

100% NCLEX Pass Rate

Congratulations to the Fall 2022 AS Cohort!
We Are So Proud of these New Registered Nurses



Caring-Connecting-Empowering

Interdisciplinary Simulation became a reality during the Winter 2023 semester for the School of Nursing and the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) students. Collaboration between the two departments began in the fall of 2022. The simulation coordinator, Cindy Johnson, EdD, MSN, RN, worked with Amanda Patton, DPT, an associate professor in the PTA program, to develop a simulation experience that paired undergraduate nursing and PTA students. The scenario depicted an orthopedic standardized patient (a real-life person), allowing for the realism of working with someone requiring assistance with mobility and ambulation. The patient experienced pain, the PTA students contacted the nurse, and the students worked together to improve the patient's situation. The students from both programs reported how beneficial this was to their learning about working with other disciplines and understanding the value of collaboration to enhance the patient's experience. The School of Nursing looks forward to additional interdisciplinary simulation experiences with the Physical Therapist Assistant program in upcoming semesters. The School of Nursing motto, Christ-Centered Excellence: Caring - Connecting – Empowering, became a reality,

equipping these students with practical and hands-on skills in working with another discipline as part of their preparation to enter the healthcare system. 🌱



Message from the Dean

Another school year is over—one where it is easy, on reflection, to see how God continues to work through our faculty and students and to bless the School of Nursing. It has been a relief to gradually leave COVID-19 worries behind. While the virus promises to remain with us, we are no longer struggling with restrictions as in the past. School of Nursing enrollment at the undergraduate level remains strong, and we have an excellent team preparing these students for the challenging work of nursing. Our graduate enrollment, which has seen recent dips, is showing signs of rebounding, for which we are grateful.

As I write, I am in the air returning from a medical mission trip to Costa Rica, the first combined trip with the School of Religion's Evangelism Resource Center (ERC), in which students do both medical work and preaching. Many of the mission trip participants were nursing students. I was so impressed by their energy, flexibility, outgoing spirits, caring hearts, eagerness to learn and grow, and desire to let God lead. I was touched as they shared from their hearts during worship times and prayed with each other and with

strangers. I wish I could hear them preach next week. I know God will use them to plant many seeds, which His Spirit will water to grow at just the right time. Our nursing students are our richest blessing. Keep them in your prayers. Growing up these days is challenging!

My gratitude list could go on and on; it includes Giving Day success, alumni and clinical partnerships and support, faculty and staff, NCLEX-RN success, etc. Many of these items are highlighted in this newsletter. Thank you for your continued support and prayers. We hope to see many of you at alumni celebrations this fall.



Holly Gadd, PhD
Dean of the School of Nursing



Costa Rica Mission Trip

At midnight on May 11, 2023, a bus carrying 25 nursing, pre-medical, allied health, and theology students left the university on a mission trip to Limon, Costa Rica. This trip united the medical and evangelism expertise of the Southern's School of Nursing and the School of Religion's Evangelism Resource Center.

Inspiration for this new venture came from statements such as this: "Nothing will open doors for the truth like evangelistic medical missionary work. This will find access to hearts and minds, and will be a means of converting many to the truth" (Ellen G. White, *Evangelism*, p. 513).

Under the supervision of Obadias Marquez, MD, and Holly Gadd, FNP, in addition to a few local providers, the team ran medical clinics for four days, caring for more than 700 patients during that time. Laboratory testing, provider visits, patient education, vitamins and medications, and minor surgical procedures were part of each busy day at the clinic.



Each of the students assigned to churches for follow-up evangelistic meetings prepared sermons to present. One nurse practitioner student shared with me that while the clinic time was good, she was most moved by the evangelism portion of the trip, during which God touched her heart and she felt a wonderful connection with the people.

These trips allow students to touch the lives of others, and equally important are the changes that happen in their own hearts and lives as they minister through missions. 🌍

Giving Day Success

Planning for Giving Day 2023 was intimidating. We'd had tremendous success in 2022 as we celebrated the legacy of 90-year-old Bonnie Hunt, who touched thousands of lives during her 45 years as a professor in the School of Nursing (SON). We raised \$65,763 in donations and prizes. How would we ever come close to matching that in 2023?

Then the idea came. This year, we would celebrate two SON employees who were retiring at the end of the school year.

