MMC NURSING NEWS





Message from Michelle Decker, Chair

As we begin 2021, let me share some thoughts from an "older" nurse's perspective. I was born in 1957 as the Asian Flu Pandemic was sweeping the world. My mother, quite ill with this flu when she gave birth to me, said her nurses would bring me to the door of her room and let her look, but not touch. She was grateful for the caring hands of the nurses that waked her and encouraged her to drink fluids, mainly orange juice, so she could get well and be able to hold her new baby girl. The care she received may have helped influence her decision to realize her dream in later years to become a nurse. Nurses were in attendance then, as they are now, caring for the victims of the current pandemic.

In January 2019, the World Health Organization (WHO), declared 2020 "The Year of the Nurse and Midwife" because "nurses are on the frontlines of healthcare." Little did they know how often this phrase would be used in the year 2020. On November 9, Princess Muna al-Hussein of Jordan was presented with the WHO's Health Leaders Award for her decades of support to nurses and midwives: "Applause without action is no longer acceptable. We must invest in educating and employing more health workers to ensure every mother, child, student, parent, and grandparent has access to safe health services," she said.

The Jeanette M. Travis School of Nursing is contributing to the ranks of this "army" on its frontlines where the COVID-19 battle rages. Our students are already working in healthcare as LPNs, nurse technicians, and nurse residents with COVID patients. We have responded to the educational needs of students and faculty by using both hands-on experiences and increased high fidelity simulation (both in-person and via TEAMS)--another trait of nurses, to take the supplies and situations they are given and adapt! Nurses move forward while keeping our eyes on the horizon.

The WHO's choosing 2020 to celebrate nurses and midwives also honors the 200th birthday of Florence Nightingale. Nurse Nightingale's sense of duty and sacrifice embodied in nurses today. As she left a life of privilege to help in war torn parts of the world and develop and implement formal nursing education, thousands of today's nurses (both active and retired) have answered that same call from hospitals experiencing surges of COVID patients. They are leaving their homes, their states, and in some cases their countries to help in this pandemic battle.

Florence Nightingale once said, "Let us never consider ourselves finished nurses; we must be learning all our lives." I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone, both nurses and non -nurses, who continue to support the work of the Jeanette M. Travis School of Nursing as we produce nurses fighting a never ending battle in caring for all humanity.

With Sincere Gratitude,

Michelle Decker, DNP



CONGRATULATIONS!

Jeanette M. Travis School of Nursing Graduates May 2020

"Baptism of fire" an introductory or initial experience that presents a severe ordeal. The Jeannette M. Travis School of Nursing class of 2020 will forevermore be remembered as the class of nurses who were baptized by fire as they entered the profession in the midst of a worldwide pandemic. Nurses are invited into the most intimate times in people's lives. Currently, family is not

able to be at the bedside but nurses will be there. Nurses are patient advocates first and foremost.

For the nineteenth consecutive year the Gallup annual poll reported that nurses were ranked the highest in the public's view of professional honesty and ethics. Nurses earned a record 89%, "very high/high score," for their honesty and ethics in the December 2020 poll, four percentage points greater than in 2019. As reported by Gallup, "Nurses remain the undisputed leader, as they have been for nearly two decades".

Certainly, nursing journey is not easy. Consequently, the successful completion of the nursing journey is both an accomplishment and an honor. As our newly-minted nurses "light their candles," they will brighten many dark places in this world. They light the room as new life enters and first breaths are taken. They are a consistent and present light for patients navigating the twists and turns in times of major life altering diagnoses and treatments, while helping the patient and the family adapt to their new normal. A nurse is honored to be present with compassion and a tender touch as their patient's earthly journey ends. Ethics and honesty are at the heart of what nurses do. Nurses consider what they do as a privilege; as a result, these traits become second nature.

As our country faced challenges of adapting to the COVID-19 environment of 2020, the Martin Methodist College traditional pinning ceremony was unique as well. Luckily, nurses are great at adapting and making the best of any situation. The pictures you see on the following page are of the May 2020 graduating class at their virtual pinning ceremony, shared with the graduates and their families and friends across the world. The candles of light they are holding burned brightly then and continue to do so as these nurses have taken their light into their communities and across the globe because a nurse is a nurse wherever the journey leads.



