

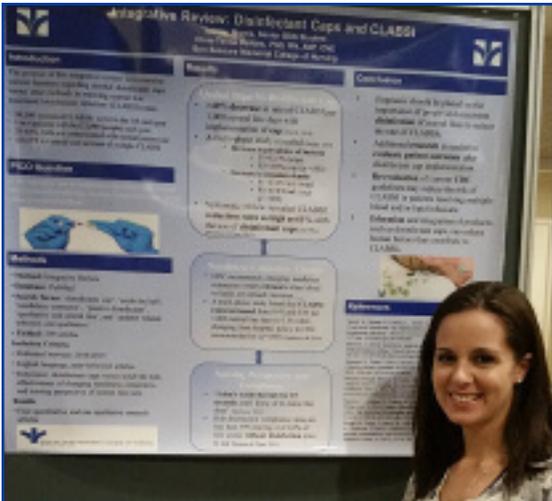


# ONTRACK

BON SECOURS MEMORIAL COLLEGE OF NURSING

## BSMCON CELEBRATES VNA LEGISLATIVE DAY

THIS YEAR 20 STUDENTS AND FOUR FACULTY MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN THE VIRGINIA NURSES ASSOCIATION’S (VNA) 2016 Legislative Day in downtown Richmond. Attendees learned about critical issues facing nurses and initiatives that are underway at both the state and federal level. The College was represented by two poster presentations: one was presented by senior student Ashley Morris and Dr. Chrissie Perkins, the other by instructor Catherine Mikelaite. We invited student and presenter Ashley Morris, to give us her perspective:



“This year I was privileged to not only attend but also present a poster at the VNA Legislative Day 2016. Students from different semesters came together at tables to hear the valuable information shared by many speakers. Students were also able to go to many different exhibition tables and learn about graduate education, employment and military service.

The first speaker, Dr. Levine, gave an excellent presentation on the people of Virginia and how to improve their health through methods other than direct medical care. Other factors such as social interaction, environment, genetics, and mental health also play a role in their overall health and life expectancy. I really enjoyed the focus on communicating well with patients and designing their care around their specific needs. It was all very timely information with the current issue surrounding HCAHP scores and an emphasis on positive patient outcomes.

During the long lunch break I was able to present my poster “Integrative Review: Disinfectant Caps and CLABSI.” It was a great opportunity to share the research from my previous semester and also allowed me to interact with individuals from different areas of nursing. I presented the poster to all different levels and types of nursing including a CNO, nurse educators, and nurses practicing in other areas of nursing that were not familiar with CLABSI. I would recommend that other students who are interested in attending a conference do so because it was a great insight into the nursing profession.”



## ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL EARLY CAREER DECISION DAY



EARLY CAREER DECISION WAS HELD LAST month and was another successful day for our seniors. thirty-participated in more than 175 interviews with leaders from across Bon Secours Health System.

As always, we want to thank our faculty and staff for their continuous support – specifically, Dr. Perkins for addressing the managers, Jared Crist for providing a warm welcome to our event attendees and spearheading the flow of interviews, Pat Roberson for numerous event details, and our College Ambassadors for their wonderful help.



### WOW STORY

“I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU A WONDERFUL LEARNING EXPERIENCE I HAD RECENTLY AT ST. Francis Medical Center. I had an opportunity presented to me by my instructor Ms. Sangha. She advised me that my patient was having surgery that day and after confirming with operating room, I was able to observe the surgery. The floor nurse, Collen, directed me throughout my day prior to the surgery. She was expedient, thorough and detailed in her work and always available for questions. When I entered the surgical area I was greeted by the surgical coordinator, Julie Caven. She could not have been more gracious and accommodating. Once I was in the surgical suite, I was greeted by Connie Alphin, the surgical educator. She was amazing! She explained everything that was going on in detail and described the roles of each of the staff. The entire staff was wonderful and worked so well together. It was like watching a choreographed team. Ms. Alphin also explained the education program for nurses. During the surgery Dr. Lockhart took the time to explain every step of the surgery. He spoke directly to me and made me feel comfortable and welcomed. As my first experience in an operating room setting, I was excited and nervous but recognized this as an unforgettable learning experience. Ms. Alphin helped me explore a whole new area of nursing and I will always value this experience. I don't think I could have had this type of experience in any other nursing program.”