We started our campaign with a fun "Jam with Pam" kickoff event, where we celebrated Pam Gammenthaler's 17 years of service by printing souvenir \$17 bills, serving pizza and ice cream, holding fun giveaways and competitions, and even playing a lively game of musical chairs.

In honor of the 25 years Conni Cash has served as office manager in the SON, we launched the theme Ca\$h for Cash. We printed signs to place around campus, put up a banner, and designed \$25 bills with Conni's picture on the front and a picture of AdventHealth Hall on the back.

The 2023 Giving Day, which celebrated two women who have touched many lives and helped so many Southern students, was a great success. We raised a total of \$30,302.22 in donations and prizes. Thank you, alumni and friends, for your tremendous support—and for helping us tell Pam and Conni how much we all love them and wish them a happy retirement! 🌿



Miller Hall

Within our lovely building, AdventHealth Hall, are two small simulation rooms with a control room between, plus an additional corner of the skills lab that is used for pediatric simulation. Professor LaShawn Horton, who teaches OB, uses simulation during her class periods to engage students

and illustrate concepts. For many semesters she has had to move simulation equipment from one room to another through a doorway that is not quite adequate for the manikin and bed.

The good news is that the university will solve this problem by creating a new nursing simulation center. Over the next year, Miller Hall—the building next door, on the other side of the Garden of Prayer—will be transformed for this purpose.

An older building that has housed various academic departments over the years, Miller Hall was for many years a home for the School of Religion, with a nice chapel and baptistry. The baptistry will have to go (although we did consider whether it might be suitable as an underwater birthing area). The large chapel, however, will become a large simulation classroom in which the equipment will permanently reside. The School of Nursing will also benefit from construction of additional simulation and conference rooms on the first floor. Last but not least, a special study and lounge area dedicated to Bonnie Hunt will make this a showcase and practical building for learning.



RETIREMENTS AND FAREWELLS

It is hard to say goodbye to those who are retiring or leaving, but we choose to focus on the joy of having them with us for many years. We have been richly blessed!

PAM AND CONNI



Pam Gammenthaler retired May 31, 2023, after carrying with grace and efficiency a diverse and heavy load for 17 years. As coordinator for the AS nursing program, she has overseen the curriculum and program success. In addition to her leadership role, she taught Child Health and the prelicensure Capstone and NCLEX preparation courses. She brought just the right personality and leadership abilities to her many roles, and she will be greatly missed. Gammenthaler plans to stay in the Collegedale area, where two of her four boys (and, more importantly, six of her 10 grandchildren) reside!!

Conni Cash, office manager in the School of Nursing (SON) for 25 years, also retired at the end of May. Most of us describe her as the heart, backbone, brains, and glue of the SON. An incredible resource, she knows where everything is, keeps order, and holds things together without ever complaining or even appearing stressed. She knows most undergraduate students by name and makes sure they have everything lined up for clinicals, then helps them get signed up for NCLEX at the end of their program. Cash has been a friend to everyone and was appropriately honored by university president Ken Shaw at the May 2023 nursing dedication service with an award for dedication to student success. This recognition was accompanied by

a monetary gift that will likely be spent on her gardens. She will miss interaction with faculty and students but will enjoy travel and time with family.

CALLIE MCARTHUR



Callie McArthur began teaching at Southern in 1979 and remained at the SON until 2009, when she and

her husband moved to Southwestern Adventist University. She returned in 2012 and taught full-time for another three years, then she officially retired in 2017. In her retirement, she has continued as adjunct faculty, teaching courses in pathophysiology, pharmacology, and simulation. McArthur, an expert in simulation scenarios dealing with complex technology, developed a strong program for our nursing students. She has guided student practice and debriefing and has mentored other faculty into this important educator role. Her talents and high standards will be missed.

CINDY RIMA

Cindy Rima, DNP, APRN, ANP-BC, DipACLM, has spent 12 years in the School of Nursing. During that time, she earned her doctoral degree in Lifestyle Medicine while teaching and practicing as a nurse practitioner. Her admirable



depth of knowledge complements a passion for helping students grow professionally. Assessment at both the undergraduate and graduate levels has been one of her main areas of teaching, and she also has strongly supported our Lifestyle Medicine program. She has touched many lives and blessed faculty and students with a caring, generous, prayerful heart. As Rima transitions to clinical practice from her educator role, we wish her well and are thankful for the years she has spent in the SON.