Class of 2020



Corina Banda, RN Baptist Memorial Hospital-Collierville



LaCorya Donley, RN Encompass Rehabilitations - Franklin



Brittney Gardner, RN Maury Regional Medical Center



Sarah Goodman, RN UT Medical Center



Caleb Savage, RN STRHS-Pulaski



Jacquelyn Savage, RN STRHS-Pulaski



Daphne Shelby, RN STRHS-Pulaski



Lauren Smith, RN
TrustPoint Hospital in Murfreesboro



Khali Stults, RN STRHS-Pulaski



Tyneshia Vance, RN Huntsville Hospital

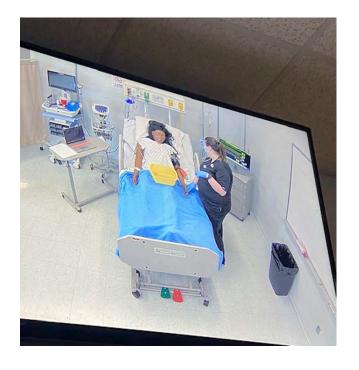
The Jeanette M. Travis School of Nursing salutes the 2020 graduates as they have answered their calling as nurses.

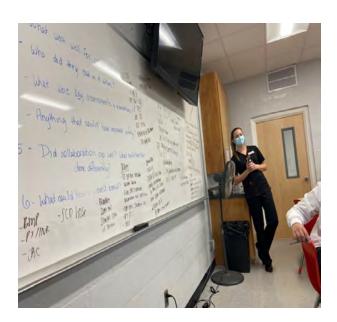
What's Happening in the Simulation Lab Gennifer Baker, DNP

Necessity Drives Creativity...Over the past three semesters, due to Covid-19, our nursing program has become very creative. In turn, this creativity has launched new pathways of exploring critical thinking, awareness of space, and patience with others and our surroundings. This summer we were so thankful to utilize the Upperman Room with the rising Seniors, to spread out beyond six feet as we continued learning skills used in the clinical setting.



In the fall semester we redefined our processes with our new manikins and have taken simulation debriefing to a higher level. Our students brainstorm all of the "what if's" in patient care, pharmacology, diagnoses, and beyond. Masks are worn at all times, hands are washed/sanitized more than you can imagine, and the manikins sparkle in disinfectant! We are so thankful and blessed to have completed another amazing semester in our simulation space.



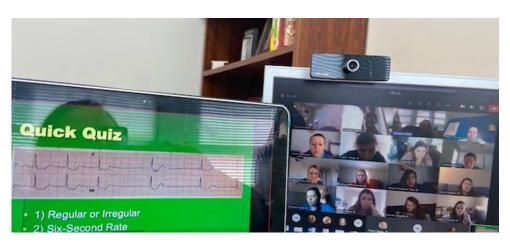


Kicking Off Spring Semester Clinical/ Simulation Lab

The week of January 4th, our Junior students kicked off the spring semester on campus where we could all socially distance in the Upperman Room. Tuesday and Thursday they were able to meet a new member to the Jeanette M. Travis School of Nursing, Clinical Supervisor Mrs. Kati Nave. For two days they learned about laboring mothers and newborns in preparation to start their Maternal Child clinical at Maury Regional Hospital.



The Senior students also started their Simulation Lab learning this week as well. They are learning the ins and outs of reading heart rhythm strips in an on-line format. Additionally, on January 4th they began their facility clinical rotation at STRHS -Pulaski for the Medical Surgical III class with a new Clinical Supervisor, Mrs. Tanya Bradford.



Our Faculty

Michelle Decker, DNP, RN -Division Chair Assistant Professor

Felicia Dailey, MSN, RN -Program Coordinator Nursing Student Advisor Instructor

Gennifer Baker, DNP, RN -Assistant Professor Clinical Coordinator

Karen Ferguson, PhD, RNC Associate Professor

Randi McElhaney, DNP, RN Nursing Instructor

Kati Nave, BSN, RN Clinical Supervisor

Tanya Bradford, BSN, RN Clinical Supervisor

Our Staff

Audra D. Hughes -Administrative Assistant

Kim Porterfield LPN -Clinic Office Manager Sim Lab Assistant

Year In Photos





