— Khiana Lee, junior

## STUDENTS RING IN NEW YEAR BY GIVING BACK

NEW YEAR'S DAY IS TYPICALLY A DAY OFF FOR MANY; A TIME TO THINK ABOUT the year ahead—make plans and set goals. Students Tammie Newland and Stephanie Cruz were already in action on Jan. 1 when they decided to volunteer packing food with HEART Ministries, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that works with ministries in Haiti, India and Mexico to provide resources to the those in need. The food pack-a-thon is an annual event; about 25,920 meals were packaged and distributed to Haiti, Mexico and here in the United States.

Tammie said, “It helps tens of thousands of people, not only locally but around the world. It's such an awesome feeling knowing a difference has been made in the lives of so many in need.” Tammie would like to encourage others to do the same. If you would like to get involved, contact her at [Tammie\\_Newland@bsmcon.edu](mailto:Tammie_Newland@bsmcon.edu). You can read more about HEART Ministries at [www.heartministry.net](http://www.heartministry.net) or look for them on Facebook.



### Health & Wellness Update



**MARK  
YOUR  
CALENDAR**



THE OFFICE OF HEALTH AND Wellness will be holding a *Health and Wellness Week*, which will kick off with a informational health fair in April. Plans are still in progress, but mark your calendars for the dates of April 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>. The *Health and Wellness Week* will include activities every day and chances to win great prizes.

## SGO: WHAT'S AHEAD!

SGO SOCIAL COMMITTEE IS SPONSORING a Spring Break Photo Contest. Photo due dates and details will be shared once finalized. Key takeaway: let your inner shutterbug fly during Spring Break (3/19-3/27) and capture those moments for a chance to win!

JOIN YOUR FELLOW STUDENTS ON APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup> AT THE WATER TENT during the Monument Avenue 10K to help keep runners going and momentum high!



Stay tuned for the winner of the Student Design T-shirt Contest to be revealed!

## PILOT PROGRAM: ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK



THIS YEAR THE COLLEGE IS PILOTING A NEW PROGRAM—ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK—FOR students who want to spend their spring break helping others. Alternative Spring Break is a program being offered to all levels of students (BSN, RN-BSN and SOMI) during the upcoming spring break with the goals of building community, building student engagement, helping the local community, and putting the values and mission of Bon Secours into action.

Student Services staff member Jared Crist will be leading this program. Ideally, there will be 15 students volunteering with one student leader with six organizations over three days, each serving a different need. From food insecurity and environmental care to housing and patient support services, we will be serving our community while building relationships, providing service and giving good help. Please contact Jared\_Crist@bshsi.org if you have questions.



## SILENT AUCTION BRINGS LIGHT & LOVE TO HAITI

THE ANNUAL SILENT/LIVE AUCTION TO BENEFIT THE STUDENT GLOBAL OUTREACH trip to Haiti was held on Friday February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The theme chosen for this year's event was "Light, Love, Haiti" with Matthew 5:16 as the guiding scripture verse. The team of eight students began working on gathering items from donors and businesses back in August. Their efforts yielded 123 silent auction items, seven live auction hot ticket items, and 23 door prize items!

The evening was filled with fun, food, and lots of bidding wars! Over 125 supporters were attendance for this event which raised more than \$8,300. The proceeds will be used to support student travel expenses, medical supplies, and over the counter medications needed for the health clinics that will be held during the week-long trip, scheduled for March 18–25.



## STAFF & FACULTY NEWS

### • Dr. Benji Djeukeng

DR. BENJI DJEUKENG, THE COLLEGE'S DIRECTOR OF institutional effectiveness, has been selected by The Association of Institutional Research (AIR) to conduct a Discussion Group at its annual conference in May on his proposal: "*The Institutional Effectiveness Paradigm: From Assessment to Improvement.*" The AIR received a large number of high-quality proposals, with limited availability for Discussion Groups; being selected is a distinct honor.

