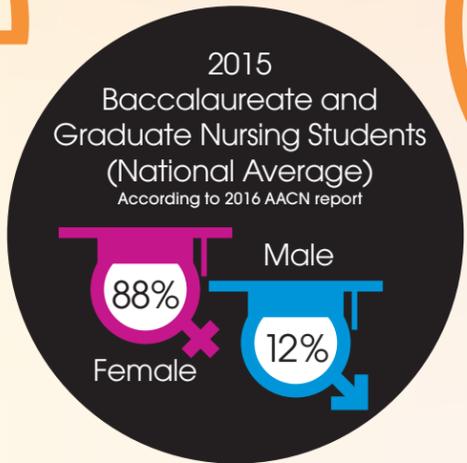
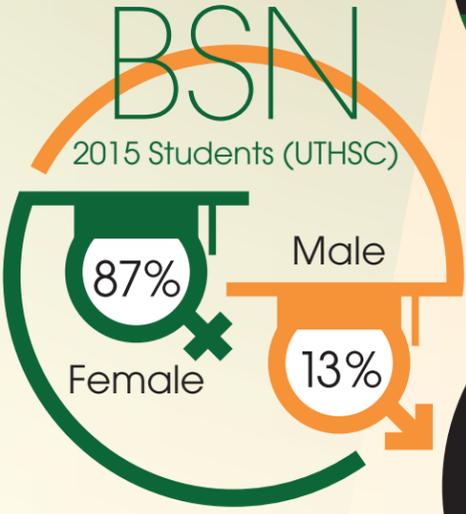
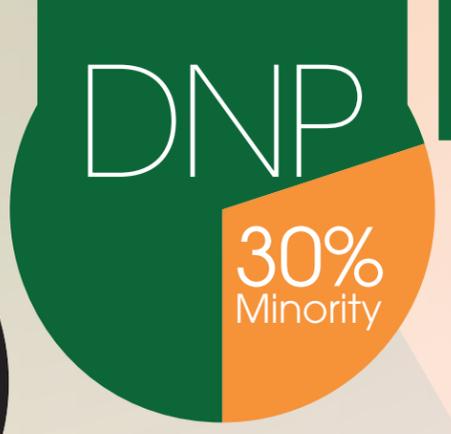
CON BY THE NUMBERS



2015 Admission Class



2015 Admission Class



50 Years of the Nurse Practitioner

By Amber Carter

Nurses throughout the world are celebrating 50 years since the inception of the nurse practitioner role. The UTHSC College of Nursing was one of the early pioneers in nurse practitioner education and practice. In the 1970s, the college began offering the masters of science in Nursing to prepare nurse practitioners, one of the very first of its kind. This followed earlier work by John W. Runyan Jr., MD, at the Shelby County Health Department, in which nurses showed that they could provide elements of primary care to complex patients.

Regarding how the profession has evolved since its inception, CON Dean Wendy M. Likes said, "The development and evolution of the nurse practitioner roles in the 1960s was related to the lack of access to health services. Success of early programs triggered the rapid development of nurse practitioner programs across the country, in part supported by federal funding. The first programs were certificate programs. As care became more complex, nurse practitioner education moved into graduate programs. By the 21st Century, most nurse practitioner programs credit hours exceeded other graduate programs, leading to the

realization that with the complexity of care and depth of knowledge needed, the programs should move to the doctorate of Nursing Practice. More data have been collected on the quality of patient care and outcomes and patient satisfaction. We know nurse practitioners provide at minimum equal care compared to our physician colleagues."

Michael Carter, DNSc, DNP, FAAN, DCC, University Distinguished Professor in the Department of Advanced Practice and Doctoral Studies in the College of Nursing, not only understands the need for the nurse practitioner locally and regionally, but across the world. He was asked to establish primary care nurse practitioner clinics and help Western Australia to develop a doctoral level degree at Curtin University.

"The College of Nursing counts among its graduates, current and former faculty some of the pioneers in nurse practitioner practice," he said. "These individuals have helped chart the course for the state, the nation and the world in new ways that nurses can help meet existing and emerging health care needs. We are delighted to celebrate our half-century of care to patients everywhere."

"More recognition of the nurse practitioner role is occurring and currently 21 states have passed bills for nurse practitioners to have full practice authority to practice to their full scope as they have been prepared to do," Dean Likes said. "We will

continue to see this occurring and in time all states will pass this legislation. A primary care shortage still exists and more solutions such as full practice authority will continue to be sought to solve these critical health care issues."

"The DNP program prepares graduates to enter the workforce, not only as expert clinicians developing new approaches to care based on nursing theories and research, but also to serve as leaders – improving and transforming the health care system, and serving as patient advocates and leaders in the health policy arena," said Dr. Diane Pace, associate professor in the Department of Advanced Practice and Doctoral Studies and director of the DNP program.

In the future, Dr. Pace sees the nurse practitioner taking on a more active role on the front lines. "I see nurse practitioners being actively involved in demonstrating quality and safety in the delivery of patient care and actively working in policy to achieve full practice authority across the United States," she said. "They will be even more engaged with community groups and interprofessional health care teams assuming responsibility on management teams, boards, and legislative teams to transform the health care of the future. I believe they will also help facilitate the kind of interprofessional practice that will be necessary to promote more effective patient care."

UTHSC Has Been an Innovator in Nursing Education Since 1926

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1942

Bernice B. Chavez
Miami, Florida

1945

Helen L. Millar
Ashville, North Carolina

1946

Mary Pardue Hofler
Raleigh, North Carolina

1947

Margie E. Belcher
Princeton, West Virginia

Charlotte White Kirkland
Knoxville, Tennessee

Mrs. Judy F. Lewis
Brandon, Mississippi

1948

M. J. Haase
Knoxville, Tennessee

Patricia C. Parish
Jackson, Tennessee

Evelyn Harris Stafford
Arlington, Tennessee

1949

Betty Jones Chandler
Austin, Texas

Alma Jones
Lexington, Kentucky

Teruko Kawai
Mission Viejo, California

1951

Mollie R. Greene
Arlington, Tennessee

Ruby T. Reddick
Hillsborough, North Carolina

1952

Geraldine T. Wilkerson
Wilmington, Delaware

1953

Katharine Hansberger
Conyers, Georgia

1955

Betty M. Webb
Acworth, Georgia

1956

Carol Esser Francisco
Germantown, Tennessee

1960

Jane Lewis Cawood
Tullahoma, Tennessee

Dr. Mary Belle Holman Gettys
Philadelphia, Tennessee

1979

Melanie Joanne Matthews
Jackson, Tennessee

1981

Barbara Heinz Sanders
Memphis, Tennessee

1994

Jean A McIvor
Memphis, Tennessee

1997

Thomas B. Hill
Chattanooga, Tennessee

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The University of Tennessee Health Science Center
Office of Development and Alumni Affairs
62 S. Dunlap, Suite 420
Memphis, Tennessee 38163

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