NICHOLAS BEAUMONTE



Nicholas Beaumonte, a family nurse practitioner who has taught a variety of undergraduate and graduate classes in the School of Nursing, recently announced that he will return to clinical practice. We will miss his flexibility, sense of humor, and spiritual mentoring.

TRANSITIONS TO NEW ROLES

DR. FRANCES JOHNSON



Frances Johnson, DNP, APRN, NNP-BC, accepted a position as interim associate VP for Academic Administration and dean of Graduate and Professional Studies at the university. She replaces Tyson Hall, PhD, who has stepped in to oversee the new engineering program on campus that begins this fall. The full-time administrative position takes Johnson away from the School of Nursing (SON), where she has been associate dean and Graduate Program coordinator. She has agreed to continue in adjunct roles with some curriculum and evaluation activities, a shared teaching assignment in the DNP Epidemiology and Biostatistics course, and DNP project oversight. We are glad that she remains on campus and connected to the SON. Official farewell activities are planned for the future.

JENIFER ANDERSON



Jenifer Anderson, who has been a part-time faculty support secretary, is now working full-time and replaces Conni Cash as office manager. We love her cheerful smile and get-it-done attitude.

WELCOME

Thankfully, God blesses us with good people and lots of talent to replace those who leave. This summer we are welcoming four new people as faculty and staff.



BARBARA JOHNS

Barbara Johns has left the quietude of retirement to join the SON as a part-time faculty support secretary. Her years of experience in office work and accounting make her perfect for this position.



ALLIE TYMAN

Allie Tyman, RN, MSN, is returning to this area from the Northwest and will be doing simulation and teaching the first-level assessment as well as the enrichment course that struggling students take. She looks forward to using the knowledge and skills from her nurse educator master's degree and eight years of medical-surgical and travel nursing positions to inspire students.



BROOKE SCHUTTER

Brooke Schutter, RN, BSN, will be teaching Child Health classes, clinicals, and simulation to pre-licensure students. A valued clinical instructor, she has a heart for teaching and works as an RN at Erlanger Children's Hospital. Bringing the real world and current practice into the classroom is a formula for success.

HOMECOMING WEEKEND

Honor Classes: 1963, '73, '83, '93, '03, '13

Help us select honor-year alumni.

Please send recommendations to
barbj@southern.edu



SAVE THE DATE

Florence Oliver Anderson Lecture Series

Jodi Kuhlman, MD
Anesthesiologist

THE ROAD FROM DIVERSION AND ADDICTION TO RECOVERY AND PREVENTION

Jodi Kuhlman is an anesthesiologist currently living in Rome, Georgia. A native of Chattanooga, she is the fifth of eight children. Upon graduation from Collegedale Academy, she completed her undergraduate education with a Bachelor of Arts in Biology from Southern Adventist University at the age of 19. She then attended Loma Linda University in California, receiving her medical doctorate degree in 1996 before completing her anesthesiology residency training at Tennessee's Vanderbilt University Medical Center and at Loma Linda University Medical Center. She served in the United States Navy from 1997-2007 as a lieutenant commander at the National Naval Medical Center Bethesda, with service aboard various ships, including the USHS Comfort. She has worked as an anesthesiologist in multiple hospitals in northwest Georgia for more than 20 years. She has three children, two daughters-in-law, and one grandson.

WHEN: Tuesday, October 24, 2023, 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

WHERE: Iles P.E. Center on the campus of Southern Adventist University

COST: FREE to current Southern students, faculty, and staff. The cost for community guests and alumni is \$30 per person if a continuing education certificate is requested.

Visit southern.edu/academics/nursing for updated information.

Congratulations

Joelle Wolf, PhD-Ed, RN, CMSRN, CNE, successfully defended her doctoral dissertation March 24, 2023. Her dissertation was titled, "Best Practices in Academic Nurse Educator Role Transition: A Multiple Case Study." Professor Wolf received her PhD in Education with a specialization in Nursing Education from National University in San Diego, California.

LaShawn Horton, PhD, RN, CNE, added the Certified Nurse Educator credential this spring. This validates what we already knew—that Professor Horton is an expert educator.



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