### • Dr. Christine Turner

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER FOR ASSOCIATE professor Dr. Christine Turner! Dr. Turner's dissertation titled "*The Lived Experiences of Being a Caregiver for a Family Member Dependent upon Hemodialysis*" was recently published. In addition, she was asked to present her dissertation research at the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual ANNA National Conference in Louisville, Ky. in May as a podium speaker.

## NEW FACES AROUND CAMPUS



### • Office of Academic Affairs

BON SECOURS RICHMOND RECENTLY FORMED AN OFFICE OF ACADEMIC affairs to provide oversight and coordination for the placement of all students requesting clinical education rotations at any level, anywhere within Bon Secours Richmond. **Lisa Rich** is the program coordinator and **Rebecca Leonard** serves as administrative assistant. Over the next few months, they will develop processes and policies which promote clarity and the highest standards of excellence to guide this work. They anticipate a “go live” date of the new processes by May 1<sup>st</sup> 2016.

### • Office of Admissions

**BETH FORD** BRINGS EXTENSIVE ADMINISTRATION AND higher education experience to the College. She was a program assistant at Cornell University for the Director of Prospect Research and Alumni Affairs and Development. We look forward to her providing support to the admissions team and the front desk.



### • Office of Student Success

**JAMI POAG** IS OUR NEW ACADEMIC COUNSELOR. SHE HAS a BS in Kinesiology and Education from The College of William and Mary, and earned her MEd in Counselor Education from VCU. She was previously employed with William and Mary and has experience in advising, student support and career services and looks forward to getting to know and support our students.



## LIFELONG LEARNER: ALLISON PETERSON

ALLISON PETERSON, OUR CAREER COUNSELOR HERE AT BSMCON, HAS JUST COMPLETED HER coursework leading to a Master of Science in Education from St. Joseph’s College to be awarded in May. She decided to pursue her master’s degree after having worked for Bon Secours for nearly a decade. She described her motivation as partly personal, partly professional. “I have a passion for learning and I have always been curious about how we learn, particularly as adults.” Her program focused on adult learning, which helps her create more effective educational resources for our students. Mrs. Peterson offers career guidance support to all students. Students can contact her at [Allison\\_Peterson@bshsi.org](mailto:Allison_Peterson@bshsi.org).



## THREE LONG-TIME NURSING FACULTY PLANNING RETIREMENT

ANN PRYOR, JENNY THOMAS-WRIGHT AND DR. K AREN JOHNSON HAVE ALL ANNOUNCED THEIR DECISION TO RETIRE after the conclusion of the spring 2016 semester. Each has been a valuable member of the College and have provided our students with the knowledge and experience to be successful nurses. We are sad to see them go but are excited for them on their journey ahead. Below, they share a little about their time here at the College.

**Ann Pryor** has taught Adult Nursing I Practicum, Metaphysical Nursing, Behavioral Health Practicum, Health Assessment Lab, and Immersion in her 15 years with the College. It’s her relationship with the students that she will miss the most. She says they have kept her young and enthusiastic about nursing. And while she’ll be returning part-time this fall as adjunct to teach Metaphysical Nursing, much of her time will be spent in Nashville, TN visiting family.

**Dr. Karen Johnson** joined our faculty in 2004 and is the only faculty member who teaches pathopharmacology. She’s had such a busy semester that weren’t able to sneak her away for a quick interview! We wish her the very best in her retirement, and know she’s made an indelible mark on our students. Best wishes Dr. J.

**Jenny Thomas-Wright** has been a faculty member with us for 10 years and loves teaching the new sophomore students and helping them adjust to the nursing curriculum and learning fundamental skills of assessment and nursing care. She says she will miss “watching them grow in confidence and knowledge.” A self-described home-body, she plans to spend time with her five grandchildren, work in her garden, and being more involved with her church.



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8550 Magellan Parkway, Suite 1100 | Richmond, VA 23227 | 804.627.5300